

12 Nov 74 (1)

Nixon (high blood pressure) - Lungren's bulletin today says Nixon has developed "labile hypertension" - a blood pressure which fluctuates into the abnormally high range. Lungren: "We have documented evidence of marked elevations of his blood pressure over the last several days at times of even minor stressful situations. The rise in blood pressure is more noticeable with stressful physical activity. It also is evident when he is physically quiet and concentrating or engaging in problem-solving." Lungren says this hypertension "is a factor of concern to us, particularly with our patient on anti-coagulation."

Auerbach, WXP: "High blood pressure increases the chance that Mr. Nixon will suffer a heart attack or stroke, or that his small arteries might rupture. Because of the blood-thinning, anti-coagulating drugs that [he] is getting, any rupture, no matter how small the artery is, could fail to clot. That means [he] would suffer from more internal bleeding." Altman (NYT): "High blood pressure, depending on the circumstances, could be a contraindication of anti-coagulation therapy." Altman says unnamed "doctors not connected with the case ... said that though this was the first time Mr. Nixon's hypertension had been recorded [in Lungren's bulletins?], they suspected it was not the first time it 'yo-yo'd' with various stresses." Altman notes that Tkach "said of the President in 1970 that 'even under conditions of stress his blood pressure does not vary.'"

Lungren says Nixon's blood pressure, during a conversation with a visitor yesterday afternoon, rose to 180 over 95; his normal blood pressure is 120 over 70 to 80. A hospital source says Nixon's blood pressure rose on another occasion last week (3 to 9 Nov) when he had a visitor, but will not give this person's name nor the day of the visit. "Ziegler said ~~that~~ [no date] that he and another aide met for almost an hour with Mr. Nixon on Nov. 5 and discussed some business matters.* Ziegler said then that the visit obviously tired Mr. Nixon. The first lady of the Philippines, Imelda Remualdez Marcos, spent a few minutes with Mr. Nixon [8 Nov] and reported that he was so 'weak' that she had to cut her visit short." A.M.P.-A

"Despite the newly discovered complication, Dr. Lungren

*See entry 5 Nov, Bull, Ziegler.

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said he hoped [to discharge Nixon from the hospital] later
this week."

NYT 13 Nov 74, Lawrence K. Altman

WXP 13 Nov 74, Stuart Auerback

Imelda Marcos - See entry, Nixon (high blood pressure).
She had been in China until late Sep 74, ending visit there
sometime after 1 Oct. William Safire (9 Feb 76) says she
brought invitation to Nixon from the Chinese, for another
visit to China.

NYT 25 Sep 74 - Philippines file

NYT 9 Feb 76, William Safire

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Ⓐ - See entry, Imelda Marcos.