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SFExaminer White House and insomnia

Associated Press

WASHINGTON \rightarrow A White House physician acknowledged yesterday that at the request of the Secret Service, he has gathered extensive data on insomnia.

Dr. Chester Ward, one of three physicians assigned to President Nixon, said the Secret Service wanted to know what effect regular changes in shifts had on its agents.

Ward emphatically rejected suggestions that his research was in any way connected with the President, who, according to several reports, has had trouble sleeping.

Asked whether Nixon had difficulty sleeping at night, Ward responded, "not that I'm aware of."

But he added that his research showed insomnia is "a very common problem" and that "once in a while everybody has a bad night."

See also SFChron 30 Apr 74 - Does the Sandman Shun the White House? by Robert C. Toth, LATimes,

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