

Small Blood Clot**Bothered Nixon**

Washington

President Nixon was suffering from a mild case of phlebitis, a small blood clot in one vein of his leg, during his recent Middle East trip, a White House spokesman said yesterday.

The ailment set in before the trip began and "it has now been resolved," deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren reported after conferring with White House physician Dr. Walter Tkach.

Warren said Tkach reported yesterday that President Nixon is "in good health and is looking forward to his trip

to Brussels and the Soviet Union."

Mr. Nixon has been seen limping from time to time in the past, but the White House doctor had never disclosed any difficulties to account for it. Warren said he did not see the President limp during the busy nine-day Middle East trip.

According to medical dictionaries, phlebitis is the inflammation of a vein along with a clotting of the vein near the surface, usually in the leg.

It may follow injury or

Back Page Col. 3

infection, according to the dictionaries.

Treatment includes elastic support and aspirin and there is no need for the patient to cut down on normal activities.

White House officials did not disclose in which leg Mr. Nixon suffered phlebitis.

In 1960 Mr. Nixon was hospitalized for 12 days with an infection of the left knee.

He said the infection followed an injury suffered when he bumped his knee on a car door while campaigning, though his physician at the time, Dr. Malcolm Todd, said the car door injury was not related to the infection.

Associated Press