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Nixon isolated but not moody, an aide says

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SAN CLEMENTE — Richard M. Nixon was described as in good spirits yesterday but he spent his first full day as a private citizen since his fall from power behind a veil of privacy with his family in their oceanside villa.

The Nixons did not venture beyond the guarded walls of their home and the day's few visitors were unidentified. The former president worked for 3½ hours at his office complex.

A member of Nixon's staff said the former president had not talked with President Ford since leaving Washington but expected him to in the near future.

There will be little information about Nixon's activities in the coming days, the spokesman said, because "the President looks at this as a private time—he will be spending the time with his family."

While reporters met in Laguna Beach with the spokesman, Nixon went for a drive of more than an hour with C. G. "Bebe" Rebozo, his longtime friend and confidant.

Nixon is not expected to make any public appearance this weekend.

The spokesman did not say how long Nixon planned to spend in seclusion, nor could he say which friends might visit here. He gave no indication of whether Nixon would maintain contact with the news media.