ixon's Phlebitis Reportedly Worsens

By Stuart Auerbach Washington Post Staff Writer

Former President Nixon is bedridden in California with a recurrence of phlebitis, his son-in-law David Eisenhower said yesterday. The blood clot in his left leg has moved above the knee and caused his leg to swell to twice its normal size.

A medical source in Washington familiar with the case added that Mr. Nixon has refused the pleas of his family that he go for treatment to Eisenhower Memorial Hospital in Palm Springs, Calif., where he is vacationing.

The medical source also reported that Mr. Nixon has stopped taking the anti-coagulant drugs that were prescribed when the phlebitis first

showed up in June, just as the former President was about to leave on a state visit to the Middle East.

Mr. Nixon also has refused to use the elastic bandage he was told to wear around his leg to keep the swelling down.

Dr. Walter Tkach, Mr. Nixon's White House physician and a close friend of the former President, is flying to Palm Springs today to see his patient.

David Eisenhower said that a doctor who had treated Mr. Nixon before he was elected President, Dr. John Lungren of Long Beach, Calif., will also Dr. go to Palm Springs today. Mr. Nixon is resting at the palatial Palm Springs estate of Walter Annenberg, the ambassador to Great Britain. Despite the doctors' visits, Eisenhower said there is no feeling among the family of a medical crisis.

"Nobody's ready to start issuing bulletins or anything like that," he told Washington Post Staff Writer William Greider.

[Mr. Nixon apparently slipped out of the Annenberg estate here last night after Secret Service agents decoyed newsmen and was believed driving to his San Clemente home, the Associated Press reported.

[Mr. Nixon was expected in San Clemente in the late evening, a source there said. The source said he knew nothing of reports that his phlebitis had worsened, and there was no doctor waiting to treat him.]

While phlebitis is regarded by doctors as a common ailment that is not

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death.

veins, and most commonly oc-phlebitis. curs in te legs. It is accompanied by blood clots, and the main danger is that a clot will break loose and get into the lungs. Known as a pulmonary on the "Today" show (NBC,

In July, after Mr. Nixon returned from the Middle East, Dr. Tkach told reporters that he had warned the former President against taking the trip because the blood clot "could have killed him."

Mr. Nixon is "duale to relax. "Right at this not feeling well hower. "He has vated because (or above the knee leg is swellen all the swellen and the swellen all the swellen and the swellen all the swellen

Mr. Nixon "took a calculated risk" and ignored the medical advice and continued good. his travels because he felt he

had an obligation to make the trip," Tkach said.

In July, Tkah told reporters that the clot had attached itself to the wall of a vein, and said that wall of a vein, and said that means the danger

"is pretty much gone.
"He still has some swelling. There is no pain, but the clot will always be there," said Tkach, an Air Force major general who has been reassigned from his job as White House physician House physician.

Another medical source fa-

miliar with the case said that can't unwind and so I would the emotional strain that Mr. say his spirits are not great is painful and can cause before he resigned a month about that." ago and since his resignation, It is an inflammation of the could have aggravated the

> "Severe tension states lower all bodily defenses," the medi-

"Right at this moment he is not feeling well," said Eisenhower. "He has his leg eleBut Deput leg is swollen about twice its normal size. His health is not

play golf, he can't relax, he President's decision.

Nevertheless, in his with Greider, Eisenhower avoided extreme talk about Mr. Nixon's mental state. "He has his up and down mo-ments," Eisenhower said.

In granting Mr. Nixon a full lungs. Known as a pulmonary on the "Today" show (NBC, pardon on Sunday, President blood vessel and cause death within minutes.

In July, after Mr. Nixon reaffecting the former Presi-

> But Deputy White House vated because (of the) phlebitis. The clot has moved Hushen said yesterday that above the knee and his one Mr. Ford got his information from reading the newspaper and talking to people. He said that the health question "He's fighting that. He can't not play a large part in the



By Margaret Thomas—The Washington Post Son-in-law David Eisenhower describes Richard Nixon's ills on television show.