

Nixon Scheduled to Enter Coast Hospital on Monday

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By LAWRENCE K. ALTMAN

Former President Richard M.

Nixon is scheduled to enter Memorial Hospital in Long Beach, Calif., Monday morning for tests and treatment of the phlebitis condition that has caused painful swelling in his left leg, according to an official of the hospital.

Norman Nager, the hospital's public relations director, said the staff had begun to clear an entire wing, consisting of 19 single-bed rooms, on the hospital's sixth floor. Mr. Nager said Secret Service agents would start making the area secure this morning.

Before the announcement in California, Leon Jaworski, the special Watergate prosecutor, asked Judge John J. Sirica of the United States District Court in Washington to send a team of physicians to California to determine how ill Mr. Nixon might be. The former President has been subpoenaed as a witness in the Watergate cover-up trial. Judge Sirica took no action on the request. [Page 16.]

Dr. John C. Lungren, who has been treating Mr. Nixon for the recent flare-up of his chronic phlebitis condition, has scheduled a news conference for Monday morning. Dr. Lungren, who specializes in internal medicine and cardiovascular diseases, was the hospital's chief of staff until 1971 when he returned to private practice. His office is near the hospital.

Memorial Hospital officials said they had been given no information as to the expected length of Mr. Nixon's stay, nor had they been asked as yet by Dr. Lungren to bring in any special equipment.

Medical sources have described the hospital as an excellent, well-equipped community hospital.

However, choice of the Long Beach hospital was unexpected.

William Gulley, White House liaison for Mr. Nixon, said earlier that for reasons of security, Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital was the most logical choice for Mr. Nixon's inpatient care. A suite has been reserved for Mr. Nixon at the naval hospital.

Earlier this week, Julie Nixon

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on Eisenhower said her father would be hospitalized, as Mr. Nixon's physicians had said they had recommended. Mr. Nixon rejected that advice when the phlebitis flared up a week ago.

Although the Pendleton Naval Hospital is understood to have been the Nixon staff's choice, for reasons of security, medical sources indicated that the Long Beach hospital had been chosen for reasons associated with tests that might be needed in Mr. Nixon's treatment.

Military sources said that the Pendleton hospital was not equipped with the technology needed to do lung scans. These tests are made with radioactive chemicals, or isotopes, to help detect blood clots that can break off from phlebitis-damaged veins in the leg and lodge in the lungs.

Nor, according to the sources, does the Pendleton hospital staff have much experience in doing angiograms, the special X-rays that are sometimes needed when complications like pulmonary emboli (blood clots lodging in the lung) develop.

Further, the Pendleton hospital was described by one Navy physician who had practiced there as "a giant dispensary," far less equipped than the Long Beach hospital to handle the potential complications that could threaten Mr. Nixon's life, if such problems developed.

The buildings and grounds of Memorial Hospital of Long Beach are owned by the City of Long Beach and leased to the nonprofit organization that runs the institution. The hospital was built in 1960.

The hospital has 750 beds. Yesterday, hospital officials said there were 600 patients in the institution. However, some were expected to be discharged—as had been planned—over the weekend.

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