

Nixon in Hospital

Doctor Seeking Causes For Fatigue, Phlebitis

Long Beach

Former President Nixon, looking drawn and avoiding questions from reporters, checked into a hospital here yesterday suffering from fatigue as well as phlebitis, his doctor said.

Mr. Nixon is expected to stay in the hospital for at least a week, "undergoing extensive tests and treatment," his physician, Dr. John C. Lungren, told a news conference.

Former White House press secretary Ronald Ziegler said, "The phlebitis and the events of the last 45 days have caused him to not be in good spirits, to at times be low in his frame of mind. His mind, though, is very acute."

Lungren told a news conference that he examined Mr. Nixon upon his arrival at the hospital and found "evidence of physical fatigue." The doctor said he

would advise use of anticoagulant drugs in treating the phlebitis, an inflammation of the vein that has caused two painful clots to form in Mr. Nixon's left thigh.

Lungren said he also ordered "exhaustive studies to find the causative agent of the illness."

Asked if Mr. Nixon might receive any psychiatric treatment, Ziegler, now Mr. Nixon's closest aide, said no but added: "He feels as anyone would feel after experiencing a great and severe loss. His discussions with me have sometimes been reflective and sometimes directed toward the future."

Accompanied by his wife, Pat, and his younger daughter, Julie Nixon Eisenhower, Mr. Nixon walked through a Hospital Medical Center of Long Beach. He slipped past all but a few reporters.

He arrived in a four-car motorcade from his San Clemente villa and waved to a few onlookers.

Asked by a reporter how he felt, Mr. Nixon smiled and said, "Good afternoon." Pressed by another newsmen, Mr. Nixon ignored the question and walked the few steps to an elevator normally used to deliver patients' food. The lift took him to his room on the ultramodern

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sixth floor of the hospital.

Some reporters said Mr. Nixon seemed to be favoring his left leg, but others said they observed the former President having no trouble walking.

Dick Smith, an NBC television cameraman, said that his camera was smashed to the ground by one of the men guarding Mr. Nixon as Smith tried to shoot film of the former chief executive.

Smith said the man, either a Secret Service agent or a local plainclothes officer, pointed to the broken camera and told him to "pick that up and get out of here."

Asked about speculation that Mr. Nixon might be entering the hospital to avoid complying with defense and prosecution subpoenas to testify at the Watergate cover-up trial, Ziegler replied: "The reason he is here is only for the reasons stated by Dr. Lungren."

Of reports that Mr. Nixon had fought hospitalization, Ziegler said: "He would have preferred to keep active and not subject himself to a long hospital stay." He said Mr. Nixon agreed to

come only after Lungren insisted.

Lungren said he would issue one written report at noon daily during Mr. Nixon's stay and would give out no information that Mr. Nixon had not approved. Lungren is an internist and cardiologist who has been Mr. Nixon's physician for many years.

Lungren said Mrs. Nixon would visit her husband regularly but did not plan to stay at the hospital overnight. Mrs. Eisenhower was to return to her home in Washington, D.C.

Before Mr. Nixon's arrival, private security men hired by the hospital were guarding Mr. Nixon's room and hospital workers were told not to divulge any information about flowers, cards or what Mr. Nixon will be eating.

Mr. Nixon has two \$90-a-day rooms, one of which will be occupied by Secret Service agents. On Sunday, the hospital ordered another eight rooms cleared of patients as a "security buffer," but officials said Mr. Nixon would be billed for only two rooms.

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AP Wirephoto

The former President waved to onlookers as he walked into the hospital, escorted by daughter Julie and security guards