

Nixon Is Bleeding From the Gums

Long Beach

Small amounts of blood have been oozing from Richard M. Nixon's gums as a side effect of treatment, but the former president is making satisfactory progress in his bout with phlebitis, his doctor said yesterday.

Mr. Nixon is expected to be hospitalized through the weekend.

"I talked to the doctor, and as of ten this morning, there was still oozing of blood from the gums," said hospital spokesman Norman Nager.

In a written medical statement, Dr. John C. Lungren said surgery is still a possibility.

Lungren said Mr. Nixon spent a comfortable night, "with a minimum of pain."

"He has a minor side effect from anti-coagulation therapy which consists of a small amount of bleeding from the gums," Lungren said.

"This is not of sufficient magnitude to counter-indicate continued closely monitored anti-coagulation

therapy."

Anti-coagulation thins the blood and makes the body prone to easy bleeding.

Lungren continued, "At this time, Dr. Eldon Hickman, my surgical consultant, and I are satisfied with the progress former President Nixon is now exhibiting.

"Accordingly, we will continue the present course of treatment for the abnormality in the left leg with the potential for surgery still a possibility."

The former president was unexpectedly readmitted to Memorial Hospital Medical Center of Long Beach on Wednesday night after tests showed that an oral anti-coagulant he was taking at his San Clemente home failed to prevent more blood clots from forming in his phlebitis-stricken left leg.

The clots were obstructing the blood flow to Mr. Nixon's thigh.

Mr. Nixon had been released from Memorial October 4 after 12 days of treatment.

Associated Press