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Nixon Has Three More Transfusions

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Long Beach

Former President Nixon received additional transfusions yesterday to combat a slow leakage of blood, doctors reported.

The 61-year-old Mr. Nixon was reported to be in stable condition and excellent spirits but was still on the critical list.

A midmorning medical bulletin had said that there was the possibility of further complications and that Mr. Nixon remained under intensive observation in the critical care center.

Dr. John Lungren and two other physicians appeared at a news conference in the afternoon to say that Mr. Nixon is in stable condition.

But Lungren added, "There are dangers lurking in the background, imminent dangers, real dangers."

Mr. Nixon has been given six units of transfused blood since he went into a state of shock and near death following his operation last Tuesday morning, doctors said.

The late news conference was held by Lungren, Mr. Nixon's personal physician; Dr. Eldon Hickman, the surgeon who headed the operation team, and Dr. James Harper, a cardiovascular consultant.

Mr. Nixon was given three transfusions after he went into a state of shock Tuesday afternoon, one earlier yesterday and two more since that time, the physicians said.

Lungren said "the bleeding is small and becoming smaller all the time." But later, he and the other physicians indicated they are inclined to believe that the bleeding has stopped altogether.

However, they said that there is still a possibility of hemorrhaging and that they would not dare reinstitute anti-coagulant treatment at this time.

Lungren was asked about the statement of Nixon aide Ronald Ziegler Wednesday that "we almost lost the President yesterday afternoon."

"Yes, he did almost die," Lungren said.

"His vital signs now are stable," yesterday's report said. "His blood pressure is 140 over 80. His pulse is 80 and regular."

"His spirits, his mental attitude are excellent," the doctors said.

United Press