

# Nixon Goes Home



UPI Telephoto

Former President Nixon was assisted into a limousine by a Secret Service and a nurse as he left the hospital in Long Beach

# His Doctor Says Stress Is a Threat

## Long Beach

Pale and thin, former President Nixon left the hospital yesterday and returned to his San Clemente villa, where he will be examined by three doctors to determine if he can testify at the Watergate coverup trial.

His personal physician said he believes Mr. Nixon's blood pressure would soar from the stress of the court-ordered examination and warned it might set off renewed internal bleeding.

Mr. Nixon shook hands with his doctor, nurses and other personnel who had attended him for 23 days before he left in a limousine that took him and his wife, Pat, to their seaside estate 50 miles south of the hospital.

Wearing light blue pajamas and a navy blue robe, the former President was helped into the car by hospital attendants after he came out a rear entrance in a wheelchair, his phlebitis-stricken left leg propped up.

He had lost 10 pounds since entering the hospital for a second time October 23 after a phlebitis flareup.

A hospital spokesman said Mr. Nixon was immediately put in an adjustable hospital bed after arriving home.

Rest and "nonstressful"

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activities are the key to Mr. Nixon's convalescence, said his doctor, John C. Lungren.

Hospital spokesmen would not release Mr. Nixon's bill, but it was reliably reported to total at least \$10,000 — which Mr. Nixon must pay out of his own already beleaguered finances because he does not have insurance.

Fifteen doctors were involved in caring for Mr. Nixon during his hospitalization.

There was no immediate word when the three doctors would arrive. All internationally known cardiovascular specialists, they were appointed by U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica on

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Wednesday to determine within 15 days whether Mr. Nixon is well enough to give testimony in the coverup trial of five of his former political associates.

When Sirica appointed the team, Lungren said they would be welcomed.

But the doctor said yesterday he believed their examination would cause the former chief executive stress and "bring a marked rise in blood pressure."

A rise in blood pressure, combined with the bloodthinning anti-coagulant drug the 61-year-old former President is taking for phlebitis, would mean "the chance of a hemorrhage is magnified," Lungren said.

"But I have no control over it. That's the court's physicians," Lungren added.

Associated Press