



AP Wirephoto

PAT NIXON  
Serious condition

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## Pat Nixon Suffers A Stroke

Long Beach

Pat Nixon was reported in "serious" condition yesterday after suffering a stroke that has left her with "slight slurring" of speech and weakness in her face, arm and leg.

"I think she will walk. She may not walk normally," said Dr. John Mosier, a neurologist called to Mrs. Nixon's bedside at Memorial Hospital Medical Center of Long Beach.

"If the stroke doesn't get any worse, she's not going to die. If it gets worse, well, people do die from strokes," said Mosier at a news briefing about two hours after the 64-year-old wife of former President Nixon was admitted.

The stroke "occurred at approximately 4 p.m. Wednesday while she was sitting on the patio reading," said Mosier. "She felt that she probably had a little stroke. She went up and went to bed. She didn't tell the other members of her family."

Other family members "could tell when they saw her" yesterday that she was ill, Mosier said.

"She had a stroke of maybe 35 to 50 per cent completeness. We don't know if it will expand," the doctor said. "At this point we don't know how permanent this may be."

A hospital news release said,

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"Mrs. Nixon suffered a dysarthria, a slight speech impediment or slurring of speech, and moderate weakness of the left arm, leg and face."

Pressures in her life "certainly could have been a contributing factor" toward her illness, Mosier said.

Both President Ford and Ronald Reagan telephoned Mr. Nixon last night. Betty Ford sent a get-well telegram to Mrs. Nixon.

An ambulance called by Secret Service agents transported Mrs. Nixon to the hospital from her seaside San Clemente home.

She was accompanied on the 30-mile trip by her husband and younger daughter, Julie Eisenhower, who remained at her bedside.

Mrs. Nixon's eldest daughter, Tricia Cox, arrived in Los Angeles from New York at 7:20 p.m. last night. Accompanied by a Secret Service agent, she walked from the plane carrying a gray poodle in her arms and went to a waiting car.

"I just want to go see my mother," she said. "I'm going to stay until she's well."

The decision to move Mrs. Nixon to the hospital came after she was examined by a physician at home.

"When we walked into the room, she was sitting up," said Paul Cubak, 20, the ambulance driver.

"She looked tired and really didn't talk too much," said Dave Neal, 18, the ambulance attendant.

"She didn't seem to be in distress. She was talkative and she looked good. We were told it was possibly flu," he said.

"Mrs. Nixon did say she didn't see the need for an ambulance. But it was a precautionary measure" during the one-hour northbound ride, Neal said.

Mosier said Mrs. Nixon is expected to remain in the hospital at least ten days.

Mrs. Nixon's private room at the giant medical center is on the seventh floor, just down the hall from the room where Mr. Nixon recovered from his bout with phlebitis.

Since Mr. Nixon's resignation in 1974 the couple has lived quietly, almost in seclusion, at their seaside villa.

During her husband's nearly six years in office, Mrs. Nixon maintained a smiling but low-key profile.

She prided herself on her stamina and good health. Rarely did she miss an appointment because of illness, and her only ailments were occasional attacks of flu virus.

Associated Press