



Richard Nixon and his personal aide, Colonel Jack Brennan (left), as they arrived at the hospital

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Condition Still Serious

Pat Nixon Has Visitors

Long Beach

Pat Nixon, in excellent spirits but still in serious condition from a stroke, was visited for 90 minutes yesterday by her husband.

"Her spirit is great and because her spirit is great, she's going to see this thing through," former president Nixon told reporters as he left Long Beach Memorial Hospital after visiting his wife.

"She's a fighter and I think that, combined with the excellent care she's receiving from doctors, will mean she will have a complete recovery," Mr. Nixon said.

The Nixons' two daughters, Tricia Cox and Julie Eisenhower, also visited their mother and remained at the hospital.

Mr. Nixon said Dr. John Lungen, the family physician, gave him a report on his wife's physical condition.

"But I have learned over many years observing such situations that even more important is the mental condition and my wife is one who has been through a great many difficult experiences for many years and one of her characteristics is self-reliance and strength of spirit," the former President said.

Mr. Nixon appeared drawn and tired, but he told reporters, "I feel fine."

Mr. Nixon at first ignored



Julie Eisenhower (left) and Tricia Cox visited their mother

AP Wirephoto

reporters when he and his daughters arrived at the hospital before noon, but shook hands with a

woman who approached him and said, "I love you. I always have."

The woman, Mary Ann Lossberg, said later, "It was the biggest

thrill of my life."

Dr. Lungren told reporters earlier that Mrs. Nixon remained in serious condition but he was optimistic about a full recovery.

"We would hope that she returns to complete normal activity," he said.

Mrs. Nixon, 64, suffered the stroke at her San Clemente home sometime Wednesday afternoon but said nothing about it to her family. Her illness was not noticed until Thursday morning when her husband saw she was having trouble opening a can of coffee.

Lungren said yesterday that Mrs. Nixon underwent diagnostic tests Thursday. The first two, an electro-encephalogram and brain scan, "were within normal limits," he said, and the third, a spinal fluid examination, "is also essentially normal to date."

Lungren said Mrs. Nixon "still has both motor weakness and some loss of sensation in her left arm, left leg and left side of face as well as a continued slight slurring of speech."

Mrs. Nixon was apparently able to get out of bed briefly yesterday morning for a brief exercise period, which Lungren said she will have twice daily.

In response to a question, Lungren said Mrs. Nixon has "some motor ability, but it is very weak. She can walk — but only with assistance."

Lungren was also asked if Mrs. Nixon is out of danger and he replied, "No. The seriousness will continue for some time."

Mrs. Nixon is on the same critical care floor of Long Beach Memorial Hospital where her husband came close to death from phlebitis not long after he resigned the presidency Aug. 9, 1974.

Lungren said he is watching the former President's health condition because of the stress imposed by his wife's illness, but said Mr. Nixon was "excellent and fine, but naturally he is concerned."

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