

When Nixon 'Died'

New York

Former President Nixon clinically died in hospital late in 1974, according to one of his special assistants.

Stephen Bull is quoted in People Magazine as saying that Mr. Nixon "really got sick" when in the hospital for treatment of his phlebitis condition.

"I mean, clinically he was dead," Bull says. "It shocked the hell out of us. Alarms went off and people ran in and he went through what you call a cardiovascular failure."

This is the first suggestion Mr. Nixon had "died" while in Memorial Hospital Medical Center in Long

Beach from October 23 to Nov. 14, 1974.

On October 29 doctors put a clamp on a vein in the pelvis to prevent a blood clot moving to Mr. Nixon's lungs where it could have killed him. The doctors said then that the former President suddenly went into vascular shock a few hours after the operation and countershock treatment was administered for three hours until his condition stabilized.

Ron Ziegler, Mr. Nixon's press spokesman, said on Oct. 30, 1974, "there's no question about the fact that we almost lost President Nixon yesterday afternoon."

Reuters