Nixon Says Ford Working Flood Too Hard 511174

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Vice President Gerald R. Ford said today the rapport between him and President Nixon is "as good as always and that has been excellent."

Ford spoke at a news conference after flying here from Washington where he met privately with Nixon earlier in the day.

In answer to a question about his relations with the President, Ford said: "There was no indication of any displeasure on the President's part in the role that I have played.

"He indicated that perhaps I was working too hard," Ford said.

The vice president, who told an Illinois audience Thursday that Watergate has caused "an erosion of confidence in our federal government that 'I believe has reached crisis proportions," said Nixon mentioned that Ford had been traveling quite a bit.

But Ford said, "I know of no areas at the moment where there is any sharp disagreement between the President and me.

"If there is, I shall continue to be candid and frank as always. I will speak my piece."

Ford said he and the President covered many topics in their one-hour meeting today, which caused Ford to delay his trip to Buffalo.

Ford said he and Nixon stressed foreign policy matters, some problems before the Congress and the impeachment proceedings in the House.

In Washington, Deputy White House Press Secretary Gerald L. Warren said flatly that there was no talk of a possible Nixon resignation.

Warren also said, in response to a question, that it was "quite possible" Ford and Nixon discussed the mood of the country since Nixon released edited transcripts of Watergate-related conversations.

While in Buffalo, Ford is attending a meeting of the Building TradesCouncil today and a fund-raising reception tonight for Rep. Jack Kemp, R-N.Y.

Speaking in Chicago on Thursday, the vice president said that even if Congress impeached President Nixon, there could be no court appeal.