

Nixon to Release His Tax Returns

Washington

President Nixon promised last night to make public later this week copies of his "relevant" income tax returns and said they would vindicate him of any allegations of financial wrongdoing, one of six senators meeting with him said.

Senator Bennett J. Johnston Jr. (Dem-La.) said the President indicated he will disclose complete returns.

The publication of Mr. Nixon's personal tax return would be the first in the history of the presidency.

Two other senators at the

meeting — Hubert H. Humphrey (Dem-Minn.) and William B. Saxbe (Rep-Ohio) — did not mention Mr. Nixon's tax returns in their accounts of the meeting.

Other senators could not be reached immediately.

The private meeting was one of a series Mr. Nixon has been holding with all Republican and some Democratic congressmen to discuss the Watergate scandal and other issues.

Johnston said the President was not asked how or where the returns would be released or what years they would cover.

"But he said these would vindicate his position," Johnston said.

"He mentioned to all of us that he decidedly did not urge others in public life to follow his example," Johnston said.

In his news conference November 17 before the Associated Press Managing Editors Association, the President said, "I paid \$79,000 in income tax in 1969. In the next two years I paid nominal amounts. Whether those amounts (reported) are correct or not, I don't know because I haven't looked at my returns."

Associated Press