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# Ford Says He'll Buck Impeachment

Washington

Vice President Gerald B. Ford said yesterday he will do "my best" to see that the House doesn't impeach President Nixon.

He said he knows of no ground for either the House or its Judiciary Committee approving an impeachment resolution, adding "If they don't have more evidence than they have today, the public won't stand for it."

Ford held his second full news conference as he ended his second full week in office and showed as he strode into a packed Senate committee room that he isn't overawed by his new title.

"The Vice President of the United States," press secretary Paul Miltich announced.

"It sounds awfully important, doesn't it?" Ford asked with a grin. "I'm not used to that yet."

Ford said there has been a tremendous falling off in mail urging Mr. Nixon's impeachment and said the impeachment drive has been an organized effort by those "who I feel have never felt very friendly to Mr. Nixon."

He added he thinks the President's release of his tax returns has been helpful to him despite the controversy over the President's non-payment of California income taxes and his \$576,000 deduction for giving his vice presidential papers to the government.

In response to a question, Ford said he has paid Michigan state income taxes in the past and decided after conferring with his accountant in the state "we would bend over backwards to continue the practice."

He noted that other public officials donated their public papers but said he took no tax deduction when he gave his to the University of Michigan.

Ford said he decided to take an Air Force jet to his

Christmas skiing vacation in Vail, Colo., because the Secret Service made a "strong recommendation that I travel in a government aircraft for security reasons."

He said use of the plane would enable the agents who must accompany him to avoid bumping passengers on civilian planes and that all extra seats on the plane would go to servicemen who want to fly to the Denver area.

*Associated Press*