

Charge That Ford Defaulted on Loan Described as 'Lie'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28 (AP)—A spokesman for Vice President-designate, Gerald R. Ford, says a report that Mr. Ford failed to repay a \$15,000 loan from a former lobbyist is a lie.

The charge was contained in an affidavit by Robert Winter-Berger filed with the Senate Rules Committee, which must approve Mr. Ford's nomination.

Jack Anderson, the columnist, published an account in today's newspaper editions based on the document.

In the affidavit, Mr. Winter-Berger said: "Between 1966 and September of 1969 I personally loaned Gerald Ford in the neighborhood of \$15,000. This money was delivered to Ford in cash to cover an illness and hospitalization of his wife. . . . This money came from my personal income and I paid taxes on it. This money was never repaid. I never asked for repayment and it was never offered."

Mr. Ford's spokesman, Paul Miltich, said the charges about the loan were "a categorical lie." He said Mr. Ford maintained high-option Blue Cross and Blue Shield insurance that covered virtually all his medical

expenses. Mr. Miltich said Mr. Ford had no need for cash.

Mr. Winter-Berger, a former Capital Hill lobbyist, wrote the book, "The Washington Pay-off." Many of its allegations have been disputed or denied.

Mr. Winter-Berger also said the following:

¶He lent smaller sums to Representative Ford on other occasions but didn't say how much was repaid. "At other times he [Mr. Ford] complained

that he was short of money."

¶Mr. Ford agreed to help get a Government post for a contributor of \$125,000 to the Republican party, Francis Kellogg, now a special assistant on refugee affairs in the State Department.

¶Mr. Ford issued a special automobile pass, allowing movement through police lines during President Nixon's 1969 inaugural, to another contributor.

¶Mr. Ford obtained a job as a congressional intern for the relative of a Republican contributor.

¶Mr. Miltich said Mr. Ford had met with Mr. Kellogg twice—the first time at Mr. Kellogg's request—and that Mr. Kellogg was interested in a job as Ambassador to Kenya. He said Mr. Ford told Mr. Kellogg he would see what he could do to help, but also told him to seek support from his own Senators.