Prodded by Jimmy Carter to discuss his past campaign finances and cor-poration-paid golfing weekends, President Ford said yesterday that no campaign funds ever went for his personal use and he is certain there was no impropriety.

'I am certain that when the investigation is completed, that I will be free of any allegations such as I have read about," the President told a news conference. "As long as my conscience is clear, I have no real problem."

Carter, in turn, told reporters the President's declaration ends the matter as far as he is concerned. He said he accepts Ford's statement at face value.

Carter was campaigning in the Northeast. Met at the Buffalo, N.Y. airport by pickets calling for an accounting of Americans still missing in Southeast Asia, he pledged to try as president to send a delegation to Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

The Democratic candidate said such a delegation would try to determine what happened to the 795 U.S. servicemen the Pentagon says are still unaccounted for in the Vietnam war. Carter gave no specifics about the size or makeup of the delegation.

Both vice presidential candidates, Democrat Walter F. Mondale and Republican Bob Dole, campaigned in Pennsylvania.

Carter had challenged the president to submit to questions from reporters about an investigation by special Watergate prosecutor Charles Ruff, reportedly into whether Ford converted political contributions to his own use when he was in Congress.

The Securities and Exchange Comunderway into the corporation-provided significance or substance and declared

entertainment for government officials, including Ford. That investigation, too, dates to Ford's days in Congress. At about noon, Ford met with report-

ers in the Oval Office. "No money ever went to me personally," the President said, referring to campaign funds in his home country in

Michigan. 'From any campaign?" he was asked. "I will say any campaign funds for personal use," he replied.

Published reports have said that Ruff is looking into Kent County, Mich., GOP records to check whether Ford converted contributions from maritime unions to his own use while he was in the

House. Ford said he wants the matter resolved as soon as possible.

Said the President: "It is more important to me personally that it be cleared up because I am very proud of my record of personal integrity, and I think that is more important than any impact it might have on the elec-

The President said he "would not under any circumstances" question the motivation or timing of the prosecutor's investigation, coming in the midst of a

political campaign.

Dole, however, has implied that the probe is politically motivated by saying 'They are all Democrats over there'' at the prosecutor's office.

Ford at first said he had not discussed any congressional business while playing golf with officers of the Ford Motor Co. or the U.S. Steel Corp. — then corrected himself to say: "In a casual way, of course, we might informally talk about certain matters.

He said House rules prohibited mission meanwhile has a separate probe members from receiving anything of

that his golf games were "in no way a violation, in my judgement, of any rule or ethical standard."

On his swing through the Northeast, Carter criticized Ford's handling of the economy, especially unemployment. New York, where he spent much of his day, has a 10.4 per cent jobless rate, 2.5 per cent over the national rate for

"Gerald Ford has no concern for people out of work," Carter told a rally at a Western Electric plant where only 500 of a former work force of 2,800 are

still employed. He also noted Ford's statement to a B'nai B'rith convention in Washington that he means business in opposing the Arab boycott of firms doing business with Israel.

"But the administration has consistently opposed strong enforcement of the anti-boycott laws now on the books, and now it is doing everything in its power to keep new legislation from beilig passed," Carter said.

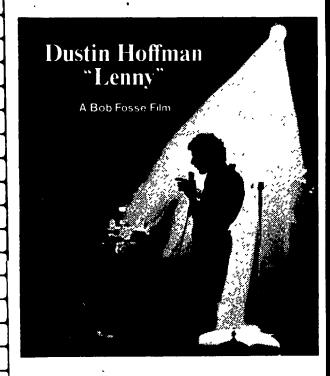
Dole, meanwhile, told about 500 persons in Johnstown, Pa. that Carter is a man of "facility, agility and flexibility" because he constantly changes positions on the issues.

In response to questions in Williamsport, 'he said 10 pages were missir's from a ledger of his 1973-74 campaign finances reviewed by the Watergate

special prosecutor. The prosecutor inspected the ledger in connection with an inquiry of Gulf Oil Corp. contributions to congressional political campaigns. The Washingtor, Post said yesterday that the 10 pages had been removed by a secretary.

Dole said that the prosecutor had asked him about the missing pages but "they didn't have any problems with

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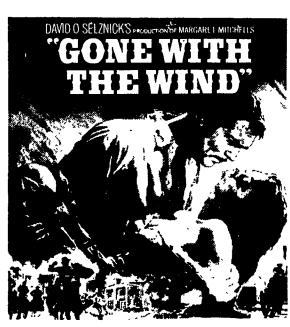
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World Bank to sell gold to help poor

PINES (AP)—Top figures in international finance begin meeting here Monday to decide the best way to sell 25 million ounces of gold to help poor countries falling deeper into debt to the rich.

Gold and debt are the priority items listed for a joint meeting of the directors of the meeting of the Washington-based World Bank and the International Monetary Fund(IMF).

Gold was selling on the free around \$117 an ounce this week, but the IMF auctioned

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an ounce Sept. 15 in the latest of its series of gold auctions.

participants in the meetings here will be heads of the world's richest private banks. With Vietnam confirmed as

an IMF and World Bank

Among the 3,000 invited and Yugoslavia. Cambodia, participants in the meetings the third Indochinese nation

MANILA, THE PHILIP- 780,000 ounces of gold at \$109 member, Hanoi will attend along with its Indochinese neighbor, Laos, and Romania to fall under Communist rule since the last bank-fund meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1974, is not expected to attend.

poor countries with their deepening balance of payments problems.

The European Common Market countries have urged the reopening of discussions on IMF auctions of 25 millio ounces of gold, designed to. provide a special fund to help

Chances for life on Mars decrease

PASADENA, CALIF. (AP)—The Viking mission's chances of finding life on market in Western Europe at Mars were dealt a blow yesterday when latest data from the Viking 2 robot

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showed no sign of organic admitted that it was difficult; material in the Martian soil. Life as we know it is not possible without organics

-tiny chains of carbon atoms-and neither of the Viking landers have found organic matter in their probes of Mars' red soil.

Gentry Lee, director of the mission's science analysis, said there was still the

to "explain no organics." Scientists said Viking 2 will conduct further searches for ! organics-including a dig

under a Martian rock—but there was not much hope here at Jet Propulsion Laboratory that the elusive "building block of life?' would be found.

The results reported; yesterday were from the first possibility of life on Mars but test of the soil by Viking 2.

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