

CONG. COMM. HITS ARAB DISCRIMINATION

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce is scheduled soon to decide whether to follow the recommendation of its subcommittee on oversight and investigations and cite Commerce Secretary Rogers C. D. Morton for contempt of Congress for refusing to give the subcommittee a list of American firms complying with the Arab boycott.

Rep. John Moss (D. Calif.), the subcommittee's chairman, and Rep. James Scheuer (D. N.Y.) who introduced the resolution to cite Morton, have rejected an offer by the Commerce Secretary to

provide the committee with the names of the companies provided that they not be made public. The subcommittee vote was on strict party lines with the 10 Democrats voting in favor and the five Republicans against. If the full Committee, which is made up of 29 Democrats and 14 Republicans approves the contempt citation, it must then be voted on by the full House.

Meanwhile, Morton has announced that he has ordered the Commerce Department to stop distributing Arab notices of trade opportunities for American firms if they contain boycott restrictions against Israel. "This action is still another clear demonstration of the Administration's opposition to restrictive trade practices and boycott of countries friendly to the United States," he said.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith which had filed a federal district court suit against Morton to ban the Commerce Department from disseminating the information welcomed the announcement and said it "has in effect settled the ADL's suit out of court." ADL chairman Seymour Graubard said Morton's action, along with President Ford's earlier announcement prohibiting the use of the Arab boycott to discriminate against Americans, means that "the U.S. government has unequivocally told the Arabs that this nation will not permit others to dictate its economic practices or alter its constitutional guarantees against discrimination."

Graubard said the ADL will now have to decide whether to proceed with its suit's other demand, that the Commerce Department make public the list of American companies complying with the boycott.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Yitzhak Navon, chairman of the Knesset's foreign affairs and security committee, said that Israel must be ready to negotiate with any Palestinian group that recognizes the Jewish state, pledges to refrain from terrorist acts and accepts Security Council Resolution 242 as a framework for a negotiated peace settlement in the Middle East.


NEW YORK -- American Jewry will be asked to mobilize all its financial resources to raise \$100 million by December 31 to reach the United Jewish Appeal's cash goal of \$300 million. This was one of the resolutions adopted at the UJA National Cash Mission.

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