

Financier Says He'll Fight IRS

SAN DIEGO — (AP) — Financier C. Arnholt, Smith, a friend of President Nixon, said yesterday he would seek court action to stop the Internal Revenue Service from demanding immediate payment of nearly \$22.9 million in alleged back income taxes and interest.

Liens were filed Friday in nine Southern California counties by the IRS against the personal assets of the 74-year-old millionaire.

An IRS spokesman said Smith had not paid enough income tax for 1969 and that the federal government had a "prior claim" on his assets, which include principal ownership of Westgate-California Corp.

Smith said in an interview that the action by the IRS is a result of his active support and fund raising efforts for President Nixon.