

APR 11 1972

Demo Denies Charge of ITT Payoff

SFChronicle

Congressman Chet Holifield (Dem - Montebello) yesterday flatly denied charges leveled against him by columnist Jack Anderson.

Anderson's column containing the charges appears in today's Chronicle on Page 35.

Anderson charges that Holifield "took a \$500 payoff from ITT about the same time that he wrote the Defense Department on behalf of a multimillion-dollar ITT contract proposal."

Holifield said he had written the then Secretary of the Air Force, Harold Brown, on Dec. 19, 1968, urging "fair consideration" be given ITT-Gilfillan, a Southern California ITT subsidiary, in the awarding of a contract for ground-controlled radar installations.

ITT-Gilfillan was not awarded the contract.

Holifield said his staff had "checked the records of the Clerk of the House of Representatives and of the California Secretary of State" to see if any contribution of \$500 from ITT was ever received, "and there is no such record.

"I flatly deny ever having received any such contribution," Holifield said.

Holifield, who is chairman of the House subcommittee on military operations, noted that "my letter to . . . Brown was written on my office stationery as a Member of Congress and not as chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Operations."