

House Trade Debate Is Postponed a Week

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House Democratic leaders, acting at the request of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, have put off until at least Oct. 23 action on a trade reform bill because of the Arab-Israeli war, congressional sources disclosed yesterday.

Kissinger made the request to Speaker Carl Albert and others at a breakfast meeting yesterday, sources said.

Kissinger reportedly told the leadership that the controversial most-favored-nation status for the Soviet Union might cause even more controversy at this time because of Soviet support for Arab nations and reported shipment of arms to the Arabs.

The measure, originally scheduled for Oct. 17 floor action, will be brought up some time during the week of Oct. 22.

It would give President Nixon power, with some con-

gressional limitations that are acceptable to the White House, to raise or lower tariffs. It would grant the most-favored-nation status to all Communist countries conditioned on a report from the President certifying that the nations, including Russia, allow free emigration of their citizens.

Mr. Nixon sought the most-favored-nation status but opposes the condition set on it. The issue centers on Soviet policies against Jewish emigration to Israel.

A source close to the leadership said it was not determined why Kissinger thought a week's delay in bringing the bill to the floor would improve the situation, except the possibility that the administration feels the Middle East war will be near an end by then or that the Soviet question regarding the war might be resolved by that time.