

Trump tells advisers Tel Aviv should bar U.S. Muslim lawmakers from Israel



Washington, August 11 (RHC)-- U.S. President Donald Trump has reportedly told his advisers that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu should use the regime's anti-boycott law to prevent Muslim congresswomen Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib from entering the occupied Palestinian territory.

U.S.-based Axios news outlet cited three sources familiar with Trump's private remarks as saying on Saturday that the American president had told advisers, including senior administration officials, that the Israeli regime should bar Omar and Tlaib's entry because the two lawmakers support the boycott Israel movement.

According to the report, the White House, however, has denied offering such advice to the Israeli regime with Press Secretary Stephanie Grisham saying: "The Israeli government can do what they want. It's fake news." The Israeli parliament passed a law in 2017, requiring the interior minister to block foreign nationals from entering the occupied territory if they have supported boycotting the Zionist regime.

Trump's move came days after the U.S. House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a resolution last week to condemn the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions, or BDS movement, which Omar and Tlaib

support.

The resolution claims that the global movement to boycott Israel over its policies toward Palestinians "promotes principles of collective guilt, mass punishment and group isolation, which are destructive of prospects for progress towards peace."

Israeli ambassador to the U.S. Ron Dermer reportedly said last month that the regime would not bar the congresswomen from entering Israel. "Out of respect for the U.S. Congress and the great alliance between Israel and America, we would not deny entry to any member of Congress into Israel," he said as quoted in a report by Israeli daily Haaretz.

The two Muslim lawmakers are due to arrive in Israeli on Sunday, August 18, according to the report, which noted that the timing could change.

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