

'Propaganda'

**Nixon Condemns
Hanoi POW Film**

Washington

President Nixon dismissed a film showing American prisoners of war in North Vietnam yesterday as a propaganda movie that demonstrates Hanoi's "total disregard" for the Geneva Convention on treatment of POWs.

In the film, shown on American television Sunday night, two United States prisoners told a Canadian Broadcasting Co. correspondent the United States should withdraw its troops from Vietnam and end the war now.

Mr. Nixon's reaction was reported to newsmen by White House Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler.

SPIRIT

"The President feels using prisoners of war for propaganda purposes such as the film is evidence of the enemy's total disregard of the terms and intentions of the spirit and letter of the Geneva convention," Ziegler said.

"We continue to be concerned for the missing men, not just those in North Vietnam, but in South Vietnam," he said.

Only last Saturday, in a letter to prisoners' families, Mr. Nixon accused Hanoi of a "barbaric and inhuman attitude" on the prisoner issue.

CYNICAL

Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird also denounced the film as "further evidence of the cynical way the prisoner of war issue has been handled by North Vietnam."

He told a Pentagon news conference the film was "a very carefully controlled, staged and edited, as well as censored, production."

No previously unidentified

prisoners were shown, he said, nor was there discussion of the prisoners' diet or medical treatment or of conditions in another 10 to 15 prison camps believed to exist in North Vietnam.

United Press