

JAN 28 1972

# Huge Aid to Hanoi Offer

WASHINGTON — (AP) — North Vietnam was told last year it might get up to \$2.5 billion of a potential \$7.5 billion, five-year U.S. postwar reconstruction program for Indochina following a peace settlement, Nixon Administration officials have disclosed.

Administration strategists said also that the test still lies ahead on whether Hanoi will negotiate seriously on President Nixon's eight-point peace offer.

A current theory here is that North Vietnam and the Viet Cong, reportedly building up for an offensive next month, will want to decide first whether South Vietnam can defend itself without U.S. troops and whether Nixon's offer has wide public support in the United States.

## Rogers Hopeful

Secretary of State William Rogers told newsmen he was somewhat encouraged because North Vietnamese negotiators did not reject Nixon's plan as it was publicly presented at Paris yesterday morning, though they piled invective on it.

He said it was a good sign that they asked questions about it.

But Rogers acknowledged the continuing clash of goals. He said the North Vietnamese insist that a "Communist government take over" in Saigon and "we can't accept that."

In his Tuesday night disclosure of secret negotiations by presidential adviser Henry A. Kissinger in Paris, Nixon said an aid offer was made

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# U.S. Offer To Reds of 2.5 Billion

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last July 26, but he gave no figures.

He said Hanoi envoys were told that "we remain prepared to undertake a major reconstruction program throughout Indochina including North Vietnam, to help all those people to recover from the ravages of a generation of war."

Administration officials said that the "illustrative" figure of \$7.5 billion over 5 years for Indochina's reconstruction, with up to one-third going to North Vietnam, was given after Hanoi envoys had presented their secret nine-point settlement plan.

One of the nine points called for reparations, the officials said. They said the reparations demand was rejected because, in the U.S. view, to pay this would be an admission of guilt by the United States.

For this reason Nixon's response totaled eight points instead of nine, they said, and the prospective U.S. aid following the war was outlined separately.

The administration officials said the money would have to be voted by Congress, but they voiced confidence the legislators would approve the multibillion-dollar sum as part of an over-all settlement.