

SF Examiner

APR 16 1972

# Reds Claim

## A Nixon Flip

PARIS — (UPI) — North Vietnam said yesterday that President Nixon offered secretly to resume negotiations at the stalled Paris peace talks, but took back his offer after Hanoi had accepted it.

A statement issued by the Hanoi delegation to the talks said Nixon's offer was "obviously a trickery designed to appease opinion both in America and the world indignant over the Nixon Administration's blocking of the Vietnam negotiations."

The statement acknowledged Hanoi received a private message April 2 from the U.S. delegation offering to resume the conference last Thursday. Nixon had ordered the 30-month-old talks suspended on March 23 on grounds the Communist side was using them mainly as a propaganda forum.

### Second Message

The north Vietnamese responded favorably on April 6, the statement said, but on the same day received a second American message, again through private channels, canceling the offer.

The Hanoi statement did

not make clear if the cancellation came after or before the North Vietnamese message of acceptance was relayed to the American delegation.

U.S. Ambassador William J. Porter disclosed on his return here Thursday from consultations in Washington, that Nixon on April 1 had ordered that a private message offering to resume the talks be sent to the communists.

### Viet Cong Report

"The only response to this overture came in the form of a mushrooming invasion of the Republic of South Vietnam by North Vietnamese troops . . ." Porter said.

The Viet Cong promptly announced it had no knowledge of any secret offer by the United States. The North Vietnamese maintained silence until the statement yesterday.