

Russ President Flies to Hanoi

CALCUTTA — (AP) — Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny arrived in Calcutta today en route to Hanoi, touching off speculation he is on a peace mission.

Podgorny told reporters: "The Vietnam problem should be solved fast and the Americans should cease their bombing there."

Experienced diplomats in Moscow saw Podgorny's visit to Hanoi as an effort to bring peace to Vietnam, although they conceded they had no solid information to support their conclusion.

The diplomats speculated that Podgorny's trip was a result of a Soviet-U.S. understanding on Vietnam reached during President Nixon's summit meeting in Moscow with Soviet Commu-

nist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev.

Podgorny had planned to spend only an hour in Calcutta while his plane was refueled, but bad weather delayed his departure until tomorrow.

What Nixon and Brezhnev said to each other undoubtedly will be one of the major items of discussion between Podgorny and the North Vietnamese, along with what the Russians can do to get around the interruption in their supply of war materials to Hanoi because of the American mining of North Vietnam's harbors.

There was also speculation that U.S. fighter-bombers will be kept well away from the Hanoi area during Podgorny's visit.