

Nixon Plans to Give N. Viet \$2.5 Billion

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Nixon administration is considering a five-year, \$7.5 billion program of post-war economic assistance for Indochina, including \$2.5 billion for North Vietnam.

The aid effort would break down into programs for relief, reconstruction, development and stabilization, the sources said.

Other nations and international agencies, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the Asian Development Bank all would be expected to join in a massive effort to heal the scars of the Indochina war, the officials added.

Economic reforms have been taking place in Vietnam according to offi-

cialists who pointed out that inflation was cut to 7 percent before North Vietnam launched its spring invasion earlier this year. Now the inflation rate has returned to 15 percent, largely because of a rice shortage.

Contributions to the economy of Laos would be required if it is to remain a "viable" country, said officials.

In Cambodia it is expected that rice and rubber plantations will return to productive operations in three years, they said.

Expert economists estimate that within five years the Vietnam economy will have returned to effective production. But the political and security aspects of Indochina remain the big question mark of the future.