

Thieu Sees Need For More U.S. Aid

Washington

South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu said yesterday that his country will need more economic aid from the U.S. during the postwar period than it got while the fighting was going on.

Thieu did not set a figure, but said, "I think that (it would be) more than before . . . now we need more money. We need more work, more air force, but more money, too, for development."

Thieu spoke in an interview taped last week in Saigon for broadcast yesterday on the television program "Issues and Answers" (ABC).

He said he intended to take up the postwar reconstruction issue with President Nixon during his visit to the U.S. later this year.

Asked if he would participate in a summit meeting

with North Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong, Thieu said, "I am not against that."

He noted, though, that there have been no negotiations along these lines, and that he thinks "the most urgent thing to do now is (for) the government and the NFL (National Liberation Front) to sit down together . . . to work on the political solution in South Vietnam . . ."

He also expressed a desire to meet with the American people to "dissipate" the impression here "that I am the man who would like to (wage) the war, (that) I am a dictator."

Thieu, who was interviewed outdoors in bright sunshine in the garden of his home, said he had no objection to U.S. aid to North Vietnam, "provided that aid will not serve to promote war." *Washington Post Service*