

Aid Promised, Hanoi Claims

Tokyo

Hanoi Radio, complaining that the United States is not helping rebuild the country, yesterday quoted from what it said was a message from former President Nixon promising at least \$3.5 billion in unconditional postwar reconstruction aid.

The broadcast, monitored in Tokyo, quoted North Vietnam's official newspaper Nhan Dan as saying, "Truth is truth. Richard Nixon in his capacity as the then president of the United States, on Feb. 1, 1973, sent a message to the prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, saying notably:

"1. The government of the United States of America will contribute to postwar reconstruction in North Vietnam without any politi-

cal conditions.

"2. Preliminary United States studies indicate that the appropriate programs . . . will fall in the range of \$3.25 billion of grant aid over five years. Other forms of aid will be agreed upon between the two parties."

The newspaper repeated North Vietnam's charge that the United States is failing to live up to its responsibility to rebuild the war-torn country.

The United States, it said, "has shown that the United States is lacking both seriousness and good will in normalizing relations with Vietnam."

The United States sent a message to North Vietnam last month in which it offered to discuss normalization of relations.

Associated Press