

## ***Reagan Urged Not To Visit Shrine***

WASHINGTON (UPI) -Southern Baptist leaders urged President Ronald Reagan not to visit a Japanese shrine that followers of the Shinto religion believe holds the spirit of World War II leader Hideki Tojo.

White House officials told the religious leaders Wednesday that Reagan's travel plans for Japan have "not yet been released." The officials would not say whether Tokyo's Yasukuni Shrine was on the itinerary. Southern Baptist Convention leaders, including denomination President James Draper and Executive Secretary Treasurer Harold Bennett, asked Reagan to alter any plans to visit the shrine.

Duke McCall, chancellor of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. Ken, said Reagan should not "embarrass the Christians in Japan along with the Christians in the United States."

In a letter to Reagan, Japanese Baptists said a visit to the Yasukuni Shrine would "be misinterpreted as an act of Shinto worship" and would be seen as encouragement from the United States for Japan to rearm.