

Reagan says more Democrats attracted to cult than GOP

By DAVID MINTHORN

BONN, West Germany (AP) — Former California Gov. Ronald Reagan said Wednesday that the Rev. Jim Jones, cult leader of Peoples Temple, appeared to attract more members of the Democratic Party than Republicans.

"I'll try not to be happy in saying this," Reagan said. "He supported a number of political figures but seemed to be more involved with the Democratic Party. I haven't seen anyone in the Republican Party having been helped by him or seeking his help."

Reagan, who lost the 1976 race for the Republican presidential nomination to Gerald Ford, is currently on a tour of European capitals and was interviewed here by The Associated Press.

Reagan said he has been "campaigning strenuously" for Republican candidates for a number of months.

"I just felt it was time now, after all this campaigning, to get some first-hand information," Reagan said. "What is the attitude toward the United States? What is the image of us?"

Reagan said he will spend three days in West Germany for talks with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in West Berlin and Bavarian conservative leader Franz Josef Strauss in Munich.

When asked if his trip was in preparation for presidential campaign, Reagan answered, "You'll have to ask me that question sometime in 1979."

In London, Reagan met with British Foreign Minister David Owen and Conservative Party leader Marnister David Owen and Conservative Party leader Margaret Thatcher. In Paris on Monday, Reagan met with France's deputy foreign minister and French business leaders.

Reagan termed Monday's shooting deaths of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and City Supervisor Harvey Milk "an individual thing."

Former City Supervisor Dan White has been charged in connection with the deaths. Mayor Moscone refused to give White the chance to return to a post White had recently given up.

"San Francisco has undergone some changes and it's been a kind of mecca for various kinds of people," Reagan added.

Reagan said Jones, whose headquarters was in San Francisco, did not represent a "national wave." He wasn't like some charismatic leader who could dominate an entire country."