

PURGE OF PARTY INCOMPETENTS IN CHINA

DISEASE RIFE AFTER FAMINE

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

HONGKONG, FEB. 17

Chinese students returning to Hongkong for the Lunar New Year holidays after being sent to the mainland communes to increase production have told reporters that a total lack of managerial experience among party secretaries and commune managers, as well as bureaucracy, were the human factors responsible, with last year's natural calamities, for the acute shortages from which China is suffering.

They said that malnutrition had caused widespread beri-beri and other diseases and there was a general weakening of health among a great part of the population, with high mortality. While working on the farms the students saw the executions of several party workers, after public trials, for brutality to farmers and mismanagement in the communes in Kwangtung. Other offenders were sentenced to terms of imprisonment or suspension.

ARMY BROUGHT IN

The central committee of the Chinese Communist Party is expected to order a new purge directed against inefficient commune secretaries. The higher authorities have already called in some Army officers to replace both secretaries and managers in the communes. When these officials ordered the seizure of poultry and livestock privately owned, the peasants slaughtered them instead of handing them over to the state. The position is eased by the toleration of free markets where the farmers sell their produce at black market prices far higher than the ceiling fixed by the state.

The students reported a Government plan to provide management training for commune managers, while punishment is provided for communes in which the mortality rate is high.

Meanwhile an exhibition of Soviet achievements in science and culture is attracting great attention in Peking. General Chen Yi, the Foreign Minister, and the heads of cultural bodies attended the opening, with many leaders in Chinese science and culture, though other party leaders were absent. Speeches at the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association and other functions on the anniversary of the alliance were also most cordial and the functions were attended by many party and state leaders, including Mr. Chou En-lai, the Prime Minister.

NATL TO PLAN FUTURE

BELGIAN PRIEST MURDERED IN CONGO

GANG ATTACKS ON MISSIONS

U.N. TROOPS' PATROL

From Our Special Correspondent

LEOPOLDVILLE, FEB. 17

The aftermath of Mr. Lumumba's death continues to inspire tension in the Congo and was responsible yesterday for the first really ugly incidents of the week, when two Roman Catholic missions were attacked in Bukavu, capital of Kivu province. At one of the missions a crowd of 50 youths, armed with sticks and spears, killed and mutilated a Belgian priest and looted and set fire to the mission house. Ten other priests and nuns escaped and sought United Nations protection.

At the other mission a similar gang invaded the house and molested two priests, while another priest was attacked and had his car burned by a third gang.

Soldiers of the Congolese Army are said to have broken up the gangs and to have made some arrests and, according to the United Nations spokesman, they are now mounting joint patrols with United Nations soldiers to prevent further disorders.

LEOPOLDVILLE FIGHTS

There has been tension in the African city of Leopoldville also, where old antagonisms have been revived in the past few days between members of various tribes and parties who were for or against Mr. Lumumba. A few gang fights have resulted in a small number of casualties—but these have been enough to alarm the Leopoldville authorities, who, presumably on the instructions of Mr. Ileo's provisional Government, have arrested a number of alleged Lumumbists.

Among these is said to be the father of Maurice Mpolo, one of the two men killed with Mr. Lumumba; and Mrs. Lumumba today led a large group of relatives of the three dead men to United Nations headquarters here to seek protection. They are now lodged in a United Nations camp and are believed to have asked for evacuation to the Lumumbist town of Stanleyville.

The United Nations continues to emphasize the restraint shown