

NEWS OF PRIESTS TOLD BY JESUIT

News of the whereabouts of five more Jesuit priests who were behind the Chinese "iron curtain" has come to the Rev. Erwin Toner, S. J., of Spokane, editor of the Oregon Jesuit.

He said the five Jesuits who suffered persecution at the hands of Chinese communists, are the Rev. Louis Dowd, the Rev. Edward Murphy, the Rev. Mark Falvey, the Rev. Fred Foley and the Rev. John A. Houle, all former Gonzagans.

"Father Houle is still in Shanghai and he has written to say that the Rev. Beda Chang, a Chinese Jesuit, was killed November 11 after he refused to support a communist attempt to form a national Catholic church independent of Rome," Father Toner said.

"Father Chang was arrested last August and nothing was heard from him until another Chinese Jesuit was called in to identify Chang's body. He had been so badly disfigured that positive identification was possible only by means of dental work."

He said the communists forbade requiem mass for Father Chang but services were held in every Catholic church in Shanghai with 200 priests reading mass.

Funeral Halted

"However, the communists stopped his funeral procession and would not allow his name to be placed on his tombstone," Father Toner said.

"Father Murphy and Father Foley have both been exiled from China and are now at Taipei, Formosa.

"Father Dowd recently was released from prison and exiled. He returned to this country in time to spend Christmas with his parents at Chatham, N. Y.

"Father Falvey went from missionary work in China to the Philippines just in time to experience the terrible volcanic eruption at Mambajao on the island of Camiguin. Although 2000 of his parishioners were killed, Father Falvey escaped injury."