

Chinese Students in U. S. Termed Free to Return Home

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20. — (INS)—The State Department today again said there are no legal barriers against the return to the China mainland of any Chinese students in the United States.

The statement was made in answer to a propaganda broadcast by the Peiping radio, alleging that three Chinese students, who have now returned to Red China, were subjected to "interrogations, persecutions, arrests and jailings" during their three and a half years in the United States.

RETURNED TO CHINA.

The three students were among a group of fifteen who recently returned to China. According to the Peiping broadcast, they alleged that nearly 5,000 more Chinese students in the United States were also being subjected to indignities, and

being prevented from returning to their homeland.

According to State Department records, these other Chinese students, who came to the United States before the Communist regime gained control, do not want to go back and be under Communist rule.

PROPAGANDA MOVE.

Washington diplomatic observers viewed the Peiping broadcast as a propaganda move seeking to counter the effect of charges brought by the eleven American airmen who were recently released by Red China that their captors subjected them to physical torture during their imprisonment.

It also believed that the Peiping radio charges were aimed at attempting to get a more favorable position for Red China in the current negotiations at Geneva on the exchange of civilians on both sides.