

advance of the national elections scheduled to be held during August, 1961. Our task therefore had to be terminated by the end of June and amnesties and pardons recommended would have to take effect on or about July 1, 1961.

All of the files which were placed before us were subjected to a searching examination by each of the three members of the Commission. We hoped in this way to avoid all possible errors and to do nothing which might be to the prejudice of persons who might benefit by amnesty.

As a general rule we agreed that all persons who had been found guilty of crimes and offences of a political character in the period from the disturbances of October 1959 to April 1961 should benefit by amnesty. However, we refused to enter recommendations in favour of persons who had taken advantage of the political situation to commit common law crimes.

The list of persons to be amnestied will be found in Annex VI (A) of the Report. The Administering Authority was asked to act upon these recommendations.

Further in our letter of June 26, 1961 to the Resident-General of Ruanda-Urundi we spelt out anew, and so as to avoid any possibility of misunderstanding, our conception of amnesty:

" In recommending this measure, the Special Commission expresses the hope that any pardons granted will have the same effect and the same scope as the amnesty already proclaimed under Legislative Ordinance No. 01/188 of 31 May 1961.

" In other words, the Special Commission hopes that the pardon referred to in the notes of 10 and 13 June 1951 will amount to an additional amnesty 'so as