

again. International assistance might be enlisted to help solve the refugee problem, and supplement efforts already being made by the Administering Authority, the Government of Ruanda and religious missions.

VIII

The Date of Independence

The last major question is the timing of independence. My Delegation has no rigid views on what the appropriate date should be but the Assembly, in our opinion, should be guided by these considerations:

- (1) A firm date for independence should be set, not later than the end of this year. We must not leave the people of Ruanda-Urundi in a state of uncertainty regarding their future;
- (2) this date should probably be earlier rather than later, to avoid the danger of unrest and violence in the territory; and
- (3) it must be a date which is acceptable to the governments of Ruanda and Burundi and to the Administering Authority.