

After their re-admission, those who will have rallied to the national community will be able to freely exercise every normal political activity within the framework of the Constitution."

12. In the opinion of the Commission, the Government statement was most welcome, particularly the assurance regarding the right to normal political activity. The Commission has satisfied itself that the Government's appeal was widely broadcast in French and Cambodian newspapers and over the Radio. Publicity in the villages has been fairly satisfactory.

AMNESTY:

13. Although under the terms of the Amnesty of October 12, 1954, the Government had released all prisoners held because of their participation in the resistance movement, there were still prisoners charged with both criminal and political crimes. These were what the Government called "Mixed Cases". The Government had decided to have these cases adjudicated by a "Commission de Grace" which was composed of judges. The procedure adopted by the "Commission de Grace", was to invite petitions from individual prisoners or their relatives who considered the amnesty applicable to their cases. The Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice also submitted cases to it.

14. The International Commission discussed with the Government the principles of the amnesty and guiding considerations in deciding whether a crime was or was not to be considered part of war activities. (A reference to these discussions may be made to the Notes attached as Appendix "A"). It was made clear to the Government that although the International Commission had no intention of interfering with the action taken by competent authorities, it had to be in a position to report accurately on the implementation of Article 6 of the Geneva Agreement.

15. The Minister of Justice gave the following figures to the Commission regarding the scrutiny of the "Mixed Cases" undertaken by the "Commission de Grace":

(i) Total number of cases reviewed: 818

(ii) 28 persons were completely pardoned.

(iii) 232 persons who were awaiting trial have been amnestied. The charges against them have been withdrawn.

(iv) In the case of 275 persons who had been sentenced in absentia remission of the remaining sentence has been decided upon. These people who had taken flight can now come out in the open as free men.

(v) In the case of the remaining 283 persons charged with common law offences, no measure of pardon has been given. In actual fact, only 8 out of these 283 are in prison, the other 275 being fugitives from justice.

16. The "Commission de Grace" has completed its work, but an ad hoc group has been set up by the Ministry of Justice to consider any further cases that might be presented. An analysis of the 818 cases mentioned above shows