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AMNESTY OFFER TO MAU MAU.

At Nyeri, some miles North of Nairobi, Kikuyu Home Guard and other African police gather for a tribal meeting. This barasa, as its called, has been arranged so that tribesmen may learn of the latest development in the war against Mau Mau. Wearing their traditional costumes, about eleven thousand wait in silence for the arrival of the Governor of Kenya, Sir Evelyn Baring. Escorting Sir Evelyn is the Commander in Chief of Mau Mau operations, General Sir George Erskine.

Then Sir Evelyn outlines a new plan: an amnesty offer to the terrorists. Fundamentally this means that any Mau Mau, whatever his past crimes, will not be hanged if he surrenders immediately. The Governor then presents medals to police who have shown exemplary courage in clashed with Mau Mau. Whilst this ceremony is in progress, thousands of leaflets bearing the amnesty offer are dropped in Mau Mau territories. Already there has been fierce condemnation of the amnesty plan in Kenya. It has been described as exactly the same as offering Hitler an amnesty in 1943. However, supporters of the plan believe it is a worthwhile attempt to restore peace in the troubled land of the Mau Mau.

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