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Title: Statement by B O'Donnell, Private Secretary to the Minister for Finance, regarding the alleged involvement of former Minister for Finance Charles Haughey in an alleged plot to import arms into Ireland.

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Secretary	<i>J</i> 19/5
To Sec	
Minister	<i>Leahy</i> 17/9/5
To Sec	

Minister

Copy to Mr Justice Flannery

As requested by you I submit the following note.

At the outset I would like to say that at no time did the former Minister for Finance, Mr Charles J. Haughey T.D., say anything to me or give me any instructions or directions in relation to the alleged import of arms or attempted import of arms.

I was on annual leave during the period 16th August to 14th September 1969.

I am not in a position to say exactly when Captain Kelly first contacted Mr Haughey. I do remember, however, that Col. Heffernan was in telephone communication with Mr Haughey during September and he met Mr Haughey on one occasion during that month. Captain Kelly came on the scene afterwards although I can't say precisely when. He met the Minister on a number of occasions. He usually rang up and said he would like to see the Minister or called without giving prior notice. Sometimes the Minister saw him and sometimes he did not depending on his (the Minister's) commitments at the particular time.

I was not aware of the purpose of the contacts between Mr Haughey Col. Heffernan and Captain Kelly.

You also asked to refer in particular to the disbursement of funds. I have no knowledge of this matter.

B. J. O'Sullivan
Rúnaí Aire

19 May 1970