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The following statement has been issued
by the Government Information Bureau
on behalf of the Taoiseach.

A Government meeting was held to-day (Sunday) 5/7/1970 following the news of the events in the Six Counties on Friday night and to review the situation generally. The Government know very well that Partition is basic to the whole problem. There can be no doubt whatsoever about our commitment to the reunification of our country and to the safety and well being of all the Irish people.

Last year very specific guarantees of safety and protection were given. There has now been unilateral disarmament of one section of the Belfast people - the Catholic minority in the Falls area. This, inevitably, causes fear amongst these people which can only be allayed by the absolute guarantee of their protection and the equally effective disarming of all others who hold arms illegally.

There is also the question of provocative parades. To allow such parades to take place in the present climate is wholly indefensible.

We are pressing our views on these two matters, very **vigorously** with the British Government.

The Government is getting very full and reliable information from people living and working in the North particularly in the affected areas and every decision we make, every action we take, is and will be based on that full and reliable information.

5/7/1970.