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

On behalf of the Government, I wish to express our deep sympathy to the families of Constable Samuel Donaldson and Constable Robert Millar on their tragic deaths in the course of their duties.

It appals us that people should be the victims of continued strife in the North, whether in yesterday's circumstances or in circumstances such as those which brought about the death recently of Daniel O’Regan.

I appeal again to all Irish people to turn their backs on violence so that a better future for us all may be secured.
Runai,

Mr. Eamon Gallagher, Department of External Affairs, rang.

There has been an inquiry from the Irish Press through the G.I.B. to know if the Taoiseach has made any comment on the death of the R.U.C. man killed by a "Booby-trap" explosion near Crossmaglen, Co. Armagh early this morning. Mr. Gallagher feels that we should contact the Taoiseach in the matter and that we should do so in time to have the Taoiseach's comment for the 1.30 news to-day. He feels that this is particularly necessary because speakers at the Apprentice Boys ceremonies in their condemnation of this incident will probably imply Government approval. I asked Mr. Gallagher to ring me back with what he would suggest as an appropriate comment and I said that we would probably contact the Taoiseach by about 12 o'clock. The Taoiseach may in fact ring here in the matter before then. It will suffice if we get a message to R.T.E. by 1 o'clock.

12 Lunasa 1970.