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**Title:** Letter from a member of the public expressing concern about collections being made for the Provisional Irish Republican Army in Dublin, the granting of bail to Cathal Goulding, and a perception of toleration by the government of the activities of subversive organizations in the Republic of Ireland.

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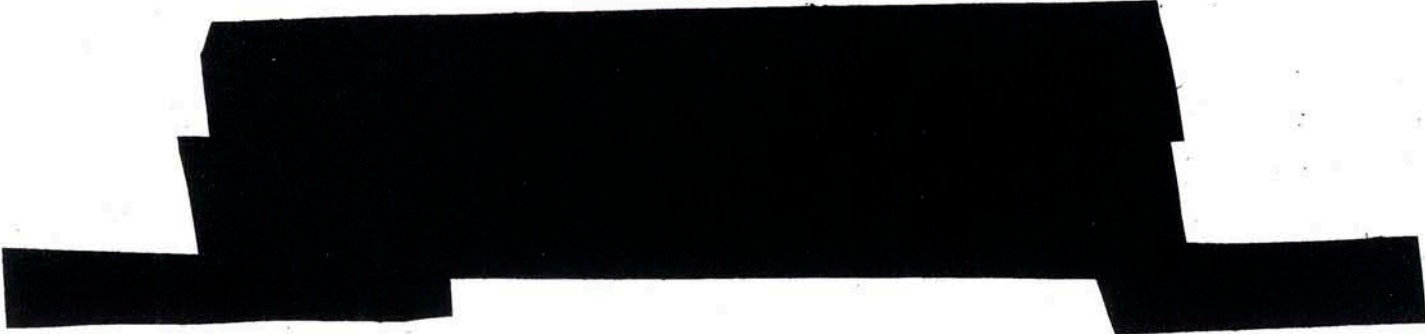
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26th August 1971.

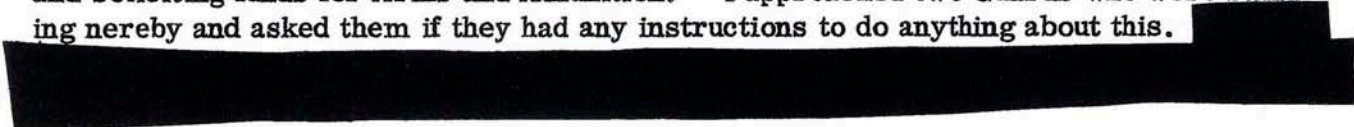
The Taoiseach,  
Government Buildings,  
Merrion Street,  
DUBLIN. 2.

Dear Taoiseach,

I, like many other people who have silently supported your policies over the last few years and continue to do so, feel that your Government's position on the I.R.A. and subversive Forces is ambiguous to say the least.

For many months there has been general disquiet and unrest in the Country about the activities of illegal Armies and the I.R.A. The tacit approval of the Government ( and in the absence of firm action nothing else can be assumed ) has more than anything else contributed to a feeling of frustration and unrest.

Following your remarks to the Press last Friday and a picture of a provisional I.R.A. man outside the G.P.O. in the Saturday mornings "Irish Times" I was walking past the G.P.O. on the Saturday afternoon when I saw that the stall which the provisional I.R.A. had erected was still there and that the attendants were openly advocating the use of force and soliciting funds for Arms and Amunition. I approached two Guards who were standing nereby and asked them if they had any instructions to do anything about this.



It is hard to believe that the Government and particularly the Minister for Justice were unaware of the fact that the provisional I.R.A. had set up a most elaborate stand outside the very Shrine of Republicanism, the G.P.O. It is also very hard for normal people to reconcile and the inaction of the Police with your statement however firm of the evening before.

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26th August 1971.

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Surely for a Country which claims in its Constitution De Jure Jurisdiction over the thirty two Counties the Government must at some stage take a firm stand and execute its Policies despite other and perhaps pressing considerations.

Believe me, Taoiseach, when I say I am in no way unsympathetic to the terrible plight of our Northern people but unless the Government of the Republic does its duty and the Rule of Law applies and is carried out, then credibility of any kind is hard to maintain.

The particular case of Mr. Cathal Goulding who was remanded in Rathfarnham District Court on his own Bail of £200 is an example of apparent soft peddling by the Authorities.

Any other person coming before the Courts would be required to give adequate security by way of independent sureties. When exceptions are made in particular instances such as this the procedure becomes laughable.

One other consideration which I must bring to your attention is the effect of your Governments present policy in relation to sabre rattling by the I.R.A. and other Groups on Industries and business. I represent some International Companies, many of whom have expressed concern not as to the stability of the Political situation but in regard to the proposals of the Authorities to contain any threats or outbreaks against Industrial installations. Two International Bankers whom I spoke to some weeks ago were appalled that no firmer action had been taken against Mr. Goulding following their respective speeches and open threats. They asked how they could be expected to recommend the investment in Ireland of large sums of money if the Policies advocated by these people were not actively and purposefully denied and refuted by the responsible Authorities.

I write this, Taoiseach, as I feel that too many people for too long remained silent as to their feelings on this particular matter. Apathy is a notable characteristic of the Irishman but there is a large body of opinion and solidarity behind the Governments Policy provided they are rigourously and indiscriminately enforced and seen to be enforced.

I remain,  
Yours sincerely,