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25th February 1972Comment by Taoiseach on shooting of Mr. John Taylor

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"I am not going to delve into politics to any great extent but I think that I can express all your feelings here tonight that we were shocked and dismayed at the news we heard earlier this evening.

John Taylor was brutally and maliciously shot down in Armagh this evening. John Taylor is a fearless and forthright defender of Unionism. That is his right and his entitlement. Nobody has the right nor the entitlement to shoot him down as he was shot tonight. It was the action of evil men with an evil purpose, which cannot be condoned in any circumstances by any of us.

I am glad to say that the news we had of him earlier on is not now too serious. I know that I share your views when I express to him our good wishes for his recovery and our regrets to him and his wife that this unfortunate occasion has occurred."

Government Information Bureau