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Statement issued by the Government Information Bureau  
on behalf of the Minister for Justice

The Minister for Justice has asked the Commissioner, Garda Síochána, to take further special steps to tighten the controls on the storage and use of explosives and he asks all persons who have explosives in their possession to cooperate fully by strictly observing the new conditions the Gardaí will be asking them to comply with. One of these conditions will be that no explosives are used save under the personal supervision of a member of the Garda Síochána. The Minister realises that the additional controls will impose a certain amount of inconvenience but he would hope that the public will appreciate the need for special measures at the present time. He does not accept that explosives have in fact been brought across the Border in any quantity but, in view of recent explosions in Belfast and elsewhere, it is necessary that every possible precaution be taken to guard against any illegal traffic, however small, in gelignite or other such material.

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