

The Northern Ireland Executive

Office of Information Services

News Release

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The following statement by the Chief Minister, Mr Brian Faulkner, was issued today:-

Today's action by a group of people who have taken on to themselves greater importance than the democratically elected representatives of the people amounts to total abuse of the democratic process.

The Northern Ireland public is again being made the target of irresponsible extremists who abuse the freedom of the Press and Television to make the most reckless pronouncements to the public without regard for the consequences.

Where do they come from?

Who elected them?

What is their authority?

That they should utter threats to the whole economic fabric of the Province - the structure on which we all depend for our bread and butter - under the guise of having its interests at heart is as cynical as the IRA Provisionals' bloodbath plot uncovered during the last few days.

The real aims of the IRA were exposed. Any other extremist body which seeks to hold a gun to the head of the civilian population will fail no less dismally.