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D. BY 1100 HOURS

RM/5545/89/DR

FROM: R C MASEFIELD  
21 MARCH 1989

cc PS/Minister of State (B&L) - B  
PS/PUS (B&L) - B  
① PS/Sir K Bloomfield<sup>21/3</sup> - B  
Mr Stephens - B  
Mr Burns - B  
Mr Thomas - B  
Mr Miles o/r  
Mr A P Wilson o/r - B  
Mr Blackwell - B  
Mr Wood (B&L) - B  
Mr Bell - B



PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - B

STATEMENT BY THE TAOISEACH FOLLOWING THE SHOOTING OF CHIEF  
SUPERINTENDENT BREEN AND SUPERINTENDENT BUCHANAN

For the record, the following is the exact text of the statement issued by the Taoiseach shortly before 9.00 pm on the evening of 20 March, following the shooting of Chief Superintendent Breen and Superintendent Buchanan:

"I condemn in the strongest terms the shooting of two senior officers of the RUC near Jonesborough, Co. Armagh, this afternoon. I extend deepest sympathy to the families of the dead men. Every possible cooperation will be extended to the Northern authorities to ensure that those responsible are apprehended and brought to justice. This latest atrocity follows on a sickening cycle of sectarian assassinations; our sympathy is extended also to the families and friends of the victims of these campaigns of terror, one of whom, Mr David Braniff, was shot in horrible circumstances on Sunday night."

[signed]

R C Masefield

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