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Asked to comment on the setting up of the
Assembly of the Northern Irish People the
Taoiseach said today: -

This Assembly, with able, responsible and moderate leadership,
and whose members are dedicated to the achievement of their
aims by non-violent means, can provide a focal point for all
non-unionists in Northern Ireland who seek to make real and lasting
political, economic and social progress.

I hope that initiatives will now be taken to create conditions which
will enable discussions to take place involving these men, who have
established their political leadership, while they are still in a
position to influence the situation.

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION BUREAU,
5th October, 1971