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condemning the actions of the British Army in
Belfast on 20-21 May 1971.

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The Government Information Bureau issued the following statement today on behalf of the Taoiseach, 21st May 1971

Regarding the present situation in Belfast the Taoiseach said today:

The Government's concern about the events in Belfast yesterday and this afternoon has been conveyed to the British authorities. It is the view of the Government that great care must be exercised in dealing with the protests of the minority in the North and that it should be understood clearly that the minority remain the victims, in terms of jobs and in many other ways, of a system which has excluded them from fair participation in the society for many decades. They are entitled to see and benefit from vigorous measures on the part of the authorities in the North designed to put an end to intimidation at their places of work and residence. It is not acceptable that the British Army should be used to suppress their legitimate protests against intimidation or that the British Army should be drawn into situations, involving the risk of excessive reaction, in support of discriminatory practices.