

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

IRELAND



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THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT HAS BEEN ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT:-

X THE GOVERNMENT AT ITS MEETING TO-DAY CONSIDERED THE GRAVE
SITUATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE
TO THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTH ARMAGH AREA.

THE GOVERNMENT STRONGLY CONDEMNED YESTERDAY'S ATROCITIES
INCLUDING THE MURDEROUS ATTACK ON A MEETING IN AN ORANGE
HALL NEAR NEWTOWNHAMILTON AND EXPRESSED THEIR SYMPATHY WITH
THE BEREAVED AND INJURED.

THE GOVERNMENT TOOK NOTE OF MR. MERLYN REES' STATEMENT OF
TO-DAY AND WELCOMED THE INDICATION THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT
WOULD STEP UP SECURITY MEASURES IN THE SOUTH ARMAGH AREA.
THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN CONCERNED FOR SOME TIME AT THE APPARENT
LACK OF SECURITY IN THIS AREA, WHICH HAS COMPLICATED ITS OWN
TASK OF MAINTAINING SECURITY ALONG THIS SECTION OF THE BORDER.
THE GOVERNMENT URGES ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITIES ON BOTH
SIDES OF THE BORDER TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE SECURITY FORCES
SO THAT THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE AND OTHER CRIMES
MAY BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE AND THE LIVES OF ALL CITIZENS MAY
BE MORE EFFECTIVELY PROTECTED. X

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
2 SEPTEMBER, 1975