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ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES : Ó SHEIRBHÍLÍ EOLAIS AN RIALTAIS Tel: (01) 767571 Telex: 5800

ON BEHALF OF

Department of Foreign Affairs,
80 St. Stephen's Green,
Dublin 2. Tel. (01) 780822.

THAR CEANN

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtrachta,
80 Falche Stiabhna,
Baile Átha Cliath 2. Tel. (01) 780822.

With reference to comments made on 19 December by Deputy Blaney about the activities of the Embassy in Washington, the Minister for Foreign Affairs wishes to make it clear that he and the Government have full confidence in the Ambassador in Washington and in his staff. They are satisfied that the diplomatic staff in Washington behaved properly at all times in carrying out the policy of the Government and the instructions given to them.

20 December 1979