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STATEMENT BY MR. CHARLES J. HAUGHEY, T.D.,
LEADER OF FIANNA FAIL, FRIDAY, 21 JANUARY, 1983.

Arising out of the serious issues raised by the Minister for Justice in his statement about telephone tapping and the recording of a political conversation I have decided to establish a special enquiry team from the Parliamentary Party to investigate these matters and to report on them to the Party.

The team which will start its work immediately, will be headed by the Chairman of the Party, Deputy Jim Tunney.

Deputy Ray MacSharry and Deputy Sean Doherty have offered me their resignations from the acting front bench and I have accepted them. Pending the appointment of the new front bench I will act as spokesman for Finance and Deputy Brian Lenihan

will act as spokesman for Justice as well as
Agriculture.

A meeting of the Parliamentary Party will be held
on Sunday next in advance of the meeting of the
Dail so that members may have the opportunity of
discussing these developments.

Once again I call on the Government to establish a
judicial enquiry to investigate these matters.
Before leaving office as Taoiseach I had taken
preliminary steps to establish such an enquiry as
I considered that the many allegations made about
political interference with the Garda Siochana
should be fully investigated. To that situation
there has now been added serious disquiet and
confusion over these recent developments and the
unorthodox disclosure of security matters by the
Government. I believe that it is essential

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therefore that a judicial enquiry be established immediately so that all relevant matters may be looked into and the full facts disclosed and whatever action is shown to be necessary undertaken.

ENDS.