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Raymond McCord calls for Flanagan to be sacked

The father of a man murdered by loyalist paramilitaries a decade ago has called for former PSNI Chief Constable Sir Ronnie Flanagan to be sacked from his role as head of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary.

In a statement released to UTV, Raymond McCord Senior said he doesn't believe Mr Flanagan's version of events in response to the Ombudsman's report released earlier this week.

Mr McCord also challenged senior unionists to a live debate where he could press them on why they have so far failed to call for the arrest of his son's killers.

"Forty-eight hours after the publication of Mrs O'Loan's report I have yet to hear Unionist politicians call for the arrest of the murderers of my son and the other victims of this UVF murder gang," said Mr McCord.

"All I have heard from them is criticism, from Ian Paisley Junior and from Lord Maginnis directed at Mrs O'Loan and the report.

"These politicians have failed to contact me and ask what my opinion of the report is, bearing in mind it was my complaint that led to the investigation in the first place.

"We listened last night to good policemen confirm that the Special Branch was a law unto themselves and destroyed evidence.

"Can Ian Paisley Junior and Lord Maginnis explain to me how these killers were allowed to operate with immunity? Rather than criticising the report, they would be better off trying to help the victims get justice.

"I sincerely believe that what it comes down to is pointscore by unionist politicians rather than seeking the truth and justice and helping victims within both the unionist and nationalist community.

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- Ruling on Stroke city name
- Family bound during NI raid
- 'Victim's relatives should get £8m'
- 11:13 McGuinness gets new death threats
- 11:08 Grieving mother rejects apology
- 11:04 Jobs boost for Belfast
- 11:02 Racist attack in Belfast
- 10:25 Water monitoring criticized
- 09:47 Plans for cross border bridge
- 09:33 More questions over Flanagan role
- 09:30 'CRJ schemes should be vetted'
- 09:06 Body found in Co Tyrone
- NI schoolboy beating on internet
- Four held in NI crime probe
- Man shot dead in Dublin
- Durkan makes claims in Parliament
- Archbishop enters adoption fray
- Armed robbery in south Belfast
- McCord challenges Paisley
- Man sentenced for beating baby
- Robbery in Belfast city-centre
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"I would challenge Ian Paisley Junior, Lord Maginnis and Fred Cobain to a live debate in front of a studio audience."

"And still I echo the thought that Sir Ronnie Flanagan should be sacked. The present Chief Constable, Sir Hugh Orde, got it right on Monday when he said the buck stops at his door.

"Why is this not the case for Sir Ronnie Flanagan? I simply don't believe his version of events."

"My family are awaiting our meeting with Tony Blair which is the very least a Prime Minister could offer us at this time."

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