



**Flanagan apologises**

THURSDAY  
24/01/2008  
07:59:49

**Omagh families call for inquiry after apology**

Former Northern Ireland police chief Sir Ronnie Flanagan was today urged to build on his apology to the families of people killed in the

Omagh bomb by participating in a cross-border independent inquiry.

Michael Gallagher, whose son Aidan was among 29 people killed in the 1998 Real IRA attack, welcomed Sir Ronnie`s apology to families, describing it as a positive step.

However as he attended a conference for victims of terrorism across the world in Madrid, Mr Gallagher said a cross-border inquiry was needed to focus on failings in investigations in Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.

"Obviously this is a positive thing," he told the Press Association.

"However I think it is important people remember that there have been investigations into the Omagh bomb in Northern Ireland and the Republic for over nine and a half years.

"There have been serious failings at all levels on both sides of the border and the only way to address all these issues is through a comprehensive independent cross-border public inquiry rather than having them raised in a piecemeal fashion.

"Sir Ronnie is someone who could bring a lot of knowledge and help to an independent inquiry and I would hope he would freely go and open up."

Last month South Armagh man Sean Hoey was cleared of the Omagh murders and a series of other dissident republican attacks.

-  Omagh families call for inquiry
-  Superbug outbreak in NI
-  Trump 'serious' about NI course
-  Murder inquiry after OAP dies
- 13:29 MLAs in budget warning
- 13:19 Power station plans probed
- 13:02 Man accused of bomb claims
- 12:53 Double standards in Causeway row
- 12:42 Paraplegic faces extradition
- 12:35 Over 1000 leads in Quinn case
- 12:16 Rees felt pressurised by al Fayed
- 12:01 One arrest after Dublin murder
- 10:35 Rape on the rise in NI
- 09:36 Man quizzed after body find
-  Two held in Lithuania probe
-  Body found by gardai
-  Police called to council meeting
-  Drink driving figures released
-  Embassy staff vote for action
-  Security alert in east Belfast
-  Christian Brother is acquitted
-  Arrest after Dublin break-in
-  Gardai probe Donegal shooting
-  Millions overpaid in benefits
-  £5 million boost for Queen's

**YOUR COMMENTS**

**CLICK HERE**

**FOR THE RIGHT CAREER**



[www.recruitni.com](http://www.recruitni.com)

In setting the 39-year-old electrician free, trial judge Mr Justice Weir delivered a damning assessment of the RUC.

He highlighted malpractice at every stage of evidence gathering procedures during the case.




After meeting Victor Barker, whose 12-year-old son James was also killed in the 1998 atrocity, Sir Ronnie Flanagan publicly said he was sorry for the botched investigation.

However he refused to step down as head of Her Majesty`s Inspectorate of Constabulary which advises the Home Office on policing.

 [E-mail this story to a friend](#)

[Post your comment](#)

COMMENT TRACKER:  
[LOGIN](#) to track comments on this story

-  [Falling house prices](#)  
14 comments
-  [Paisley steps down as Moderator](#)  
3 comments
-  [Main charge to be dropped against star](#)  
2 comments

ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS

Content provided by [entertainment.ie](#) 

FILM: CLOVERFIELD

**DIRECTOR:** Matt Reeves

**STARRING:** Michael Stahl-David, Mike Vogel, Lizzy Caplan, Jessica Lucas

**DETAILS:**US / 84mins (15A)

**RATING:** ★★☆☆☆

[ALL REVIEWS](#)

NOW SHOWING AT...

Select from the following:

[FIND](#)

 **GIGS**  
The Moog 69s...

 **THEATRE**  
The Recruiting Officer...

 **COMEDY**  
The Laughter Lounge...

 **CLUBBING**  
Rubys Club...

 **FESTIVAL**  
Yeats Winter School...

### VOTING POLL

The Stormont budget has been announced, do you think Peter Robinson got it right? Which department do you think needs the most money? Vote and leave your comment below.

**VOTE NOW!**

[Post a comment](#) [ 3 comments so far ]

### SEARCH ARCHIVES

Browse through the online news, sport and entertainment archives.

**BROWSE**

Enter a keyword above and select the newsroom section to search.

### UTV NEWS ON AIR

Watch the latest UTV Live at 6 bulletin.

Select the quality of your version depending on your internet connection

**LOW**

**HIGH**

Click below to browse through the archives of online streaming news.

**BROWSE HERE**

[Privacy Policy](#) | [House Rules](#) | [Acceptable Use Policy](#) | [UTV Media](#) | [u.tv Journalism](#) | [UTV Local](#) | [Outside Broadcast Unit](#)

Copyright © 2008 UTV Internet and the UTV Media Group plc. All rights reserved.