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ANC PRESS STATEMENT ON THE CCB

The report that Auditor General Peter Wronsley has found that the CCB spent over R12-million without authorisation gives some indication of the true extent of this secret arm of the state. Millions were evidently spent even after Magnus Malan announced that the CCB had been disbanded in March 1990.

As taxpayers, it is the right of the people of South Africa to know what authorised spending took place and what these monies were spent on.

Despite repeated official statements that the CCB has been disbanded, there is nothing to indicate that its operations have ceased. The parcel bomb sent to Dirk Coetzee that killed Bheki Mlangeni, for example, was posted in May 1990.

An internal audit is clearly insufficient. The issues at stake here are not merely financial. State funds raised on the tax-rands of all South Africans, have been employed to terrorise, intimidate, maim and murder citizens of this country for voicing demands that the government today concedes are legitimate. We demand that those responsible be called to account for the activities of the death squads they established. There must be a verifiable, public disbandment of all such bodies - the CCB, the Askaris and other death squads. Only in this way can the public know that such criminal activity has indeed been brought to an end.

Unless this is done we have no other option than to hold the entire South African Cabinet responsible for the continued shielding of these killers.

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