

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FORMER CIA ANALYST RAY MCGOVERN
TO SPEAK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Gainesville, Fla. – A former career CIA official, Ray McGovern, will speak on September 21st at 7:30 pm in the University Auditorium. Due to the effects of Hurricane Frances and the imminent threat of Hurricane Ivan, the speech has been moved to this new date and venue. McGovern will discuss “The use and abuse of intelligence and how it affects the wars we wage.” His talk will discuss recent intelligence failures including the lack of any weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. He is being brought to UF by Accent Speaker’s Bureau, the International Center, and the Transnational & Global Studies Center. A press conference will be held at 7pm before the show. Admission is free and open to the public.

Ray McGovern’s career as a CIA analyst spanned 27 years-- from John F. Kennedy’s presidency to George H.W. Bush’s. Following his retirement he sensed that the integrity of the efforts of analysts to provide objective intelligence seemed to be in jeopardy. In response, McGovern helped found the Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity (VIPS) to provide an independent critique of the politicization of the intelligence process. VIPS now includes over 40 former professionals from the CIA, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Department of State’s Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Army Intelligence, the FBI, and the National Security Agency. McGovern has written numerous articles over the past year on intelligence related issues. In addition to UF, he will speak at FIU, USF, UNF, and UCF.

ACCENT Speaker’s Bureau has been bringing prominent speakers to the University of Florida since the early 1960s. Previous speakers this semester include the original “Hulk” on the 1970’s television show, Lou Ferrigno. Please visit our new website at www.sg.ufl.edu/accent for more information. Also note ACCENT’s new press only phone extension at (352) 392-1665 ext. 411.

For persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations, please contact (352) 392- 1665 x 302 or 392- 2567 (TDD). E-mail accommodate@sg.ufl.edu or contact the Florida Relay System at 1-800-955-8771 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Real Time Transcription will be provided.

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