



Wednesday, November 20, 2002

Former weapons inspector speaking at OU

Scott Ritter, former chief weapons inspector for the United Nations Special Commission in Iraq, will speak at Oakland University on Monday, Dec. 2, at 3 p.m. in Meadow Brook Theatre.

Ritter's presentation, titled "The Coming War with Iraq: How Did We Get Here?" will focus on the effect of the sanctions imposed on the Iraqi people and will examine the issue of justice versus compassion in such situations.

As chief weapons inspector from 1991 to 1998, Ritter was labeled a hero by some, a maverick by others, and a spy by the Iraqi government. In charge of searching out weapons of mass destruction within Iraq, Ritter and his team discovered missile guidance equipment that Iraq had purchased from Russia through a Palestinian agent. The Iraqi government refused to provide Ritter and his team an escort to inspection sites, and Ritter eventually resigned his position over what he perceived to be a lack of support from the UN Security Council.

Ritter's experiences are detailed in his book, "Endgame," which explores the shortcomings of American foreign policy in the Persian Gulf and alternative approaches to handling the Iraqi crisis.

Ritter's lecture is free, and no tickets are necessary.

SUMMARY

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