



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE TO RETIRE MARCH 2

McLean, VA, 14 Jan -- Richard J. Kerr, who has served as Deputy Director of Central Intelligence for three years, announced today that he will retire from the Agency on March 2, 1992.

Mr. Kerr, who joined the CIA in 1960, was sworn in as Deputy Director on March 20, 1989. Prior to the confirmation of Robert Gates as Director of Central Intelligence, he served as Acting DCI from September to November 1991.

Mr. Kerr, 56, was one of eight senior government officials who received the Presidential Citizens Medal from President Bush on July 3, 1991, for their key roles during the Persian Gulf crisis. The Citizens Medal is awarded only by the President to U.S. citizens who have "performed exemplary deeds of service for their country or their fellow citizens."

Director of Central Intelligence Robert Gates today referred to Mr. Kerr as a "close friend and colleague whose extraordinary talent, judgment, and dedication will be sorely missed by the CIA, the Intelligence Community, and the U.S. Government."

"Dick has played a critical role in making intelligence a more vital and valued part of our nation's foreign policy and national security process," Director Gates said. "During a career spanning more than 30 years, he has strengthened the quality of our work and the integrity of our profession."

"His contributions to intelligence and to the country have been enormous," Director Gates said. "Dick has our best wishes for success, as well as our gratitude and appreciation for his distinguished service to the intelligence profession and the country."

Mr. Kerr has not yet announced his plans following retirement.

Mr. Kerr's biography is attached.