

## MIKE VICKERS

**PRINCIPAL** 

Dr. Mike Vickers is widely recognized as one of the nation's top national security professionals, having served in both Republican and Democratic Administrations. He served as the first Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations, Low-Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities from 2007-2011, and as Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence from 2011-2015, playing a major policy and planning role in the operation that killed Usama bin Ladin.

As Under Secretary of Defense for intelligence from 2011-2015, Dr. Vickers led an \$80 billion, 180,000-person global intelligence operation that included the National

Security Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, National Reconnaissance Office, Defense Security Service, and the intelligence components of the Military Services and Combatant Commands.

From 2007 to 2011, Dr. Vickers served as the first Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations, Low-Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities, overseeing the policy, operations and warfighting capabilities of our Special Operations Forces, strategic forces (nuclear, missile defense, space, cyber), and conventional forces (air, ground and maritime).

Earlier in his career, Dr. Vickers was the key strategist for the largest and most successful covert action program in the history of the CIA that drove the Soviets out of Afghanistan and helped to bring an end to the Cold War. He also served as Vice President for Strategic Studies at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments (CSBA). Dr. Vickers has served as a Special Forces Non-Commissioned Officer, Special Forces Officer, and CIA Operations Officer with operational and combat experience in Central America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and South and Central Asia.

Dr. Vickers has received the nation's highest awards in the fields of intelligence and defense, including the Presidential National Security Medal and the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service. He holds a Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, an MBA from the Wharton School, and a B.A. from the University of Alabama. Dr. Vickers is working on a memoir of his career, to be published by Knopf.