

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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ERIC K. SHINSEKI, Secretary of Veterans Affairs; education: graduated, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY, 1965; M.A., Duke University; graduated, National War College; military service: Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, 1999–2003; Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, 1998–99; Commanding General, United States Army, Europe and Seventh Army; Commanding General NATO Land Forces, Central Europe; Commander NATO-led Stabilization Force, Bosnia-Herzegovina; Vietnam War Veteran; military awards: Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Clusters), Bronze Star Medal with “V” Device (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Purple Heart (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Air Medal, Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab, Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge, and Army Staff Identification Badge; married: Patricia; two children; nominated by President Barack Obama to become 7th Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on January 21, 2009.

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