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 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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