



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
20511

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 5, 2007

ODNI News Release No. 21-07

Senate Confirms Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence

Dr. Donald M. Kerr was confirmed on 4 October 2007 by the Senate as Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, second in command of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence after Director Mike McConnell.

Since July 2005, Kerr served as Director of the National Reconnaissance Office. Prior to that, he was the Deputy Director for Science and Technology at the Central Intelligence Agency, which awarded him the CIA Distinguished Intelligence Medal two years ago. Earlier in his career, Kerr served as Director of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, and as an Assistant Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. With degrees in electrical engineering, microwave electronics, and plasma physics, he also worked as an executive in private industry from 1985 to 1997.

The PDDNI focuses on coordinating the day-to-day efforts of the 16 agencies that compose the Intelligence Community.

“I am pleased that the Senate has confirmed Dr. Donald Kerr as the Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence,” said DNI McConnell. “The job of Principal Deputy DNI is vital as we work to foster integration and collaboration, and further reform American intelligence. Dr. Kerr’s experience across our Community – from the intelligence front lines to the front office – will be necessary as we work to do just that.”

President Bush nominated Kerr for the position in July. The previous PDDNI, Gen. Michael V. Hayden, was named CIA Director last year.

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