



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

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 11, 2008

ODNI News Release No. 10-08

Michael Leiter Confirmed as Director of the National Counterterrorism Center

Michael Leiter was confirmed by the Senate Tuesday as Director of the National Counterterrorism Center. He has been acting director of NCTC since November 2007, and was its principal deputy director from February through November 2007.

Director of National Intelligence Mike McConnell noted, "NCTC plays a vital role in the conduct of our nation's war on terror, and the leadership Mike brings will be critical in safeguarding the homeland and protecting the nation's interests."

Leiter brings outstanding credentials to the job. Before joining NCTC, Leiter served as the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, where he assisted in the establishment of the office and was involved in the development of national intelligence centers, including NCTC, and their integration into the larger intelligence community. Prior to his service with the ODNI, he worked as Deputy General Counsel and Assistant Director of the President's Commission in the Intelligence Capabilities of the US Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction, as an Assistant US Attorney for the Department of Justice, as a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Stephen G. Breyer, and as a Naval Flight Officer.

Leiter received his J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he graduated magna cum laude and was President of the Harvard Law Review, and his B.A. from Columbia University.

NCTC serves as the primary organization in the US Government for analysis and integration of all terrorism intelligence and conducts strategic operational planning for counterterrorism activities, integrating all instruments of US national power.

The Director of National Intelligence oversees 16 federal organizations that make up the U.S. intelligence community. The DNI also manages the implementation of the National Intelligence Program. Additionally, the DNI serves as the principal adviser to the president, the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council on intelligence issues related to national security.

###