

THE 41ST
WILLIAM OLIVER BAKER
Award Dinner

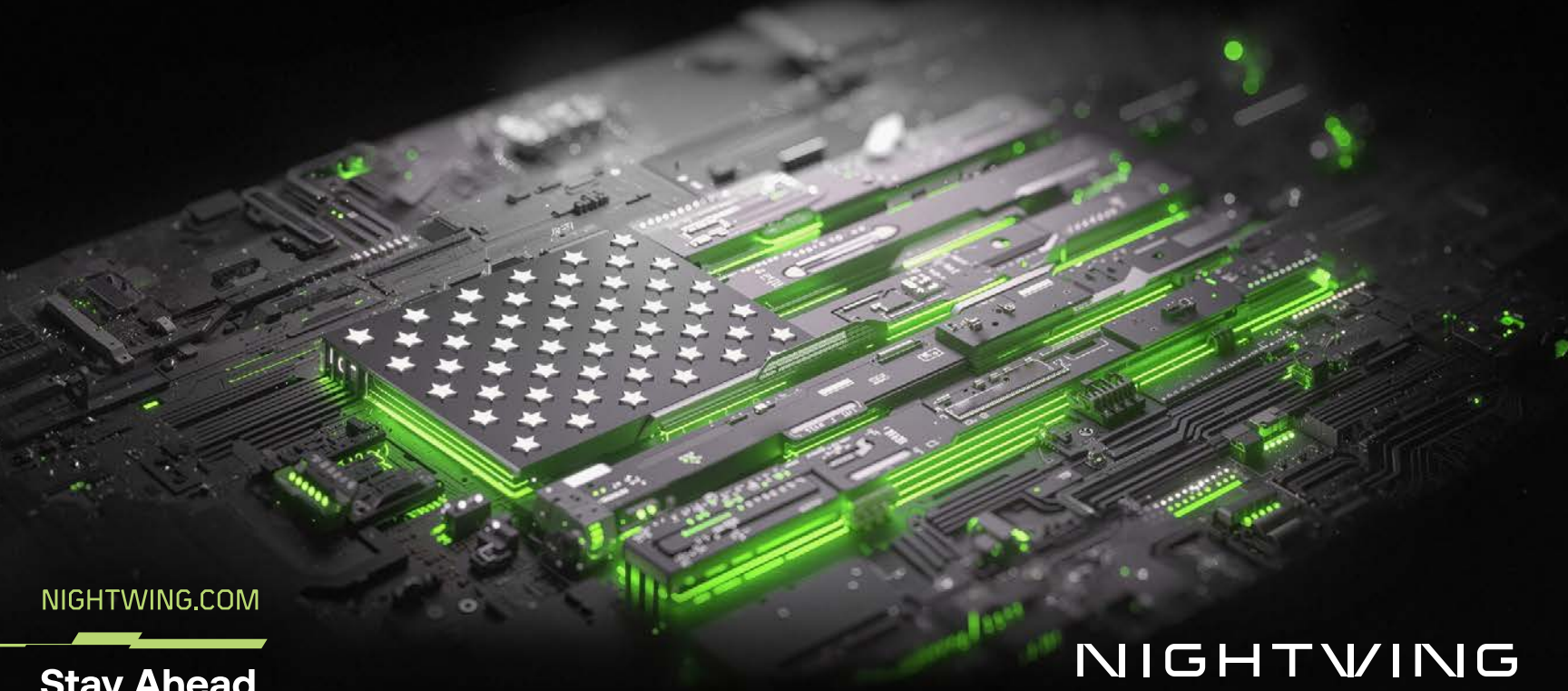
RECOGNIZING
The Honorable John C. “Chris” Inglis



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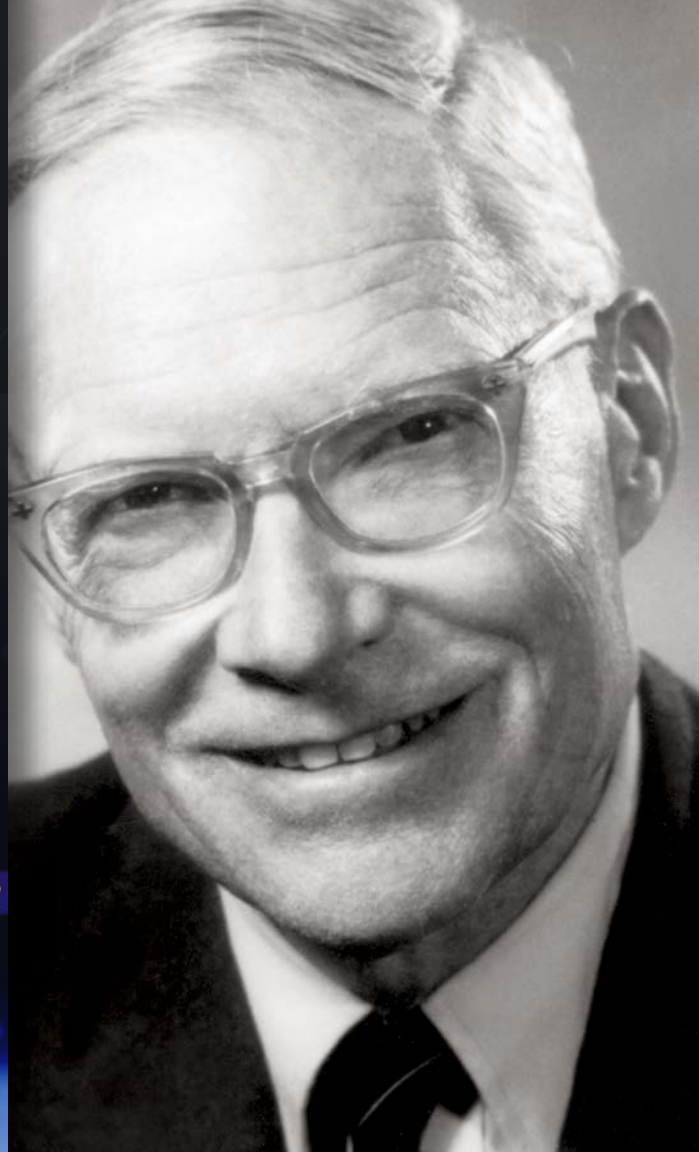
CELEBRATORY TOAST

Share your photos from tonight with [#INSABaker](#).

WILLIAM OLIVER BAKER

Dr. William Oliver Baker embodied the INSA spirit throughout his long and storied career. He achieved profound change in national security by bridging private sector excellence with a deep commitment to public service.

In 1984, the Board of Directors of the Security Affairs Support Association (SASA), predecessor to INSA, renamed the SASA Medal of Achievement in his honor. The four pillars etched into the medal: Scientist, Inventor, Scholar, and Statesman, remain the defining hallmarks of his legacy.



Born and raised on Maryland's Eastern Shore, Dr. Baker attended nearby Washington College before earning his doctorate in chemistry summa cum laude from Princeton University.

In 1939, at just 24, he joined Bell Labs. During World War II, his research proved vital to the development of synthetic rubber, a critical wartime necessity. Over his career, he secured 11 patents for his work on crystalline molecular structures, including plastics and natural rubber.

As Bell Labs' Vice President of Research from 1955 to 1973, and later as President, Dr. Baker oversaw the advancements that form the backbone of modern digital communications. Under his leadership, the organization pioneered laser technology, satellite communications, and the Unix operating system.

For more than four decades, Dr. Baker served as a trusted advisor to the U.S. government on science, technology, and national security matters. At President Eisenhower's request, he developed the foundational plan for the Defense Communications Agency, now known as DISA. His influence spanned generations; he served on the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board for an unprecedented five administrations, advising Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and Reagan.

Beyond his technology and policy contributions, Dr. Baker mentored a generation of renowned scientists and championed many philanthropic foundations and education commissions. INSA is proud to continue honoring his extraordinary life and his enduring impact on our nation.



*To William Baker
With appreciation and best wishes,*

Ronald Reagan

THE BAKER AWARD

The William Oliver Baker Award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated sustained excellence within the intelligence and national security communities.

Members of government, industry, and academia are eligible to be nominated, provided that a substantial portion of their professional activity is devoted to intelligence and national security.

The Baker Award Selection Committee, comprised of INSA's Board of Directors, evaluates nominees based on the following criteria:

A record of sustained excellence in intelligence and national security affairs over a considerable period, or a single achievement of extraordinary merit.

Meaningful contributions in scientific, technical, or other specialized fields essential to advancing intelligence and national security interests.

Significant technical advancements, high-level management proficiency, or the development of innovative techniques that result in substantial efficiency and cost savings.



RECENT
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AWARD
RECIPIENTS



The Hon William J. Burns, 2025



General Paul M. Nakasone, USA (Ret.), 2024



LtGen Dimitri Henry, USMC, accepts the award
on behalf of Vince Stewart's family, 2023



Gov. Tom Ridge, 2022

*THE HONORABLE
JOHN C. "CHRIS" INGLIS*



The Honorable John C. "Chris" Inglis served as the nation's first Senate-confirmed National Cyber Director, standing up the office, building its cadre, and defining its mission to integrate policy across the federal government.



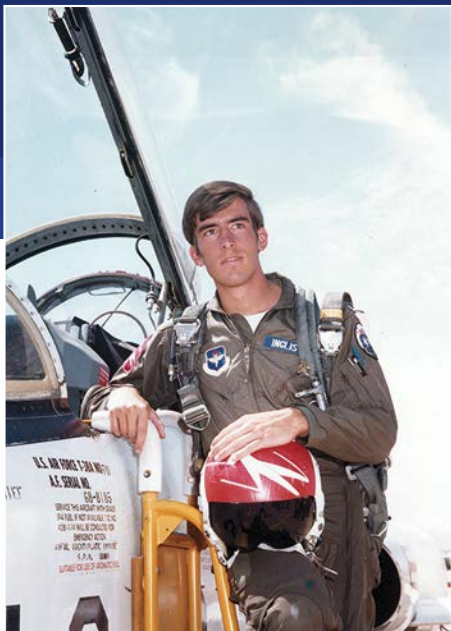
In this role, he spearheaded the 2023 National Cybersecurity Strategy, which fundamentally rebalanced the responsibility for digital defense toward the most capable actors and shifted the national focus toward long-term resilience. Guided by the conviction that security begins with people, he also launched a landmark initiative to expand the national cyber workforce and strengthen public-private accountability. This framework moved the community beyond reactive protection, establishing a new standard for collective security across the digital ecosystem.



THE HONORABLE JOHN C. "CHRIS" INGLIS

Previously, Mr. Inglis dedicated nearly thirty years to the National Security Agency, rising from the operational ranks to serve as Deputy Director, the agency's most senior civilian leadership position. In this role, from 2006 to 2014, he provided essential continuity across three directors and acted as a primary architect for the agency's transition into the digital age. Mr. Inglis was instrumental in maturing the cyber mission, providing the steady leadership necessary to navigate profound technological and geopolitical shifts. A principled representative, he bridged the gap between classified missions and public understanding through transparent engagement with Congress and the American people. Throughout his tenure at NSA, Mr. Inglis remained a steadfast advocate for the workforce, fostering a culture of professional excellence and integrity.





A retired Brigadier General in the U.S. Air Force, Mr. Inglis has dedicated more than four decades to military, intelligence, and policy service. His many honors include the President's National Security Medal, the DNI Distinguished Service Medal, and multiple Presidential Rank Awards.

THE HONORABLE JOHN C. "CHRIS" INGLIS



Beyond government service, Mr. Inglis has continued to develop the next generation of national security professionals as the Looker Distinguished Visiting Professor at the U.S. Naval Academy and as the Milanovich Chair at the U.S. Air Force Academy.



From 2014 to the present, his public service has included membership on numerous national security, defense, and cybersecurity boards and advisory committees. Mr. Inglis also served as a commissioner on the Cyberspace Solarium Commission, where he helped craft policy recommendations that continue to shape U.S. cybersecurity strategy.

He and his wife, Anna, have three grown children and live in Annapolis, MD.



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INSA'S ALL SOURCE PODCAST

Tune in to INSA's inaugural All Source Podcast series, *From Action Plan to Mission Impact: Key Takeaways from America's AI Action Plan*, focusing on moving AI from policy discussion to operational use.



Developed by INSA's AI Subcommittee and hosted by Subcommittee Chair Chitra Sivanandam and Vice Chair Dr. Yevgeniy Sirotin, this series brings together subject matter experts and industry leaders to examine how organizations can translate AI strategy into operational impact.



INSA's All Source Podcast
is now streaming on



INSA

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ABOUT *INSA*



INTELLIGENCE AND
NATIONAL SECURITY
ALLIANCE

The Intelligence and National Security Alliance (INSA) is the leading 501(c)(6) nonpartisan, nonprofit association dedicated to strengthening collaboration across the public, private, and academic sectors to address the nation's most pressing intelligence and national security challenges.

With more than 180 corporate members, INSA brings together current and former senior intelligence, defense, and national security leaders, along with experts from industry and academia, to advance practical solutions that drive mission success. Through its policy programs, leadership initiatives, and powerful events, INSA provides trusted forums for dialogue, partnership, and professional growth.

Learn more about the work we do at [INSAonline.org](https://www.insaonline.org).

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

MEMBERS

A special thank you to all of our **President's Circle Members** for their ongoing support of INSA events, policy discussions, and award programs!



To All Who Shall See These Presents, Greeting:

*With deepest admiration and profound respect, the Intelligence and National Security Alliance
proudly honors*

THE HONORABLE JOHN C. “CHRIS” INGLIS

as the 41st recipient of the William Oliver Baker Medal of Achievement.

Mr. Inglis’s distinguished career of military, intelligence, and public service has strengthened the cybersecurity and national security posture of the United States for more than four decades. His principled leadership, strategic vision, and unwavering commitment to mission and mentorship have left an enduring impact across the Intelligence Community and the nation.

As the nation’s first Senate-confirmed National Cyber Director, Mr. Inglis established and led the Office of the National Cyber Director during a critical period of increasing cyber threats and technological transformation. Under his leadership, the Office developed the 2023 National Cybersecurity Strategy, advanced a national cyber workforce education strategy, and strengthened collaboration between government and industry to improve resilience and unity of effort in cyberspace.

Previously, Mr. Inglis served for seven and a half years as Deputy Director of the National Security Agency, helping guide the Agency through a period of rapid technological evolution and global cyber competition. His leadership advanced NSA’s dual mission of foreign intelligence and information assurance into a more cohesive approach to national cybersecurity.

A retired Brigadier General in the United States Air Force, Mr. Inglis has long exemplified selfless service, integrity, humility, and intellectual rigor. Beyond government service, he has continued to mentor future national security leaders as the Looker Distinguished Visiting Professor for Cyber Studies at the U.S. Naval Academy, where he has helped prepare midshipmen to navigate the technological and ethical challenges shaping the future of national security.

Mr. Inglis’s extraordinary achievements and steadfast dedication to public service reflect the highest ideals of leadership and citizenship. His contributions have strengthened the security of the United States and inspired generations of intelligence and cyber professionals.

He is richly deserving of this highest tribute in recognition of his extraordinary contributions to the intelligence and national security of the United States of America.

Given by my hand this 30th day of May, 2026, in Washington, D.C.



Letitia A. Long, Chairwoman

The Intelligence and National Security Alliance proudly adds

THE HONORABLE JOHN C. “CHRIS” INGLIS

to the distinguished list of William Oliver Baker Award Recipients.

1985 – Barry Goldwater

1986 – Vernon A. Walters

1987 – Richard Helms

1988 – Dr. Edwin H. Land

1989 – Admiral Bobby R.
Inman (USN, Retired)

1990 – Dr. Lew Allen

1991 – James R. Schlesinger

1992 – Dr. Louis W. Tordella

1993 – Dr. Albert D. Wheelon

1994 – Dr. Robert J. Hermann

1995 – John N. McMahon

1996 – Sam V. Wilson

1997 – Judge William H. Webster

1998 – Dr. Jack E. Thomas

1999 – Ann Caracristi

2000 – William J. Perry

2001 – Dr. Sidney D. Drell

2002 – Charles E. Allen

2003 – George J. Tenet

2004 – Joan A. Dempsey

2005 – Brent Scowcroft

2006 – Lt Gen James R.
Clapper, Jr.
(USAF, Retired)

2007 – ADM William Studeman
(USN, Retired)

2008 – Richard J. Kerr

2009 – John Warner

2010 – Dr. Robert M. Gates

2011 – VADM Mike McConnell
(USN, Retired)

2012 – Arthur L. Money

2013 – General Michael V.
Hayden (USAF, Retired)

2014 – Leon E. Panetta

2015 – Congressmen
Michael J. Rogers and
C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger

2016 – John E. McLaughlin

2017 – Robert S. Mueller III

2018 – Stephanie O’Sullivan

2019 – General Keith B.
Alexander (USA, Retired)

2021 – Susan M. Gordon

2022 – Governor Tom Ridge

2023 – Vincent R. Stewart

2024 – General Paul M. Nakasone
(USA, Retired)

2025 – William J. Burns

2026 – John C. “Chris” Inglis



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