Trump appoints Flynn, a retired Army lieutenant general, as his national security advisor

Bio of Trump's appointee for national security advisor

National Security Advisor



Retired Lt. General

Previous positions

- Assistant chief of staff, G2, XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, NC
- Founder, Flynn Intel Group

Bio

Flynn was born in Rhode Island to a Roman Catholic family of Democrats. He is a retired Lt. Gen. in the U.S. Army and the former head of the Defense Intelligence Agency. Flynn and his son started a lobbying group called Flynn Intel Group following his retirement to civilian life in 2010. During the 2016 campaign, Flynn advised Trump on the Islamic State, Iran and the military. He also helped Trump prepare for debates. He raised eyebrows among the military and intelligence communities, members of which normally avoid politics. Flynn was a strong critic of Hillary Clinton and led the crowd at the RNC in chants of "lock her up."

Sources: Dana Priest, "The disruptive career of Michael Flynn, Trump's national security advisor," New Yorker, November 23, 2016; Edward Wong, "Michael Flynn, a top Trump advisor, ties China and North Korea to Jihadists," New York Times, November 30, 2016.