

Tony Shaffer, Biographic Summary

Tony Shaffer is a retired Senior DoD Intelligence Operative and retired US Army Lieutenant Colonel and serves as a *Commissioner* on the Chowan County, North Carolina, board of Commissioners. He is also a Newsmax Contributor, serves as the President the [Project Sentinel](#) think tank and is a New York Times [bestselling author](#) of *Operation DARK Heart* and *The Last Line*.

As a CIA trained intelligence operations officer with 40 years of experience in global and national security, he served as the *National Security Advisor to the Trump 2020 Presidential Campaign*.

In his think-tank work he is an advisor to senior members of the White House, the Intelligence Community, Pentagon and key members of Congress. He worked with National Geographic as [creator and producer](#) of the series "[Chain of Command](#)". In 2017 he became the Homeland Security Advisor to the Stafford County Sheriff's Department in Virginia and works as its representative on the NYPD Counterterrorism Bureau's greater east coast task force.

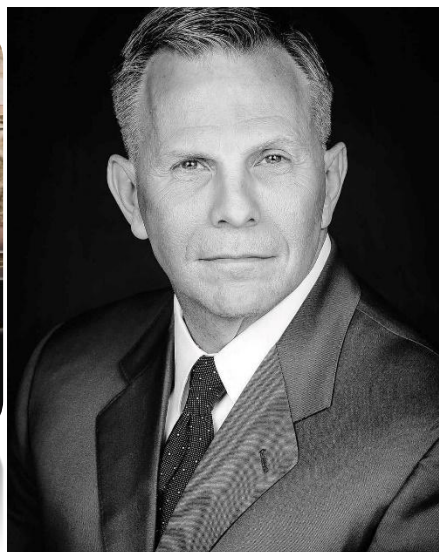
Representative Walter Jones retired LtCol Shaffer in his office in 2011 and read his career into the Congressional Record: <https://fas.org/publication/shaffer/>

He's a graduate of Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio with degrees in Political Science and Environmental Studies (BA 1986) and was a member of the 1986 National Championship Mock trial team.

He is considered an expert in weaponized and disruptive technology through his work of planning, execution and exploiting a full spectrum of special and technical operations.



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Full Details:

As a senior DoD intelligence officer, he received the Bronze Star and the Commander's Award for Civil Service for his work on cutting edge, highly classified, DoD special activities. He has detailed operational and policy expertise regarding the full spectrum of strategic national security issues; from being a pioneer in cyber operations, to being at cutting edge of U.S. counterterrorism efforts and helping develop and use of "weaponized technology".

Tony has commanded and directed several key operational intelligence organizations that conducted "compartmented" (aka black) operations. These include Special Mission Task Force STRATUS IVY, that conducted direct support to DoD compartmented activities (OSD, SOCOM, JSOC, Army) which was focused on offensive information operations. In addition, he commanded Field Operating Base (FOB) Alpha, a joint DIA/CIA unit conducting classified collection and special operations support regarding terrorists just after the 9/11 attacks.

During the 1980s, Tony was a counterintelligence officer. He deployed to Germany to conduct counterterrorism operations in 1985 as part of REFORGER and worked in New York City as part of Army's anti-terrorism efforts during OPSAIL 1986 – the re-opening of the Statue of Liberty. He also worked to monitor Soviet military officers visiting the United States during the INF Treaty missile eliminations, as well as a reserve tour with Army Foreign Counterintelligence Activity (FCA).

Lt Col Shaffer transitioned into the Foreign Intelligence area of focus with his graduation from "The Farm" in 1988, and his work at Air Force Special Activities Center (AFSAC) where he worked as a case officer. He was brought to active duty by the Army for the first Gulf War in 1991 and transitioned into the Army's Military Intelligence Excepted Career Program (MIECP)

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where he became the chief of Army's global Controlled HUMINT collection program and ran specific Special Access Program (SAP) operations that netted highly. As a reservist during this period he was the senior HUMINT advisor to the J2/Senior

Intelligence Officer of Joint Interagency Task Force East (JIATF-E) that conducted counter-drug operations in the Transit Zone. He successfully integrated highly specialized hybrid technology/human intelligence operations to obtain high value intelligence to support operational forces.

In 1995, Tony transitioned to Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), as part of the consolidation of all Service (Army, Navy, Air Force, USMC) HUMINT into the Department of Defense. He became a Senior Intelligence Officer (Operations) and created Task Force STRATUS IVY that conducted the full spectrum of support to Department of Defense, Special Operations Command and other non- DoD agencies. This included support to the controversial counterterrorism project known as ABLE DANGER – a pre-9/11 offensive operation suite designed to detect, degrade and counter Al Qaeda capabilities. In 2001, just after the 9/11 attacks, he was returned to active duty for a 30-month period, during which he commanded a DIA special mission operating base (OB Alpha) and had two successful combat tours to Afghanistan.

During his two successful, undercover, combat tours he participated in the search for senior Al Qaeda leadership in Afghanistan. These operations provide him with a unique viewpoint on terrorism and its roots in southwest Asia.

His New York Times (NYT) and International bestselling memoir, Operation DARK HEART: Spycraft and Special Ops on the Frontlines of Afghanistan – and the Path to Victory, provides an unprecedented look at intelligence operations during a period in the Afghanistan war, in 2003, where a small number of operators were able to effectively control this large country. In recognition of successful high risk/high gain operations Tony received the Bronze Star Medal (BSM) for performance as an Operations Officer of the HUMINT Support Detachment in Afghanistan supporting CJTF 180 and the Chief of the HUMINT Support Element (HSE) for CJTF 121.

His latest book, The Last Line, a novel, is a stark warning of how terrorist will use the Southwest Border of the United States to gain access and conduct terrorist activities within the homeland.

Lt Col Shaffer in addition to the London Center, has served as a senior fellow with the Center for Advanced Defense Studies (CADS) where he had conducted multiple courses of instruction, to include the Psychology of Terrorism, Leadership and Effects Based Operations, nuclear red teaming and the study of global future trends and assessments.

He has testified before Congress on key intelligence issues, lectured at the U.S. Army War College and is nationally known Subject Matter Expert (SME) intelligence collection and policy, terrorism, data mining, situational awareness and adaptive/disruptive technologies. He is also a senior advisor to multiple organizations on terrorism, cyber operations and counterinsurgency

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issues and a member of the US Nuclear Strategy Forum. Tony is a frequent guest on national electronic media (TV and radio) and is frequently quoted in print media as an analyst regarding defense and national security issues and a trusted advisor to members of the US Congress.

As one of the creators and advising/co-producers of National Geographic's "Chain of Command" <http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/chain-of-command/> he helped produce a groundbreaking look into the war on radical extremism, ISIS and how the Pentagon fights in the 21st Century. In this series the entire "chain of command", from the direction from the White House, to the strategy of the Pentagon and the tactics on the ground, all shown from an intimate but respectful point of view.