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Lord previously served as the Iraq country director in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, and as a political military analyst in the Department of Defense. At the request of the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, Lord served as a political officer during two temporary detail assignments at U.S. Embassy Baghdad in 2018. He also previously worked in support of the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Infrastructure Protection.

Lord is the author of several articles on Middle East policy, published in *War on the Rocks*, *The Hill*, *Breaking Defense*, *Lawfare*, and *Inkstick*, as well as "Undercover Under Threat: Cover Identity, Clandestine Activity, and Covert Action in the Digital Age," published in the peer-reviewed *International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence*.

Lord holds an MA in security studies from Georgetown University, and a BA in international studies from Vassar College.