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February 11, 2011
On Egypt

Neglected by the press and the Obama regime is how the fledgling representative government and new freedoms in Iraq is affecting Egypt and the Middle East. Let's go back and examine briefly why President Bush went to war in Iraq. In 2003, I wrote:

If Sadaam Hussein is overthrown and the U.S. is successful in establishing a regime in Iraq that seeks modernism, tolerance and a legitimate place in the international community (a stated U.S. goal), the entire Middle East will be changed. The area will be de-stabilized, and the seeds of rebuilding Middle East nations into modern, tolerant states will be sewn. Such states will not support the foaming-at-the-mouth Islamic Fundamentalists that are our enemies in the Terror War. The Fascist states of Syria and Libya will have to transform. The theological Mullahs of Iran will have to listen to their people and reform. The repressive, theological regimes in Saudi Arabia, and to a lesser degree Egypt, will have to transform. The Palestinians will have to reform and swear off terrorism,

Al Qaeda and the terrorist groups in Palestine will wither on the vine of modern, pluralistic societies. States that are predominantly Muslims do not have to be theocratic or fascist dictatorships. Modern Muslims can interpret their religion to be tolerant of others and are quite capable of establishing their form of modern democracy.

The rise up of the Egyptian people that has resulted in the ouster of Hosni Mubarak is the result of the seeds sewn by President Bush in 2003. Sometimes called President Bush's "Freedom Agenda", it is beginning to bring freedom and modernism to the Middle East. Obama pooh-poohed this Bush policy, but now, as in many other areas, Bush's policies are paying off. Obama should act to help Middle Eastern nations transform to modern, secular, representative societies molded in their own cultures and traditions. Of course, he will claim credit for it all. But don't be fooled. Obama is a child in the international arena and has done nothing but weaken the foreign policy of the U.S. Hopefully, he will have some adult supervision in this matter.

If the U.S. does not follow up quickly, the radical Islamists with their desire for authoritarian theological rule and anti-U.S. terrorist agenda will fill the void. Egypt must have time to bring forth the transition to modernism and the U.S. can help to stabilize the area for the time needed. It is critical to Israel, our European and Asian allies and our economic welfare that this occur.
