

# If This Doesn't Sink Obama, What Can?

If President Obama had Czechoslovakia to give away, would he give it to religious zealots in the Middle East? Don't bet against it. The winner of the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize is the early-betting favorite to win this year's annual Neville Chamberlain Memorial Appeasement Award.

It started with this statement, issued by Mr. Obama's embassy in Egypt, in response to a movie, produced by a couple of Americans, that belittles the Prophet Muhammad:

"The Embassy of the United States in Cairo condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims – as we condemn efforts to offend believers of all religions. Today, the 11th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, Americans are honoring our patriots and those who serve our nation as the fitting response to the enemies of democracy. Respect for religious beliefs is a cornerstone of American democracy. We firmly reject the actions by those who abuse the universal right of free speech to hurt the religious beliefs of others."

Hundreds of the noble, brave Egyptian beneficiaries of the "Arab Spring" that Obama had hailed so hopefully last year then proceeded to scale the walls of the embassy that had issued that statement, tear down the American flag flying overhead, and rip it to pieces.

Whereupon the embassy proclaimed: "This morning's condemnation still stands. As does our condemnation of unjustified breach of the embassy."

Here's another way they could have phrased that: "We believe in free speech, except when it offends our enemies, because

this is a dangerous world. See what happened as a result of two shlubs exercising free speech? We deserved the retaliation, but we have to confess that we don't like it. So, Americans, button your lips if you want to continue to live in a world where you can enjoy your liberties."

Sound farfetched? You will have to argue long and hard to persuade me that essentially those very thoughts weren't circulating through the so-called minds of the embassy spokesmen.

I am writing this as the news continues to unfold, so I can't swear to everything in this essay.

The last I heard, there was speculation that the attack on our embassy in Egypt had nothing to do with any movie, that it was planned as part of an in-your-face counter-observance of 9/11. A sequence of anti-American demonstrations in other Middle Eastern countries today seems to lend validity to that theory. Our very own embassy in Egypt, manned by perhaps the stupidest people in our Foreign Service, gave the helots a convenient hook on which to hang their barbarity. They didn't have to come off looking like barbarians, but rather like devout defenders of their religion.

I don't even want to think about the possibility that we could have avoided all this if the embassy had kept its own yap shut. Maybe there is a case to be made for not exercising free speech!

The worst incident, so far, occurred in Libya – the same Libya that Mr. Obama rescued from the tyranny of Muammar Gaddafi and delivered over to democracy. At the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, the democratic hordes stormed, pillaged, burned and murdered. They shot to death three embassy staffers, and committed unspeakable acts upon U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens, whom they dragged through the streets and somehow "smothered," to quote the official report.

Can you picture any enemy of the United States daring to do anything like this during the presidency of Ronald Reagan? And if it happened, how long do you suppose it would be before there was a cataclysmic response?

The events of the past two days in the Middle East were perhaps an inevitable result of our President's limp-wristed foreign policy. He seems to believe, just as fervently as our enemies, that America is fundamentally evil and does not deserve any consideration from the rest of the world. That point of view is not unusual, but it seems somehow inappropriate for the principal protector and defender of our country.

"Make no mistake: We will work with the Libyan government to bring to justice the killers who attacked our people," Obama said.

What an obvious thing to say, and how empty. Does he really expect the Libyan government to corral the hundreds of people who could justifiably be tried for first-degree murder, and stand them up before a firing squad – which appears to be the preferred method of capital punishment in that great democracy?

What we have seen in the past couple of days is a clear demonstration of the bankruptcy of the Obama foreign policy, the inevitable consequence of Obama's negligence and inaction. What we have seen are two of the darkest days in the history of American diplomacy.

If Obama can get re-elected after this, then the situation is just hopeless. Our democratic system will be shown to be broken beyond repair.