

13 October 2011--from the editor:

I welcome comments and suggestions from readers regarding this blog. Content comes from a variety of sources, including both original and republished commentaries that provide timely insights on the innately spiritual nature of war and national defense, including leadership of military and security forces. Today's guest commentary is from "Via Meadia," Walter Russell Mead's blog in *The American Interest* (online), published on 12 October 2011

Arab Spring Leads to Second Exodus

As a horrified world watched coverage of Christian demonstrators dying at the hands of Egyptian soldiers this week, it underlined the possibility that the Arab Spring might permanently change Egypt after all. Coptic Christians, who have lived in the Land of the Pharaohs since Biblical times, are making an Exodus in all directions. The *La Stampa* affiliated site *Vatican Insider* reports:

Since March, increased religious tension in Egypt has led to the emigration of about 100 thousand Christians. The Egyptian Union of human rights organisations has spoken out against this, saying that this mass exodus could alter the Country's demography as well as its economic stability...

According to analysts, this high rate of emigration is mostly a consequence of the Arab Spring revolts which began in December 2010 and are supposed to have boosted the power held by the Islamic component within Egyptian society.

To read more, go to:

<http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/10/12/arab-spring-leads-to-second-exodus/>

Walter Russell Mead is the James Clark Chase Professor of Foreign Affairs and Humanities at Bard College and Editor-at-Large of *The American Interest*. From 1997 to 2010, Mr. Mead was a fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, serving as the Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow for U.S. Foreign Policy from 2003 until his departure. Until 2011, he

was also a Brady-Johnson Distinguished Fellow in Grand Strategy at Yale, where he had taught in the Yale International Security Studies Program since 2008.

His book, *Special Providence: American Foreign Policy and How It Changed the World* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2004), was widely hailed by reviewers, historians, and diplomats as an important study that will change the way Americans and others think about American foreign policy.