Bush II

2000-?
National Security Setting — Pre 9/11

- Declining Russian strategic “threat”
  - START
- No specific threats to US vital interests
- US hegemony
  - Economic
  - Military
  - Political
- US public with strong domestic focus
- US economy showing weakness
National Security Orientation Pre-9/11

- US should only engage overseas to protect VITAL interests
- US should not assume
  - global policeman role
  - nation-building role
- US national security policy should NOT be submerged in international collaboration
- China & Russia are competitors, not friends
- REPUDIATE ALL ELEMENTS OF CLINTON ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY
Could the desire to separate a new admin from the previous one account for the pattern of initial admin ns policies being reversed by events:

- Prior policy ultimately made sense in context of the times
- Significant departures are out of tune with reality
Bush National Security Policy –
Pre 9/11

- Disengage from the Middle East peace process
- Withdraw from international collaboration
  - Withdraw from ABM Treaty
  - Withdraw from discussions of International Criminal Court
- Cut military forces
  - Skip a generation of weapons
    - Play to US technological superiority
  - Reduce heavy conventional forces
- Missile Defense
September 11, 2001
National Security Orientation – Post 9/11

- US national security requires international collaboration
- Increased military spending needed
- International institutions important for national security
- Nation building is in the interest of US national security
- Regional security matters
  - Middle east
National Security Policy –

Post 9/11

- Increase defense spending
- Build international collaboration
- Work through international institutions
- Re-engage Israeli-Palestinian peace process
- New Focus: Homeland Security
  - Border security
  - Immigration
  - Domestic surveillance, intelligence, detention, & investigation
National Security Policy –
Post 9/11

- Department of Homeland Security
  - How did this happen?
- War with Iraq
  - How did this happen? Why summer of 2002?