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Clinton: US Won't Support Mubarak's Ouster

By Jason Ditz

January 30, 2011

Speaking today in a series of television interviews, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton reiterated that the Obama Administration does not seek and would not support the ouster of Egyptian dictator Hosni Mubarak.

Rather, she insisted that the US wanted Mubarak to listen to those opposition figures who have "legitimate grievances" and move towards a "managed change" and an "orderly transition" toward a somewhat more democratic society.

Clinton even disavowed previous suggestions that the US might revoke its military aid to Egypt, what with the Mubarak regime using its security forces chiefly to kill dissidents, insisting that the US didn't want to be seen as "backing away" from their long-time ally.

A group of former officials, however, are urging the <u>US</u> to cancel the aid for the time being, insisting that they cannot possibly expect to be seen by the protesters as "neutral" when they are throwing \$1.5 billion annually in support at the regime.