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How do you read this statement from President Obama? What does he really mean when he says we own the Internet? Is there a really a strategy behind that?

Nelson CUNNINGHAM, President, McLarty Associates; former Special Advisor to President Clinton

I believe President Obama’s statement reflects national pride. In many ways, the Internet did flourish in the United States. In fact, it was DARPA, which was a defence security agency, that funded the first pieces of the Internet’s development at universities across the US. There is tremendous pride in the US for having had a leading role in the Internet’s development, and the Internet has obviously been a magnet both for investment in the US, and for foreigners coming to the US. I was in Silicon Valley just last week, and if you go to a restaurant there, yes, you see many Americans, but you also see just as many Chinese, Indians, and Europeans. These people are flocking to Silicon Valley because they want to be able to touch the magic that seems to have been created there. Therefore, I think President Obama sees this as a matter of pride, but I can see why his statement would rub those outside the United States in the wrong way.