

From: Steve Bannon <[REDACTED]>
To: jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: peres
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always the trains

On Mar 28, 2018, at 8:02 AM, jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

And now I come to my own ego. I began relations between this new China and Israel.

My sense is that when you watch Russian movements and actions, sometimes there's an unseen gravitational force that comes from someplace, and I often feel that place is China. I feel that the two countries are loosely coordinating their policies in some specific areas, including here.

No, there is no coordination.

There's a Chinese warship with the Russian ships off the coast of Syria, and the Chinese are training Syrian troops inside China.

Let me tell you a story that I have from Kissinger. I think he also wrote it down somewhere. It was the 70th birthday of Stalin, and the Russians insisted that Mao Zedong come to participate. Mao didn't want to. He hated to fly, and he didn't like the Russians. But the pressure was tremendous: "We are brothers, we are Communists," and this and that. And, finally, the Politburo of China decided that they will go. Mao didn't like to fly, so they took a train. It was winter, so it took him 16 days to travel from Beijing to Moscow.

That sounds awful.

Before they went, the Politburo met to decide, "What sort of a gift are we going to bring to Stalin?" Well, China has gold, let's give him a collection of gold. They have the white jade, which is even more expensive than gold. So maybe a collection of white jade.

Then Mao Zedong said, "Sorry, what are we, a colony? We are paying a tribute to them?" And then one of the members of the Politburo suggested a collection of Chinese vegetables.

[Laughs]

Poor Mao, he arrives in Moscow, sick from this winter train ride. They put him in a small place, and they didn't pay attention to him. And they told Stalin about the gift, he says, "Oh, he wants to poison me. Send it away." And Mao Zedong was terribly insulted. So he says, "I am finished with the Russians." He told this story to Kissinger. And then the Russians all of the sudden realized what they did. So they sent a nice boy, Kosygin, to apologize to Mao. The Chinese put him in a tent, with mosquitoes.

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