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[The President and H.R. “Bob” Haldeman, White House chief of staff, discussing National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger’s upcoming secret trip to China]

Haldeman: When you go, it’s gonna be...incredible. And you know, the stir that that’ll create, it’ll be –

Nixon: Yeah. It’ll be bigger than Russia.

Haldeman: Much bigger. Many times bigger.

Nixon: Because it’s a forbidden land, right?

Haldeman: Mystery. And that element of danger – I mean, the mystery involved in, you know, “What might happen to him?” All that stuff. They don’t recognize you’re safer there than in any place in the world you could go! Hell a lot safer than walking across Pennsylvania Avenue.

Nixon: Or going to Mexico. We can’t go any place in Latin America.

Haldeman: Well, going to Mexico is damn dangerous. Driving through – hell of a lot more dangerous driving through Puerto Vallarta.

Nixon: I know.

Haldeman: You could walk alone through the streets of Peking more safely...

Nixon: ... or Moscow, or Leningrad or anyplace.

[Conversation continues on unrelated subjects]