

Bannon: We Will Be in a Kinetic War with China If We Don't Win the Information and Economic War

By Fiona Yang May 29, 2020

Beijing is poised to pass a national security law for Hong Kong that could drastically undermine civil liberties in the semi-autonomous city.

In this interview with Zooming In's Simone Gao, Steve Bannon called the Chinese leader Xi Jinping a criminal. He believes the United States will be in a kinetic war with China if it doesn't win the information and economic war now. He also believes the trade deal with China is finished and there are forces in Washington DC pushing the United States to establish formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

Simone Gao: Thank you, Mr. Bannon, for being with us today.

Steve Bannon: Thanks, Simone, for having me.

Ms. Gao: As we speak, Beijing has reached a decision to implement national security law for Hong Kong despite the protest on Hong Kong street and international pressure.

Beijing is very bold and very determined this time compared to 2003 when they tried to push the Hong Kong Basic Law Article 23, and also last year, the extradition law. Both times are targeting dissidents in Hong Kong, but this time is different. They didn't even try to pass the law in Hong Kong. They did it themselves. So what is on Xi Jinping's mind, and why are they so determined and so bold this time?

Mr. Bannon: I think it's very simple why he's so bold this time. He's a criminal, he thinks like a criminal, and he's gotten caught. The whole world now realizes through the great reporting at Epoch Times and New Tang Dynasty TV, and others, we think war room pandemic's been part of that, that they've been exposed that regardless of whether it came out of a lab or not, which overall I think it's pretty convincing it did, regardless of whether it's part of their bioweapons program, which a lot of people think it is, that there's an exact chain of title. For one, they understood there was human transmission and communities spread back to late December of 2019. And so Xi understands the game's up. He understands the internet national community is going to close in on them, I think in a relatively short period of time, but what their culpability is, he understand that they're going to be found guilty of tens of trillions of dollars of damages throughout the world, and also,

obviously, hundreds of thousands if not millions of deaths, and that's with the Chinese people and the rest of the world. And so I think he's just saying, "Hey, what we're going to do is start to roll up various territories that we've been thinking about for a while," and that's why I think he just even gone away from the the facade of having any type of rule of law, if it's going to foreclose on Hong Kong and take it over, and just take the treaty everybody signed [and] agreed to in 1992 and did the transition in 1997, and just tear it up.

Ms. Gao: The assessment of Hong Kong's economic and political status according to the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act is almost due. I think it's due by the end of this month. Do you think America will revoke Hong Kong special status if this law is going to pass, and what else is America going to do?

Mr. Bannon: I think America is going to ... Revoke the underlying trade agreement, the underlying ability to have this free trading zone with Hong Kong in the United States. We're actually going to [toughen their sanctions]. I believe they're going to be sanctions on China. I think there may be even sanctions on individuals. I think even [making a Magnitsky Act] and things like that, and maybe even stopping the flow of dollars. I think ... The United States

may start to actually focus on the Hong Kong dollars as a currency for exchange with the Chinese communist, allowing them to get dollars. I think United States is going to do a lot and I think the West is going to join them. I don't think that CCP cares. I think Beijing's made a decision that no matter what the economic consequences, the showing freedom and democracy in Hong Kong is more of a problem to them right now than the financial losses they will take. There'll be substantial financial hit to the CCP and the Beijing, and I don't think they care. I think they feel that with everything that's going on inside of China how bad they handled the coronavirus, how bad they've handled the CCP virus, the deaths, the economic destruction—I think they don't care. I think they feel they have to shut down democracy and freedom anywhere Chinese people have it. Otherwise, that could spread to the mainland. So I think they're going to take a big financial hit, and I think they're telling the world, "We don't care. We don't care if you think we're outlaws, we don't care if you think we don't live with our treaties, we don't care if you think we need you financial-economically—we don't care. We want control of not just Hong Kong, we want control fo those Chinese people."

Ms. Gao: They can say they don't care but do they actually? If Hong Kong is gone, how big of a financial impact will be on the CCP?

Mr. Bannon: It's a huge impact and they don't care—that the world has to start to understand. We have to hit them. They're engaged in a hot economic war with the West. We have to engage in a hot economic war, and I keep telling people, this is like 1938 with the Nazis in Czechoslovakia when you didn't cap it. We have to stand firm. If we don't stand firm, they're going to be terrible consequences. But I think the world's got to understand something: I believe we will hit back hard, economically and financially. The Chinese Communist Party, I think, maybe it would be beyond that right now, ... I think they're telling the world, "We don't care if you think we're lawless; we don't care if you think we're barbarians; we don't care if you think we're dictators. It doesn't matter. What matters is our control of the apparatus and we're going to take control."

Ms. Gao: Very alarming. Are you aware of a newspaper called, "Xing Dao"?

Mr. Bannon: Yes.

Ms. Gao: It's one of the biggest newspaper. It's originated in Hong Kong but it has a big presence in the United States. The chairman of Sing Dao News Corporation in Hong Kong, his name is Charles Ho (Ho Tsu Kwok). He recently published an op-ed on his own newspaper commenting on the national security law that Beijing is going to introduce. The title of the article is, "The Law is Totally Legitimate." It has big capital letters on the newspaper. This newspaper is one of the largest Chinese newspapers distributed in America. I know the Trump administration is identifying foreign agents acting like a media in America, but these more traditional media organizations who have deep ties with the CCP and are toeing the CCP lies, they are left out and there are a lot of them. America has freedom of speech. How do you balance this and guarantee the Chinese Americans in this American soil get truthful information?

Mr. Bannon: Yeah, I think we have freedom of speech and remember, it's the first amendment. It's the first amendment because it was so important. However, we're not in a situation that allows pure propaganda from state institutions. This individual you talked about that, that piece that was in the Hong Kong page, he's a running dog of the CCP. Everything in that piece was a lie. ... We've already done it with the state controlled apparatuses, which I think that Secretary of State Pompeo should be

acknowledged for taking a very bold and courageous move. I believe there needs to be full investigation immediately of all these different Chinese media outlets that particularly print in Chinese. They're trying to influence Chinese Americans and expatriate trainees that are here in the United States. I think there needs to be a total review, and if they have any ties whatsoever—financial ties, business ties, political ties, the CCP—they have to have the same type of ban and the same type of designation as the official state media, so people know that you're hearing pure propaganda. If you haven't noticed, I'm a Hawk.

Ms. Gao: I happened to notice that just a few moments ago. About the same time when they first let out the news that they were considering implementing the national security law for Hong Kong, the CCP also had some aggressive statements about Taiwan—"Forceful unification with Taiwan," and stuff like that. And now they went ahead with the law for Hong Kong. Does that mean their threat to Taiwan will be just lip servicing or does that mean they are determined to take Taiwan as well?

Mr. Bannon: They're more determined than ever and here's one of the reasons: Taiwan, the free Chinese and the free Republic of Taiwan—free Republic of China on Taiwan—have basically put to shame the CCP, in particularly Xi's

leadership and Wang Qishan in Beijing, that Beijing has lost huge face, lost huge face to the great patriots in Taiwan. Remember it was Taiwan CDC that notified the World Health Organization on the December 31, 2019, that there was a SARS outbreak that they believed had human-to-human transmission and community spread already—on December 31, to the World Health Organization. University of Southampton in England has said: If the World Health Organization and the CCP had acted when Taiwan, little Taiwan, notified them, then 95 percent of the deaths, 95 percent of the economic destruction, in Hubei and Wuhan, also the rest of the world, would have been avoided.

Taiwan has put Beijing to shame. And let's be very specific: In this entire coronavirus, this entire CCP virus process, Taiwan has 440 cases of COVID-19 and only, I think, seven or eight deaths, and this is because of the unity, the brilliance, the bravery, the technological sophistication of the free Chinese people that are on Taiwan. The free Republic of China on Taiwan has shown you that the Chinese are ready for democracy, and it shows you how powerful [an entity could be] and quite frankly, what a contributor—what a contributor to the world; what a contributor to mankind. This is what the CCP can't: They cannot allow the democracy of the young kids in Hong Kong, they can't allow the freedom to fight for freedom,

they can't allow the success of capitalism, they cannot allow the success of universities in Hong Kong, and they cannot allow the success of Taiwan. That proves the lies of the CCP. That's why they have to shut this down and you're seeing a brutal takeover after an entire year of failing to crush the spirit of the Chinese young people in Hong Kong—the Hong Kong Chinese. They now just got to tear up the rule of law and just move on. Remember Jimmy Lai said on 60 Minutes here in the United States, he cried and broke down, and said: His generation of Hong Kong Chinese had failed to stand up to the CCP and that's why it was left to the young people in the streets. Well, the CCP the communist party in Beijing understands they'll never break the spirit of the Hong Kong kids, and that's why they've, just in front of the world, tear up the treaty and just take it off.

Same thing in Taiwan. Taiwan has humiliated the Chinese Communist Party. They've humiliated Xi in front of the entire world, they have shown his incompetence, they've shown his lies, they've shown his coverup, they've shown that this is his biological Chernobyl, they show that the regime is completely incompetent, and they've done it with world class, private technology; world-class medicine. But the basis of it is freedom and democracy, and so that's why they're going to go hard at Taiwan. There's no doubt about it. Taiwan every day proves, and even more so in this

pandemic of how incompetent and corrupt, and pure evil, comes out of Beijing.

Ms. Gao: Then would you say America is more determined than ever to protect Taiwan at this moment?

Mr. Bannon: Well, I think there's certainly a part of America that's more focused on this than ever. The people in Taiwan say, "You really have many power players now in the administration and on Capitol Hill," and the American people are now awakening to the fact of what the threat is of the Chinese Communist Party, and how the Chinese Communist Party's biggest victims are the people in China, and now the people in Hong Kong, and hopefully not the people in Taiwan. ... Their evilness, and incompetence, and corruption, everyday becomes a topic of conversation. America, remember: The polling of the Pew Research Center and Harvard-Harris, some of the top [polls] in the world, are showing a dramatic sea change in the American people's attitudes to the Chinese Communist Party, and this pandemic has done that, and the response to this pandemic out of Hong Kong and Taiwan. Taiwan has humiliated the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Communist Party cannot stand for that.

Ms. Gao: Have you read President Tsai Ing-wen's inauguration speech?

Mr. Bannon: I did. She's very much a practitioner—"let's get things done." She's a doer; not a talker. She doesn't have a lot of high flown rhetoric. She's not a hot talker like I am. She's very calm and very measured. I think her core message was very even handed and looking for unity. But I thought it was quite powerful. I thought it was quite powerful particularly the way she does not have any back down to her—she's not going to back down; she's not going to kowtow to the CCP. Her election victory I thought was magnificent in particular the way she'd beat Terry Gou, who I think Terry Gou's essentially a running dog of the CCP. And the way she defeated [him]—he was so easily defeated. ... The people in Taiwan really stood up and I think it made the world take notice. I thought her inaugural address was very even handed but quite powerful.

Ms. Gao: And she said, "We're never going to accept 'One country, two systems.'" I think that's a very powerful line in that speech.

Mr. Bannon: That's a very powerful [one]. She wasn't in their face about, "We want independence, and we want

independence now,” but ... She took the example of Hong Kong and said what she’s not going to have. Because of her actions and how she accomplishes things, and remember she won her second term—but this entire pandemic really happened in the transition period—and the way that the Taiwanese government responded, to me, is a model for the world including the United States. I think the entire world has something to learn from Taiwan and how they’ve handled this, and I believe then Taiwan got to be brought into the family of nations. Taiwan should be able to participate in every conference. ... And I’ve advocated in the United States, we should not give a penny to the World Health Organization. We should not give a penny to any organization that does not allow Taiwan to have full representation. And if anybody wants to say, “Well, why,” just say, “Look at the pandemic—the pandemic that brought the world to its knees. The Taiwanese stood up and they were the solutions provider. 440 people have the disease; only 7 or 8 deaths. And they gave the early warning shot to outside country. They gave the early warning shot in 2019. If the world had listened to the Taiwanese, there would’ve been virtually no deaths, there would’ve been no agony, there would’ve been no economic destruction. That’s what the world owes the Taiwanese.”

Ms. Gao: Some people in the Trump administration is talking about building this Economic Prosperity Network, EPN, to include countries like New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, [and] India. Do you think Taiwan should be included as well?

Mr. Bannon: It's not even a question. Taiwan is [prosperous] and smart, in areas like biotechnology and microchip design. They're best in class. You're talking about a country of 23-24 million people—something like that—that is a world leader, a virtual world leader in certain industries. Look how they've handled the pandemic. They're a world leader in public health. They're a world leader in understanding complex problems and complicated situations. Absolutely to me, it would be ridiculous to have this new economic partnership, this economic union, this kind of alliance economically and not have Taiwan in there. And I don't care what Beijing thinks about it. If Beijing doesn't like it, that's Beijing's problem. Tough luck for them. They've proven their incompetence in their evil. They've got to worry about their problems. They shouldn't try to interfere with the internal dynamics of either Hong Kong and certainly not Taiwan, and particularly they don't get to choose who the United States does business with. And I think this would be a very powerful message.

Ms. Gao: A Taiwan prominent semiconductor manufacturer, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, I think the Chinese name is “Taijidian”, recently made the announcement that it intends to build an advanced semiconductor factory in Arizona. What do you make of that?

Mr. Bannon: I think it’s great. I think you’ll see a lot more there. I think you’ll see a lot more cross border investments—American investment in Taiwanese company. ... Particularly, very important for us to bring manufacturing back from mainland China as long as it’s under the reign [of] the dictatorship of the CCP. After the CCP goes away, that’s a different story. But I think you’re going to see that was a very big announcement. It’s very important and I believe we’re going to see a lot more of them.

Ms. Gao: Now the ultimate question on Taiwan: Do you think the United States will establish a formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan anytime soon?

Mr. Bannon: I believe you’re seeing a big push from myself and many others, and you have strong voices on Capitol Hill: the Marco Rubio’s; the Josh Hawley’s; the Tom Cotton’s. You’ve got Mike Pompeo—the CCP went crazy when he sent the greetings to President Tsai’s terrific

speech to her inauguration. So I think you have many, many, many people in the United States now, both Democrats and Republicans, and people not even involved with politics that much, they're saying, "Now it's time. We should recognize Taiwan," and this should be a big push for us. The CCP should not have a vote on who is recognized and who's not, and particularly after the heroism of the Taiwanese in this pandemic. Remember: If the world had listened to Taiwan and not listen to the lies of Beijing, there were only five percent at most of the deaths that were to happen in the economic carnage.

This entire economic carnage is because the CCP lie. They lied about human-to-human transmission. They misled the incompetent World Health Organization who put out on January 12 and 14 that after consultation with senior members of the Chinese health ministry, there was no human-to-human transmission and no community spread—that was a lie. While the Taiwanese were finding out exactly what was going on in Wuhan, exactly what was going on in Hubei province in December 2019, the CCP was lying to the world until lunar new year actually came along and they couldn't hide it anymore. Remember: People listening to this broadcast [have to] understand, if lunar new year hadn't happened, if it had been in the summer or some other time, the CCP would have lied for months until this thing exploded into Wuhan. They will lie

for months and many, many more people would have been killed. They don't care. They don't care about human beings; they don't care about the Chinese people; they don't care about any parts of the civilization. They are true criminals and barbarians, and they must be dealt with. And one of the ways you deal with them is to support the free Chinese on Taiwan.

Ms. Gao: I think in your interview with The Wire you talked about during ... The end of December, ... In domestic news, President Trump was impeached and the media focus was entirely on the impending Senate decision, and also the US-China trade war and stuff. And that's when the news of this new virus [from] Wuhan arrived in CDC, Atlanta. It took the Chinese government more than 20 days to reveal that this is a human-to-human transmission. Besides what you talked about, the habitual lies by the CCP, ... Is there any other particular reason for the CCP to hold off this information to the world?

Mr. Bannon: They wanted to make sure on, first off, they knew it came from the lab. I think this global times a day rules up the wet market. They knew immediately came from the lab. Remember they had to cover their tracks and on, I think January 2nd or third, they went in and cleaned out the they sanitize the wet market. They had to build their

alibi. Folks have to remember it was not for lunar new year. And the greatest human migration takes place every year. The fiber may have people in China that go back to their ancestral homes. They would have suppressed this information until that absolute moment when muon exploded. So this just shows their guilt. This shows how evil they are. This shows that they don't care about people. So, no, I think what they were doing was trying to figure out how they were going to spend this.

Also, remember they shut down when they had to. They shut down domestic travel, but they let international travel go. They didn't care. They wanted to use innocent Chinese people who had no earthly idea. They had the virus to basically exacerbate the problem worldwide as they've been sucked up. All the PPE, the personal protective equipment from Europe, the United States, Brazil and Australia. This shows you, it's premeditated. I've said before that what they did with PPE and what they did with the Lang, the virus to spread is premeditated. Merck, the hundreds of thousands or millions of deaths that we have from this. Ultimately, and remember, it's not just deaths or many people that get this disease, they get better. Their lungs are destroyed. They'll never feel the same again. I mean, this is a horrible, horrible virus. We still know very little about it. That's all at the doorstep of the CCP.

Ms. Gao: Hmm. Do you think? There's also the reason that they want, they don't want this news to, to impact, to affect the us China trade deal.

Mr. Bannon: I think the trade deal is over, first off, they're not living up to any of the commitments to it. I don't even know if they financially can live up to the commitments to what's happening in Taiwan, what's happening in Hong Kong with the certification of the Hong Kong Freedom Act. I don't think anybody on the Hill would want President Trump to go through with the trade deal. I don't think we can trust, if they look all the years it took to negotiate Hong Kong, all the commitments to "one country, two systems" for 50 years and they've been encroaching on that from day one. But now they've just taken the mask off and they've ripped it up and they don't care. How can you possibly have a trade deal? You can't deal with these guys with intellectual property. It's impossible. They're not to be trusted. They're a criminal organization.

They think like criminals. Criminals will tell you anything, but they just want to kind of get advantage and get leverage over you. This is a criminal regime. The Chinese people understand that. They see how they were treated in Wuhan. They see they treated in a group way province, right? So they know all the religious and spiritual groups know how

they're treated. Now the whole world, you see for the criminality, how brazen it is. And this is brazen. So having even negotiate a trade deal, which you know, and they're married even living up to their convinced on the trade deal. Anyway, so it's, I think president Trump has tried to go out of his way to work with the CCP to try to integrate them into the world system. But they walked away from this big trade deal in the spring of 19 they walked away from the Bob Lighthizer deal, which would integrated them into the world economic system.

They started seeing decouple from the West as far as technology goes. Taiwan included. They were going to have their own tech standards build their own ships have Made in China 2025, they're going their own way to control the Eurasian landmass, of Hong Kong and Taiwan being part of that. This is a plan outlined and unrestricted warfare and they're moving down that plan. They may take a few years, but they're heading down. That's what they have to be. They have to be confronted. We have to confront them. We have to bond together and confront the CCP today. If not, it'll be just like Munich in 1938 of that I'm as sure as the turning of the earth.

Ms. Gao: Hmm. Interesting. Talking about the geopolitical ambition you said that there are a group of players in

Europe and Asia including Russia, Pakistan, North Korea, and of course China. They're trying to rely on China's economic and political power and the 5G technology to establish a, a separate sphere of influence from the West. And at center of that plan is the Belt and Road Initiative and Made in China 2025. So do you think that plan is severely disrupted now because all the things happened?

Mr. Bannon: I think it can't be disrupted. I think people are seeing, and by the way, I would add Iran, they're partners in Iran and also in Turkey. I would add those countries. They're trying to kind of consolidate other Eurasian landmass against South Korea and Japan, India, Australia, the Western European countries, and in the United States and Israel. I think that they look at that Eurasian landmass as their first hegemonic victory and that's where they've got One Belt, One Road, Made in China 2025, and also the rollout of Huawei, which gives them the backbone of quantum computing. I think in their model, they're pretty far down there. Remember, 2025 is only a couple of years. I believe that the Trump administration and the awakening in the West, particularly by people like Prime Minister Abe, Prime Minister Morrison in Australia, many of the countries in Vietnam and Singapore, you're seeing an awakening to what the situation is.

The young people in Hong Kong, I think, lead the way. I think you're seeing an awakening in Europe. I think you've seen a major awakening in the United States, a major awakening in Brazil. These countries that have gone along with what the CCP was doing as far as being part of the world economy. They see that the CCP doesn't really want to be in the world economy we have today, that [the CCP] wants to dominate a new world economy that's really run by their dictatorship. And that's just not going to be acceptable to people that understand democracy and freedom. They see what's happening to Hong Kong. They tore up the treaty. They don't care. They don't care. They're gonna have to name for economic losses. They're gonna put their hand on the throat of the Hong Kong Chinese, like they want to put your hand on the Taiwanese.

But the mask has been ripped off. I think that's one of the providential blessings, if there are any at all in this pandemic besides the fact that I think people appreciate and have gratitude for the small things in life and for family that maybe we got too busy and too preoccupied to see before. But that since we've been sheltering, essentially we've been having to be away from activities, we now start to appreciate what we had. The one thing I believe we're appreciating more and more is freedom and liberty. And we understand how they really underpinned everything. And I

think we're seeing how when the Chinese people have freedom and liberty, how much they blossom and how much they add to the world. All you have to do is look at Hong Kong and look at Taiwan during this covert situation and see how they supported themselves and how they acted and how they added to the world.

That's all you need to do to see what the Chinese people like when they're given freedom and when they're given liberty. And that's really the fight that this is about. This whole thing boils down to the freedom of the Chinese people. The Chinese people are in a great struggle for freedom against a totalitarian dictatorship. And it is going to be very simple. Are the democratic industrial West from India to Japan to Singapore, to Korea, to the United States, Canada, Brazil, Western Europe, are we going to sit by and allow another dictatorship like there was in Nazi Germany, like there was in Russia after world war II? Are we going to have another one just to sit there and roll up people's freedoms? Or are we going to learn the lessons of history and finish off the 20th century? Taking down the CCP is the unfinished work of the 20th century and it's another dictatorship that's got to be kicked into the desperate of history and I think it's incumbent upon all the men and women to come together, support the patriots in the streets of Hong Kong, support the great heroes of Taiwan. That

could have saved the entire world from the pandemic. It's now time for the world to have their back.

Ms. Gao: Hmm. You said last week we're going to confront China now in the information war and economic war and that we are going to slide into a kinetic war. So can you explain that? Are you making an analogy to what happened before the World War II? Like what happened to Germany?

Mr. Bannon: I'm making a direct analogy. This is 1938. If we don't confront them, we're the fool. As you know, from , there's three types of warfare. There's information and cyber, there's economic, and there's kinetic, which is actually the traditional military experience. They are in a hot war. People are talking about a cold war. It's not a cold war. It's a hot war on information and cyber, more cyber intrusion. They even tried to break into the companies that make the vaccine. They're fully engaged in a hot economic war. You see what they're doing in Australia, punch them right in the mouth, right? And if we don't confront this regime, this dictatorship right now, it's going to be like 1938 we're going to inexorably slide into a kinetic war in the South China Sea because they will try to... They've already militarized it. They're going to try to control the South China Sea and cut off any access to Taiwan, Korea, and Japan. And they're going to try to force the West at a

time and place of their choosing. That's what we've got to confront them. We've got to stop the Chinese Communist Party today.

Ms. Gao: If you were to advise president Tsai Ing-wen right now, obviously there are many policy priorities Taiwan is focused on. For example, [Taiwan] is trying to take advantage of the migration of the supply chain. But if you were to advise her right now, what would you say should be the policy priority of her administration?

Mr. Bannon: Their policy priority has always come from her strong stance. She's a woman of few words and not high blown rhetoric, but she's a woman of action and particularly those types of actions you have to take every day in order to make something a success. I would tell her right now that this is Taiwan's moment in the sun. This is your time to come on the world stage and really say, if they had listened to us, this pandemic would have never happened. That we are a free Chinese people and this shows you that we can be true for the world. We're a beacon for freedom and democracy throughout the world. Our time has come. And what I would tell her to do is continue to just head down the path you're doing to continue to be the leader in biotechnology and chip design. These other industries are doing, reach out and have more

companies, partner with companies in the United States and other places throughout the world. This is your moment. You're on the main stage now. You've performed amazingly. You could've saved the world from so much happening. You have been such a net benefit to human health, prosperity and peace. I think [Taiwan] is an example for the world. So I will tell Taiwan, keep being the example by your actions. Your actions are speaking louder than any words.

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