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Saudi Band Mangles Russian Anthem During Putin's First Visit Since 2007

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Russian President Vladimir Putin showed off his growing Middle East clout on Monday with his first visit to Saudi Arabia in over a decade.

The Saudi military band, however, did not appear to get the memo.

Embed:

During the welcoming ceremony at the royal palace in Riyadh, musicians made Putin and Saudi King Salman stand for an ear-piercing rendition of the Russian national anthem.

Putin showed no signs of anger as the horns hit one false note after another, but his facial expression betrayed a look of weary annoyance.

Russia took vengeance on the brutal Saudi performance in the form of a gifted falcon who promptly defecated on a royal carpet.

The trained gyrfalcon was caught committing the offense on video as Putin handed it to King Salman.

Embed:

> Охотничий кречет Альфа - подарок Владимира Путина королю Саудовской Аравии pic.twitter.com/SnyrYM5IpG
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> — Дмитрий Смирнов (@dimsmirnov175) October 14, 2019

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