

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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1. [REDACTED] Dr. Vavro Srokar, Minister of Unification of Laws, was asked by the Czechoslovak Government to invite Josko David, former Chairman of the Czechoslovak Parliament, and Frana Zeminova, a member of the National Socialist Party, to submit suggestions for a new cabinet which would be acceptable to the western powers.* Zeminova is understood to have declined the invitation, while David's decision had been unannounced up to 20 May 1949. It is further reported that Dr. Josef Kalfus, Minister of Finance during this war who was dismissed by the Communists after the war, and Dr. Karl Englis, former Rector of Charles University, had been invited on 16 May 1949 to attend a secret economic meeting in Prague.

2. [REDACTED] companies in Prague, the seat of the Czechoslovak Government is moving to Kosice, and the secretariat of the Czechoslovak Communist Party to Moravska Ostrava.

3. It has been reported by [REDACTED] that during the week of 16 May 1949 the archives of the Ministry of Interior were moved from Prague to Kosice, and the archives of the secretariat of the Czechoslovak Communist Party to Moravska Ostrava. On the night of 19 May the archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were reportedly moved from Prague to an unknown location.

* Comment: This information is viewed as an attempt by the Czechoslovak Government to attract to its service western-orientated politicians in an effort to improve the government's economic relations with the West.

** Comment: The movement of important archives from Prague may be an indication that the government wishes to conceal secret documents from the aforementioned western-orientated politicians should they accept government posts.

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