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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Czechoslovakia

MAR - OCT. 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
Information and Censorship Section  
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH  
Italian Theater Headquarters  
P.W.B. Unit No. 12, U.S.A.P.O. 512

4 October 1944

TO: Mr. H. A. Caccia  
Political Section  
Allied Control Commission.

Herewith copy of the report you wanted about the  
Italo-Czechoslovak news item.

15 Munro  
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I. S. MUNRO,  
Lt. Colonel  
Chief Press Officer.

1 Encl.  
cc Ltr. dtd. 30 Sept. 1944  
from Deputy News Chief

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
Information and Censorship Section  
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH  
Italian Theater Headquarters  
P.W.B. Unit No. 12, U.S.A.P.O. 512

September 30, 1944

TO: George Edman

SUBJECT: ITALO-CZECH RELATIONS

Here are the circumstances of the URM story on Italo-Czech Relations, a report on which was requested by A3 in a letter to Col. Munro on September 3-.

At the conclusion of a meeting of the Council of Ministers on September 26, our correspondent, Romanelli, interviewed Count Sforza who gave him the version of the story as carried by URM in the Italian bulletin of September 27.

This was not attributed to an official communique but was merely written as a news story without attribution.

Our Italian policy desk at first eliminated that portion of the story dealing with Italo-Czech Relations in the running copy of September 26. Subsequently I received a telephone call from Don Minifie asking why that portion had been omitted. At the time I believed the story to be an official government statement and when Minifie asked that the deleted portion be retained I agreed, and further, laid down a rule that here after all official Italian Government statements, which are given directly to the newspapers, should be carried by URM.

In the URM Italian Bulletin of September 30, we carried a story denying the original statement. This story was supplied to us by Col. Munro.

Griffing Bancroft  
Deputy News Chief  
Mediterranean Theater.

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HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
APO 30A  
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION.

100/065/07

5 Sep 44

SUBJECT : Property of Czechoslovak Government.

TO : Allied Forces Headquarters, (Attn: C-5).

- 1 Reference is again made to your letter C-5 386-2 dated 31 Jul 44 and also to my reply of 18 Aug 44. I now wish to amplify my report.
- 2 As stated in my letter, the Legation (Via Maria Luisa di Savoia) is under the protection of the Swiss Legation and listed by it as officially protected German property and accordingly no steps have been taken by this Commission for its protection.
- 3 The Czechoslovak Historical Institute is being used as an office by accredited representatives of the Czechoslovak Government to AOC (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission). The property is under the protection of the Swiss Legation who have appointed as guardian Mr. GUYER, the original administrator.
- 4 It is understood that a Mr. VANEK representing the Czechoslovak Government will soon arrive here and he may desire to take over the property on behalf of his Government and your advice is sought as to what attitude should be adopted by this AFHQ if any such desire is expressed by Mr. VANEK.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

*R. R. Cripps*  
R. R. C. Cripps, Colonel,  
for G. E. UNGER, Brigadier,  
Vice President, Admin Section.  
(Absent on duty).

Ext: 608  
RWC/wb

5087

Copy to: Political Section.

- Previous in files of Prop Control -

SECRET  
INCOMING MESSAGE

5727

NUMBER 12686

22 MARCH

FROM: FREEDOM SIGNED CINC CITE FMS

TO: JATIA FOR AFA

SECRET.

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE AGAIN APPEALING FOR US TO TRANSFER 100,000  
FRANKS TO COL SVOBODA CHIEF CZECHOSLOVAKIAN MISSION ATTACHED AGO.  
THE FUNDS URGENTLY NEEDED RELIEF PURPOSES. ARRANGE FOR PROVISION AM LINE TO COL SVOBODA  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA 2 OF YOUR 2173 OF 16TH MARCH.  
NOTIFY COL SVOBODA RE THIS ARRANGEMENT/.

ACC DISTRIBUTION:

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SECRET



HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION  
APO 394

Ref: 13081/F

27 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Advance to Czechoslovak Mission.

TO: Headquarters, Allied Financial Agency.

1. Pursuant to telegram of instructions from AFH (T-12686, of 26 March 1944), the Allied Financial Agency is hereby instructed to advance 100,000 lire to Col. Svoboda, chief of the Czechoslovak Mission, on the understanding that the Czechoslovak government recognizes this sum as a loan from the Allied Financial Agency to itself. This is however, done without prejudice to the presentation of any claims against any Italian government which the Czechoslovak government may desire to present at any future date.

2. The Czechoslovak Mission will maintain such records as are desired by Allied Control Commission, and will submit, prior to, or immediately after, the receipt of the 100,000 lire mentioned above, a statement of its proposed accounting procedure, to the Allied Financial Agency, AFH, for the approval of the Allied Control Commission (Finance Sub-Commission).

3. Such accounting procedure shall include all necessary arrangements for provisions that:

(a) a receipt for the 100,000 lire advance will be given on Form F/7 to the Allied Financial Agency acknowledging the payment as a debt of the Czechoslovak government;

(b) the Mission will maintain Rolls of Beneficiaries according to locations, showing name of each recipient, evidence of nationality submitted, number of dependents, period covered by payments, amount paid and whether acknowledgement of payment on roll or individual receipt, and whether individual was displaced by enemy action or not.

(c) the original copies of any lists of beneficiaries paid

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in the field will be transmitted to the headquarters of the Mission not less frequently than once each month;

(c) a monthly Statement of Receipts and Disbursements will be rendered to JFA, Headquarters for funds received, funds disbursed (which shall be supported by Rolls of Beneficiaries to be retained by the Mission) and unexpended balance; and

(e) all records maintained by the Mission in relation to the foregoing transactions, shall be open at all times for inspection by representatives of the Allied Control Commission.

JHP/SLT

*E. W. 76*  
 E. W. FOLLY,  
 Colonel,  
Joint Chief Finance Officer.

Copy to JFA, AGO (Finance).

Allied Financial Agency, Naples.

" " " , Bari.

" " " , Cassini.

" " " , Palermo.

" " " , Region IV

Political Section, AGO.

Chief Accountant, AGO.

*JHP*

5073



RUSSO-CZECH POLICY AGREED FOR COMING ADVANCE

MOSCOW, May 1 - Details of a new Russo-Czech agreement were disclosed by Deputy Commissar of Foreign Affairs, Andrei Vyshinsky, at a press conference last night. He stated that when the Red Army enters Czechoslovakia, a commissioner appointed by the Czech government will accompany Soviet troops to administer the country, according to its own law, as it is freed from the enemy.

"As far as military operations are concerned," he said, "the Russian commander-in-chief will have complete control as long as is necessary. It will be the job of the Czechoslovak government's commissioner not only to administer the civil life of the liberated territory but also to raise Czechoslovak military units to fight alongside the Russians, and to see that the instructions of the Russian commander are carried out.

"As soon as any part of the country passes out of the zone of direct military operations, the Czechoslovak government will take over complete administration of all public affairs. It will continue to give the Russian commander every possible assistance, except in the immediate battle area.

"All civil crimes will be tried under Czechoslovak law. A special agreement will be made later to cover financial problems."

M. Vyshinsky pointed out that the agreement was based on the principles of the mutual aid pact between the two countries, in which each vowed not to interfere with the internal affairs of the other.

(UNN)

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