

In view of the completely unwarranted interference by the Czech authorities with personnel of our Canadian Legation at Prague and as a retaliatory measure, it was recommended that a note be despatched immediately to the Czech Chargé d'Affaires at Ottawa designating Richard Berhmann, a bookkeeper at the Legation, and Hugo Behounak, an assistant clerk in the Commercial Attaché's office, as *persona non grata* and requiring their departure from Canada within seven days. If this course of action were approved, it was suggested that it be announced during the course of the regular External Affairs press conference to be held the following day.

(Memorandum, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs to Prime Minister, Feb. 1, 1950 and attached documents)†

12. *The Cabinet*, after discussion, noted the Prime Minister's report on the recent expulsion of two members of the Canadian Legation at Prague and agreed that, as a retaliatory measure, a note† be despatched to the Chargé d'Affaires at Ottawa designating Richard Berhmann and Hugo Behounak as *persona non grata* and requiring their departure from Canada within seven days, these measures to be announced during the course of the regular External Affairs press conference to be held the following day.

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SECTION D

MISSIONS DERRIÈRE LE RIDEAU DE FER : ÉVALUATION IRON CURTAIN MISSIONS: ASSESSMENT

7. DEA/10926-40

*Note du sous-secrétaire d'État par intérim aux Affaires extérieures
pour le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

SECRET

[Ottawa], March 2, 1950

I attach a memorandum of February 28 which has been prepared by the European Division on the functions of Canadian diplomatic posts in Poland and Czechoslovakia. This memorandum is based on some discussions held in the Department. As an appendix there is attached a memorandum of February 28 by Mr. McCordick on the usefulness of Iron Curtain missions. His note gives an interesting first-hand estimate of the peculiar circumstances under which work is carried on at these missions.

E. R[EID]