

informed us that Mr. Roškot had been posted recently from Prague in order to take over the post after Mr. Klima's departure.

In answer to my question, Mr. Klima explained that the Czechoslovakian staff in Canada would now consist of a Second Secretary, a Commercial Attaché, with an Assistant, and a Consul General in Montreal, together with clerical staff locally employed.

It was my own impression and that of the two other officers of the Department who were present that Mr. Klima was intensely depressed by the whole affair and that he had been kept entirely in the dark about it.

Both the United Kingdom and the United States, not to mention other countries, have experienced an abundance of similar interference throughout the satellite countries. They have adopted a policy of retaliation. For example, last March, when Czechoslovakia demanded the immediate recall of a clerk in the United Kingdom Embassy on charges of espionage, the United Kingdom demanded the recall of the assistant to the Czech Commercial Attaché in London. Last October two employees of the American Embassy in Prague charged with espionage activities were requested to leave the country within twenty-four hours. The United States retaliated by requesting the withdrawal from the United States of the Czech Consul General in New York and of a member of the Czech Embassy in Washington.

I have arranged with the Chief of the Air Staff for the return of Sergeant Danko and Corporal Vanier to be expedited as much as possible, and for them to be interviewed by the C.A.S. and a senior officer of this Department on their arrival.

If, as I have no doubt, the charges against them turn out to be baseless, I would recommend that the Canadian Government demand the withdrawal, as *persona non grata*, of at least two members of the Czech staff in this country. Appropriate investigations have been made by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the selection of the personnel to be withdrawn could be made on the basis of their findings.

A.D.P. H[EENEY]

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PCO

Extrait des conclusions du Cabinet

Extract from Cabinet Conclusions

TOP SECRET

Ottawa, February 1, 1950

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; INTERFERENCE WITH PERSONNEL OF CANADIAN
LEGATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

11. *The Prime Minister*, referring to discussion at the meeting of January 25th,† said that a detailed report had been received from the Chargé d'Affaires at Prague respecting the request of the Czech authorities for the immediate recall of Sergeant Danko and Corporal Vanier.