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30 August 1944

TO: Dr. R. M. MacLeod  
FROM: Blahoslav Hruby  
SUBJECT: Progress Report, August 15 - August 31, 1944

1. After conferences with Broadway and CIS on the penetration of Czechoslovakia, the Chief of the Section left for Italy on 24 August 1944 in order to speed up preparations for action from Italy. He took with him copies of documents and rubber stamps used in Czechoslovakia, the originals of which were supplied by CIS, and instructions for the teams concerning intelligence desired.

2. Mr. Blahoslav Hruby took over the Czech Section as the Chief's deputy on 25 August 1944. Two members of this section are in training at Milwaukee. Their schedule is arranged to allow them to continue their work for this section covering the internal opposition among the Czechs and Slovaks, the Sudeten-German group of Wenzel Jaksch, and helping in the preparation of reports. After examination of the situation in Italy, the Chief will advise if these two men are to be sent to Italy to be incorporated in one of the teams to be dispatched. Since the one member has no American passport, it will be necessary to put him in a paramilitary status to enable him to leave for Italy without considerable delay.

The Doble project for Spain-France with the Czechoslovak groups in France has not materialized because of new developments on the continent. The plan was discussed with the French Section and the following projects submitted: (1) For the period during the war (2) For the post war period in which Czechoslovaks in France could be used for intelligence work. The plan is under consideration and if accepted, Hruby should leave for Paris as soon as possible in order to establish the ground work for the planned organization. Otherwise the Czechs will arrive first and it will be extremely difficult to undertake activities of that nature with Czechoslovak authorities and organizations well established in France.

3. CIS is providing this section regularly with intelligence from its teams in Czechoslovakia and is responding promptly to requests for intelligence coming from Washington through this section. The Chief has excellent contact with the Minister of the Interior, Dr. J. Slavik, and Colonel Bartik and Section IV (political section) of the Ministry of Interior makes available reports and studies on Sudeten-Germans, Slovaks, etc.

4. During the last few weeks, Hruby has established good contacts with General L. Prehala and his friends, Colonel F. Hala and Major J. Sladecik. Prehala, who is the highest-ranking Czechoslovak

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abroad (four stars) has been completely ignored by President Beneš and is on permanent leave from the Czechoslovak army. He is anxious to place at the disposal of the allies, and especially the U.S., his experience and knowledge. Since he is only 51 years old, there is a possibility that he will yet play a role in Czechoslovakia's future. He was one of the few Czechoslovak generals against the acceptance of "Munich-Diktat" and was the first Czech general to organize Czechs and Slovaks in a legion against Hitler. An offer from the U.S. giving him a chance to be useful now could bring results of political importance in the future. Major Sladecek who is supplying us with reports and information about internal Czechoslovak problems expressed his willingness to work for the U.S. in Germany after the war. He does not intend to return to a Czechoslovakia that is under Russian influence. Colonel Hala is also willing to work of the U.S. after the war if the opportunity arises.

5. Arrangements have been initiated with the Department of State in Washington to establish contact with Dr. Fedor Hodza (son of the late Dr. Milan Hodza, pre-Munich Czechoslovak Prime-Minister) who will soon leave for Russia as political advisor to the Czechoslovak Commission for liberated areas and a representative of the Agrarian Party (the strongest party in Czechoslovakia before Munich). Dr. Hodza wishes to inform us of the work of the Czechoslovak Commission and the situation in the liberated Czechoslovak territory. He is afraid that Russia and the Communists will try to get Czechoslovakia completely under their control. For the sake of peace and a democratic way of life in this part of Europe, he would like to see American influence reach into Central Europe.

B. H.

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