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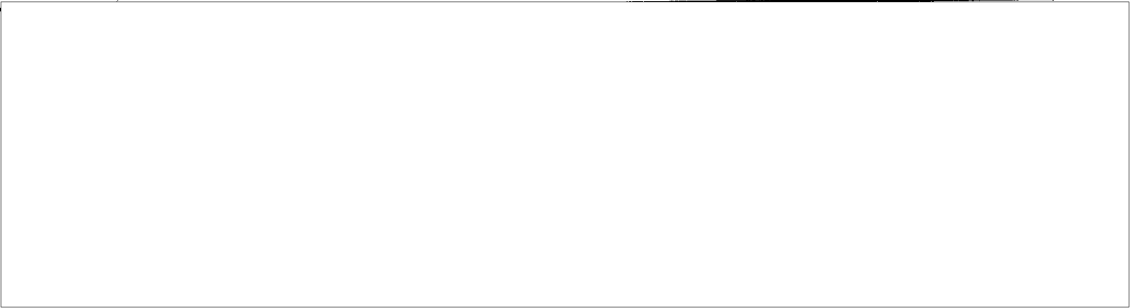
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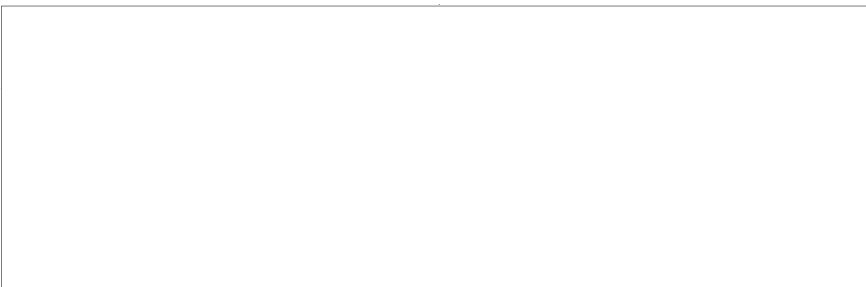
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1. The 31 Mar 42 issue of Rude Pravo published news concerning the Czech delegation to the Moscow conference on international trade. Dr Otakar Pohl, general manager of the State Bank, was to head the delegation. The article also stated that J Vagner, general manager of Kovo, Prague, the largest import-export organization in Czechoslovakia, was to be a delegate. (This may mean that Engr Vladimir Kratky, former general manager, has been purged.) In addition, the paper also mentioned that Engr Stanislav Cisar, general manager of the Automobile Works in Mlada Boleslav, would be a delegate to the conference. this is the first time that the name of the general manager of a large national corporation engaged in heavy industry was publicly announced. Heretofore, even the names of leading figures in basic industries were held confidential.

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3. After the coup in 1948, he was slated to become general manager of Metrans, national corporation for international shipping and forwarding. Instead, he succeeded his boss, Engr Ludvik Frejka, in the economic department of the Office

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of the President. Frejka was head of the NHK UV KSC until the organization was liquidated under pressure from Rudolf Slansky. According to Western reports Frejka was purged about February 1952.

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4. The NHK was the originator of the 2 Year Plan and later the 5 Year Plan. When the entire banking system was reorganized in 1949 and all commercial banks merged together with the Czechoslovak National Bank, Pohl was appointed general manager. He is not very well known because he never held any public office. [redacted] his appointment came as a surprise to older Party members and there was doubt as to whether he could handle the huge unified financial system of the state.
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5. Pohl was known as a diligent worker but without talent or leadership. [redacted] he deeply admired his former boss, Frejka, and the latter's purge must have had quite an effect on Pohl. All those who knew Pohl regarded him as a very human individual with a kind and pleasing personality. He was idealistically devoted to the Party. In 1951, however, [redacted] he was a broken man, automatically carrying out orders which were handed to him by his deputies.
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