

United Nations

**SECURITY
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10 April 1948

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO
THE REPRESENTATIVE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
DATED 6 APRIL 1948 AND REPLY DATED 8 APRIL 1948

April 6, 1948

Sir,

I have the honour to communicate to you the text of the following resolution adopted by the Security Council at its 278th meeting held today:

"The Government of Czechoslovakia is invited to participate without vote in the discussion of the Czechoslovak question now under consideration by the Security Council, and the Secretary-General is instructed to notify the Czechoslovak Representative to the United Nations accordingly."

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Trygve Lie
Secretary General

/Sir:

April 8, 1948

Sir:

Referring to your letter dated April 6, 1948 and upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention:

The discussion of internal matters before the Security Council is in contradiction to the provisions of the Charter. Such matters are exclusively within the domestic jurisdiction of any state. The Czechoslovak Government therefore rejects with indignation the unfounded complaint which has been put before the Security Council.

Czechoslovakia has been and will remain a peace-loving state and wishes to maintain friendly relations with peace-loving nations on the basis of mutual respect in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations. The discussion on the changes in the composition of the Czechoslovak Government based on slanderous allegations has confirmed our conviction that it is only a pretext to stir up the hostile campaign against the Soviet Union and other states of Eastern Europe with which Czechoslovakia has strong bonds of friendship. Such action is in flagrant contradiction to one of the fundamental tasks of the United Nations which is to promote friendly relations between nations in order to strengthen international peace and security.

Since the discussion of internal matters of Czechoslovakia in the Security Council is contrary to the basic principles of the Charter, inspired by the aim of protecting the sovereignty and independence of states, the Czechoslovak Government does not find it possible to take in any way part in such discussion.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Dr. Vladimír Houdek
Dr. Vladimír Houdek
Representative of Czechoslovakia
to the United Nations