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A Yankee in Count Černín's court



Jan Švejnar's decision to renounce his U.S. citizenship if elected Czech president was still fresh news when a new question arose. What if he became foreign minister instead? Would he still renounce his U.S. citizenship (or would the U.S. strip him of it)? Právo reported that the Greens might be playing with the idea of nominating Švejnar to fill the foreign-affairs post if he loses the presidential election and if Karel Schwarzenberg quits the cabinet in protest over the return of Jiří Čunek. The CR has had dual-citizen ministers before, but would a Yankee in Černín Palace be acceptable as the CR negotiates a radar treaty with the U.S.? Probably not. Another possibility, Právo said, is that Švejnar will become education minister, in which case the issue of renouncing his citizenship would likely be forgotten. But so might Švejnar be forgotten if he took such a thankless job as that of education minister.



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