

Communication solutions **Central Europe**

FINANCIAL COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC RELATIONS

contact us: info@cook-comm.com

No. 1825 the fleet sheet's final word Fri., March 28, 2008

A daily e-mail bulletin of Czech wit & wisdom. For your free subscription, write to subscribe@fsfinalword.com

The bright side of radar



Czech officials often have eyes that are bigger than their country's stomach. The classic case are the supersonic fighters that can barely reach cruising speed before they've already crossed the country's border. There's other military equipment that is first bought for a high price and then practically given away later, once it becomes clear that it isn't needed. There's the high-speed Pendolino train that can't travel at high speed, because the country's tracks won't support it. There's a hugely expensive e-toll system from Kapsch that was obsolete upon implementation. Now there are plans for a system of info boards from Kapsch - them again - that will warn drivers about traffic congestion and, at the price of Kč 3bn, will presumably also serve them coffee. The one bright spot in all this is the radar. Sure, it's expensive, and its usefulness is questionable, but at least Czech taxpayers aren't paying for it.