

the **fleet sheet's final word**

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Welcome, American friends

Dear American friends,

When they knock at your front door, and it's the Chinese creditors foreclosing on your home, where you going to go? Consider the Czech Republic, perhaps better known to you as Czechoslovakia or Yugoslavia. You know, the home of Václav Havel, the Velvet Revolution, the real Budweiser and bad jokes about Czeching things out. It's an island of prosperity and calm in a whirlpool of troubled waters.

Our top officials gathered yesterday to announce that the global financial crisis won't have any significant impact on us. Credit is still loose, bank socialism is a thing of the past, and the crown is stronger than a locomotive. True, your dollars won't go very far, but they'll still buy a lot of Pilsner Urquell. And our housing developers will be mighty happy to take them too. So, if you think it's time to get out of Dodge, book your flight for PRG. It's second-chance city.

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