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Call him VTK



When Václav Klaus squints and puckers, he looks remarkably like Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, the founder of Czechoslovakia. Klaus is a big admirer of TGM, so perhaps it's no coincidence that his Masarykian presidential mien was cast in gold (click here). But for Klaus to go down in history as the second coming of TGM, he'll need a better set of initials. Hardly anyone is known by only two initials, other than maybe Jesus Christ and that Ewing fellow from Dallas. Who in the world would put V.H. to the face of Václav Havel? It could just as easily be Vladimir Horowitz. And V.K. has the added disadvantage of sharing his initials with a certain Pirate of Prague. Three initials, though, now that's where it's at. There's JFK, FDR, LBJ, MLK and, of course, TGM. Problem is that Czechs rarely have a middle name. Masaryk resolved the issue by taking his wife's maiden name, but Václav Mištin Klaus doesn't exactly roll off the tongue. Klaus might have to borrow from the other woman in his life. Call him Václav Thatcher Klaus.



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