

No. 2302 the **fleet sheet's final word** Fri., Feb. 19, 2010

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There's a riot goin' on

ING Commercial Banking's chief international economist, Rob Carnell, told the Czech CFA Society's [Forecasting Dinner](#) last night that one of his predictions for this year is riots. There will be fiscal retrenchment in Europe, he said, public-sector cut-backs, a nice hot summer, especially one fueled by some alcohol.... In the U.K. this has always been a great combination for riots, he said. "Not in the Czech Republic," muttered a few of the guests. "Czechs will leave instead for their cottage." In a sense, though, Czechs are already rioting. They're angry, they're cynical, they're meeting in small groups to discuss what can be done. A few hundred turned out at Prague city hall this week to call peacefully for a defenestration. Those who would be tossed out the window first are feeling the heat. Instead of repenting or retreating, though, it's almost as if they're smugly challenging the would-be defenestrators to bring it on.