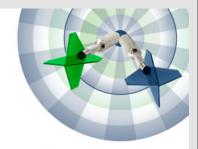
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Never the Twain



"There was things which he stretched," said Huck Finn of Mark Twain, "but mainly he told the truth." With his oneliners, idiosyncratic dress and penchant for stretchers, Karel Schwarzenberg is the Mark Twain of Czech politics. When Václav Klaus neglected to invite him to the Castle for the nonukes shindig, Schwarzy retorted like a Connecticut Yankee that there are those who are in the graces of the lord and those who are not. Trouble is, Klaus did invite him, according to Petr Hájek of the Castle. When MFD asked party chairmen to disclose their assets and income, Schwarzy gave no figure for his outside income, yet MFD praised him for being one of the most open. On the occasion on the 100th anniversary of Mark Twain's death, the <u>Financial Times</u> tried to pin down how the writer could have achieved such eminence with such a small number of incontrovertibly great works. The same could be asked about Schwarzenberg, except that most Czechs would be hard pressed to name any of his great achievements.



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