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The Hrdlička bribe chart



Prague Mayor Bohuslav Svoboda insisted in MFD today that Miroslav Kalousek is the "father" of the breakup of the ODS-TOP 09 coalition at city hall and that Karel Schwarzenberg is the "godfather" (and Kalousek's puppet). That would apparently make Tomáš Hrdlička of ODS something like the conniving and scheming uncle. He and his kindred spirits from ODS and ČSSD (Milan Richter, Boris Šťastný, Karel Březina, etc.) crippled the Prague coalition so that Kalousek could come in for the kill. What Hrdlička's group hopes to get is not only access to such gold mines as DP Praha and Pražské služby, but also the reinstatement of something commonly known as the "Hrdlička chart." It defines in precise terms how much a developer must pay in bribes for zoning approval. Since Svoboda came to power, it hasn't been working so well. Worst of all for Hrdlička, the payoffs have been going in the wrong direction.

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