the fleet sheet's final word

No. 5068

Free subscriptions at www.fsfinalword.com Thur., June 15, 2023

STAN scores big victory



STAN has been under attack from all sides. Two people were indicted in the Dosimeter case last week, just days before the media marked the first anniversary of the corruption scandal; Education Min. Mikuláš Bek of STAN threatened to resign if PM Petr Fiala allows Finance Min. Zbyněk Stanjura (both ODS) to cut his budget next year by Kč 29bn, to Kč 236bn; Bek also took a political beating for speaking at the 73rd annual Sudeten German Day in Regensburg; Andrej Babiš questioned in Parliament whether Industry Min. Jozef Síkela (STAN) is telling the truth when he says the CR isn't importing any natural gas from Russia; Interior Min. Vít Rakušan of STAN ignited a debate about whether the migration pact he signed last week is a "great compromise" or "unbelievable treachery." But STAN has now scored a major victory. Síkela's trusted adviser, Tomáš Prouza, who works full-time as a lobbyist for mostly German food retailers, has finally forced Agriculture Min. Zdeněk Nekula of KDU-ČSL to resign. STAN can now take the credit for the lower food prices that Prouza said only Nekula has been standing in the way of.

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