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MEETING OF THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FORMED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE WARSAW TREATY
Prague, January 1956

PKI/DOK/I/1

27 January 1956

STATEMENT OF ALEXEJ CEPICKA

First Deputy Chair of the Government and Minister of National Defense of the
Czechoslovak Republic
27 January 1956

Dear Comrades!

On behalf of all people of Czechoslovakia and the Czechoslovak Government, please allow me to extend our heartfelt greetings to you in connection with the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries.

Welcome to the capital of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, our ancient Prague, whose name is connected with many outstanding events in the rich history of our people and the international workers' movement.

Recently there has been some lessening of international tension - first and foremost, thanks to the peaceful initiatives of the Soviet Union. However, the supporters of war have not abandoned their goals. A number of important international issues remain unresolved. Once again, in some Western countries, and especially in the United States of America, pronounced tendencies have emerged: to disrupt the development of peace and to resume the "cold war" against the will of the peoples.

Therefore, the Political Consultative Committee, formed in accordance with the Warsaw Treaty, must analyze anew the current international situation and discuss the issues and joint efforts resulting from our Treaty.

On behalf of the people and the Government of the Czechoslovak Republic, I wish our meeting complete success.

[Translation by Julia La Villa Nossova]