Socialism Realised
Life in Communist Czechoslovakia, 1948-1989

Looking for a Traitor

České století (r. Robert Sedláček, 2013)/
The Czech Century (dir. Robert Sedláček, 2013)

Slánský: Get out.

Gottwald: No sentiment when purging undesirable people from the party.

Slánský: Stalin wants it.

Gottwald: Does he?

Slánský: How will this end?

Who is gonna be locked up next?

You or me?

Gottwald: You should ask what would happen if nobody gets locked up.

Slánský: What? The third world war...

Gottwald: Stalin is clear on this. Those who refuse to locate enemies are enemies themselves. What difference would there be between us and Tito's Yugoslavia that betrayed the socialist bloc?

Slánský: Last evening, Josefka asked me: "Ruda, do you think you are going to be next?"

Gottwald: And? Do you?

Slánský: I've thought so since 1945.

Gottwald: What did you say?

Slánský: That I am an honest communist that did only good to the party and have nothing to be afraid of. Unless somebody wanted to blame me for other people's mistakes, but I could handle that.
Klema?

Gottwald: What?

Slánský: Why did you invite me here today?

Gottwald: Don't mess with them, Ruda. Don't mess with them.

Slánský: What?

Gottwald: Do proper self-criticism. Get the hell out of the leadership. You get it as a Jew, right?

Slánský: I am not a Jew.

Gottwald: What are you then?

Slánský: A Czechoslovak, a communist.

Gottwald: My ass is cold.
Are you ours or theirs?

Slánský: Whose?

Gottwald: Our Jew or their Jew? Foreign?

Slánský: What, foreign?

Gottwald: You have always been different from us.

Slánský: You talk like Germans.

Gottwald: You will always be somewhere else, nothing can help that.

Slánský: Hitler gassed millions of our people because of this.

Gottwald: See? You say "our people". And who are "your people"? Not the party.

Slánský: Klema, you are anti-Jewish?

Gottwald: I am against what the party is against.

Slánský: Since when is the party against the Jews?

Gottwald: Since the moment Israel was formed as a capitalist state.

Slánský: Klema, did we want this?

Gottwald: You, you are asking this?
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