

## *A publication of the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland*

### CSHA Announcement:

We regret to inform you that our annual 34th Czech and Slovak Festival (scheduled for October 25, 2020 at the American Legion Hall in Towson) has been canceled. This difficult decision was prompted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We will always put the health of our members and festival visitors first.

We remain committed to resume our in-person activities and events as soon as it is safe to do so. We are hopeful that we will be able to organize a great festival next year. We have already booked the hall for Sunday, October 24, 2021. We are also planning a spring outdoor event, a Member Appreciation Picnic for April 2021. Please keep that in mind and follow our website and Facebook pages for updates. We hope to see you at our next event.

## What the Czech and Slovak Festival Means to Me

by Dana Havlik

For the past 33 years, the Czech & Slovak Heritage Association annual festival, has been a place where Czech and Slovak compatriots, or descendants of compatriots, their American friends and supporters of Slavic culture, have congregated to celebrate our traditions. Organized by dedicated CSHA volunteers, the festival has offered new immigrants an opportunity to meet with the old settlers and establish personal contacts and friendships in the

new country which they decided to call their home. Every year the festival brings joy to visitors with its welcoming atmosphere, cheerful Slavic dance music, traditional food and homemade pastries, and – last but not least – good Czech and Slovak beer. All of us can find something at the festival that reminds us of our old homeland, and everything that still ties us to the Czech and Slovak lands no matter how long and why we have lived in America.

*continues on page 4*



CSHA festival 2005

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

### CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE SCHOOL

In the fall semester we returned to our regular weekly schedule. Classes are being held virtually. Beginners or fluent speakers from anywhere are welcome to join us.

- Czech Classes are held from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm on Friday evenings.
  - Slovak Classes are held on Sunday mornings.
- You can enroll at any time. Check CSHA's web and FB pages for details and schedule or email us at [info@cshamaryland.org](mailto:info@cshamaryland.org).

### FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

These events won't be possible this fall, but we will return to them as soon as it is safe – hopefully soon!

### ADULT LANGUAGE SCHOOL

CSHA is one of the few organizations in the USA that offers language instruction for adults. Beginning, intermediate and advanced classes are offered virtually this fall. Classes are held on Saturday mornings. To register or ask questions, please contact Lois Hybl at 410-243-1710 or e-mail: [LHybl@verizon.net](mailto:LHybl@verizon.net) or visit our website for more details.

### HERITAGE SINGERS

When it is safe to resume, rehearsals will be announced on our web and Facebook page.

HLAS - If you have any suggestions or comments about the Hlas, email us at [info@cshamaryland.org](mailto:info@cshamaryland.org). You can find back issues of Hlas at [www.cshamaryland.org](http://www.cshamaryland.org).

CSHA ONLINE - For more information about any of these activities or to register for classes, you can contact CSHA at: [info@cshamaryland.org](mailto:info@cshamaryland.org). CSHA's Communication Committee will respond promptly to answer your questions and provide information, and we are eager to hear your ideas and suggestions. Also, please check our website [www.cshamaryland.org](http://www.cshamaryland.org) and follow us on Facebook at [Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Baltimore](https://www.facebook.com/CzechandSlovakHeritageAssociationofBaltimore).

## OCTOBER 2020

34th Annual CSHA Festival - canceled due to Coronavirus pandemic. Please check our website for possible online activities that are currently being researched.

## NOVEMBER 2020

Christmas cookies fundraiser- Please stay tuned. We truly regret that we cannot hold the annual Festival this year. And since we know so many of you come to enjoy the food, we want to at least offer you a chance to order homemade Czech Christmas cookies. Please keep checking our website and Facebook page where we will soon post the details.

## DECEMBER 2020

MIKULÁŠSKÁ - December 6th, 2020 - Tentatively scheduled at Woodbrook Church in Baltimore, MD- Mikuláš, Anděl, and Čert will hopefully be able to make an appearance.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - December 13th, 2020 - Tentatively scheduled at Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Baltimore, MD

## JANUARY 2021

GENERAL MEETING - Date TBD.

## APRIL 2021

CSHA members appreciation picnic - outdoor event with live music - Date TBD.

#### CSHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

##### OFFICERS:

President - Petr Justin  
Vice President - Dana Petran  
Secretary - Lois Hybl  
Treasurer - Zuzana LaBuff

#### BOARD MEMBERS: alphabetically

Dana Havlik  
Gregg Iskra  
Zuzana Justinova  
Olga Mendel  
Stephen J. Sabol Jr.  
Bill Schuman

Rena Vanicek Schuman  
Alex Vanicky  
Jane Vanicky

#### PAST PRESIDENT: Margaret Supik

LANGUAGE SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE:  
MacLean Lunko

HLAS - Olga Mendel

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Communication - Olga Mendel  
Education - TBD  
Events - TBD  
Festival - Zuzana Justinova  
Finance - Zuzana La Buff  
Governance - Gregg Iskra

## President's message:

Dear friends,

The Board of Directors periodically meets to plan activities for you and to review the progress of our language schools. At our last virtual Board Meeting in August, we had to decide whether to host our 34th annual Czech and Slovak Festival during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Do we invite you and risk potentially exposing you to an infection, or do we cancel our Festival for the very first time in the Association's history? After a long discussion, the Board voted unanimously to cancel the event. This was a hard and sad decision for us, because we knew this event would be greatly missed by many of us – including me.

Every October, I look forward to attending the Festival. I can't wait to have that great goulash or roast pork, dumplings and sauerkraut with a glass of beer, to listen and sometimes even dance to Pajtasi's music. Most importantly, I enjoy meeting all of you. Even though the pandemic forced us to change our plans this year, we are already planning the next Festival. The American Legion Hall in Towson has been reserved for October 24, 2021.

We hope the pandemic will be brought under control next year, and we will be able to host in-person events again. In fact, we are also planning a spring outdoor event, a Member Appreciation Picnic, tentatively scheduled for the end of April 2021. Our members can expect traditional food, beer and possibly live music. Please fill out the included form and become a member or renew your membership for year 2021. You can also make a secure membership payment on our website [www.cshamaryland.org/membership](http://www.cshamaryland.org/membership). We do rely on your support. Member's dues and donations help us to offer you great programs, to support our language schools, and to build a stronger community.

On a personal note, like many of you, my family had a trip planned to visit Czechia and Slovakia this summer. Sadly, our flights were cancelled and we decided to travel in the U.S instead. We ended up making a trip to the Pennsylvania Wilds, which is within driving distance from our home. The nature there is very similar to Central Europe. The rolling hills of the Allegheny National Forest and Elk Country made us feel like we are back in the Moravian Jeseniky, which is a beautiful mountain range in the northeast part of Czechia. Growing up, I loved hiking there. We hope that next year the conditions for travel will improve and we all will be able to visit with our families. The climb to the Rysy summit, a popular destination in the High Tatras Mountains (Slovakia), is still on our list.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone who participated in our virtual General Meeting in late August. It was really great to hear from our members. I would also like to acknowledge our Czech and Slovak teachers from the Language School for Adults and the Language School for Children. Their efforts and dedication to keep the schools operating virtually are truly appreciated. Thank you!

Se srdečným pozdravem



Petr Justin - CSHA president

## Financial Report

Dear members,

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic and declining membership, our financial situation is still stable for the time being. We are grateful for an annual grant from the Czech Republic, but right now, our only other revenue is from membership dues and school tuition. So we are asking all members to please pay their dues and consider signing up or enrolling their children for language school.

In June, we opened a new 18-month CD. CSHA also has a checking account and a savings account.

In July we submitted our application for a Financial Grant from the

government of the Czech Republic for the year 2021. As in past years, these funds will be used to help pay for our language schools and our annual Festival. We are looking into applying for a grant from Slovakia too.

Lastly, as many of you have noticed, everyone can pay membership dues on our website now. Secure payments can be made with any major credit card. We also are working to extend our online payment options for school tuitions and various events. And of course, you are welcome to pay by check. Just mail your membership fee to:

CSHA, P.O.Box 20261, Baltimore, MD 21284-0261

*by Zuzana LaBuff - Treasurer*



*continued from page 1*

My family immigrated to the United States in phases. My maternal grandparents came with an immigrant wave after the Russian occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968, which closed our path from behind the Iron Curtain for the next 20 years. In 1988, my mother, brother, and I embarked on an adventurous journey through Yugoslavia, where we connected with my grandmother and grandfather – and with my aunt Alena, whom my brother and I met for the first time. Our journey to freedom was completed when we landed at Dulles Airport on October 1, 1988. Maryland became our new home, and it has remained our home for the next 32 years (and counting).



*Dana Halvik and Alena Kankova in 2017*

I will always be grateful to all of the members of the Czech and Slovak community who immediately accepted us among themselves, made us their friends, helped us with difficult adjustments, and involved us in Baltimore's Czech and Slovak Heritage Association (CSHA). We met many of these friends at the CSHA festival and other events held by this group of dedicated volunteers not only for Czech and Slovak natives living abroad but also for the descendants of earlier generations of Czech and Slovak emigres. It was strange at first but also very nice to speak our mother tongue in America, sing well-known folk songs, and rejoice in good Czech and Slovak food, which is not so easy to find in any local restaurants.

Over the years, my mother and I got more and more involved in the festival, where we contributed our homemade pastries and Christmas cookies according to the recipes of our grandmothers, which always sold well. Sometimes our grandmother joined us with her cakes and poppy seed rolls, or *metynka*.

As my children grew, I also started involving them - first as visitors, and later, as volunteers. Although Kata and Misa were born here in America and were familiar with Czech culture from my stories, they mostly looked forward to the festival, because there was always

something good to eat. In addition, Kacenka admitted to me after years that she always liked to dress up in *kroj*, the traditional Czech folk dress, because she felt like a "Czech princess." She remembers being surprised by "how many of us are here!" Even as a teenager, she was proud of her Czech roots and didn't mind putting on a home-made *kroj* to contribute to the festive atmosphere of the Slavic festival as she and Michael sold pastries or raffle tickets at the box office. She was even willing to take pictures with visitors on request, which surprised me quite a bit, given her shy personality. Now our youngest daughter Nikolka continues in their footsteps and enthusiastically helps to produce table centerpieces with Czech and Slovak flags or draw raffle winners. I often wonder how long we will be able to maintain this beautiful tradition and whether our post-millennial children will take over the organization of this annual event.

As my children's grandmother, Georgina Havlik, says, "it would be a pity if this tradition diminished". What Georgina has always enjoyed most at the festival, she says, is to experience the excitement of people seeing each other again, even though they had not been in touch for a year. For me, this alone is a sufficient motive to stay involved and continue contributing –to help preserve and further spread the traditions and cultural values of our small but proud nations – Czechia and Slovakia.



*CSHA 2013 Festival*



*Jane and Alex Vanicky at CSHA 2005 Festival*



# Co pro mě znamená Český a Slovenský festival

**Č**eský a Slovenský festival pořádaný Sdružením Čechů a Slováků pro uchování národních odkazů v Baltimoru je místo, kde se za posledních 33 let tradičně setkávali čeští a slovenští krajané, potomci krajanů, jejich američtí přátelé a příznivci slovanské kultury. Nově přichozí imigranti se zde setkávali se starousedlíky, aby navázali osobní kontakty a přátelství v nové zemi, kterou se rozhodli nazývat "Domov můj". Festival každý rok přináší radost všem návštěvníkům svoji atmosférou, veselou slovanskou taneční hudbou, tradičním jídlem i domácím pečivem, a v neposlední řadě - dobrým českým pivem. Každý si může najít to své, co mu připomíná starou vlast, a vše to, co nás k české a slovenské zemi nadále váže, bez ohledu na to, jak dlouho a proč žijeme v Americe.

Naše rodina se do Spojených Států přistěhovala ve fázích. Moji prarodiče z mamčininy strany přišli s imigrantskou vlnou po sovětské okupaci Československa v roce 1968 a tím pádem se nám uzavřela cesta zpoza železné opony na dalších 20 let. Až v roce 1988 se nám s maminkou a bratrem podařilo dostat to Spojených Států krkolomnou a dobrodružnou cestou přes Jugoslávii. Konečně jsme se tak sešli s babičkou, dědou a moji tetou Alenou, kterou jsme s bratrem osobně potkali poprvé. Cesta za svobodou byla dovršena přistáním na washingtonském letišti prvního října 1988, a Maryland se pak stal naším novým domovem na dalších 32 let....

Navždy zůstanu vděčná všem našim českým a slovenským přátelům, kteří nám pomáhali v náročných začátcích, okamžitě nás přijali mezi sebe a zapojili nás do baltimorské party Čechů a Slováků, takže jsme se brzy cítili jako doma. Mnohé z těchto přátel jsme poznali právě na CSHA festivalech a dalších akcích pořádaných skupinou obětavých dobrovolníků.

Zprvu to bylo zvláštní, ale i velice milé, mluvit v Americe mateřským jazykem, zpívat známé lidové písně a radovat se z dobrého českého a slovenského jídla, které se hned tak snadno nenajde v žádné místní restauraci.

S postupem let jsme se s maminkou začaly více a více zapojovat do pořádání festivalu, abychom alespoň přispěly našim domácím pečivem

a cukrovím podle receptů našich babiček, které vždy šlo na festivalu na obyt. Někdy se přidala i naše babička se svými koláčky a makovými rohlíky, či metynkou.

Jak moje děti rostly, začala jsem je také zapojovat - nejprve jako návštěvníky, později i jako dobrovolníky. Přestože se Káťa s Míšou narodili zde v Americe a českou kulturu znali jen z mého vyprávění, na festival se odmala těšili, protože tam bylo vždy něco dobrého k jídlu. Kačenka se mi navíc po letech přiznala, jak ráda se oblékala do českého kroje, neboť si připadala jako "česká princezna". Překvapilo ji "kolik nás tady vlastně je"! I v pubertě byla dál hrdá na své české kořeny a vůbec ji nevadilo na sebe natáhnout svůj podomácku vyrobený kroj. Někdy se k nám připojila, aby také přispěla ke slavnostní atmosféře slovanského festivalu, když prodávala s Michalem koláče, tombolu či lístky u pokladny. Dokonce byla ochotná se na požádání fotit s návštěvníky, což mě vzhledem k její stydlivé povaze dost překvapilo. Teď v jejich stopách pokračuje naše nejmladší Nikolka, která nadšeně pomáhá vyrábět české a slovenské vlaječky na stoly nebo losovat výherce tomboly. Často si říkám, jak dlouho se nám podaří tuto krásnou tradici udržet a jestli po našich rodičích a po nás ty naše "post-millennial" děti převzmu organizaci této každoroční akce....

Jak často říká babička mých dětí Jiřina Havlíková, byla by to škoda, kdyby tato tradice zanikla. Na festivalu se jí vždy nejvíce líbilo, jak se lidé upřímně radují, že se setkali, i když se třeba celý rok neviděli. Pro mě samotnou je to dostatečný motiv dále přispívat, pomáhat zachovávat a šířit tradice a kulturní hodnoty našich dvou malých, ale hrdých národů - českého a slovenského.



Katie and Michael Havlik selling pastries at CSHA 2013 Festival



Nikolka and Dana Havlik, Lucinka and Dana Petran in 2017

# The Czech and Slovak Language School for Adults

by Lois Hybl

The Czech and Slovak Language School was founded in 1989 to preserve the Czech and Slovak heritage. Our first teacher was Milada Vanicek. Class was held in the basement of St. Wenceslaus Church in East Baltimore. In 1990, a beginner's class was added with Dolores Zajickova Gentes as the teacher. Her husband, Harold "Pete" Gentes, organized refreshments during class breaks. Dolores and Pete were also instrumental in publicizing the school and answering phone inquiries.

Originally, students were first and second generation Czechs who wanted to maintain or learn the family language and history. As the school grew, we added many students who had intermarried with Czechs or Slovaks or who wanted to travel to the old country. Sharing refreshments during the class break and having potluck lunches on the last day helped make the school an enjoyable social experience.

As we grew, we rented space at Towson Unitarian Universalist Church, then at the Maryland School for the Blind, and finally, from 2010 until today at the R.W. Gribbin Center in Perry Hall. At one time, we had about 60 students each semester registered in eight classes. But the deaths of many older students, the demise of many neighborhood newspapers which advertised our classes, and the recession took its toll. Enrollment now hovers around 20 students.

We owe a great debt to the many previous teachers who have contributed their knowledge and skills: Irene Vincent, Mildred Novotny, Pavel Maruska, Lenka Pedersen, Michaela Trnkova, Eva Vacca, Margaret Supik, Mary Lou Walker, and George Mojzisek, who taught Czech; and Anna Losovsky, Michael Myers and Juraj Duracka who taught Slovak. Ed Horak taught a Czech and Slovak history class

in English and Pete Gentes once taught a class about Czech glass. Visitors to the Language School Table at an annual festival will meet Rena Vanicek-Schuman, daughter of the late Milada Vanicek, who was the first Czech language teacher in our school.

Currently, Natalia Karlinsky, a native of Tbilisi, Georgia, who studied Slavic languages, teaches beginning and Intermediate Slovak. Before the pandemic forced us online, she also led a discussion of Slavic literature.

Iva Zichová, a Czech native, teaches first-year Czech and challenges our students in Czech Conversation. She has taught children at the Slavic American Sokol in Washington and adults in Fairfax County's Foreign Language Program. She has tutored and taught Czech for people in the US Foreign Service.

Andrea Kletetschková, also a native of the Czech Republic, teaches Czech 201 and Intermediate Czech Conversation. She taught math in the Department of Civil Engineering at Charles University and worked in St. Paul, Minnesota before moving to Maryland. Now a resident of Laurel, she has taught Czech to children and tutored American adults in Czech.

The school is open to anyone interested in learning about Czech and Slovak languages, history, and culture. For more information, contact Lois Hybl at 410-243-1710, lhybl@verizon.net or info@cshamaryland.org. Or see our organization website at [www.cshamaryland.org](http://www.cshamaryland.org). For those who can't attend the Saturday classes but are interested in being tutored or having something translated, we can recommend people.

## The Czech and Slovak Language School for Children

by Dana Petran

In September, the Children's Language School opened two classes for the school year 2020-21. We are happy to see all of the students from last year's advanced class (age 8-12) back with us, and we welcomed new students in the beginners' class.

With great support from Petr Justin, our meetings are held online on Fridays from 6-7:30PM. It is our pleasure to welcome back one of our school's first teachers, Jana Kopelentova Rehak.

With Jana and Margaret Supik, our youngest children will receive full attention and a great opportunity to learn basic Czech.

It is ironic, but thanks to the current situation, not only technology has advanced at a fast pace, but many more books, interactive workbooks and games have become widely available online.

What an enormous help to all teachers around the globe! Please help us by bringing more children to our school, and by sharing your knowledge, experience and wishes with us. We are constantly

in search of new ideas and materials to enhance our students' study experiences.





# A Triple Hijacking

by MacLean Lunko

This year, 2020, marks the 70th Anniversary of a most unusual incident in the history of air travel, hijacking, and the Cold War.

On March 24, 1950, three Douglas DC-3 passenger planes operated by Czechoslovak Airlines (ČSA) were hijacked by their own crews and flown to West Germany. The crew members, most of whom were veterans of the Royal Air Force's Czechoslovak squadrons during World War II, planned the escape over lunch in the pilot's lounge of Prague's Ruzyně Airport (now Václav Havel International Airport).

After the Communist coup in February of 1948, Czechs and Slovaks who served in the RAF were treated with suspicion, and the state security (StB) began to persecute them. As part of its efforts to rebuild the economy of Czechoslovakia, the government purchased surplus Douglas DC-3 cargo/passenger planes from the U.S. military. Czechoslovakia lacked trained pilots, so ČSA hired former RAF aircrews.

Because of previous escape attempts by other ex-RAF personnel, the passports of ČSA aircrews who served in the RAF were seized and they were only permitted to fly domestic routes. Family of these crew members were not permitted to fly in the same aircraft.

As the plans for the escape took shape, members of the aircrews, most of whom were married, did not want to leave their families behind. So the crews decided to hijack three planes from three different airports. The family of each crew member would be on a different plane. In order to increase their chances of success, they also decided to carry out their plan early in the morning, when StB agents would be less attentive. On March 23, the aircrews met for the last time at Ruzyně Airport and then flew respectively to Bratislava, Brno, and Ostrava. Family members, under maiden names, traveled by train to their assigned airport and waited for the signal to board their flights.

Next, the crews and their families boarded the planes and prepared for their escape. Each plane was scheduled to fly back to Prague that morning. Two of the planes had a peculiar problem: not all of the cockpit crew members were in on the hijacking. In addition to this, only 26 of the 85 passengers on the three aircraft were escaping. So, after takeoff, the hijackers produced pistols and subdued the crew members who were not part of the escape. The flight attendants, who were also part of the plan, made sure that the passengers were kept unaware of the hijacking.

*continues on page 8*

## Czech and Slovak Recipe Corner:

by Dana Havlik

### Czech Bread Dumplings (Houskové knedlíky)

Czech dumplings often accompany a number of traditional Czech dishes such as pork roast, beef goulash or chicken paprikash. There are many different dumpling recipes, and most Czech families probably have their own unique version. Some people think it is not possible to make them with anything but Czech flour or Wondra flour. Not true -- any all-purpose unbleached flour will do. This is how to make traditional Czech dumplings:

#### INGREDIENTS:

1 tbsp. active dry yeast  
1 tsp. sugar  
1 cup warm milk  
3 2/3 cups all-purpose unbleached flour  
2 eggs  
½ teaspoon salt  
2 cups cubed dry white bread (Italian or Kaiser rolls)  
½ - ¾ cup club soda

#### DIRECTIONS:

- In a bowl, mix yeast and sugar with the warm milk, let rise for 10 minutes.
- In a large mixing bowl, mix flour, salt, and eggs. Then add the yeast.
- Mix everything together by hand or with an electric mixer while slowly adding club soda to make a soft, moldable, non-sticky dough. Fold in bread cubes and let the dough rise in a bowl covered with a towel for 30- 60 min.
- Cut the dough into 4 pieces, carefully form them into 2-3 inches thick loaves, place the loaves on a floured cutting board. Let rise for 10 more min.
- Meanwhile, bring a large cooking pot of salted water to a boil.
- Place 2 dumpling loaves in the pot and cook them covered 7 minutes on one side, and 5 minutes on the other side. Place the finished dumplings on the cutting board, poke a few holes with a fork to release the steam. Use a dumpling cutter or sharp bread knife to make ½-inch thick slices.
- Repeat Step 5 with the remaining two dumpling loaves.



## IN THIS ISSUE:

What the Czech and Slovak Festival Means to Me	pp.1,4,5
Calendar of Events	p.2
President's message	p.3
Financial Report	p.3
The Czech and Slovak School for Adults	p.6
The Czech and Slovak School for Children	p.6
A Triple Hijacking	pp.7,8
Recipe Corner	p.7



The VOICE of The Czech & Slovak  
Heritage Association  
P.O. Box 20261  
Baltimore, MD 21284-0261  
[www.cshamaryland.org](http://www.cshamaryland.org)  
[info@cshamaryland.org](mailto:info@cshamaryland.org)

U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
Permit 5543  
Baltimore MD

Postmaster: Dated material, please do not delay.

*continued from page 7*

Once in control of their aircraft, the hijackers locked the cockpit doors, turned off their radios and changed course from Prague to Erding Air Force Base in the American Zone of West Germany. Fearing that they would be intercepted by Soviet fighter aircraft, the pilots flew over Austria on their way to Germany. When the first aircraft crossed into the American Zone, the radio was switched back on, the Erding AFB control tower was contacted and permission to land was requested. Upon landing, the planes were met by U.S. Military Police and the United States Air Force base commander. While the escapees were relieved to be safely in the west, some of the passengers were dismayed about their unplanned detour.

Upon learning that three of their aircraft were missing, the Czechoslovak government immediately demanded the return of the aircraft, all passengers and aircrew. The escapees asked for and were granted asylum. One passenger, who was not part of the escape attempt, seized the opportunity and also applied for (and was granted) asylum. The 57 passengers and crew who were not part of

the escape were returned to Czechoslovakia by bus four days later; the three aircraft were released several months after that.

The escapees were tried in absentia for anti-state activities and the air crew were sentenced to death. Each of the passengers was sentenced to 15 years in prison. The returned aircrews were eventually removed from their jobs due to their perceived political unreliability, and most of the passengers were harassed for many years by the StB.

The triple hijack escape would inspire other Czechs and Slovaks to make additional escapes in the following months: another ČSA plane was hijacked and successfully flown to the west, and a ČSD train was hijacked and successfully crossed the border into West Germany on September 11, 1951.

