

SECRET AND PERSONAL



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

22 October, 1989.

Dear Stephen.

EAST GERMANY

Thank you for your letter of 21 October.
I enclose the Prime Minister's reply to
Mr. Gorbachev, and would be grateful if
you could arrange for it to be despatched
as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

(C.D. Powell)

Stephen Wall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. 1868/89

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MR. GORBACHEV

Thank you very much for your personal message about the election of Mr. Krenz in the German Democratic Republic, which you sent via your Ambassador in London. I am following the changes in the GDR with greatest interest. I am encouraged by what you say about the new GDR leadership and the prospects for reform. Changes would undoubtedly be in the interests of the people of the GDR as well as the peoples of Europe more widely.

I endorse your wish to use private exchanges of messages of this sort to keep in contact, something which I greatly value.

Margaret Thatcher

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

SECRET AND PERSONAL

21 October 1989

See Charles.

East Germany

Thank you for your letter of 19 October. *attached*

It rather looks as if Gorbachev is using the first available opportunity to refer on the record to that part of the discussion with the Prime Minister which was off the record.

The Foreign Secretary thinks that the Prime Minister should send a brief reply on the following lines:

"Thank you very much for your personal message about the election of Mr Krenz in the German Democratic Republic, which you sent via your Ambassador in London. I am following the changes in the GDR with the greatest interest. ~~and~~ I am encouraged by what you say about the new GDR leadership and the prospects for reform. ~~Positive~~ Changes would undoubtedly be in the interests of the people of the GDR as well as the peoples of Europe more widely.

keep in contact I warmly endorse your wish to use ~~a~~ private exchanges of messages of this sort to ~~widen the scope of our mutual understanding~~, something which I greatly value."

Yours,

Stephen Wall

(J S Wall)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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