



FILE

PM

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

10 November 1989

*See reply.*EAST GERMANY

I enclose a copy of a statement which the No.10 Press Office are putting out this morning in the Prime Minister's name. You will want to ensure that a copy goes to our Embassy in Bonn so that they can draw it to the attention of the West German authorities before the Prime Minister's telephone conversation with Chancellor Kohl tonight.

C. D. POWELL

J.S. Wall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

STATEMENT TO BE ISSUED IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S NAME

EAST GERMANY

I very much welcome the decision to lift travel restrictions on the people of East Germany, so that they can travel freely to the West. We all hope this is only a prelude to the dismantling of the Berlin Wall. Events are unfolding very rapidly and we must take them a step at a time. The priority must be to see a genuinely democratic form of government in East Germany. We fully support the demand of the East German people for free elections and multi-party system.

The response of the West German Government and people in providing refuge and jobs for those leaving East Germany - some 200,000 already this year - commands great admiration in this country. We have agreed to provide any practical help needed to cope with refugees at our military installations in West Berlin and in the Federal Republic.