

The free and democratic elections which took place yesterday mark a new beginning for the people of East Germany and a further step in the spread of democracy through central and Eastern Europe. We look forward to the establishment of a democratic government in East Germany and shall want to work with it.

It is now for the people of East Germany to decide through their elected representatives when they wish to seek unification.

In anticipation of their views we are already considering the external consequences of unification within the Four plus Two talks and with our allies and partners in NATO and the European Community. I am also looking forward to discussing all these matters with Chancellor Kohl during the Anglo-German Summit in Cambridge and London in 10 days' time.

It is a great day for East Germany and for Europe, and we all send the people of East Germany our warm congratulations and good wishes for the future.

19 March 1990



A: / FOREIGN / ELECTION.
MEM

bcc PC

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

18 March 1990

ELECTIONS IN THE GDR: POSSIBLE STATEMENT
BY THE PRIME MINISTER

I have consulted the Prime Minister about the proposed Statement on the East German elections. She agrees that it would be right to issue one, subject to the outcome being broadly in line with expectations. I attach a version which she has approved and which we would propose to use, unless you let me know to the contrary by 0930 on 19 March.

CHARLES POWELL

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