

November 8, 1989 East Germany: Government Falls, Plenum Opens

Citation:

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Summary:

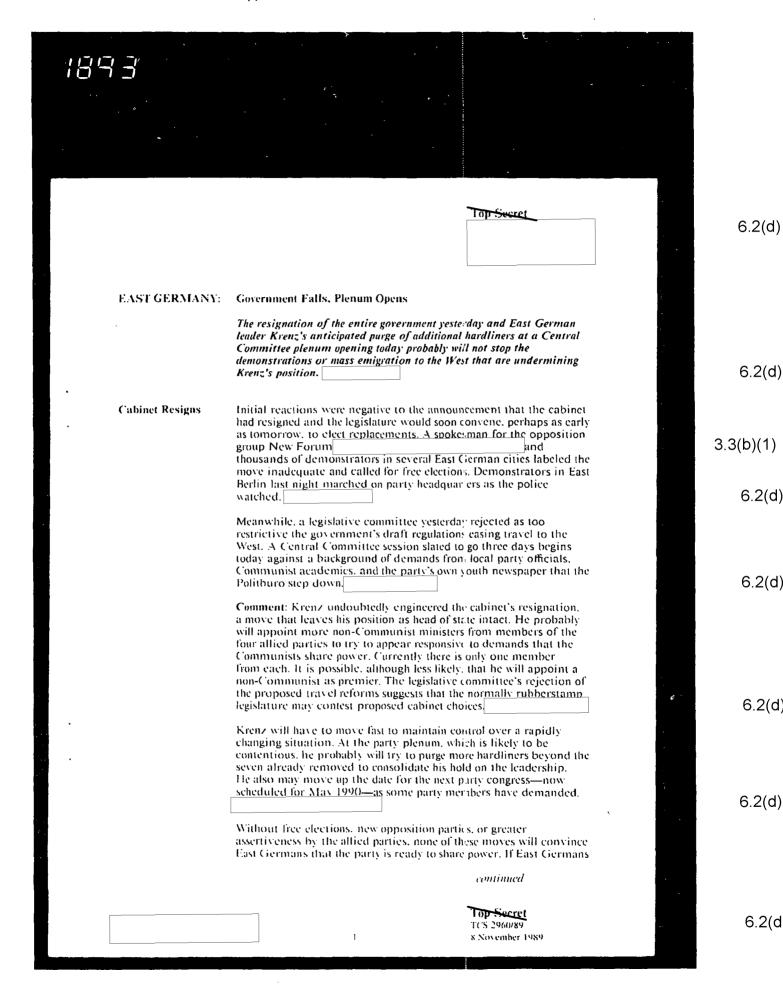
An analysis of the resignations of the entire East German government.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan



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	Tod Secret	6.2(d)
	keep fleeing to the West, the increasing damage to the fragile consumer economy and growing public demoralization probably will build pressure for Krenz to step down.	6.2(d)
Role of The Wall Changing	The Berlin Wall has lost most of its functional significance as a barrier to disgruntled East Germans seeking freer travel and emigration. part of the Wall's function will become "illusory" because of liberalized travel regulations. the East Germans appear receptive to expand by four the number of checkpoints available for public use, including the Glienicke Bridge, which has been the site of several spy swaps. The Wall retains great symbolic value, however, as	3.3(b)(1) 3.3(b)(1) 3.3(b)(1)
	an aging relic of the Cold War and Communist tyranny and—for the Eist Germans—as a border that bolsters East Berlin's claim to sovereignty in the eastern sector of Berlin, a claim that violates Four-Power agreements on the city. Comment: Because it remains a potent symbol, the Wall could be used for attention-getting gestures, including an announcement by Krenz to tear it down to show that he is serious about change. It could also	6.2(d)
	be the scene of a destabilizing incident, such as a protest that gets out of hand or a terrorist-style car bombing.	3.3(b)(1) 6.2(d)
	The East Germans have put their border troops along the Wall on heightened alert presumably to prevent such an incident. If East Berlin reimposes travel restrictions or—less likely for now—attempts to crack down, the Wall would regain much of its odium as a barrier to freedom.	3.3(b)(1) 6.2(d
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