

# Mass exodus from East Germany may limit Berlin wall

By Craig R. Whitney  
New York News Service

LONDON - As thousands of East Germans continue to pour into West Germany from Czechoslovakia, the European Community is beginning to ponder the prospect of something the West has demanded for 28 years: the demolition of the Berlin wall, built in 1961 to keep East Germans from fleeing to the West.

In effect, by allowing East Germans to travel without restrictions to Czechoslovakia and then across the border to West Germany with no more formal papers than their identity cards, the Communist authorities in East Berlin have begun to tear the wall down, as President Reagan challenged Mikhail S. Gorbachev to do in 1987.

An East German Communist Party official, Johannes Chemnitzer, told reporters last week in West Germany that the wall had become "at least of limited significance, and illusory," since other East European countries had opened their borders.

Klaus Bolling, a former head of

West Germany's diplomatic mission in East Berlin, said Sunday, "It does in fact look like the end of the wall, though I don't think it will actually come down unless the new leader, Egon Krenz, decides he doesn't need to use repressive measures."

West German government officials are still not sure that Krenz will ultimately not use force to suppress the turmoil in his country.

If East Germany indeed no longer intends to prevent its citizens from leaving, the issues go beyond the possible eventual unification of the two German states. A "reunification on West German soil," as some German politicians refer to the possibility of mass migration of half a million or more East Germans, would also affect other West European countries.

This weekend, Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other leading West German politicians urged East German leaders to introduce political and economic changes that would induce more East Germans to stay at home.

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whether the promised new laws would have any effect on the renewed exodus to the West.

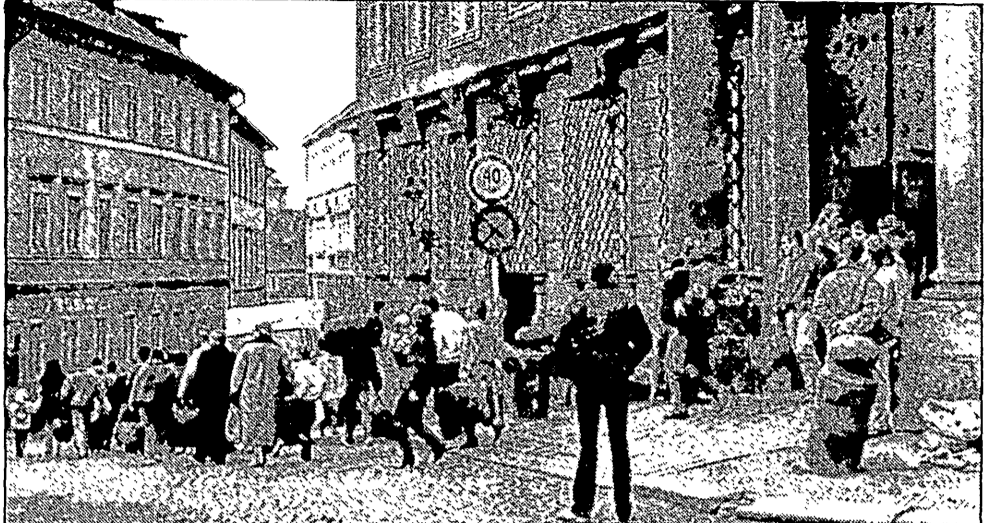
The government announced Saturday that it would let East Germans travel to West Germany through Czechoslovakia with only their personal identification, but added that the arrangement would be valid only until the new travel laws came into effect.

With the announcement, thousands of East Germans once again began migrating West. Many went by train to Prague while others drove out in the small, sputtering Trabants that have led West Germans to nickname the newcomers Trabis.

At the small border crossing of Schoenberg on the East German-Czechoslovak border, a steady stream of East German cars headed south through the day, evidently without hindrance.

While waiting to cross, however, most travelers seemed reluctant to talk to reporters or asserted that they were making only a brief visit to Czechoslovakia.

Those who did admit they were leaving East Germany for good said they saw no point in staying



East German refugees leave the West German embassy in Prague, Czechoslovakia, where they were provided shelter before boarding a bus for West Germany yesterday.

and waiting to see whether Egon Krenz, the new party leader, could institute genuine change. "Krenz" said one, and waved his hand dismissively. "Nothing's going to change."

Along the road to the border, however, in the town of Oelsnitz, a sheet was draped on the side of a building with large letters say-

ing: "We're staying here. Are you?"

As the exodus continued, the minister of culture, Hans-Joachim Hoffmann, said at a meeting of artists and educators in Leipzig that the Communist Party's entire ruling Politburo should resign to give Krenz a "real chance."

Eight members of the Politburo,

including the former leader, Erich Honecker, and most of the members over 70, have already been ousted. But the rest, including Krenz, also became members before the popular movement for liberalization erupted last month.

More changes may be made this week when the policy-setting Central Committee meets.

## College

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years." In all, Texas A&I has about 130 scholarships worth about \$385,000, while CCSU has about 125 restricted scholarships worth about \$200,000.

One restricted scholarship is Welders Equipment Co., which sponsors a \$750 per semester Hattie Cohn Abrams Tutton Fund scholarship and is awarded to a student from Duval County.

"Our family roots go back to Duval County," said David P. Engle, president of the equipment company, with offices in Corpus Christi and Victoria. "The scholarship is in honor of my grandmother, Hattie Cohn, who grew up in San Diego."

The Alvarez family of Corpus Christi helps make it possible for Trevino, a 19-year-old sophomore



GEORGE TULEY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Theresa Haibach of Corpus Christi has received four scholarships at CCSU. "College hasn't cost me one dime," she says.

bilingual education major, to attend Texas A&I.

Last year, she was the recipient of three restricted scholarships

worth a total of \$1,100, including the Alvarez scholarship.

"The scholarships helped me on my tuition, fees and dorm expenses," said Trevino. "Otherwise, I couldn't have come here."

Trevino also was the recipient of the Bertie Taylor Memorial scholarship and the Margy Ann Pollard scholarship, \$500 each.

Taylor and Pollard also were former A&I professors.

Trevino, like other students, learned of the scholarships through university publications circulated to school districts throughout South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley.

CCSU senior Theresa Haibach of Corpus Christi said she is amazed at the number of students who don't realize scholarships are available.

"I attended Del Mar on academic scholarships and have received four at CCSU," said Haibach. "College hasn't cost me one dime. The scholarships have allowed me to concentrate on my grades and not have to work. Without the scholarships, I would have been required to work and go to college," said the accounting major.

She has received two Warren Scholarships worth \$750 per semester each, a \$500 Republic Investment Corp. of New York scholarship and a \$200 Freeman Science Award. All are based on a student's grade point average. Haibach currently has a 3.8 grade point average.

The Warren Scholarships are awarded by the Warren Founda-

tion. The Warren Foundation was started by Guy I. Warren, long-time supporter of CCSU. He died Feb. 12, 1984.

The Freeman Science Award was started by Joyce and Janice Freeman, both CCSU professors.

All the scholarships are awarded to students based on their grade point averages. Restrictions imposed on scholarships are as varied as organizations that furnish the money.

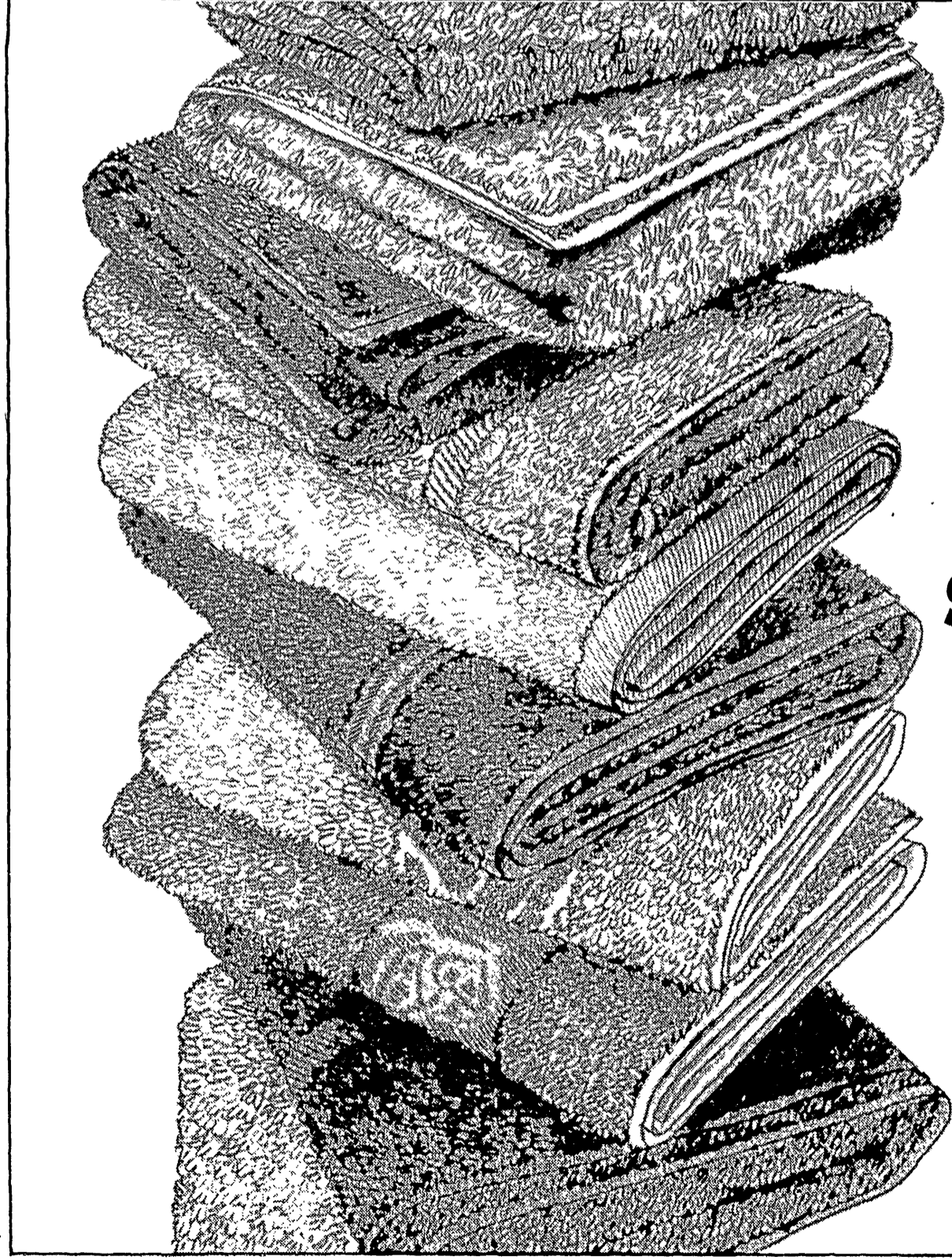
For example, two \$500 scholarships at A&I are available to any student 25 years of age or older. The scholarships were announced in 1987 and are awarded annually to students who delayed a college career, according to the University Women's Club, which sponsors the scholarship.

Others include A&I's Helen

Harp Baker Forensics Scholarship in memory of the early teacher of "declamation, elocution and oratory."

And \$500 scholarships to students who transfer from Bee County College, Del Mar College, or Laredo, Southwest Texas, Wharton or Victoria junior colleges. Eighteen of the \$500 scholarships have been awarded annually for about five years, Pecos said.

CCSU's scholarships include those sponsored by John R. Bateman, established in 1973, to furnish \$500 annual scholarships to business administration students. Bateman is a Corpus Christi investor. And the \$1,000 H.O. Hartley Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually for graduate computer science majors.



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