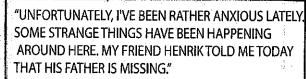
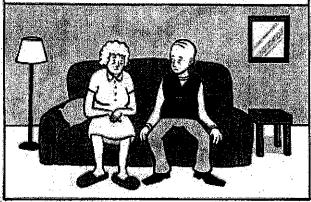


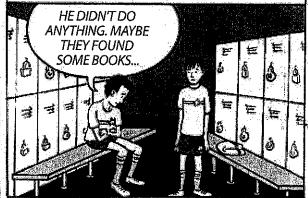
"DEAR ELSE, THANK YOU FOR YOUR MOST RECENT LETTER. IT'S BEEN TOO LONG SINCE I LAST WROTE."



"OMA & OPA ARE DOING WELL. WE ARE ALL IN GOOD HEALTH THESE DAYS. THE COMMUNISTS' FREE HEALTH CARE IS PRETTY DECENT."

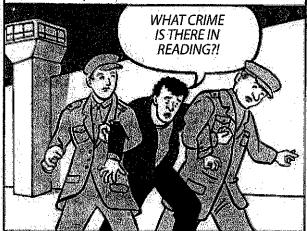




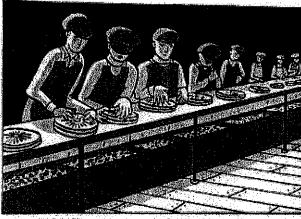


OMA = GRANDMA, OPA = GRANDPA

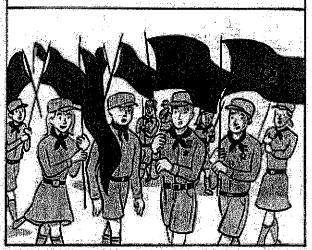
"HENRIK'S FATHER MUST HAVE BEEN ARRESTED BY THE STASI FOR OWNING ANTI-COMMUNIST LITERATURE, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT."



"ON A POSITIVE NOTE, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND WORK SOON TO SUPPORT OMA AND OPA AND MYSELF. EVERYONE IN THE GDR IS GUAR-ANTEED EQUAL WORK."

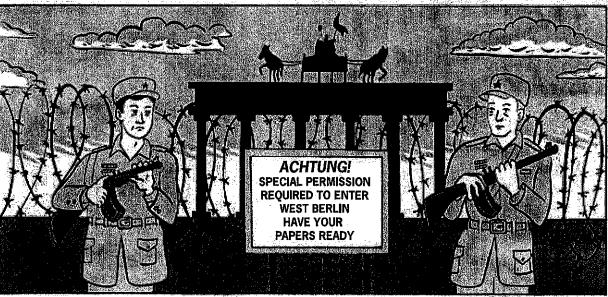


"THE COMMUNISTS DON'T TOLERATE ANY DISSENSION AMONG THE PEOPLE."



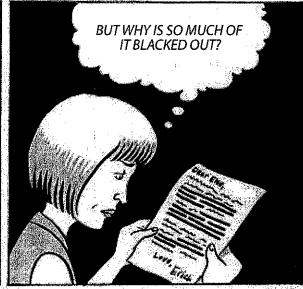
"I DREAD THE FUTURE, ELSE. LIFE HERE IS BLEAK AND DEPRESSING. I DESPERATELY WANT TO GET OUT OF EAST BERLIN. I MISS YOU AND MOTHER AND FATHER TERRIBLY. LOVE, ERICH"





ACHTUNG = ATTENTION

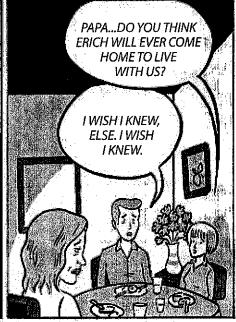




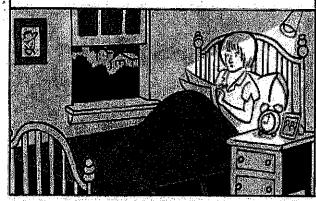




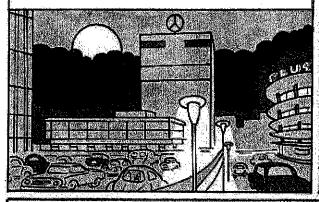




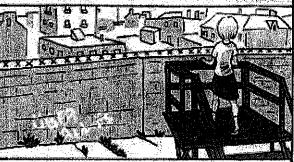
"DEAR ERICH, IT WAS SO NICE TO HEAR FROM YOU. MOTHER AND FATHER ARE DOING WELL. THEY SEND YOU THEIR LOVE."



"I WONDER IF YOU WOULD EVEN RECOGNIZE WEST BERLIN! THE BRITISH SECTOR IS AMAZING NOW. REMEMBER THE SITE OF THE OLD ROMANESQUE CAFE THAT WAS RUINED IN THE WAR? THEY'VE BUILT AN INCREDIBLE SHOPPING CENTER CALLED THE EUROPA CENTRE IN ITS PLACE."

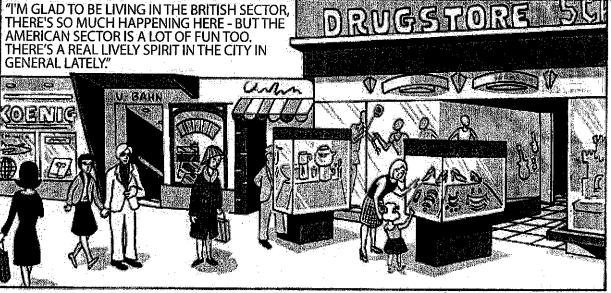


"IT'S FUNNY I SHOULD HEAR FROM YOU TODAY. I WAS AT THE WALL JUST YESTERDAY, LOOKING EAST FROM A VIEWING PLATFORM, AND WONDERING WHAT YOU WERE DOING. IT SEEMS LIKE SO LONG SINCE EITHER OF US HAS SEEN THE OTHER HALF OF THE CITY."



"IT HAS A SKATING RINK RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE!
THERE IS ALSO A THERMAL BATH, TONS OF SHOPS
AND RESTAURANTS, AND EVEN A CABARET!
THAT'S THE VERY FIRST PLACE I'D LIKE TO TAKE
YOU, AS SOON AS YOU GET TO COME HOME."





The Francisco

"OH, BUT ERICH, PLEASE BE CAREFUL, WE'VE BEEN HEARING SOME TERRIBLE RUMORS ABOUT THE EAST GERMAN SECRET POLICE. THEY ARE CALLED THE "STASI", IF THEY SUSPECT YOU OF ANTI-COMMUNIST ACTIVITY, THEY WILL MONITOR YOUR HOUSE AND KEEP A FILE ON YOU."



"PEOPLE OVER HERE ARE VERY POLITICALLY ACTIVE." STUDENTS AND ALL SORTS OF BERLINERS ARE STAGING PROTESTS AGAINST THE WALL."



"PLEASE GIVE MY LOVE TO OMA AND OPA. I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU. LOVE, ELSE".



"DIE MAUER MUSS WEG" = "THE WALL MUST GO"

"THE STASI WILL ARREST PEOPLE FOR ANY ANTI-COMMUNIST SENTIMENT,"



"I'M VERY HOPEFUL ABOUT THE FUTURE HERE. THE CITY IS REALLY RECOVERING WELL FROM THE WAR. IN ADDITION TO ALL THE BUILDINGS BEING RECONSTRUCTED, THE PEOPLE'S SPIRITS HAVE BEEN HEALING TOO."

