

“Bei uns ist immer was los!”

## OCTOBER 3—DAY OF GERMAN UNITY

### 10 THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT GERMAN REUNIFICATION

#### 5. Unity day was first supposed to be a month later



*Germans climbing onto the wall on 9th November 1989.*

November 9th, the day the Berlin Wall came down was originally proposed as the day of unity.

Despite November 9th being a momentous historical landmark in 1989, it is clear why October 3rd was finally picked instead.

Sometimes referred to as ‘Schicksalstag’ (Fateful Day), November 9th has an eerie connection with major events in German history - not all of them good.

On November 9th 1918, government minister Philipp Scheidemann proclaimed the creation of the Republic from a balcony in the Berlin Stadtschloss, a crucial act in Germany's transition away from monarchy.

In 1923, November 9th marked the day that Hitler and the NSDAP attempted to take control of Munich, often called the Munich Beer Hall Putsch. And, on the same day in 1938, the Nazi pogrom known as ‘Kristallnacht’ (The Night of Broken Glass) saw Jewish shops and synagogues attacked, and the death of hundreds of Jews.