

“Bei uns ist immer was los!”

## OCTOBER 3—DAY OF GERMAN UNITY

### 10 THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT GERMAN REUNIFICATION

#### 8. Britain and France weren't happy



*Margaret Thatcher and Helmut Kohl.*

Most of West Germany's allies had officially supported German reunification for decades, but as the GDR's collapse began to look more plausible, many states began to express opposition to the idea, at least in private. Many of western Europe's leaders still feared the resurgence of a powerful unified Germany.

The UK's prime minister at the time was one of the leaders to voice this concern more publicly. In a discussion with Mikhail Gorbachev, Margaret Thatcher stated: **“We don't want a united Germany [...] such a development would undermine the stability of the whole international situation”.**

The personal advisor to French President Francois Mitterand also shared this opinion: “France by no means wants German reunification.”