

“Bei uns ist immer was los!”

OCTOBER 3—DAY OF GERMAN UNITY

WHAT IF GERMANY HAD NEVER BEEN REUNITED?



But that money didn't disappear into a black hole. It went into building up the decrepit infrastructure in the east.

Without it, Stadt argues, the east would have struggled to survive.

"Industry would not have been able to compete with the west and there weren't the financial resources to invest in modernizing it," he argues.

For the Berlin professor, the continued existence of the GDR would have been a disaster.

"If East Germany had remained a separate country it would have been depopulated," he states.

"What happened is that three million people left, but if it had remained a reformed socialist state we would be talking about three times that number."

"People wouldn't have thought 'We'll wait 15 or 20 years until thing gets better.' They were already fed up waiting."