

Reunification Hits Home

By: Shannon Hodgins
Staff Writer

Though many people have been watching the news for the obvious reason of the Gulf Crisis, another area of the world has also received attention lately. Germany, formally divided into East and West, has now been reunified after many years of separation. Soldiers who have stood and glared at each other over a dividing wall, are now trying to face the notion that they are officially "comrades-in-arms."

After much discussion on the political reunification date, October 3, 1990 was set. September 15 was the date favored by the Party of Democratic Socialism. However, a compromise on both sides was reached. The result to both Germany's was a people "much baffled" by the heated debate on both sides over the reunification date.

One concern shared by many of the now unified Germans is the fear of a rising unemployment rate. Unemployment is feared to rise to "1.5 million as state-owned enterprises are ex-

posed to free market competition." Another concern stated by Mustafa Aksakal, student of M-AC who is from Duesseldorf, (West

Germany, many, is the economic situation for the previous

West Germans. Mustafa (Moose) states that "West Germans get mad about the way it was handled. As far as economic reunification, one West mark (dollar) was equal to one East dollar. However, Moose states that "the East Germany dollar is worth almost nothing on the market." So apparently the West Germans got the bad side of economic reunification. Moose states that "East Germans now have huge accounts of money, but nothing to buy."

This union is one of many made during the past 11 months. A large drawback, however, is that higher taxes will undoubtedly occur. The New York Times states, "Faced with

the prospect of higher taxes, West Germans grumble about the 'Ossies' as a drain on their prosperity. The East Germans, facing swelling unemployment, rankle at their lot as second class citizens in a state they fought to join."

Germany as a united nation is what many have hoped for. Many search for the new inner balance which is now necessary to help bridge the social rifts caused by the division. Chancellor Helmut Kohl states, "I think it is possible, even probable, that the Germans will now find this inner balance that is characteristic of the casual self-confidence of other European Nations."

Moose says that personally, he thinks the unification is a "great idea." However, he states that "for the youth of 1990 it will always be East and West Germany. It is just in our minds; the way we grew up."

"... West Germans get mad about the way it was handled."

--Mustafa Aksakal

Quotables

"Secularism has this age by the throat."

--Walter Lowrie

"If Christians withdraw from society because of the bewildering nature of its problems, they will soon lose the right to be heard."

--Gary R. Collins

Night Light

Then Jesus said, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.'"

--Matthew 4:10

Correction:

In the October 5th edition of *The Aletheia Weekly* on page 4, the passage that read, "...Christian Higher Education." should have read, "...Christian Higher Edukatiuon. We regret any problems this error may have caused.

--The Editors

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