

EFFORTS TO SAVE DROWNING BOY PREVENTED BY GDR

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[Summary] Berlin--A 4- to 5-year-old boy, presumably Turkish, fell into the Spree River near the Oberbaum Bridge on Sunday afternoon and could not be rescued because GDR border guards rejected the requests of West Berlin police and firemen to save the child. About 3/4 hours later, the East Berlin border guards began to look for the child and found him 1 hour later presumably dead. An FRG fireman trying to direct the rescue operation was "thrown out" of the GDR border guards hut, a spokesman of the firemen said. A patrol boat of the GDR border police also prevented rescue operations by three West Berlin police divers. Klaus Schuetz, the governing mayor of West Berlin, said that he was indignant about the "inhumanity" of the GDR border guards.