

Two GDR Border Guards Escape Over Wall 17 Aug
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[Text] Berlin, 18 Aug (DPA)— Two GDR border guards escaped over the wall to West Berlin on Sunday evening. The police on Monday confirmed reports in *Bild* and *BZ* saying that two men in National People's Army uniform went into a bar shortly after 1900 hours in south Berlin. Guests bought a beer for the two of them — a 21-year-old private and a 25-year-old lance corporal. They described how they had come to know each other only 2 weeks ago when on duty together, and decided to escape.

On Sunday evening they ran from the watchtower to a point on the wall which lies in a blind spot from the next tower. They hauled themselves up hand-over-hand to the coping of the wall and let themselves down on the other side. The 24-year-old rang up East Berlin after the escape to announce that he was now in the West. He is married, but "it was all over with my wife." Almost 3 years ago exactly, two border guards managed to escape at the same place.