

## **PRESSRELEASE**

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long version

11/06/04

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## **UNIQUE “BERLIN WALL MONUMENT” for JUBILEE-OFFER**

***First time at all there is a whole Berlin-Wall-Monument available to the entire public . Recently it has been rediscovered and clearly identified as originating from the former US- exclave “Steinstuecken”.***

“I cant believe it!” This was the answer, when Michael Schultz, a German businessman got to know, that his Berlin- Wall- Monument is originating from the famous US- exclave Steinstuecken. Spontaneously he decided to offer it to the public for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of fall of the Berlin Wall. Americans have probably more historic relation to this special Monument than me,” told Schultz. When he bought the segment, there was no history for it. Not even the former owner had an idea of the origin. “I did not know, where this segment came from originally”, told Rosemarie Knopf on demand, “we bought it in 1990 from the East- German Border Guards at an collecting place”.

Intensive investigations brought up now the real origin of this segment. The wellknown Berlin- Wall expert Hagen Koch from The Berlin- Wall- Archiv in Berlin identified it clearly by his own archival images and maps. ”There is no doubt, the original place of this rediscovered Berlin Wall Segment is the former US- exclave Steinstuecken”, means Hagen Koch at an interview in Berlin. Because of his detailed archive he was able to name the exact original standing place which has been near Kohlhasenbrueck. He was very surprised, that this Wall- Segment still exists: “It` s unbelievable and I´ m wondering, all segments of the exclave Steinstuecken normally have been crushed in 1990”, so Koch, “somebody must have grabbed this Wall segment from the collecting place”. At this time Hagen Koch has been the special instructed agent from the former GDR for documentation and demolition of the Berlin- Wall.

“Steinstuecken” was an island in the GDR that belonged to West- Berlin and was administrated and supplied by the USA. In former times the famous architects like Mies van der Rohe, Walter Gropius and other artists have been living here. Since 1952 the residents

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lived in constant terror. 170 West-Berliners were isolated from the outside world. First it was only possible to get in and out there by helicopters. Many refugees escaped to Steinstuecken and have been rescued by the US- military-helicopters. In order to protect the residents the US military stationed the smallest detachment ever - three military policemen of the *287th Military Co. (Separate) Steinstuecken Detachment*, on the island. Only these three men and the residents of Steinstuecken had access to the "island". In 1971 things improved when the US managed to get an agreement to build a 1 km passage into Steinstuecken.

“The Berlin Wall” – once symbol of the 20th century's pre-eminent cold war and division became the symbol of peaceful revolution, liberty and freedom. Now it has itself been divided and scattered across the globe. Some Segments were bought up by the world's museums - American institutions proving particularly enthusiastic - or by multinational corporations like Microsoft, whose U.S. headquarters is now home to several slabs. There is a piece outside U.S. CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia and another in the car park of the National Army Museum in London, England. Ronald Reagan has a chunk, as do George Bush and Pope John Paul II. A segment in Moscow carries the graffiti "BER." The "LIN" is on a separate segment in Riga, Latvia. There's one on the harbour-front in Cape Town, South Africa and even a slab sitting in the middle of the no-man's land separating North and South Korea.

"One moment there was this huge barrier through the centre of our city, the next there were bits of it spreading all over the world" mentioned Hagen Koch. By far the greatest part of the Wall, however, ended up neither in museums, nor art galleries, nor playgrounds, nor on the mantelpieces of Berlin's residents. Rather, it was simply bulldozed and crushed for use in post-reunification road-building programmes.

However, now there is the first time at all, and the only chance in lifetime to get a real Berlin-Wall- Monument to put it in living room, parking lot or wherever. Also the winner can donate it to the new elected president of the United States, Mr. George W. Bush – he does not have one, at all!

Keywords:

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“Berlin- Wall”, “Berlin Wall”, Wall, the wall, “Berlin Wall Monument”, “Berlin- Wall- Monument”, monument, segment, sculpture, history, historical, art, memorabilia, unique Segment, Europe, Berlin, Germany, Politics, Checkpoint Charlie, Iron Curtain, Cold War, division, death- stripe, Steinstuecken, US- military, exclave, Reagan, Gorbatschow, Nixon, Kennedy, Bush, Bill Gates, Microsoft, U.S. CIA headquarters, UN- headquarter, UNO, library, commemorative, USA, tear down, fall of Berlin Wall, museum, “15<sup>th</sup> anniversary”, jubilee, freedom, liberty, peace, democracy, unity, reunion, reunification, happiness, honour, hope, “tear down this wall”, communist system

*further info about the auction check here:*

<http://www.berlin-wall-monuments.com/>

*Free pictures you can get here:*

[http://www.berlin-wall-monuments.com/Bilder/berlin\\_wall1.jpg](http://www.berlin-wall-monuments.com/Bilder/berlin_wall1.jpg)