

PRESS IMAGES

Free download: mhm-gatow.de/de/ausstellungen/luftbruecke

We will send you the password for the download on request.

The use of the offered press images is only permitted in the context of current reporting, and only with full credits, as provided below. For any other use, media representatives must clarify independently the questions of copyright and usage law with the respective institutions. Forwarding of the images to third parties is not permitted. The press images are to be deleted from all online media four weeks after the end of the exhibition. Meaningful changes and manipulations to the images are not permitted.

Unless otherwise stated, the press images are released for printing and online use as well as for use on social media. The rights of use for images 11–14 must be requested individually from the Federal Archives: bild@bundesarchiv.de.

We would be happy to provide you with further press images on request.

For questions about press images or rights of use and copyrights please contact Bianca Schröder schroeder@museum-karlsborst.de or Jutta Dette dette@museum-karlsborst.de.

From 26 June, we will also be able to provide you with photos of the exhibition site.

1.



© design: tecton GmbH, MHM Berlin-Gatow

2.



© design: tecton GmbH, MHM Berlin-Gatow

3.



© AlliiertenMuseum/Slg. Provan

Aerial supply

In order to secure supplies to Berlin, the USA and Great Britain initiated the airlift from July 1948. Initially, only the most necessary goods can be flown in, at just under 700 tons per day. State-of-the-art transport machines such as the C-54 Skymaster make it possible to bring up to 8,000 tons of production and supply goods to Berlin every day.

4.



© AlliiertenMuseum/Slg. Provan

Blocking of the transit route

To supply their sectors, the Western powers also use the Magdeburg–Berlin motorway. From 24 June 1948 this route to and from Berlin is closed to the Western powers. Potsdam-Dreilinden, summer 1948.

5.



© John J. Maginnis and Arthur Howard Military Government of Europe, Robert S. Cox Special Collections and University Archives Research Center, UMass Amherst Libraries

Meeting at the Allied Command

In Berlin-Dahlem, representatives of the four victorious powers (USA, Soviet Union, Great Britain and France) sit at the conference table to discuss matters relating to the governing of Berlin, which is divided into sectors. However, the conflicting interests of the four powers soon cause tensions. The conflict threatens to escalate, especially on the currency issue. Berlin 18 December 1945.

6.



© AlliiertenMuseum/Slg. Provan

PR successes through aid campaigns

The “shmoo” was an edible character from an American comic book series, who is put to use in the airlift in October 1948. Sweets and candy are already being dropped over West Berlin, then Shmoo figures filled with candy are thrown out of the planes, too. Anyone who finds one receives a ten-pound package of lard for every Shmoo at branches of the aid organization CARE in West Berlin.

7.



© AlliiertenMuseum / Slg. Provan

End of the blockade

On 12 May 1949, the blocked transit routes are reopened. At the Helmstedt–Marienborn border crossing, a large press contingent appears. Later that day, the trucks are welcomed with great cheers in West Berlin.

8.



© Deutsches Historisches Museum

Division of the Berlin police

During the blockade, the police disintegrate into a “Stumm police” in the west and a “Markgraf police” in the east – with the two forces named after their respective chiefs. This separation exemplifies the division of Berlin under Allied occupation. After the blockade, there is a dual structure in all important offices and administrations in East and West Berlin. In this respect, the division of Berlin first took place at the administrative level. Berlin around 1950.

9.



© Landesarchiv Berlin, F Rep. 290 (02) Nr. 0255831/photo: k. A. (not released for social media)

Female workers for the airlift

Berlin's airports are expanded with additional runways and buildings or, as at Tegel, completely rebuilt. Women made up around 40 percent of the construction workers in the construction of Tegel. September 1948.

10.



© Landesarchiv Berlin, F Rep. 290 (02) Nr. 0012873/photo: Bert Sass (not released for social media)

Hunger rake

As early as the end of the blockade on 12 May 1949, Berlin's Mayor Ernst Reuter announces his intention to erect a monument to commemorate the victims of the Airlift. On 10 July 1951 the concrete sculpture, designed by architect Eduard Reuter, is unveiled in front of 100,000 people. Since then, the square in which the monument – popularly known as the "Hunger rake" – stands has been the principal West Berlin memorial to the Airlift.

11.



© Bundesarchiv, Bild 183-S84620/photo: Eva Kemlein

(Usage rights must be requested individually from the Federal Archives: bild@bundesarchiv.de)

Offer from the East

The Soviet side allows the blockaded Berliners to register for food in the Eastern sector. Many West Berliners reject this offer for political reasons. However, the particularly needy part of the population often has no other choice. This woman is officially allowed to export her ten-day ration to the Western Sector after being checked. Berlin, 21 April 1949.

12.



© Bundesarchiv, Bild 183-S81452/photo: Walter Heilig

(Usage rights must be requested individually from the Federal Archives: bild@bundesarchiv.de)

Self-sufficiency

Despite the airlift, daily rations in the Western Sector are insufficient. After work or on days off, West Berliners are therefore on the move to stock up on food and heating material from the surrounding countryside of Berlin. Unofficial supplies from the East are hampered by strict border controls. It is crucial to know where food is being traded, but also at which points the border can be crossed unhindered. Berlin, 6 January 1949.

13.



© Bundesarchiv, Bild 183-S79317/photo: Walter Heilig

(Usage rights must be requested individually from the Federal Archives: bild@bundesarchiv.de)

Protests in front of the city hall against the division of Berlin

Shortly before the start of the blockade, the dispute over money escalates. The city councils of all of Berlin meet to discuss currency reform in the New City Hall, which is located in the Soviet sector. To build up pressure on the issue, the SED protests outside the City Hall against the division of the city. Some also invade the building. Despite the protests, the parliamentary majority decides that both currencies will be valid for the entire city. The SED's request to introduce the Ost-Mark throughout Berlin is rejected. After the session, several deputies are injured by SED demonstrators. One day later, the Soviet side begins to block the traffic routes to the Western sectors. Berlin, 23 June 23 1948.