



# Tracy Edwards Log Book

**10th November 1989**

I woke this morning to the wonderful feeling of the spinnaker up and pulling. WHOOPPEE! Sadly there was no wind but I don't care we are doing the course with the spinnaker up.

The next wonderful thing that happened was calling my Mum and finding out that last night hundreds of people walked through Check Point Charlie. Really it is true. Mum was very emotional and it is the only time I have wished I was at home; watching it all with her. She told me she has videoed everything for me.

Then we got the telex news through. At 8pm last night in Germany the following was broadcast "This is a historic day. East Germany has announced that, starting immediately, its borders are open to everyone. The GDR is opening its borders and the gates in the Berlin Wall stand open." Apparently there was then mass confusion and thousands of people just started walking through all the gates between East and West. The guards didn't stop them and then people jumped up onto the wall and started smashing it. It really is quite surreal knowing that Europe is changing beyond recognition right at this very moment, thousands of miles away and yet our concern is icebergs not walls.

Back to the world of the Whitbread. It was foggy, raining and well below freezing on deck all day. After the excitement of the Berlin Wall, I spent the rest of the morning trying to get weather maps – not so exciting! Eventually sat down with the one I managed to get two days ago and the one from yesterday and tried to work out what should happen next! We should be on the correct side of the low. Unfortunately I think Rucanor is as well.

The wind came up through the morning and the fog cleared as well. This was just as well, because if we had seen any icebergs dead ahead we would have had no time to miss them. But by the evening we had wind again and were doping 10 knots in the right direction. Rucanor had this benefit too and have taken 4 more miles out of us.

This evening we crowded round the radio for the BBC World Service news again and listened whilst we ate our dinner, to the extraordinary happenings in Berlin.

Tomorrow is Armistice Day – it seems fitting.

Day's Run; 191 miles  
Temperature; -3'  
Miles to go; 4,992  
Course; 110