

BRIGITTA. You mean the flag with the black spider on it!

MAX. Brigitta!

ZELLER. Do you permit such remarks in this house? Who are you?

MAX. I am Maximilian Detweiler, First Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

ZELLER. That was in the old regime.

MAX. In the old regime I was Third Secretary. Now I'm First Secretary.

ZELLER. Good! Then you will order them to fly the flag.

FRAU SCHMIDT. Captain von Trapp wouldn't... I mean, I can take my orders only from Captain von Trapp.

ZELLER. You will take your orders from us – and so will the Captain.

(To MAX, saluting.) Heil!

MAX. *(Reluctantly salutes.)* Heil!

(ZELLER exits to the terrace.)

GRETL. Why was he so cross?

FRAU SCHMIDT. Everybody's cross these days.

(She exits downstage right.)

LIESL. *(Crosses center stage to MAX.)* Is Father going to be in trouble?

MAX. He doesn't have to be. The thing to do today is to get along with everybody.

(Crosses to chair right of table.)

Now, Liesl, be sure you get all the children on the bus at eleven o'clock.

(LIESL crosses to chair right of sofa.)

BRIGITTA. *(Right of MAX.)* Uncle Max, are you sure this is going to be all right with Father?

MAX. He'll be pleased and proud.

BRIGITTA. Liesl, do you think so?

MAX. *(Kneeling center stage.)* Brigitta, don't you trust me?