

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 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.)*