

CAPTAIN

I am deeply conscious of the honor, sir, but—

VON SCHREIBER

And your orders are to report immediately to the naval base at Bremerhaven.

MARIA

*(Coming downstairs, with feigned innocence.)*

Immediately? Oh, I'm afraid that would be impossible for you, Georg.

CAPTAIN

*(Crosses downstage right.)*

Admiral, may I present my wife, the Baroness von Trapp – Admiral von Schreiber.

VON SCHREIBER

Madame!

MARIA

*(Crosses to VON SCHREIBER.)*

What I meant, sir, is that we are all singing in the Kaltzberg Festival Friday night.

*(CHILDREN start entering on balcony, dressed in native Austrian folk costumes.)*

You see – the von Trapp Family Singers – here in the program.

*(She hands a program to VON SCHREIBER, then to ZELLER.)*

MAX

It's been arranged by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

VON SCHREIBER

Friday night? This is Wednesday. That's only a matter of two days. It might be possible. You could report to Bremerhaven by Monday...

ZELLER

*(Protesting)*

Admiral!

VON SCHREIBER

Is there a telephone I could use?

MAX

This way, Admiral. If there is any question, perhaps adding the weight of my voice—

*(They exit downstage left.)*

ZELLER

*(To CAPTAIN.)*

It gives here only the names of the children.

CAPTAIN

*(Quickly)*

It says the von Trapp Family Singers. I'm head of the von Trapp Family.