

TRANSLATION

Berlin, 24 February 1953

Mrs. Hoehner,

From Grandma's phone call I learned that Wolfgang hadn't come home. It surprised me very much and urged me to take certain measures of precaution, more so since I had heard about the arrest of a man here. Wolfgang confirmed this.

I was even more surprised when an acquaintance came last Tuesday and showed me the announcement which appeared in the press. All this meanness caused me to completely lose my head, and I still can't keep a clear thought in my mind. I can only imagine, since to my knowledge only an announcement of a missing person is at hand, that you Kaethe, did or said something in your excitement, and didn't know what you were saying.

I am sure, that once you have thought the whole thing over, you won't believe yourself that I could be suspected of the kidnaping, especially since such an open and selfless friendship has existed between us. In this connection may I remind you of the DM 800.- I hardly believe that Wolfgang would have supported your action had he known about it. But all this really isn't important at the moment because I am fully occupied with the work of our rehabilitation, first here and then in the West. I have already begun taking steps in this direction, and have found quite a bit of support. Everyone who knows me, and there are quite a few, say that I am the victim of a sly intrigue or else that the person who made such a charge is crazy. As much as I pity Wolfgang, first I have to work for myself without consideration for losses, especially since the way to the West is now closed to me.

Even though, I am certain that I can clear up the whole matter, that is if I wasn't mistaken in my judgement in Wolfgang. Then I will deal with the press who is responsible to produce proof of their charges, since they published them. You can be sure that that will not be cheap.

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