

Weiden, Germany August 15, 1945

My dear ones:

Several times we have tried to get a message through to you, but have never got an answer as to whether or not you've received any of our letters. We'd be very happy to hear from you as soon as possible and I hope you have success with this opportunity to reach us. On Sunday a new synagogue was opened for the Polish Jews here in Weiden who have been here since their deliverance from the K.Z. Flossenbuerg. There was about 250 at the service which was in the Blue Room of Hotel Anker. Besides myself there was only Lothar Friedman. The new mayors, Dr. Pfeleger & Neumaier and myself and the American soldiers were invited. As yet there is no permit given by the Red Cross to write. - Having been fleeing before the Nazis since spring 43 I returned 2 days after American troops entered Weiden. That day of April 22 was awaited with great longing. After a bombardment of 15 hours they occupied the town. The props and supports of our house and of the Salix factory among a number of other houses were damaged. But compared to other towns Weiden has had good luck. Unfortunately many foreign slave workers plundered all our belongings. But that does not matter others have lost more. Now I'll tell you in short my experiences of the past years. I made my examination as a nurse and was obliged to work further in the Jewish hospital. The hard experience when aunt Johanna many friends and nurses were driven away into the K.Z. of Poland and as Friedl got no permission to take me home, made me collapse and at Nurnberg the Gestapo had summoned me already, I was brought into a sanatorium in Great Berlin. After my dismissal I was not allowed to work again so I went to take care of mother who was suffering from a heart disease. Dear mother slept away softly. It may sound bitter but it was the best. A few weeks later father and uncle Moritz and all the Nurnberg Jews were brought to Theresienstadt. He came to see them for a last time. It was admirable how calm and resigned father was. We were not able to get in touch with him after that. At last Albe Spaeth who was perhaps a member of the committee wrote us in Oct 1944 that father has died on March 9, 1943 on a lameness of the heart following uncle Moritz who died 3 weeks before that of pneumonia. Father lived in the same room with A. Spaeth and was working in the same section, father even in his branch. (?) In Berlin again I worked as an independent nurse. In June 43 I was arrested by the Gestapo. Fortunately Friedl was in Berlin at that time and got me free, but it was extremely dangerous. So he brought me to a doctor in Bamberg, a college friend of his where I lived for some time until an anonymous letter threatened us then I lived like a gypsy around Nurnberg and Schwarzenbach am Wald and in the woods and back in Nurnberg again as I had no chance to stay any place safely. I went back to Berlin in the meantime the Allies were attacking Berlin by air and more so Friedl suggested to leave Berlin promising to find a haven for me. I went by train till Marktredwitz from where Friedl brought me home by car. Alas, I could live here hidden for only one week. Then I was looked for by Gestapo in Berlin and Weiden so I had to escape and Friedl brought me to a worker on Hammerweg. Not being in security here I went by edlis car for Teublitz to Betty and Fany's parents (her former maids) next station of my flight was Oberkotzau and then my home again, where Friedl kept me hidden for nearly half a year. Then Friedl had to go into a sanatorium for his health for some months and so I was again called to leave my home and was taken in by the worker at Hammerweg. From there I went to a railroad linekeepershouse where I

II

stayed more than a year with interruptions. I lived in between
 in Bagelmans house, third floor and Joe Wilmersdoerfer former
 house fifth floor. When the Airforce was attacking Weiden
 Friedl moved me to a house in the city. There was there only a week
 when my captivity ended. I was hailed and saluted
 with enthusiasm by the residents. N O W, they are
 filled with love for our poor parents. All ask
 for them and you have the intention of coming
 back soon. (Sonst.) and we look forward to you
 with great pleasure. I have dear cousin Anselm and all dear
 relations, dear Scheyer and Rosenthal aunt Mima and so on are
 in the best of health and wealth. Do you hear from Chicago
 New York, England etc. What about Sabine? I ask you to send
 them all our best regards.

Especially our best and heartiest love
 to you dearest Herman and Martel

Yours sincerely
 signed Rosi(longhand)

I hope you can return as soon as possible. It was no pleasure
 to live the past years. I had many troubles too. I have grown
 an old man. O K. Signed Friedl (longhand)

Here is the part on the second page of the translation that is hard to read because of something Martha Reese put on the copy.

"In between I lived on the 3rd floor of the Engelmann house and on the 5th floor of Joe Wilmersdorfer's former house. When the air raids on Weiden began, Freidl took me to a mill in Neustadt. I was only there for a week, when my "captivity" came to a happy end and the Weiden residents greeted me with enthusiasm. NOW they only have love for us, too late for our poor parents. Everyone is asking about them and about you too. I assume you intend to come back soon. (I'm not missing anything else.) We're looking forward to it.

I hope that cousin Anselm and all dear relatives, dear Scheurs, Rosenthals, Aunt Mina are doing very well. Do you hear about Chicago, New York, England, etc.?"

This letter was written by Rosi to her brother and sister-in-law Hermann and Martha (Martel) Reese (Rebitzer).