

**WTC006.** Red Cross Message from Alice Schwitzer (Apponyi Albert utca 2a, Kassa/Košice, Hungary) to Mat Schwitzer (105 Shipston Road, Stratford on Avon), dated 18th August 1941. Alice admonishes MKS for not writing for 5 months, and asks him to write to Eugen Hecht in Lisbon, Portugal, to forward mail on to herself [Hecht is the writer of letter 009.] The message returned to Hungary with MKS's handwritten reply. Final date stamp is 18<sup>th</sup> December 1941, making the round trip 4 months.

Main message from Alice dated 18-08-1941

Fünf Monate ohne Nachricht von Dir.- Sehr besorgt.- Wir alle gesund, wohlauf. Ernö, Pali arbeiten.- Schreibet an Eugen Hecht. Lisboa. Avenue Conde Valbom 123.

Küsse Mütter.

Translation

Five months without any news from you.- Very worried.- We are all healthy (and) well. Ernö (and) Pali are working.- Write to Eugen Hecht. Lisbon. Avenue Conde Valbom 123.

Kiss(es) Mother.

Handwritten reply from MKS written approx 15-09-1941

Susi und ich beschäftigt in Hauptstadt wohnen aber nicht beisammen da Susi schöne eigene Wohnung. Verdienen schöne Susi und John sehr glücklich.

~~Küsse~~

Susi, John, Matyi

Translation

Susi and I live in the capital, but we don't live together because Susi has a nice apartment of her own. Beautiful Susi and John deserve (to be) very happy.

~~Kiss(es)~~

Susi, John, Matyi

WPS Notes 16/2/2021

**Alice** = MKS's mother

**Ernö** = Ernö Weisz, Alice's partner

**Pali** = Anny's husband/partner, MKS's brother-in-law

**Susi, John** = MKS's sister (Jean) and her partner/husband John Bolton

**Kisses crossed out.** The 25 word limit had been exceeded.

**Note about Red Cross Messages.** Article 79 of the Geneva Convention allowed the Red Cross to pass on information between countries at war. These messages were restricted to just 25 words (as explained on the form) and had to be about family news only. All messages were sorted and censored at the International Red Cross headquarters in Geneva (the message and reply each have a Geneva stamp and censor's stamp) from where they were forwarded to their destination. By 1945, 24 million messages had been exchanged.