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Das mehrsprachige Webportal publiziert fortlaufend Informationen zur historisch-politischen Bildung in Schulen, Gedenkstätten und anderen Einrichtungen zur Geschichte des 20. Jahrhunderts. Schwerpunkte bilden der Nationalsozialismus, der Zweite Weltkrieg sowie die Folgegeschichte in den Ländern Europas bis zu den politischen Umbrüchen 1989.

Dabei nimmt es Bildungsangebote in den Fokus, die einen Gegenwartsbezug der Geschichte herausstellen und bietet einen Erfahrungsaustausch über historisch-politische Bildung in Europa an.

## **Two letters from Friedrich Mennecke to his wife (November and December 1941)**

Note: All emphasis in original

Letter No. 11 Weimar, November 29, 1941

My dearest darling!

... Your "Pa" [dad] is a real pen-pusher, isn't that so?! It is now 11:40 p.m., and I am already dressed for bed and have just had a nice foot-bath. There is snazzy music on the radio, and I will now read in bed the book that I want to give you as a present on December 3 ... because it is part of "Goethe," which should always remind you of your-our-visit to Weimar. Not only is the style good, but there is worthwhile information in this book, and shouldn't we take the opportunity of visiting a city like Weimar to further our education! ...

Tuesday, December 2, 1941; 12:50 p.m.

So, little mother, while you dash about through the countryside, I have finished moving and am already seated in our room no. 201 with a view of the market square. I have just heard the news and situation report; there is nothing new except two new Jewish laws in France. Everything went perfectly this morning for me, and I hope also for you! If anything had happened to you or otherwise went wrong, then I would probably already have been notified; so I hope to hold you in my arms two

and one-half hours from now. At 9:30 a.m. I was up at the camp (200 meters higher than Weimar). The trip was slow and somewhat delayed because of the thick fog. Nevertheless, I worked smoothly until 11:15 a.m. and completed eighty questionnaires. So yesterday and today I finished 320 questionnaires in all – something that Dr. [Robert] Müller would definitely never have accomplished in two full days. He who works quickly saves time! Later, we will discuss how I will proceed in the next few days. At 11:15 a.m., I was already seated in the *Führer* cafeteria eating goulash and took the bus down to the town at

11:45 a.m. I walked past the theater box office and am happy to have secured two tickets for tonight; there is an incredible demand for theater tickets!! I then went to the hotel and changed rooms; I only had to move the locked chest, since most of my things had already been transferred. So everything is ready for you, my dearest Ma!!! I will now evaluate today's eighty questionnaires, then listen to the 2

p.m. news broadcast, and then pick up mommy!

Lots of kisses! Ahoy!