Auxlivity 26. 4. 44 Meine alle liebste kleine Britise! Gelegenbliek fillt and mel sein kleiner diekketrake in die ode des Allego und Ath - Betriebs. Hente reaching to Break ich jun Accedent alletten beforeen fund verrde von shes wit deal V. V. W. W. M. M. M. Short den augestillett. Wenn es um and hein well with the mehr ist med ich auget you seinige vet vollere whom the time tet wiel die deuit betouerteur Auer-Rouceung Weeiner Arbeit und des Eureljes, des Menchmel und ten mer vieder die Sefalerder den ferundheit and des Lebeus

bedeutet, Wolf gefreut. (Alea, liebes Antzele, shi niehet die Orden sam. Melu rich to allevillick auf mencer Holdenbrust !!) Es volle am 20. 4. 46 (Fribrer februtiteg) velielen verden, doch til var wielt da sonden bei dir fr Thilo het das K. V. K. auch bekoneceeer. Man necent co hier des Rechfieber orders. Als ich auckneu vartete whom luce feudicing on file ment 3 Ronker Dein a. 1 F. Lekt rufuies Ju kreise neller Leale / Finker, Frank Museow wit Shefrences I have all Fee Jehrunken weed debed and sup des Toll von Rolf rued Toin cand lieben Mukele augestopen. Somet gelt es wir gut. Ne Arbeit gekt do veiler, aber iet kebe doch die

Abrielt in fanger verkellener zu nein. In bokin frihlle ut mick well besonder voll. Jetst polt to Wieder, Wall der Salinfalt latte cil Take Bein rehvellunger. Ich verde ceciel in Lycret reachure grandlick tenterusten Carred. tu Berlin war er rolen Welt. He : sonder febrester Euceni Let unil Kerrlick benitet tilede videnele auch alle raice traite traite Auvesenheit. Weit der Chaf Konut un alle besjoreckers tap ich Lucherty berulle taknies With the schow . I cit der Alle go . blieben. Dei aller fikuollerig keit bet es muner work pa Reinen

wetter Michelen gebreekt. Bur beit mulekält ar éin melerlaftes Porathertoffel verhéllies ja cièces Kellerenn ?! (Mile fin Nil Ochal. ten rued then In weeks weeken Conca, dep m'es veift/ the vill the bei tellick sin fulres. Vielleicht kaun ihr Frew Kleich Wit einen nelles Mideken be-Carret meckees oder so clims! In ca I tocker torde il meder week Bredew Felires und deber filliers bescules ! Antiele, vie pett es Ar und rie joht as dem Bul & Hoffealleich alleberties Also Kienle cech beiden Euer Papele'!

Handwritten Letter from Nazi SS Doctor Josef Mengele

Letter on loan from Glenn Spungen and Debbi Spungen/The Spungen Family Foundation

This letter was written by Josef Mengele to his wife, Irene, on April 26, 1944 while Mengele was stationed in the Auschwitz concentration camp.

The medal Mengele describes, the Kriegsverdienstkreuz or War Merit Cross, was created in 1939 by Adolph Hitler to replace the non-combatant Iron Cross. The medal had two grades, 2nd class and 1st class, and was awarded with swords and without swords. The version with swords that Mengele received was awarded for service above and beyond the call of duty, though not necessarily in direct combat.

Auschwitz, 4.26.44

My dear, sweet Butzel!

Once in a while there's a small ray of light in my bleak daily routine in this concentration camp business. This afternoon at 4pm I was ordered to the commanding officer, and I was awarded a medal (Kriegsverdienstkreuz, second degree with swords). Even though this is not a rare honor, and even though I already possess more valuable decorations, I was touched by the acknowledgement of my work and my dedication. My work sometimes jeopardizes my own health and even my life; therefore I was very appreciative. (You can see my dear Butzele that the medals are coming in slowly one after another to stay on this hero's chest!!) I was supposed to get it on 4.20.44, the Führer's birthday, but I wasn't here since I was home with you. Dr. Thilo got the same honor; we now call it the "typhus medal."

When I came back they were already waiting for me with 3 bottles of wine and one bottle of champagne. I was with a group of nice people (Fircher, Frank, Wussow, plus their wives), and we drank whatever we had. During our gathering I also raised a glass to Rolf and his lovely Butzele.

I'm doing okay so far. My work is going ahead, but I've decided that I want to be altogether more reclusive. Berlin doesn't suit me. I'm feeling better now, but after the long hours on the train my legs were swollen. I will check myself into the field hospital later for a thorough examination. Berlin was quite cold. Especially sister Emmi took good care of me. Schade used every moment of his free time to be around me. I had plenty of time to talk to Olaf about everything.

I have already mentioned my visit to Lambertz to you. He is still the same: He pretends to be audacious, but in reality he is just shy and inhibited. He still hasn't found a nice girl, even though he has a casual relationship with a waitress. (Please keep this to yourself, and never, ever let him know that I told you!) I want to introduce him to Schlicks. Maybe Mrs. Schlicks can introduce him to nice girls that she knows or something like that!

How are you, Butzele, and how is the boy? I hope everything is just fine. I'm sending kisses from me to both of you.

Yours, Papili.