1959-02-08, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

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Subject Terms
Women and the military, Women and war, United States -- Air Force, United States -- Army -- Air Forces, Photographs, Armed Forces -- Correspondence, Correspondence -- Vietnam War -- 1961-1975, Christmas

Summary
This collection contains 139 correspondence from Maj. Bette J. Barto, USAFE to her parents while serving as a nurse during the late 1950s and 1960s. Also included are three photographs, one special orders document, and one marriage license. In several cases, Bette refers to her parents as "Lizzie" and "Hugh Elmer," or simply "Elmer." Three letters from 1961 or 1962 are undated and placed in a separate folder.

Keywords
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Dear Mom and Clemen,

I'm about ready to go to war again - 8 more days and 8-11 before I go on 11-7 - more fun. Today I'm to work on the med. ward and I hate it, but reckon that's what makes the world go round.

There's nothing much to write about since the last letter. I haven't seen anybody or been anywhere. Son came after me at 11 p.m. last nite and we went to a malt drinking party at his quarters. His roommate had brought a shipment of milk from Germany. I tasted like real milk for a wonder. I drank nearly a quart by myself.

Now, I hate to mention wanting anything else but I think I need only white rug. There aren't any places to buy rugs here except big tasseled ones from the Arabs and I haven't much else to do but fix up my room. Of course the household goods haven't arrived yet, but we expect them in a couple of weeks - the other small
package came that I mailed before I left. Of the rugs might beat the household goods anyway. So, if we can pick a baking suit as I like I want the may be well and them on because it won't be long before we can use them. I will need white hose in a month or so also. They don't have our kind only real heavy ugly old things. I wear Furon seamless mesh, size 10½. I think that on the size list. I feel awful about asking for all this stuff. But please keep account and I'll pay for it all plus the postage. If you want to arrange the makeup I asked for in the last letter, you can, because I'm completely but the stuff I'm using is breaking out my face. Don't try to derma the other stuff because it will cost too much.

Della is off today for the first weekend in ages. I think because the rest of us are working so there's not much for her to do, until someone gets off at 3. Well. I hope by now that Jeff and Jill are all from their trip. It's a queer feeling to know I can't pick up the phone and find out right away. By the way, if
you should ever want to get in touch with me quickly, the way to do it is Call the Red Cross and tell them it's an emergency and my name, rank, ser. number and address. They can get in touch almost immediately. If you tried to contact me through airforce, you'd be wasting time going through red tape - I do remember that I should have told you before I left. I just got to thinking about it. When I knew the kids were in the O.P. probably. I'm glad they liked their clothes!

I got a letter from Jeanne long, this back at Fort Bragg, N.C. had another baby - same old Jeanne - Can't read her writing so don't know if it's #2 or #3 boy, or girl - sameinformatics letter.

Well, the times war and the jets are screaming by for their afternoon flights so I see quiet and go Murder the sitting afarace.

Love you -
More later -
Belle

She's in town stayin' on Carniehead.
We do have buttermilk so I may try my luck if I can find meal.