1960-10-24, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/bjbarto_correspondence

Recommended Citation
Barto, Bette J., "1960-10-24, Bette to Parents" (1960). Bette J. Barto Correspondence Collection. 76.
https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/bjbarto_correspondence/76

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the CAWL Archives: Cold War and Interwar Periods at Chapman University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Bette J. Barto Correspondence Collection by an authorized administrator of Chapman University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact laughtin@chapman.edu.
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
1960-10-24

Identifier
2017-219-w-r-_Barto_ColdWar_1960-10-24

Copyright
The Center for American War Letters Archives promotes open access to its collections for “private study, scholarship, or research” subject to the intellectual property rights of others. Chapman University may not hold copyright or intellectual property rights to all items in the collections, and contents may be subject to restricted access or use. As a condition of accessing and using material from the Archives, you agree that you are responsible for obtaining all required consents of any copyright holder and to indemnify and hold the University harmless from and against any and all claims, losses, liabilities, and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, that may arise from any third party claims for copyright infringement, torts, or invasion of publicity or privacy rights. You further acknowledge and agree that photocopies or other reproductions may only be made with the University's prior approval. Requests will be considered on a case by case basis and approval will be in the University's sole discretion.

This letter is available at Chapman University Digital Commons: https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/bjbarto_correspondence/76
Capt. Bette J. Harris
7272 USAF Hospital
APO 231
NY NY

Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Harris
1717 Highland Avenue
Knoxville 16
Tennessee
Dear Momma & Daddy,

This won't be very long because your youngest daughter has had a busy day!

Ray is lying on the bed reading the paper and telling me this and that about his day downtown among the drunks. He got here at 7 p.m. Saturday night. I was getting ready to go meet the aircraft just in case he should arrive. When I got a call from the Radar Station telling me that MARS aircraft #271 had a passenger on board who would like me to meet the plane. I almost drowned trying to finish my shower and I had to go down the hose to get one of the other girls to look up my dress - my pajamas.
I made it on time and it seemed as if people got off far earlier before I saw him. I found out later, I guess, that he flew the aircraft the greater part of the way just to be busy during the trip.

He has spent all day today completing arrangements for our marriage by the Moslem mayor of Tripoli. I spent all day Saturday bow-wowing with them myself.

The end result of our efforts we will know for certain by 10 am tomorrow. He is going to see the mayor to sign a paper putting our backs. He is going to settle and the usual waiting period because of having been born here. If all goes as scheduled, we will be married between 9 and 12 am Thursday, 27th October by the Moslem. This Ceremony will be after Italian law it. Italian. He will then be legally married but we want the official ceremony too, so we will again be married.


by a Methodist Captain at our base Chapel at 7:30 am Thursday in our uniform. So, by the time you receive this, there will be two Captain Berto's in the USAF. Don't use my new name for mail yet, though, Mom, because I have to have orders cut before I can legally be called Berto by the Air Force.

Sheila, hockey team are here (Mary worked 11 today) so I'll stop trying to write more.

Tomorrow we will be busy getting our uniforms and clothing ready—plus our morning trip downtown. I also have to work at 7 am but will get off an hour to go down and sign this one paper.

Goodnite for now, and we will be thinking of you, and wishing you could be with us on our wedding day.

Love you,
Bette
Hi - Well I finally made the flight after two tries. The first one was on had to turn around and return to Charleston, had trouble with one engine.

Your daughter has lost some weight, looks real good, don't really know why she puts up with me, but I'm glad.

I'm finally here, we should be married by Thurs, and I hope and sure we will be happy, very happy for the rest of our lives. Love Kay