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7-28-1961

1961-07-28, 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.

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Friday afternoon

Dear Mom and Daddy,

In esp duty today—first one in eleven days, and, naturally, Ray had to work. He did get to come home for lunch for a few minutes and hopes to get home by about 4pm which will be early for him.

We don’t know definitely about leave time yet. Ray is not going on the long trip but is leaving tomorrow for a 4-5 day one to Ycas, Texas. When he returns from that, we may get our leave starting about 1 August. If he has to be acting squadron commander here (as he was while you were here) we won’t have a leave. As you see, even though he isn’t going on the long one, he may still have to stay here while they’re gone. Cross your fingers that we’ll get that few days off. We both need to get away from our jobs a while. Anyway both our leave requests are in and mine is approved, so I’m ready to go if he
gets his signed X.
He didn't say much when we called last Monday night. Since hung up on me, I guess.

I didn't get to tell you about my elegant (picture enclosed) gift Ray brought from Germany. I was so surprised because he has never selected anything like that before! I was very proud of him because we've never seen a prettier punch bowl anywhere.

If we get our leave, we plan to drive straight to Helenic for a one or two day stay, then to Cape Fear for a 2 day stay, on to your house for 3-4 days and then on back. We have only 12 days, so it won't be long with all that traveling included. I'll then not to plan on us and if we do get it we'll call her before the trip begins.

So to that here I haven't been out doors except to look and run back in. Ray has to finish the lawn mowing today. I was ordered not to do it so... here I sit.

I have to write gone in N. Africa so ill stop for now. Love to both, Mike