1961-08-30, 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
1961-08-30, Birthday

Identifier
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Dear Mom and Daddy,

I was about ready to call you when we got your letter today. I thought maybe you were sick, but I realized I haven't written, but once since we got home. We have been busy as bees. Ray even had to work until 7 pm Saturday his day off.

So far I still have him with me and the latest word is that he won't have to leave until the 17th of September or maybe a few days later.

The Sears man was here with a wood craftsman who says he can refinish our table and China Closet like new. He has a backlog of work ahead of ours so it may be 2-3 more weeks before he gets ours done, but at least the effort is being made.

Dear Helen and Joey, I feel so sorry for them that they have to be separated for 6 months. It's a shame that their nice house has been so mistreated after Helen has driven herself nuts keeping someone else's house nice. Of course, I don't know why I was at all surprised because we always got that kind of a deal when we moved into a new house.
Ray is having a puppy-dog war. There are so many dogs wandering in and out, messing up and tearing up our plants and shrubs. There is a base regulation against dogs running loose. So his setting on our patio with his little Nicko pistol shooting the fur off the little critters that crawl under our fence.

We'll still eat tomatoes from the back yard. I don't know if it will have any extra peppers. We plan to be eating them as fast as they get large enough. If we do, I'll use your recipe, Mom, so thanks.

Well, I haven't much to write about to tell Ray's ready to get to bed; so I'll quit for this one. I try again in a day or so.

Love you,

Dede

Happy Birthday, Elmer.