12-27-1961

1961-12-27, Bette to Mother

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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27 December 1961
5 pm Wednesday

Dear Momma,

I'm here by myself, watching my tear jerking serial on T.V. Ray is in South Carolina until Friday evening as range officer. I talked to him yesterday afternoon and he is supposed to call again tonight on the base to base line at no cost to us. We had a lovely weekend except for worrying about you and Daddy. He dressed up and went dancing Saturday night (in my new red chiffon dress), and had a very good time. He went to church at a new Trinitie Methodist Church for its first service. We enjoyed it very much and may go back to that one again. We had our Christmas about 9pm that night and spent most of the evening putting the outdoor grill and rainwater together. It was a real mess - 37 pounds of parts! We finished at 10pm without either of us losing his temper. It is a pretty thing, but we didn't get to try it out Christmas day because
we received an invitation to go out to eat Christmas dinner with one of Roy's squadron members. We hadn't planned a big dinner, since you weren't coming, so we accepted. They had turkey and all the trimmings, but she couldn't cook as well as I can even, but it was nice of them to ask us.

Roy left at 2 am the next morning, and the tried to stay busy last night & today - already taken my tree down and put away all the decorations for next year - Roy will be happy he missed that little chore.

Well, I have to get some rugs in the wash - Mary comes tomorrow, so I'll write more later.

I hope you found Daddy improved; and I hope he may be finally convinced that his drinking has caused all his trouble - de most of them.

Elda writes such a cheerful letter - about like an undertaker's diary!

I said "Blah!" to Lucy. Love, comments - she didn't want to realize - nor did Grandma or Allie B.