12-7-1962

1962-12-07, 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
1962-12-07

Identifier
2017-219-w-r-_Barto_ColdWar_1962-12-07

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Box and Mrs. J. E. Harris
1717 Highland Avenue
Knoxville 16
Tennessee
Thursday, June 9th

Dear Mom and Daddy,

I kept waiting to get both your packages before writing. The first one came Monday - even before your letter. So I had no idea what to do. I tore into it, then saw the merry Christmas card. So I'm a bad girl, but I do thank you for the lovely yellow sheets and yellow cases. The second package came this afternoon and I will not open it. Thank you, Mom, but you needn't have done anything. Your Easter is here, but unwrapped. So I'll let you know when to start expecting a package.

They were sorry to miss you, Mom, Sunday night, but we just wanted you to know Roy was home. He got here at 9 pm Saturday and we were happy to start living like a family again.

Our first move was to mow our lovely green grass and get the yard in shape. We had too many little trees and bushes to suit us, so we bought another 100 # of rose seed to plant both in the front and to
refinish the back on too.

By the time you get this you will know we had a lovely day of snow today. It was very sudden—snowing fiercely for about 4 hours, then gone in an hour. SUPPOSE to freeze tonight.

We went to Camp Lejeune—the Marine Corps camp at Jacksonville, North Carolina—to shop at their Post Exchange Tuesday. We got several nice gifts—two beige corduroy pants and matching red corduroy vests with gold buttons for both Jeff and Jill. Ray picked out a pretty white nylon jacket with a hood trimmed in fur for Jill. It's thick and warm and washable.

He bought me just like it for May Ann, too. She got dow a pretty heavy knit cardigan sweater—carigan style—and a pair of pretty dainty off-white nylon pajamas with blue embroidered trim on the top.

Now I have to get boxes and paper before I can mail them.

Ray is mapping on the dwar-

There was a big blow today.

We were informed we have to repay over $1500 in flying pay. For the 7 1/2 months he was grounded, he put all we could in the bank, but we still don't have quite that much. We just hope they don't demand it all at once. So there goes our plans for a #2 car for the time being. Ah well, we have waited 8 of this long, guess will make it for awhile yet.

Well it's time to get to bed or eat.
never drag me out in the morning. We do like our new Owen and chair. Ray has been asleep on it by 8:00 every night since he got home!

We begin our Christmas parties tomorrow with a King Party at 6:00 P.M. We wear civilian clothes for this. This Sunday night we will have a concert by the old Glenn Miller Orchestra at the club.

Next weekend we have an invitation to the Roosevelt's house for a new open-house Party - in their pretty new house. I bet it will be something to see for sure they'll have their interior decorator to help them get their Christmas decorations up. I'll let you know the details. There are other parties as Christmas nears.

I hope your church dinner came off well, Mom, and I hope, Daddy, that you helped her.

Ray's stirring, so I'll wake him up to "go to bed right."

We love you,

[Signature]