1963-08-06, 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
1963-08-06

Identifier
2017-219-w-r-_Barto_ColdWar_1963-08-06

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Dear Mom and Daddy,

I'm at work and since my current graduate is on leave I have to work the front desk, so I may have a few minutes to spare.

No! I really shouldn't have said that. I wrote it at 8:00 and it's now 9:30 and we haven't stopped a minute - phones ring off the hook and people lined up to both doors. I'll be glad when I can go back to my regular running job in the clean work area. This, telephoning on the phone and listening to large complaints gets old.

I talked to Ray in Spain recently this morning. Poor thing had just gotten to RAF Fair Base as I had feared. They stayed in Madrid this last weekend and he had a chance to meet with a lad (his wife) that he used to work with years ago. I wasn't able to hear much except that he was OK and there. But for all the good it did to go early, he might as well have waited to leave this Monday with the rest of the squadron.