10-29-1963

1963-10-29, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/bjbarto_correspondence

Recommended Citation

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the CAWL Archives: Cold War and Interwar Periods at Chapman University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Bette J. Barto Correspondence Collection by an authorized administrator of Chapman University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact laughtin@chapman.edu.
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
1963-10-29, Spain

Identifier
2017-219-w-r-_Barto_ColdWar_1963-10-29

Copyright
The Center for American War Letters Archives promotes open access to its collections for "private study, scholarship, or research" subject to the intellectual property rights of others. Chapman University may not hold copyright or intellectual property rights to all items in the collections, and contents may be subject to restricted access or use. As a condition of accessing and using material from the Archives, you agree that you are responsible for obtaining all required consents of any copyright holder and to indemnify and hold the University harmless from and against any and all claims, losses, liabilities, and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, that may arise from any third party claims for copyright infringement, torts, or invasion of publicity or privacy rights. You further acknowledge and agree that photocopies or other reproductions may only be made with the University's prior approval. Requests will be considered on a case by case basis and approval will be in the University's sole discretion.

This letter is available at Chapman University Digital Commons: https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/bjbarto_correspondence/118
Tuesday
29 Oct 63
7 P.M. Spain

Dear Mom & Daddy,

We are sitting in our room at the Residence Alba in downtown Seville having a Cuba Libre - Rum & Coke which seems to be the standard drink for the Spanish. We are going to the Rivera Restaurant at 8 P.M. for dinner with another couple from Seymour. The wife is British and went home to visit her folks then came on down here to stay until her husband goes home in January. They have no children either.
Today we went to see the 58 little girls in the San Jose de Montana Orphans, it's a Catholic-run group that the American Squadron adopted when they took this alert commitment over 2 years ago. Each succeeding group takes over and does something for them when they are here. Roy's squadron bought them 6 bath towels and showers and we wives have collected clothes and toys for Christmas. Roy and I didn't speak much Spanish between us and the orphans and sisters spoke no English. We stayed so anyway and all the little
ragged children crowded around us and entertained us with dancing and singing. The least child there could do the Tango while the rest clapped. The last two little ones, aged 4 and 5, suddenly broke into a "first" completely a surprise—The whole group of kids were singing a fairly new American, traditional song—obviously learned from television—and the kids were cute. It was a pity we couldn't talk with them.

30 Oct 63

Next day I went out with the other couple here that we know. We
didn't do anything after dinner—just came back to the hotel and talked a while with the little gray haired Morrocan lady.

The next sight seeing a little after we left the orphanage—climbed to the top of a bell tower that was built by the Moors hundreds of years ago. There were no steps—just a gradual incline made of stones that was built square around the outside of the tower. We were puffing when we got to the top but the views of Seville was worth the trip. After that we went shopping.
in the square- you'd go
crazy here, Mom, they
have the most beautiful
big folk boots! you
wear bows- just huge- in
all colors! i can't carry
anything else, but i sure
want a bag and ray may
buy me a suede suit. this
leather here is beautiful
and quite inexpensive in
comparison to our prices.
It's time to go eat lunch.
one meat a day is included
in our room bill, so we
eat once a day here and go
out for one meal. it's raining
today- first rain in months.
Ray says- so we may eat
twice here.
I'll mail this on base tom.
arrow since Roy has to go out to collect his pay or it will be sent back to Seymour. He will be looking for a ride back for me while we’re out there. I expect to stay til about the middle of next week; if a ride home is no problem it has been well worth the trouble to come over because I believe Roy has really been pretty homesick. There’s not much for them to do at the base and he hasn’t had any time off before so this has been good for him too—to rest and sight see a little. Spaar. He’s like me—not much of a tourist by himself.
one of the other Capt's whose wife is here, just called and invited us to go to San Pablo (the Ether Air Race) for dinner at the Officers Club there. That will be a chance to see it.

With no car we have to wait for rides for out of town to the base. In town, we go by cab or walk - cabs are cheap as can be, so it's not too bad. Makes me feel like Mrs. Asterberry!

I'll quit so I can mail this at San Pablo. Otherwise it would take ages if I mailed it in town.

Quit worrying - I'll be home before you know it.

Love,
Eille + Roy