12-1-1963

1963-12-01, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

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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.

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Sunday, May 15th

Dear Mom and Daddy,

I wanted to say hi and that I finished our Christmas shopping for the Claytons yesterday.

We left early, left three children and I drove to Camp Le Jeune PA and it was a very bad day — pay day, but it was the only chance I had to get there.

I found a lovely pale pink wool flannel skirt and a white cardigan trimmed in pink with pink flower embroidery on the bottom of it. I hope she likes it. I paid $9.50 for the skirt and $7.50 for the sweater. They are worth about $12.95 each so I think I did well on that.

Then I got Judy a lovely gold cotton pajama set, pajamas and a pair of brown leather travel bed socks slippers with a matching zippered leather carrying case. I will get them unknitted tomorrow, but I bought some brown paper until I can serenize some at work tomorrow.

I spent most of today giving Dent a clipping. It took about 4 hours but we rested several times and took a run or two in the yard. It was sunny but very cold. I believe our warm weather is pretty much over for this year.
I offered to work Christmas Day for Maj. Sanders but she said no so I will have Christmas Day off after all but have to work the next day. I imagine Helen E., the kids, and I will come together or go out and eat. None of us are planning Christmas on 25 Dec. but will wait till after the boys come home.

Did I tell you Ray could possibly come home a little earlier - 31 Dec? He said it wasn’t likely but it could happen. I hope so, but I’m trying hard not to get my hopes up determined to see him on that date.

Mom, you can get me a cashier’s check for the money about the 15th or 20th of December. I don’t expect the man to get the Wildcat before Christmas but it is possible, if I should need it any sooner I’ll call you.

I’ll include the program from our Thanksgiving dinner at the Club. We had 36 wives and kids in our party so I ate cold turkey because I helped some of the mothers with several little ones to get their trays and get to our tables. It was still good anyway, and I also had pumpkin pie.

I’ll quit for now and get my hair washed and rolled. More later.

Love, Belle