10-30-1964

1964-10-30, 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
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Friday 0600
30 Oct. 64

Dear Mom and Daddy,

This will be a short one as I have to get ready for work pretty soon.

Ray was able to stay only 24 hours for our Anniversary but that was better than no time at all. He got here 10 minutes before I got home. Grrrr.

Kent and I had been up at 5 am setting the table, mounding a standing rib roast and getting the bed sheets changed. I naturally the base alert siren went off and I had to drop everything and call my nurses. I got to work at 0545 and stayed till 11 am. I got the house finished up during my lunch time.

I had ordered a little center-piece flower arrangement for the table. I used your old white table cloth, silver candlesticks, white twisted candles, my gold grey, white china "silvers." The center-piece was fall colors, mostly yellow & rust colored chrysanthemums (the little ones that look like daisies)
He had the roast, creamed potatoes, tossel salad with homegut hunts in mayonnaise and green pea made by one of my FTA's as a gift to Roy. It was the best and most flattering for the ever eaten. Ray loves oatmeal so he enjoyed it too.

I gave him a pretty transistor radio with 14, FM - short wave bands. We both wanted one for camping because our tiny one wouldn't pick it after a few hours a few miles from the stations. This he picks up miles + miles from nothing. It sits in a protective black leather case too. He took it with him like a little toy. I also thought it would be nice on these days when his stuck in a motel or apartment with nothing. So I think my gift was a success.

He was afraid to try to buy me a dress, so he gave me a $600 per diem paper that we will collect when he comes home. I reason I can get a Christmas party dress for that!

Well, I'll best get on the steer or I'll be pushed to get my report ready for the commander at 0730. Let's taking a nap by me one of the dozens he will take before I get home this pm.

We have about 30 days more without Ray, so I best get at it to help it go by. I have been unable to do any more shopping yet - but I will.

More later, love, Bette