1960

Undated, 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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Sunday afternoon

Dear Mom and Elmer,

We got your letter yesterday. Thanks for going to Hamilton's and for depositing the check, Mom. I haven't gotten the package yet but will let you know when I do.

Yesterday Ray and I went deer hunting at 9:00 a.m. when the season officially opened. I don't think the deer got the word, though, because no one did much shooting until late in the evening. We saw a few, too far away to shoot. Ray shot the third one fell and I went to pick it up. I almost had my hand on it and up it flew and away it went. It surprised me so I just yelped and stood there with my shot gun on safety and watched it go! What a hunter! I finally got off a couple of shots just before sunset and Ray says I scattered feathers, but I think he was being hard to his new hunting partner. Anyway, I'll tell more later. Half a wonderful time anyway.
We had to laugh: just as the sun set and we were driving off, a flock of wild ducks flew over the lake in formation. To our tale, we saw more ducks than doves. This is probably because there has been so much rain this year the farmers haven't cut their corn and this will make the dove season late, too. We're going again after work this week.

Ray may be leaving this next Saturday for 5 to 6 weeks at Las Vegas, Nevada. He may not have to go, so I'm still hoping. They haven't picked up our furniture yet for repair. Maybe this week the man will get it. This is the picture of the Sears furniture dept. Sales manager who has been so nice to us. He says he's mainly interested in getting the Knowable man off the hook as well as getting us a satisfactory repaired suite.

I'm sorry you got fired off your case, Mom—unless you were fired by the old lady anyway. I imagine the woman is not healthy by now; so she probably not responsible for her action anyway. Don't worry about it. You have to do what you feel is right even if she does pay your salary. If she wants a yes-girl let her hire one that will sleep all night on her.
Kay just came in from finishing the lawn mowing. I started it for him Friday, while he was flying, and the mower was so out of adjustment, he had to re-mod part of mine. I chewed rather than mowed. I think we are watching the ball game. Roger Maris is about to catch up with Babe Ruth's home run record, and Mickey Mantle isn't far behind.

We are going to visit the Brown's later today. They are new parents, had a baby about 10 days ago. Carl had some trouble post partum and just got home this week, so we haven't seen the young man.

I just addressed cards to the kids. I'll mail them tomorrow so they'll be certain to get there. Tell Helen to send me an address for Dewey too. I know he will be very lonely there without them.

Mom, don't work too hard or all that sewing and I want to pay you for that. Mother's check is too much money for you to spend, give all the work.

If you aren't ready to get to work, Mom. Please think about coming down to visit me. I know it's a long trip but well feed you when you get here.

Ill stay for now and get my husband busy going visiting. TheSkipped Joe Friday because it was too wet to go out.

Hi all, Sue got a house.
Pretty good hunting as a partner.
Best, Belle

PS. not again, Hides for dinner.