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**Finding Aid for the Russell Knowles Vietnam War correspondence collection  
2015.069.w.r**

Lauren Menges

Center for American War Letters Archives

12/2/2016

Leatherby Libraries

Chapman University

Orange, CA 92866

speccoll@chapman.edu

URL: <http://www1.chapman.edu/library/archives/>

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**Language of Material:** English

**Contributing Institution:** Center for American War Letters Archives

**Title:** Russell Knowles, Jr. Vietnam War correspondence

**creator:** Knowles, Russell, Jr.

**source:** Bullard, Joan K.

**Identifier/Call Number:** 2015.069.w.r

**Physical Description:** 0.15 Linear Feet(1 folder)

**Date (inclusive):** 1961-08-20-1962-12-17

**Abstract:** This collection contains 38 correspondence written by Lieutenant Russell Knowles, Jr. to his family during the Vietnam War.

Leatherby Libraries, Special Collections, CAWL Archives

**Storage Unit:** Vietnam 2

**Storage Unit:** 11-12

### **Content Description**

This collection contains 38 correspondence written by Lieutenant Russell Knowles, Jr. to his family.

He was in the U.S. Navy Reserve and later became a captain. He was eventually in the Nuclear Submarine Corp, chosen by Admiral Hyman G. Rickover.

Knowles' letters describe his time in training on the USS Energy in Long Beach and San Diego, CA. Knowles did not serve in Vietnam (at least during the time he was writing his letters). The USS Energy went on a tour to Newport, Oregon and to Seattle for the World Fair. His letters mostly concern his family and what they are doing back home. At first he is writing about buying a ring and getting engaged to a woman named Jennie, but he eventually breaks the engagement off. Later he is engaged to be married to a woman named Weeza. He moved to Monterey to go to school to study meteorology and oceanography. Letter dated May 27, 1962: Knowles describes watching a press conference with the "second astronauts." He says, "We are really amazing animals. Think about having people in space. That is a really great technical achievement."

Letter postmarked November 1962: Knowles describes what it was like during the Cuban missile crisis (he said it was no different than any other day) and gives his opinions about Castro. He also says he is planning to vote straight Republican and encourages his family to do so to defeat Ted Kennedy.

He refers to California as "Democratic California."

### **Conditions Governing Access**

This collection is open for research.

### **Conditions Governing Use**

There are no restrictions on the use of this material except where previously copyrighted material is concerned. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain all permissions. For further copyright information, please contact the archivist.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Joan K. Bullard. Legacy collection from Andrew Carroll.

### **Preferred Citation**

[Item title, Box number, Folder number], Russell Knowles Vietnam War correspondence (2015.069.w.r), Center for American War Letters Archives, Chapman University, CA.

### **Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Vietnam War, 1961-1975 -- United States.

Correspondence -- Vietnam War -- 1961-1975

Bullard, Joan K.

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