Finding Aid for the Marty J. Perlmutter Vietnam War correspondence collection 2017.158.w.r

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This collection contains 12 correspondence written by MMFN (Fireman, Machinists Mate Striker) Marty J. Perlmutter to pen pal, 8th grader Anna Rosenzweig during the Vietnam War. Perlmutter was in the US Navy aboard the USS Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. (DD-850) where he worked primarily in the engine room. This vessel stayed primarily in Italy during the course of these letters. Perlmutter is a very sarcastic individual in these letters and speaks to Rosenzweig in a somewhat uncaring yet casual tone. Some letters of interest are dated June 7, 1968 and July 11, 1968 which both included a picture of Perlmutter. Perlmutter also describes some functions of the engine room as well as makes snide remarks about how the ship is old and "falling apart." He also mentions in one letter that three men died in the engine room in the ship next to them and how unsettling it was to be working there(August 7, 1968). The letter dated May 7, 1968 gives his summation of the Vietnam War and the letter dated May 31, 1968 mentions the loss of the USS Scorpion. One letter of particular interest is dated June 12, 1968 in which he mentions the Robert F. Kennedy assassination, stating that, "The world today is in turmoil and the man responsible for this tragic murder are just products of a sick society which cannot find remedy for its own problems."

Arrangement
This collection is arranged by date.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition
Gift of Anna Crane.

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