



Sat. 9 Dec.

Dear Jim:

Received your letter + crew
+ got it sewed on. Thanks a
million. I have been so busy
I can't find time to write.

Dec. 3rd was our worst battle.
Everyone got hit on our boat but
Lois + I only noone serious.
However other boats had men
killed + wounded serious.

The smoke on this envelope
is from a fire in my locker
when a B40 rocket hit it.

Because of operation Santa
Claus they are letting 91-4 +
91-5 go in Dec. All boats
have now been relieved but
us + our reliefs are due in a
few days. My flight
date is Dec. 18th so
will get to spend Christmas
with the Meltons rather than
the Marks like last year.
Will take 30 days before

Season's
Greetings
and
Best Wishes
for the
New Year

Stan Melton

Gang to show duty at
Norfolk.

I thought you might like
to know Patterson was
base Master at Annapolis in Song
Tom, had his own house,
refrigeration etc. but after
Dec 3rd, they made him
coaxswain on monitor
111 - I so there.

I hope you have a very
Merry Christmas!

Write me at

MO.

Your buddy,

Stan