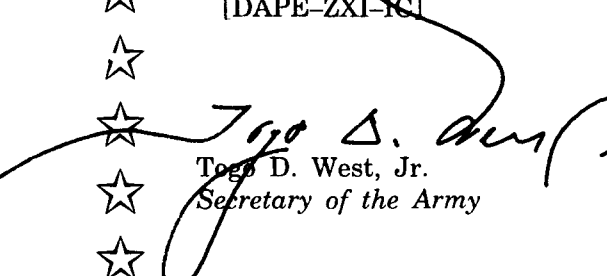GENERAL ORDERS } HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NO. 8 WASHINGTON, DC, *12 January 1997*

AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR

By direction of the President, under the Joint Resolution of Congress approved 12 July 1862 (amended by act of 3 March 1863, act of 9 July 1918, and act of 25 July 1963), the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty, is awarded (posthumously) by the Department of the Army in the name of Congress to:

Private George Watson, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism on 8 March 1943, while serving with 2d Battalion, 29th Quartermaster Regiment, near Porlock Harbor, New Guinea. Private Watson was on board a ship which was attacked and hit by enemy bombers. When the ship was abandoned, Private Watson, instead of seeking to save himself, remained in the water assisting several soldiers who could not swim to reach the safety of a life raft. This heroic action, which subsequently cost him his life, saved several of his comrades. Weakened by his exertions, he was dragged down by the suction of the sinking ship and drowned. Private Watson's extraordinarily valorous actions, daring leadership, and self-sacrificing devotion to his fellow man exemplify the highest traditions of the Armed Forces.

[DAPE–ZXI–IC]

Togo D. West, Jr.
Secretary of the Army

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