

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to

REAR ADMIRAL WALDEN L. AINSWORTH
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service to the Government of the United States in a position of great responsibility as Commander, Task Forces operating as part of the South Pacific Force, United States Pacific Fleet during the period December 10, 1942 to July 18, 1943. Constantly subjected to enemy submarine, surface and air attacks, the forces under Rear Admiral Ainsworth's command conducted many offensive operations which included repeated bombardments of enemy installations, the hazardous interception and resultant defeat of Japanese task forces, culminating in the two successful night engagements in Kula Gulf in July. The brilliant combat achievements of the units of his command reflect great credit upon Rear Admiral Ainsworth's forceful and inspiring leadership and upon the United States Naval Service."

For the President

/s/ Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy

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