



Arthur J. Hesford

Lieutenant
Class of 1930



**The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the Silver Lifesaving Medal, on two occasions, to
Lieutenant Arthur J. Hesford
United States Coast Guard**

For service as set forth in the following Summaries:

While assigned in USCGC TAHOE, during a late evening walk along the pier, Lieutenant Hesford saw three apparently intoxicated yachtsmen proceeding ahead of him. Noticing a few seconds later that there were only two yachtsmen, Lieutenant Hesford ran up to the men. He found a hole in the pier and immediately began taking off his shoes and trousers to rescue the drowning yachtsman. Jumping into the dark water under the pier, he was able to successfully find the man and pull him to safety. Due to his vigilance, sound thinking and selflessness, Lieutenant Hesford saved the yachtsman's life.

On May 10th, 1937, Lieutenant Hesford received word of a capsized boat which was drifting off of Ocean Beach toward the sea. Due to a recent storm, lifeboats from nearby stations were forced to return as the breakers capsized their boats with each attempt. Lieutenant Hesford, as copilot of the RD-4 Douglas Dolphin, spotted two young boys clinging to the capsized boat just outside of the breakers. The RD-4 Douglas Dolphin landed in the violent sea and was able to reach the boys by drifting to them. Lieutenant Hesford was on the wing of the RD-4, passed a line to the boys, and hauled them in safely. The seas were too dangerous for the RD-4 to take off, and so they spent an hour and a half taxiing in to safe waters. The two young boys were successfully rescued due to the courage and determination displayed by Lieutenant Hesford.