2026 FEB 4 12.60

REFERENCE SERVICE SLIP
Archival Research Room Record Request
National Archives at St. Louis

Date: 01/30/2026

REQUESTER INFORMATION

Name (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Researcher ID Card Number
Burns, Andrew	4563213
E-Mail Address:	**Phone Number:**
afbfg4@umsl.edu	636-415-7353

INFORMATION NEEDED TO LOCATE RECORDS (Furnish as much as possible)

Name used in Service (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Service Number/SSN	Date & Place of Birth
Anderson, A., J.		1883 Sweden?

MILITARY SERVICE

Branch of Service:
- ☐ Air Force
- ☐ Army Air Corps
- ☐ Army Air Force
- ☐ Army
- ☐ Marine Corps
- ☐ Navy
- ☐ Coast Guard
- ☐ Unknown

Type of Rank:
- ☐ Enlisted
- ☐ Officer
- ☐ Unknown

Service Period (Check all that apply):
- ☐ 1939 & Prior
- ☐ 1940 - 1950
- ☐ 1950 & After

Date & Place of Death: 1938 FL

State of Residence (upon entry into service):

Other Identifying Information (Parent's Names, CSC Number, etc.)

Researcher Signature: Andrew Burns

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)		
Lighthouse Service (FL)		
From: 1935	To: 1938	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	

Other Identifying Information (Maiden Name, Job Title, etc.)

This Space Intentionally Left Blank

STAFF USE ONLY

Appointment Time and Date:

Additional Researchers: ☐ Yes ☐ No

CMRS Service Request Number: C-0007008691

Attendant Signature:

CMRS Search Request Number(s):

Remarks: Submitted to Arch Search 2/19/26 KH
Soundex: A536

26 FEB 26 AM 9:52:20

SCREENING NOTES

- ☒ Reviewed and Nothing Removed KH
- ☐ Items Removed and User Informed

Hold Requested: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Total Requests:

Screened Items:

☐ Additional charge outs and signatures on reverse side

Time Out:

Final Return:

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

LIGHTHOUSES
APR 15 10 11 AM '38
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1938 APR 13 AM 9 06
CHIEF CLERK

BM:MHH:PE

90-1-7-316

April
11
1938

The Honorable
The Secretary of Commerce
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 4, 1938, with inclosure, regarding the death of A. J. Anderson, lamp lighter, who resided at Volusia Bar Fog Signal Station, Florida.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is conducting an investigation in this case at the present time. After this investigation is concluded, the Department will be pleased to advise you as to whether or not the facts of this case indicate a violation of a Federal criminal statute.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

Brien McMahon

BRIEN McMAHON,
Assistant Attorney General.

APR 18 1938

Bureau of Lighthouses, Wash., Copy to 6th Supt.

Mail
6

LIGHTHOUSES
APR 6 10 16 AM '38
APR 4 - 1938

The Honorable,
The Attorney General,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

Enclosed is copy of letter of March 7, 1938, from the Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, South Carolina, regarding the death of A. J. Anderson, lamplighter, who resided at Volusia Bar Fog Signal Station, Florida. This Department would be interested to receive any report that the Department of Justice may see fit to furnish in connection with this matter.

Very truly yours,

J. M. JOHNSON

J. M. JOHNSON
Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Enclosure
KSG:FBW

LIGHTHOUSES
Encl. copy ... by J. M. JOHNSON
... ed ... by .....
APR 5 1938

copy

LIGHTHOUSES
MAR 29 10 09 AM '38

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

March 28, 1938.

MEMORANDUM

To: Captain King.

From: Assistant to Colonel Johnson.

Subject: Death of A. J. Anderson, Lamplighter.

Colonel Johnson has noted with interest Mr. Beck's memorandum of March 7, 1938, to you with reference to the above.

It will be appreciated if you will have prepared for the Colonel's signature letter to the Department of Justice as suggested by Mr. Harman in his memorandum of March 12.

MCF
M. C. Foster.

4/4/38 Wrote atty Genl

Att.
Superintendent Beck's memo of March 7, 1938, with Mr. Harman's recommendation of March 12, returned herewith.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES
MAR 9 8 48 AM '38

HLB:MSH

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

March 7, 1938

Commissioner of Lighthouses,

Subject: Death of A. J. Anderson, lamplighter

1. A. J. Anderson was a part-time employee, a lamplighter, who lived at Volusia Bar Fog Signal, Florida. He had charge of a group of nine automatic electric lights in the St. Johns River as well as of the Fog Signal at Volusia Bar. The Fog Signal building at Volusia Bar is an old screw pile lighthouse which was abandoned as a lighthouse some years ago. However, a Fog Signal is still maintained there. It is about six or seven hundred yards from the south end of Lake George which forms a part of the St. Johns River. A. J. Anderson was 72 years of age. He was an old sailor, a naturalized Swede.

2. I left Charleston on an inspection trip by automobile on February 9th. When I reached Jacksonville, I found a telegram from Assistant Superintendent Wallace at the office quoting a telegram received there from the Sheriff of Volusia County, Florida, reading as follows: "A. J. Anderson lamplighter of Astor Florida has been missing since Sunday. Keys in Sheriffs office Deland. Foul play suspected. (Signed) S. C. Stone, Sheriff"

3. I had not intended to go to Volusia Bar on my inspection trip but upon receiving the telegram I considered it advisable to do so. On February 11th I went to the Sheriff's office at Deland and obtained the keys from one of the deputies, the Sheriff being absent. Not much information could be obtained at the Sheriff's office although the Deputy Sheriff and detective had been to Volusia Bar. They had obtained the keys when they visited the station as well as $17.54 in cash which they found in the building. They locked the building before leaving it. I went on to the village of Astor, about five or six miles up the St. Johns River from Volusia Bar. There I rented a small boat with an outboard motor and proceeded to the station. There I observed what appeared to be bloody stains on the bedding and several spots on the floor. I locked the building and later turned the keys over to Mr. R. L. Thomason, Postmaster, at Astor, Florida. He was requested to deliver the keys to an agent of the Department of Justice when called for.

To Dept

4. As Volusia Bar Lighthouse Reservation is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, I stopped at the office of the U. S. Attorney in Jacksonville on February 12th and consulted with him about the matter. He was not present but I saw Mr. W. A. Paisley, Assistant U. S. Attorney, who thought the matter was worthy of investigation by the Bureau of Investigation. Apparently he or the U. S. Attorney himself requested the Bureau of Investigation to make an investigation at the site because the keys were obtained from the Postmaster at Astor a day or two later. Subsequently, the keys were turned over to the Postmaster without any comment as to the results of the investigation, neither has this office received any information direct from the Department of Justice. It is probable that no report will be made to this office unless it be requested of the Attorney General by the Secretary of Commerce. It is recommended that such a report be requested.

5. J. Harmon Lucas, who has resided at or near Astor for some years, was selected and employed as lamplighter effective March 1, 1938 in lieu of A. J. Anderson, deceased.

6. As the Department of Justice had had opportunity to inspect the site where local residents think a murder was committed, I felt justified in directing the new lamplighter to clean up the place so that it could be occupied and the fog signal kept in operation during fog or thick weather.

7. It may be added that the body of A. J. Anderson was recovered on Feb. 12 about 200 yards from Volusia Bar Fog Signal in the water of Lake George. It is understood to have been taken to Deland and buried there either by the County or City authorities. The County authorities made inquiry as to whether or not the Lighthouse Service would pay burial expenses. They were informed that there was no authority for the payment of such expenses. A. J. Anderson had no known relatives in the United States.

H. L. Beck

H. L. Beck,
Superintendent of Lighthouses

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E-K

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
March 12, 1938.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for information and with suggestion that if no objection is seen thereto a copy of this letter be transmitted to the Attorney General with suggestion that this Department would be interested to receive any report that the Department of Justice may see fit to furnish in the matter.

For the Commissioner:

W. P. Harman

W.P.Harman
Administrative Assistant

HLB:MSH

Personnel.

LIGHTHOUSES
FEB 18 8 45 AM '38

Form 93

NOTICE OF ~~RESIGNATION OR~~ DEATH

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES, 6th DISTRICT,

February 16, 1938

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Herewith is transmitted the notice of death of the following-named employee:

Name, A. J. Anderson

Position, Lamplighter

Legal residence, Florida

Station, Volusia Bar Fog Signal, Fla.

Salary, $47 per month, including $20 per month for quarters

~~The acceptance of this resignation is recommended effective at the close of~~

~~This employee has taken leave in excess of the accrued rate.~~

Remarks:

A. J. Anderson was last seen at Volusia Bar Fog Signal on Sunday, February 6, 1938, according to reports of residents in the vicinity. His body was found in Lake George on Feb. 12, 1938. He lived alone at Volusia Bar Fog Signal. He was 72 years of age. A further and more detailed report about the matter will be submitted later.

noted - lamplighter - a part time employee

RJM/F

38 apptt 2/18

H. L. Beck, Supt. of Lighthouses

2/18

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce,

The above Personnel action was cleared by phone with Mr. Beck's office on the 17th. Mr. Beck was requested to get the 17th. Mr. Beck was requested to get the facts in this case as soon as possible and to find if the position was filled by a regular appointee or by a temporary appointee. It was learned that the position was filled by a temporary appointee and that the appointee was not entitled to leave with pay. We learned that the appointee was a lamplighter and that the position was filled at the time on an hourly basis. What is the pay per month for a lamplighter and is he entitled to leave with pay? Mr. Beck will be requested to furnish this information by phone.

21—1623

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

LIGHTHOUSES
APR 26 10 13 AM '38

BM:MHH:tc

90-1-7-316

April 25, 1938.

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a carbon copy of a letter dated April 19, 1938, from the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, regarding the death of A. J. Anderson, Lamplighter, who resided at Volusia Bar Fog Signal Station, Florida.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

Brien McMahon

BRIEN McMAHON,
Assistant Attorney General.

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E-K

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
April 30, 1938.

Copy to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C., for further report to the Bureau.

Enclosure 103518. Received

For the Commissioner:

C.A.Park
Deputy Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

WAP:RM
L-401-J

April 19, 1938

The Attorney General,
Washington, D. C.

In re: Death of A. J. Anderson, Lamplighter, who resided at Volusia Bar Fog Signal Station, Florida.
Your symbols: BM:MHH:PE 90-1-7-316.

S i r :

Receipt is acknowledged of yours of April 11th on the above subject.

This matter was reported to this office by the Lighthouse Service and we immediately requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to conduct an investigation, when it appeared that the Bar Fog Signal Station was a government reservation.

An exhaustive investigation was made and no evidence against anyone was obtained. I assume that the Federal Bureau of Investigation report is available to the Department and, therefore, deem it unnecessary to summarize the findings. The investigation has not been closed.

No action has been taken by this office. None is contemplated, unless, of course, sufficient evidence of the commission of a crime is developed. This appears to be rather unlikely.

Respectfully,

HERBERT S. PHILLIPS,
United States Attorney.

Wm. A. Paisley,
Asst. U. S. Attorney

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES
MAR 9 8 48 AM '38

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

March 7, 1938

HLB:MSH

Commissioner of Lighthouses,

Subject: Death of A. J. Anderson, lamplighter

1. A. J. Anderson was a part-time employee, a lamplighter, who lived at Volusia Bar Fog Signal, Florida. He had charge of a group of nine automatic electric lights in the St. Johns River as well as of the Fog Signal at Volusia Bar. The Fog Signal building at Volusia Bar is an old screw pile lighthouse which was abandoned as a lighthouse some years ago. However, a Fog Signal is still maintained there. It is about six or seven hundred yards from the south end of Lake George which forms a part of the St. Johns River. A. J. Anderson was 72 years of age. He was an old sailor, a naturalized Swede.

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H. L. Beck,
Superintendent of Lighthouses

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E-K Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
March 12, 1938.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for information and with suggestion that if no objection is seen thereto a copy of this letter be transmitted to the Attorney General with suggestion that this Department would be interested to receive any report that the Department of Justice may see fit to furnish in the matter.

For the Commissioner:

W.P.Harman
Administrative Assistant