JAN 21 1964

Honorable C. Russell Brownell
Mayor of Morgan City
Morgan City, Louisiana

Dear Mayor Brownell:

On January 31, 1964, Mr. Godfrey C. Kiff, who lives at 401 Seventh Street, Morgan City, Louisiana, will retire from active employment as a civilian employee of the U. S. Coast Guard. Thus will end a career of dedicated service which extends over a period of more than forty years, a record which is considered truly commendable. His entire working life has been devoted to the operation and maintenance of aids to navigation in the Morgan City, La. area and I am sure you can appreciate the importance of his career to the seafarer.

Mr. Kiff began work on July 29, 1920 as an Assistant Lighthouse Keeper at Ship Shoal Light Station which was operated by the former Lighthouse Service, a branch of the Department of Commerce. This function was transferred to the U. S. Coast Guard in July 1939. Subsequently, Mr. Kiff was assigned to Point au Fer Reef Light Station in 1926, Oyster Bayou Light Station in 1931, back to Point au Fer Reef Light Station in 1942 and to his present station - Atchafalaya River Light Attendant Station - in 1949.

As I feel that Mr. Kiff's services to a very important segment of the business interests of Morgan City are truly worthy of special recognition, I would appreciate it if you, as head of your community, could issue a proclamation designating January 31, 1964 as "Godfrey C. Kiff Day" to honor his many years of faithful public service which certainly redounds to the credit of your city.

I am sending as my personal representatives, Commander G. H. Read, Chief, Personnel Division, Commander O. H. Abney, Chief, Aids to Navigation Branch and Mr. John A. Hill, Chief, Civilian Personnel Branch to present to Mr. Kiff on January 31 in the presence of his family, friends and co-workers, the official notice of his retirement from government service and I wish to invite you to participate in the ceremony.

COMMANDER
EIGHTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
CUSTOM HOUSE
NEW ORLEANS 16, LOUISIANA

31 January 1964

Mr. Godfrey C. Kiff
401 Front Street
Morgan City, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Kiff:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the Albert Gallatin Award on behalf of The Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Douglas Dillon, on the occasion of your retirement from civilian employment with the Coast Guard. This award, which you so richly deserve, is in recognition of your many years of faithful service.

I have learned that your entire working life - more than forty-two years - has been devoted to the operation and maintenance of aids to navigation in the Morgan City area. This is a truly commendable record and I am sure that thousands of seafarers have benefitted from the services you so ably performed.

May you enjoy for many years the leisure afforded by retirement.

Sincerely yours,

J. D. CRAIK
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Commander, 8th Coast Guard District

United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO:

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS
1100 OHIO DRIVE SW.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
CHESAPEAKE LIGHTSHIP
November 12, 1975

NEWS LETTER

To: All Hands - U.S Lighthouse Service

From: Staff Historian

Your response to my letter of last April was so good that it produced an interest in Lighthouse Service and equipment that was so infectious that even the headquarters mail clerks became interested.

In this letter on behalf of the National Park Service, I wish to say thanks again. I shall try and explain what happens to your gifts; to present an overall picture of the close relationship of the National Park Service to the Lighthouse Service and to take a look at the future.

Your donations, which needed special care and safe storage were sent immediately to our museum branch at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia and were all acknowledged by an official receipt. After cleaning, repair and preservative treatment, they will be placed in storage until adequate exhibit spaces are built for the ship. In case of duplicate or unsuitable items, the Park Service reserves the right to place an item where it most nearly fulfills the requirement of historical integrity.

The CHESAPEAKE is only one of many former Lighthouse properties now in the national parks. Following is a partial list:

1. Down river 2 miles from our own ship is the Jones Point Lighthouse
2. Cape Cod Lighthouse (Massachusetts)
3. Cape Henry Lighthouse Virginia
4. Cape Hatteras Lighthouse North Carolina
5. Lighthouse at Salem Maritime National Historic Site
6. Assateaque Lighthouse (Maryland)
7. Lighthouse at San Juan, Puerto Rico National Historic Site
8. St. Croix River Lighthouse (Minnesota)
9. Rock of Ages Lighthouse (Michigan)
10. Keepers Quarters at Fort Point (under Golden Gate Bridge)
11. Point Reyes Lighthouse California

AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL 1776-1976

Each one of these areas provides a natural platform for telling the story of the Lighthouse Service. We are still interested in locating uniforms, blankets, silverwears, badges, clocks, and old letters. Particularly interested in hearing from women who worked or were related to service men.

One of our correspondents made the following statements regarding the Lighthouse Service, "It had a tight supply system, if you requested a new broom, it was necessary to prove that the old one was worn out."

The CHESAPEAKE has come the full circle-we are on a tight budget. The first blow was the elimination of our trained crew of Explorer Scouts. They had been a very important part of the program since August 1971 when eight Explorers and the past Director went to Cape May, New Jersey to rescue this ship from the junk pile and to bring her to Washington. I am certain we shall weather the storm; your letters and gifts will help us convince the top management that this portion of American history deserves a equal treatment.

The two enclosures with this letter prove that there is a growing interest in the Lighthouse Service story: the chronology prepared by C.G. historian Truman Strowbridge, is interesting and may stimulate your memory. CDR Boyce is interested in the specialized rather technical history of bouys .

If you will excuse a personal comment - this project has a personal interest for me. Back in 1938, I was broke and deeply in debt after struggling through two years of college. I joined the Coast Guard and was present in Michigan and later Puerto Rico to observe some of the problems of merging the two organizations.

I shall be looking for your letters.

O. H Van Zee

O.H. Van Zee

P.S.
Perhaps you might wish to contact your Congressman and tell him of your interest in preservation of Lighthouse Service history.

United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS—CENTRAL
900 OHIO DRIVE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

Godfrey C. Kiff
401 7th St.
Morgan City, La. 70380

Dear Mr. Kiff: October 3, 1981

National Park Service records indicate that in approximately February, 1976 you donated some photographs and Memoirs of your career in the United States Light House Service to the Lightship Chesapeake in Washington, D.C. Your donations have now been assigned Accession number 19.

Unfortunately, at the time that your donations were accepted, the necessary paperwork to document the acquisition of these items by the Lightship Chesapeake was not completed. The Park Service has asked me to obtain the proper documentation at this time.

Enclosed are a Deed of Gift, a self addressed envelope, and a Certificate of Appreciation. Please fill in your telephone number and sign the Deed of Gift and return the original copy to me in the envelope provided. Keep the donor copy of the Deed of Gift and the Certificate of Appreciation for your own records.

Thank You,

Frank Hebblethwaite

Frank Hebblethwaite
Park Technician
National Capital Parks-Central

3 Enclosures

Year of the Visitor

UNITED STATES
Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

has received from you

6 Photographs of United States Light House Service Personnel

Memoirs of Career in U.S.L.H.S.

This valued gift is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully yours,

To Godfrey C. Kiff

3 October 1981

Frank Hebblethwaite

CERTIFICATE OF PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

March 6, 1923.

Mr. Godfrey C. Kiff,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office and to a probationary period of not to exceed six months as provided by paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII, Keeper in the Lighthouse Service at a salary of Seven Hundred and Eighty dollars per annum, effective on the date on which you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

By selection from certificate of eligibles (No. ____) issued by the Secretary, Tenth Civil Service District.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

Clifford Harding
Chief of Appointment Division.

EC

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Peter Duay.

Legal Residence: Louisiana.

(See reverse side.)

11—6280

INVESTIGATION FOR CREDENTIALS
AUTHORITY FOR OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS
NOT TO BE ACCEPTED AS OPERATIONS UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY

"Leo L. Guidry was my old friend head keeper at the Ship Shoal Lighthouse for 6 years, then 11 years at Oyster Bayou Lighthouse, then he was transferred with me at the Point Aufer Reef Light, Eugene Island in 1946. He retired Dec.31, 1948."

Godfrey C. Kiff

L. L. Guidry, Keeper,
Ship Shoal Light Station,
Morgan City, La.

1. Enclosed herewith, for transmittal to 2nd Asst. Keeper G. C. Kiffe, is Form 206, showing record of his physical examination by the U.S.Public Health Service at New Orleans, La. A copy has been made for the files of this office.

E. S. LANDRIER
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

WJB.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

July 11th, 1923.

L. L. Guidry, Keeper,
Ship Shoal Light Station,
Morgan City, La.

P. - Enclosed herewith, for transmittal to 2nd Asst. Keeper G. C. Kiffe, is Form 206, showing record of his physical examination by the U.S.Public Health Service at New Orleans, La. A copy has been made for the files of this office.

E. S. LANDRIER
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

...HONE TO
...GHTHOUSES
...E, LA.

WJB.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

February 19, 1925.

G. C. Kiffe, 2nd Asst. Keeper,
Ship Shoal Light Station,
Morgan City, Louisiana.
(Through the Keeper)

1. It is with pleasure that this office transmits herewith Department letter of February 13, 1925, commending you for the assistance rendered on February 6th to the yacht "HERO" which was in distress with a broken propeller shaft.

2. This commendation will be recorded as part of your official history.

E. S. LANPHIER

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

...LIGHTHOUSES
...OF THIS LETTER
AND FILE NO. LGJ

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

February 13, 1925.

Godfred C. Kiffe, 2nd Assistant Keeper,
Ship Shoal Light Station, La.
(Through Superintendent of Lighthouses, New Orleans, La.)

The Bureau is in receipt of report from the keeper dated February 7, 1925 forwarded from the Superintendent, regarding the assistance you rendered on February 6 to the yacht "Hero" which was in distress with a broken propeller shaft. The Bureau is pleased to commend you for the assistance rendered on this occasion, a record of which will be included in your official history.

G. R. Putnam

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

STANDARD FORM 50 (8 PART)
UNITED STATES
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
OCTOBER 1946

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

TC

1948 SEP 6 AM 9:16

NOTIFICATION OF PERSONNEL ACTION

1. NAME (MR.—MISS—MRS.—FIRST—MIDDLE INITIAL—LAST)	2. DATE OF BIRTH	3. JOURNAL OR ACTION NO.	4. DATE
Kiff, Godfrey C. (Mr.)	10-12-03	16	8-30-48

This is to notify you of the following action affecting your employment:

5. NATURE OF ACTION (USE STANDARD TERMINOLOGY)	6. EFFECTIVE DATE	7. CIVIL SERVICE OR OTHER LEGAL AUTHORITY
Intra Agency Transfer & Promotion	E.O.D.	CS Reg 8.103(a)

FROM 08-507		TO 08-528
Keeper Class 3-d ($2724.00-3175.44) $3024.96 pa incl $60 pa Qtrs	8. POSITION TITLE 9. SERVICE, GRADE, SALARY	Light Attendant Range ($3024.96-3476.40) $3024.96 pa
U. S. Coast Guard New Orleans, La. Point au Fer Reef Lt.Sta., La.	10. ORGANIZATIONAL DESIGNATIONS 11. HEADQUARTERS	U. S. Coast Guard New Orleans, La. Atchafalaya River Lt.Att. Sta., La.
[X] FIELD [ ] DEPARTMENTAL	12. FIELD OR DEPT'L	[X] FIELD [ ] DEPARTMENTAL

13. REMARKS

This is a regular position in the authorized complement of the District.

The position of Keeper (#08-507), at Point au Fer Reef Lt. Sta., is abolished coincident with the transfer of Mr. Kiff.

H. L. Mogan EM

Chief, Civilian Personnel Division

14. SIGNATURE OR OTHER AUTHENTICATION

15. VETERAN'S PREFERENCE								16. POSITION CLASSIFICATION ACTION				
NONE	5 PT.	10 POINT			WWII	WWI	OTHER	NEW	VICE *	I. A.	REAL.	* Spangler, Eddie E. (Mr.) Retired 7-31-48
X		DISAB.	WIFE	WIDOW								

17.	18. RACE	19. APPROPRIATION	20. SUBJECT TO C.S. RETIREMENT ACT (ACCESSION NO.)	21. DATE OF OATH (ACCESSIONS ONLY)	22. LEGAL RESIDENCE
Y		FROM: Civilian Employees, CG TO: do	LH 6-20-18		La.

1. EMPLOYEE COPY

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1947 — 785688

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

WJB.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

February 19, 1925.

G. C. Kiffe, 2nd Asst. Keeper,
Ship Shoal Light Station,
Morgan City, Louisiana.
(Through the Keeper)

1. It is with pleasure that this office transmits herewith Department letter of February 13, 1925, commending you for the assistance rendered on February 6th to the yacht "HERO" which was in distress with a broken propeller shaft.

2. This commendation will be recorded as part of your official history.

E. S. LANPHIER

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

IN REPLYING ADDRESS
COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES
AND REFER TO DATE OF THIS LETTER
AND FILE NO
LGJ

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

February 13, 1925.

Godfred C. Kiffe, 2nd Assistant Keeper,
Ship Shoal Light Station, La.
(Through Superintendent of Lighthouses, New Orleans, La.)

The Bureau is in receipt of report from the keeper dated February 7, 1925 forwarded from the Superintendent, regarding the assistance you rendered on February 6 to the yacht "Hero" which was in distress with a broken propeller shaft. The Bureau is pleased to commend you for the assistance rendered on this occasion, a record of which will be included in your official history.

G. R. Putnam

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

ADDRESS REPLY TO
COMMANDER, 8TH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
REFER TO FILE

16 September, 1948
File: pc 75

From: Commander, 8th CG District
To: Mr. G. C. Kiff, Keeper, Point au Fer Reef Light Station, Morgan City, Louisiana

Subj: Intra Agency Transfer & Promotion

1. Transmitted herewith are Standard Forms 50, Notification of Personnel Action, covering the Intra Agency Transfer & Promotion of yourself and Mr. Davidson as shown below:

Name	From	To
Godfrey C. Kiff	Keeper, Point au Fer Reef Light Station, La.	Light Attendant, Atchafalaya River Lt.Attdt. Sta., La.
Wm. H. Davidson	Assistant Keeper, Point au Fer Reef Light Station, La.	Light Attendant, Atchafalaya River Lt.Attdt. Sta., La.

2. Await instructions from this office before proceeding to your new station.

W. J. BRAUN, Jr.
By direction

Incls
2 Std.Forms 50

P.S.- Govt. Boat will be furnished.

Official letter when impossible to obtain.

8/2 avg 3100 20
75 2 raise
Longlun Jay change
3250 - 3476.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

WJB.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

April 27th, 1923.

G. C. Kiffe, 2nd Asst. Keeper,
Ship Shoal Light Station,
Morgan City, La.
(Through the Keeper)

Inclosed is a copy of Form 206, "Record of Physical Examination of Light Keeper or Assistant Light Keeper," with application thereon for your examination by an officer of the U. S. Public Health Service.

You are informed that all light keepers and assistant light keepers are required to be examined by the Public Health Service before they become entitled to medical relief without charge at hospitals and stations of the Public Health Service. The examination is also required to determine the employee's physical fitness for the Lighthouse Service.

You are directed to have yourself examined by the most convenient Public Health Service official at first opportunity. Reply to this letter at once, stating when and where you will be examined, and submit request on the proper form for the necessary leave of absence from the station.

Before presenting the application to the doctor, it must be completed by filling in the information in regard to color of hair, color of eyes, and distinguishing marks. You must also sign it where designated, "Signature of applicant," and have the Keeper witness your signature. All expense of travel in connection with this examination must be paid by you.

The following is a list showing locations of the Public Health Service officers:

Apalachicola, Fla.,	Call upon Collector of Customs for information.
Pensacola, Fla.,	Public Health Service Office.
Mobile, Ala.,	U. S. Marine Hospital.
Gulfport, Miss.,	Public Health Service Office.
Port Arthur, Texas,	do.
Galveston, Texas,	do.
Port Aransas, Texas,	do.
New Orleans, La.,	U.S.Marine Hospital (Office in Custom House).

Return Record of Examination to this office promptly.

E. S. LANDRIER
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Form 206 File No. 8

WJB

RECORD OF PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OF LIGHT KEEPER OR ASSISTANT LIGHT KEEPER

IN CONNECTION WITH MEDICAL RELIEF BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
JUL 13 1923
NEW ORLEANS.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Office of Lighthouse Supt. xxxxxxx, 8th District,

Place, New Orleans, La.,

Date, April 27th, 1923.

To the Medical Officer in Charge,
U. S. Public Health Service,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Please examine Godfrey C. Kiff, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Ship Shoal Light Station, La.

nativity, Louisiana; age, 18; height, 5 feet, 9½ inches;

weight, 140 pounds; color of hair, black; color of eyes, dark brown

distinguishing marks, None

as to eyesight, hearing, and physical condition.

When the examination has been completed the findings should be recorded on this blank and the blank returned to the applicant.

Respectfully,

E. S. Lanphier.

Superintendent of Lighthouses xxxxxxxxxxx.

(Signature of applicant:) G. C. Kiff 2nd asst

(To be signed in the presence of the officer issuing this blank or witnessed by a designated employee of the Lighthouse Service.) (Signature of witness): Leo LaGourley

Keeper.

U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Place, New Orleans, La

Date, 7-9, 1923

To Lighthouse Inspector,

Sir: This certifies that I have this day examined the eyesight, hearing, and physical condition of Godfrey C. Kiffe, and find him physically ~~disqualified~~ qualified* in accordance with rules approved by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Commerce, respecting the treatment by the Public Health Service of light keepers and assistant light keepers of the Lighthouse Service pursuant to the Act of Congress approved August 28, 1916.

~~He is disqualified for the reasons shown on page 3~~.

J. B. Woodruff

P. H., *Surgeon, U. S. Public Health Service.*

* If qualified, strike out the word "disqualified" and the paragraph following.

11—5009

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

WJH.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

May 8, 1929.

L. L. Guidry, Keeper,
Ship Shoal Light Station,
Morgan City, Louisiana.

1. There is inclosed herewith a copy of the new Medical Handbook, prepared by the United States Public Health Service, entitled "The Ship's Medicine Chest and First Aid at Sea."

2. Attention is invited to the list of medical supplies for ships and stations of the United States Lighthouse Service on pages 52 and 53. In making requisition for supplies, you will be guided by this list rather than by the list in the 1915 handbook.

3. This handbook is to be taken up on your property return as station property and accounted for on each return.

E. S. LAMPHIER
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
LEC

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
November 6, 1936

Godfrey C. Kiff, Second Asst. Keeper,
Oyster Bayou Light Station
Marine Route No. 2
Morgan City, La.
(Through the Keeper)

1. Referring to your letter of September 10, 1936, advising that your name should be correctly spelled Godfrey C. Kiff, instead of Godfred C. Kiffe, as it had been carried in official records, you are advised that this matter was referred to the Bureau of Lighthouses for necessary action, and information has been received as follows:

> "The Department has amended its records in the case of Godfred C. Kiffe to show the correct spelling of his name as Godfrey C. Kiff. The Bureau is authorized to change its records accordingly.
>
> "A new appointment certificate will not be issued as a result of this change, nor will an oath of office be required"

2. Necessary change also has been made in the records of this office.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent.

A. M. Schilich
Assistant Superintendent

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

New Orleans, La.
16 November, 1942

Office of
District Coast Guard Officer,
Eighth Naval District.

From: District Coast Guard Officer, Eighth Naval District.
To : Godfrey C. Kiff, Keeper, Point Au Fer Reef Light Station.

Subject: Change in status and post of duty.

Inclosure: (A) Department Form 2249, advising of your transfer.

1. Inclosure (A) is forwarded for your information and records, your transfer having been effected 22 October, 1942.

W. J. BRAUN, JR.,
By direction

FOR VICTORY
BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

NEW ORLEANS 9, LA

ADDRESS REPLY TO
DISTRICT COAST GUARD OFFICER
EIGHTH ~~NAVAL~~ DISTRICT (pc)
REFER TO FILE: 75

17 March, 1948

From: Commander, 8th Coast Guard District
To: Mr. Godfrey C. Kiff, Keeper, Point au Fer Reef Light Station, Morgan City, Louisiana

Subj: Your promotion to Principal Keeper

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated 16 March, 1948 in which you refer to letter from this office regarding your recent promotion. There is quoted below letter from this office to which you make reference:

> "Transmitted herewith is Treasury Department Form 2249 dated 27 January, 1948, notifying you of your promotion effective 8 February, 1948 from the position of 1st Assistant Keeper, $2619.72 per annum in the pay range $2168.28 - $2619.72 per annum, including $60 per annum quarters, to the position of Keeper in Charge, $2619.72 per annum, including $60 per annum quarters, in the pay range $2394.00 - $2845.44 per annum.

Underscoring supplied. It will be noted from the foregoing and also on the Treasury Department Form 2249 forwarded to you with the above-quoted letter, that you were promoted from 1st Assistant Keeper to Principal Keeper. While your rate of pay was not changed, you will note that the range of your pay has been increased from a maximum of $2619.72 per annum to $2845.44 per annum, including $60 per annum for quarters.

M Garfield

M. GARFIELD
By direction

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

NEW ORLEANS 9, LA

ADDRESS REPLY TO
DISTRICT COAST GUARD OFFICER
EIGHTH ~~BACKUS~~ DISTRICT
REFER TO FILE: (pc) 75

17 March, 1948

From: Commander, 8th Coast Guard District
To: Mr. Godfrey C. Kiff, Keeper, Point au Fer Reef Light Station, Morgan City, Louisiana

Subj: Your promotion to Principal Keeper

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated 16 March, 1948 in which you refer to letter from this office regarding your recent promotion. There is quoted below letter from this office to which you make reference:

> "Transmitted herewith is Treasury Department Form 2249 dated 27 January, 1948, notifying you of your promotion effective 8 February, 1948 from the position of 1st Assistant Keeper, $2619.72 per annum in the pay range $2168.28 - $2619.72 per annum, including $60 per annum quarters, to the position of Keeper in Charge, $2619.72 per annum, including $60 per annum quarters, in the pay range $2394.00 - $2845.44 per annum.

Underscoring supplied. It will be noted from the foregoing and also on the Treasury Department Form 2249 forwarded to you with the above-quoted letter, that you were promoted from 1st Assistant Keeper to Principal Keeper. While your rate of pay was not changed, you will note that the range of your pay has been increased from a maximum of $2619.72 per annum to $2845.44 per annum, including $60 per annum for quarters.

M Garfield

M. GARFIELD
By direction

STANDARD FORM 50 (9 PART)
UNITED STATES
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
OCTOBER 1946

U. S. COAST GUARD
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

BUDGET BUREAU APPROVED.
BUREAU NO. 50-R064.

1948 SEP 6 AM 9:16

NOTIFICATION OF PERSONNEL ACTION

1. NAME (MR.—MISS—MRS.—FIRST—MIDDLE INITIAL—LAST)	2. DATE OF BIRTH	3. JOURNAL OR ACTION NO.	4. DATE
Kiff, Godfrey C. (Mr.)	10-12-03	16	8-30-48

This is to notify you of the following action affecting your employment:

5. NATURE OF ACTION (USE STANDARD TERMINOLOGY)	6. EFFECTIVE DATE	7. CIVIL SERVICE OR OTHER LEGAL AUTHORITY
Intra Agency Transfer & Promotion	E.O.D.	CS Reg 8.103(a)

FROM 08-507		TO 08-528
Keeper Class 3-d ($2724.00-3175.44) $3024.96 pa incl $60 pa Qtrs U. S. Coast Guard New Orleans, La. Point au Fer Reef Lt.Sta., La. [X] FIELD [ ] DEPARTMENTAL	8. POSITION TITLE 9. SERVICE, GRADE, SALARY 10. ORGANIZATIONAL DESIGNATIONS 11. HEADQUARTERS 12. FIELD OR DEPT'L	Light Attendant Range ($3024.96-3476.40) $3024.96 pa U. S. Coast Guard New Orleans, La. Atchafalaya River Lt.Att. Sta., La. [X] FIELD [ ] DEPARTMENTAL

13. REMARKS

This is a regular position in the authorized complement of the District.

The position of Keeper (#08-507), at Point au Fer Reef Lt. Sta., is abolished coincident with the transfer of Mr. Kiff.

H. L. Magee EEM
Chief, Civilian Personnel Division
14. SIGNATURE OR OTHER AUTHENTICATION

15. VETERAN'S PREFERENCE								16. POSITION CLASSIFICATION ACTION				
NONE	5 PT.	10 POINT			WWII	WWI	OTHER	NEW	VICE *	I. A.	REAL.	* Spangler, Eddie E. (Mr.) Retired 7-31-48
		DISAB.	WIFE	WIDOW								
X												

17. SEX	18. RACE	19. APPROPRIATION	20. SUBJECT TO C.S. RETIREMENT ACT (XXX NO)	21. DATE OF OATH (ACCESSIONS ONLY)	22. LEGAL RESIDENCE
M		FROM: Civilian Employees, CG TO: do	LH 6-20-18		La.

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1947 — 705008

1. EMPLOYEE COPY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

ADDRESS REPLY TO
COMMANDER, 8TH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
REFER TO FILE

16 September, 1948
File: pc 75

From: Commander, 8th CG District
To: Mr. G. C. Kiff, Keeper, Point au Fer Reef Light Station, Morgan City, Louisiana

Subj: Intra Agency Transfer & Promotion

1. Transmitted herewith are Standard Forms 50, Notification of Personnel Action, covering the Intra Agency Transfer & Promotion of yourself and Mr. Davidson as shown below:

Name	From	To
Godfrey C. Kiff	Keeper, Point au Fer Reef Light Station, La.	Light Attendant, Atchafalaya River Lt.Attdt. Sta., La.
Wm. H. Davidson	Assistant Keeper, Point au Fer Reef Light Station, La.	Light Attendant, Atchafalaya River Lt.Attdt. Sta., La.

2. Await instructions from this office before proceeding to your new station.

W. J. BRAUN, Jr.
By direction

Incls
2 Std.Forms 50

P.S. Govt. Boat will be furnished.

Official letter when impossible to go then.

8/ 2 aug 3100 20
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MORGAN CITY ARCHIVES

SOURCE Godfrey Kiff (Morgan City, La)

DATE July, 1979

SUBJECT HEADINGS
LIGHTHOUSE HISTORY

Personal Memoirs
Godfrey Kiff-former tender of Lighthouses in Atchafalaya Bay

1923, July 11- Letter from the Dept of Commerce to L.L. Guidry, keeper, signed by E.S. Lanphier, Supt of Lighthouses

1925, Feb. 19- Letter to G.C.Kiff, 2nd Ass't.Keeper- Ship Shoal Light, signed by E.S. Lanphier

1925, Feb. 13- Letter to G.C. Kiff, signed by Comm. of Lighthouses

1948, Nov. 16- Letter from U.S. Coast Guard--notice of transferO - signed by W.J. Braun Jr

1948, Feb. 2- Letter from U.S. Coast Guard- notice of promotion, signed by M. Garfield

1948, Mar. 17- Letter from U.S. Coast Guard- notice of promotion, signed by M. Garfield

1948, Sept 16- Letter from U.S. Coast Guard- fin regard to transfer and promotion, signed by W.J. Barun Jr

1948, Sept. 6- Employee copy of Notification of Personnel Action

1957, Aug. - Letter from U.S. Coast Guard, letter of appreciation and commendation, signed by J.A. Kerrins

1962, Mar, 29- Letter from U.S. Coast Guard- notice of recognition and presentation of 40-year lapel button

1964, Jan. 9- Letter from Commandant of U.S.Coast Guard in Washington D.C.- notification of 42 years honorable service, signed by E.J. Roland, Admiral, U.S.Coast Guard

1964, Jan.31- Letter from 8th Coast Guard Dist at New Orleans-compliments on Kiff's retirement, signed by Rear Admiral J.D. Craik at New Orleans

1964, Feb. 5- Letter from Treasury Dept, U.S.Coast Guard, in regard to retired pay of former Lighthouse Service personnel

1964, Feb.13- Letter from DELTA JEWELERS of Greenwood, Miss, personal friend, complimenting him on a job well done

1964, Jan.29- MORGAN CITY REVIEW item- Mayor Brownell's proclamation for "GODFREY KIFF DAY", scheduled for that Friday

1964, Jan.21- Copy of letter from Rear Admiral Cariak of the Coast Guard in regards to Kiff's retirement, addressed to M.C.Mayor Brownell

1964, Feb.20- Letter from U.S.Coast Guard, U.S.Treasury Dept- in regards to the status of former employees

1961, Feb.15- Letter from U.S.Coast Guard, in regards to Lenghh of Service Award for Civilian Employees, expressing appreciation for years of faithful service- 35-year button presented.

1964, Feb.28- Bulletin regarding information on the ALBERT GALLATIN AWARD for Kiff retirement

1974, Feb. 7- TIMES PICAYUNE- "KIFF REMEMBERS DAYS ON LIGHTHOUSES"

(cont'd) Page 2

MORGAN CITY ARCHIVES

SOURCE Godfrey Kiff (Morgan City,La)

DATE July, 1979

SUBJECT HEADINGS
LIGHTHOUSE HISTORY

Personal Memoirs
(cont'd- Page 2)

1975, April 28- Letter from U.S.Dept of Interior, asking Kiff for his personal memoirs and souvenirs- for an official record in the making of the LIGHTSHIP CHESAPEAKE, being assembled in Washington at the National Archives, signed by Staff Historian O.H. Van Zee

1975, Nov. 12- News letter from U.S. Dept of Interior, from Staff Historian, requesting gifts to the National Park Service

1976, Jan.25- Letter from U.S. Dept of Interior-notice of arrival of Kiff's historical momentoes

- Color brochure on the Lightship CHESAPEAKE
- 4-page Historical information on SHIP SHOAL LIGHT in Atchafalaya Bay
- Printed booklet "LIGHTHOUSES AND LIGHTSHIPS OF NORTHERN GULF OF MEXICO" issued by the U.S.Coast Guard/Dept of Transportation
- Printed booklet "AIDS TO NAVIGATION BULLETIN"- Dept of Transp/U.S.C.G.
- Personal black elastic band from Kiff's insignia on his cap
- one 30-year Pin/ one 35-year pin with ruby/ 2small,large cuff buttons
- 3 negatives (3x5)- photos taken at----
  Oyster Bayou Light (Godfrey Kiff and son)
  Ship Shoal Light (Kiff/Sidney Kiff/ Dewey Davidson)
  Oyster Bayou Light (Kiff and Leo L. Guidry)

Donated to the Morgan City Archives by Godfrey Kiff, July, 1979, with no restrictions imposed.

Signed Godfrey L. Kiff Sr Date 8-14-79

Witnesses: Catherine B. Delcambre

& Wendy Melancon

MORGAN CITY ARCHIVES

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Lighthouses

SHIP SHOAL LIGHTHOUSE

Handmade Model

E Godfrey Kiff (Morgan City)

E August, 1979

This is to certify that I, Godfrey Kiff, 401 7th St., Morgan City, Louisiana, do hereby donate to the MORGAN CITY ARCHIVES my handmade model of the former SHIP SHOAL LIGHTHOUSE in Atchafalaya Bay Channel, to remain as a permanent part of the historical collection, with no restrictions imposed.

Signed Godfrey le Kiff Sr Date 8-14-79

Witnesses: Catherine B. Dilsaver

Wendy Melancon

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

NEW ORLEANS 9, LA

ADDRESS REPLY TO
DISTRICT COAST GUARD OFFICER
EIGHTH ~~NAVAL~~ DISTRICT (pc)
REFER TO FILE 75

2 February, 1948

From: Commander, 8th Coast Guard District
To: Godfrey C. Kiff, 1st Assistant Keeper, Point au Fer Reef Light Station, P. O. Box 152, Morgan City, Louisiana

Subj: Your promotion to Keeper in Charge

Transmitted herewith is Treasury Department Form 2249 dated 27 January, 1948, notifying you of your promotion effective 8 February, 1948 from the position of 1st Assistant Keeper, $2619.72 per annum in the pay range $2168.28 - $2619.72 per annum, including $60 per annum quarters, to the position of Keeper in Charge, $2619.72 per annum, including $60 per annum quarters, in the pay range $2394.00 - $2845.44 per annum.

M Garfield

M. GARFIELD
By direction

Inc

75

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
New Orleans, La.
16 November, 1942

Office of
District Coast Guard Officer,
Eighth Naval District.

From: District Coast Guard Officer, Eighth Naval District.
To : Godfrey C. Kiff, Keeper, Point Au Fer Reef Light Station.

Subject: Change in status and post of duty.

Inclosure: (A) Department Form 2243, advising of your transfer.

1. Inclosure (A) is forwarded for your information and records, your transfer having been effected 22 October, 1942.

W. J. BRAUD, JR.,
By direction

WELCOME ABOARD LIGHTSHIP CHESAPEAKE

A proud ship has retired with a new mission.

After 40 years of distinguished service off the eastern seaboard in the coastal waters of the United States, the lightship CHESAPEAKE has found a new home in Southwest Washington, D.C., where she is alive and active as ever. The ship is manned by area Sea Scouts and operated by the National Park Service as an environmental exhibit. Her bright red hull and beacon lantern—a welcome sight to ship captains for so many years—now serve to warn of the danger of pollution. The ship with marine exhibits is open to the public and facilities are available for use by students in the study of Potomac River ecology.



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

The CHESAPEAKE was built in 1930 at Charleston, South Carolina, for the Bureau of Lighthouse Service. On August 17, she departed Charleston for Norfolk, Va. on her maiden voyage; her first duty station was off Fenwick Island, Delaware.

On July 17, 1933, she began a tour of duty that spanned the war years, encountering many dangerous storms and involving endless hours of routine duty at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay. One severe storm which lashed the ship for days in 1962 resulted in loss of half the pilot house ripped away in high seas.

The CHESAPEAKE served with distinction for over 29 years on the bay. She began her tour under the Lighthouse Service as LS-116, but, in 1939, when the service was absorbed by the United States Coast Guard, the CHESAPEAKE received a new designation as WLV-538. During World War II, she was pressed into service of the U.S. Navy and activated off Sandwich, Massachusetts. Relieved by the Navy in the summer of 1945, she returned to her Chesapeake Bay station and served there until September of 1965.

Other service included marking the entrance to Delaware Bay, where she assumed the name—"Delaware"—the name of her duty station.

In addition to marking harbor approaches and important shipping channels, the CHESAPEAKE also served to gather meteorological data and aided with oceanographic studies.

RENOVATION AND CONVERSION

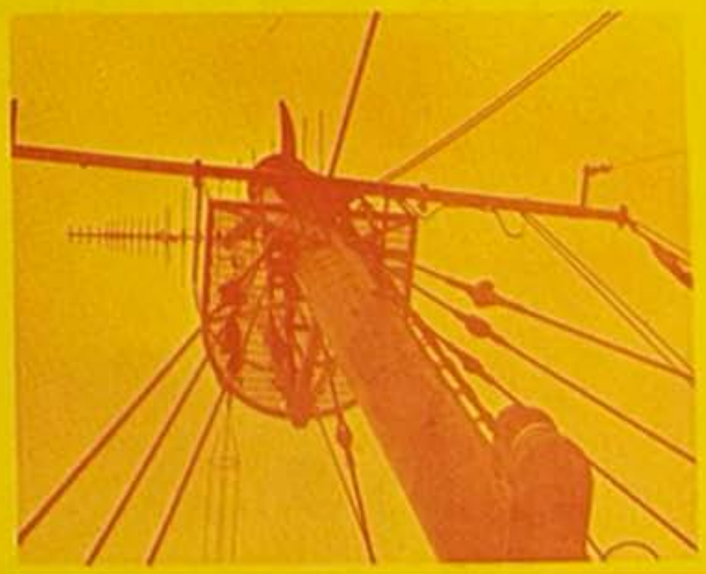
Many lightships like the CHESAPEAKE have been retired and gradually replaced with modern, automated navigation aids such as "super buoys" and steel tower structures like the one now at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay. Following her decommissioning in 1971, the CHESAPEAKE was acquired by the National Park Service for conversion to a floating environmental exhibit to supplement existing Park Service programs in education, history, ecology and recreation.

Complete rehabilitation in the Baltimore shipyards and the Washington Navy Yard was finished in the fall of 1972, when the CHESAPEAKE moved to her permanent mooring facilities off East Potomac Park in the Washington Channel.

Designed for maximum seaworthiness while riding at anchor under high sea and wind conditions, the vessel is 130-feet-long, displaces 630 tons and has a 350 horsepower, diesel-electric engine capable of maintaining a maximum speed of 9 knots. Her high bow, rounded stern and high freeboard are distinctive characteristics in ships of her class. Other unique features of the ship include the "mushroom" anchor in the bow close to the waterline and the bright double lantern at the top of the masthead. Living accomodations on board include one cabin, five single and five double staterooms.

The National Park Service has added several aquariums which depict the complex eco-system of typical marine and estuarine life, and an environmental laboratory equipped with microscopes and necessary instrumentation for marine life studies.

Welcome aboard!



STUDY AND VISITS ABOARD THE CHESAPEAKE

The Public is invited to tour the ship's facilities and view ecology exhibits. The CHESAPEAKE is open for tours every Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. There is no admission charge.



Washington Area Elementary School Students come aboard each weekday with their teachers to examine, first hand, problems confronting their environment—and to discuss possible solutions. Visiting as a class, the students move through a series of stations including a water analysis and a water cycle exhibit, designed to increase their awareness and involvement in the environment. The program, which includes pre-site and post-site material, was developed jointly by National Capital Parks of the National Park Service and D.C. Public School science teachers and aids. It focuses on the current state of the Potomac Watershed area.

Students Toward Environmental Participation (STEP) is a program which gives metropolitan area high school students a unique opportunity to examine in depth a selected environmental study area (ESA). By systematically monitoring an area in the Potomac River Basin, these students gain an insight into the different factors that interact and are interdependent in their ESA.

Environmental studies currently include marine biology, marshland community relationships and water quality analysis. Students have access to the ship's laboratory and all other equipment necessary for the project.

College Students on the graduate and undergraduate level supplement their regular classroom studies with projects in environmental education and ecology of the area. Students presently involved in this independent work represent Georgetown University, American University, the University of Maryland, and Washington Technical Institute.

Sea Explorers from the Washington area spend their weekends aboard the CHESAPEAKE and serve as her crew. The ship is homebase for their scouting program and provides them with a wide range of learning experiences including welding, navigation, electronics, and interpretive work in the National Park Service.

VISITING HOURS

Saturday and Sunday 1-4 p.m.

June-Sept.
Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday and Sunday 1-5 p.m.



The ship is administered by the National Capital Parks of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. A director is in charge of operations and a captain in immediate command. For additional information, write Lightship CHESAPEAKE, 1200 Ohio Dr. SW, Washington, D.C. 20242; or call 426-6897.

National Park Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

CHESAPEAKE

THE
NATIONAL PARK
SERVICE LIGHTSHIP
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
AWARENESS



WELCOME ABOARD
LIGHTSHIP CHESAPEAKE

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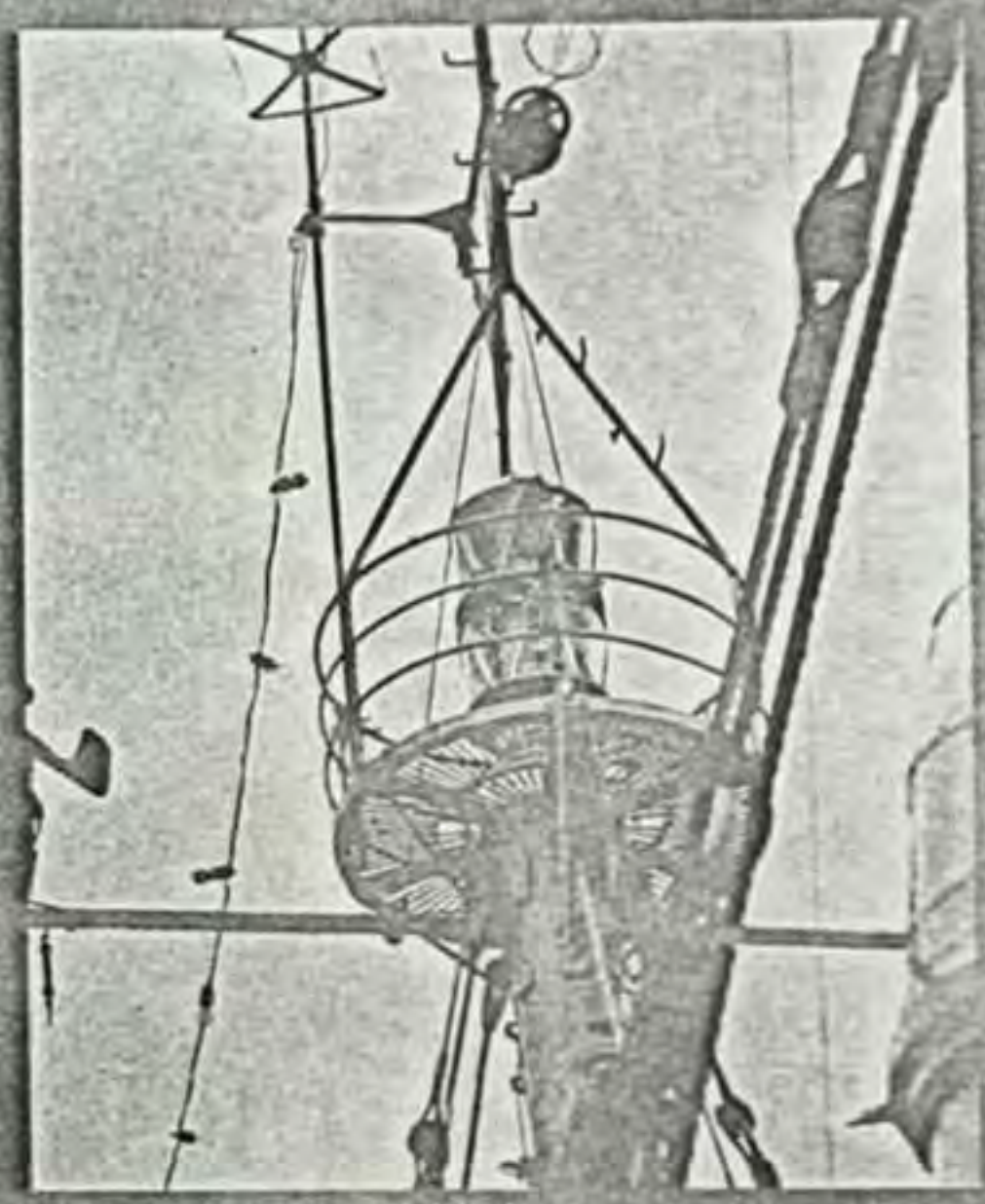
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LOUISIANA LAMPLIGHTER BUILDS MEMORIES



BMC(L) KIFF AND HIS REPLICA OF SHIP SHOAL

There's an old timer in Louisiana who hasn't forgotten the "good life" of years he spent as a lamp lighter for the U. S. Lighthouse Service. And, he's spent many happy hours since his retirement reconstructing part of that life in the form of miniature lighthouses.

Godfrey C. Kiff, 71, a civilian employee for the U.S. Lighthouse Service gained the honorary rank of BMC(L) after the U. S. Coast Guard took over operation of lighthouses along the Louisiana coast.

Since his retirement, Kiff has constructed a model of the Ship Shoal Lighthouse which was his first duty station in 1920. He served there six years. The model of the lighthouse weighs 15 pounds, took 10 months to build and cost $12.00 in aluminum tubing, copper pipe and brass screws.

The following article about Kiff was sent in by the New Orleans Chapter of CPOA. The story which was printed in one of the 8th District's publications tells the story well...

Twenty miles of bayou to the nearest town and no newspaper, television or even letters. Forty-two years of storms, loneliness and sometimes desperation.

Flashing "SOS" for days with a 10 foot kersosene lantern from atop a 105 foot tower, flying the flag upside down, burning kerosene in an open bucket - nobody saw the signals, so lightkeeper Godfrey C. Kiff began to pray. His station mate had been ill for days. Kiff's sole help was a book entitled, "The Ship's Medicine Chest and First Aid at Sea", which said little about appendicitis. But Kiff did what he could and his mate pulled through.

"It was my life and it was a good one," said Kiff, now in retirement from the U. S. Lighthouse Service for the past 11 years.

He began his work as an assistant lighthouse keeper at Ship Shoal Lighthouse off the coast of Louisiana in 1920. He was transferred to Point au Fer Reef Lighhouse in 1926, to nearby Oyster Bayou Lighthouse in 1931 and back to Point au Fer in 1942. His final assignment was Atchafalaya River Light Attendant Station, where he was Station Attendant.

Kiff, perhaps in an effort to regain part of the life he felt was "a good one," has begun to build miniature lighthouses.

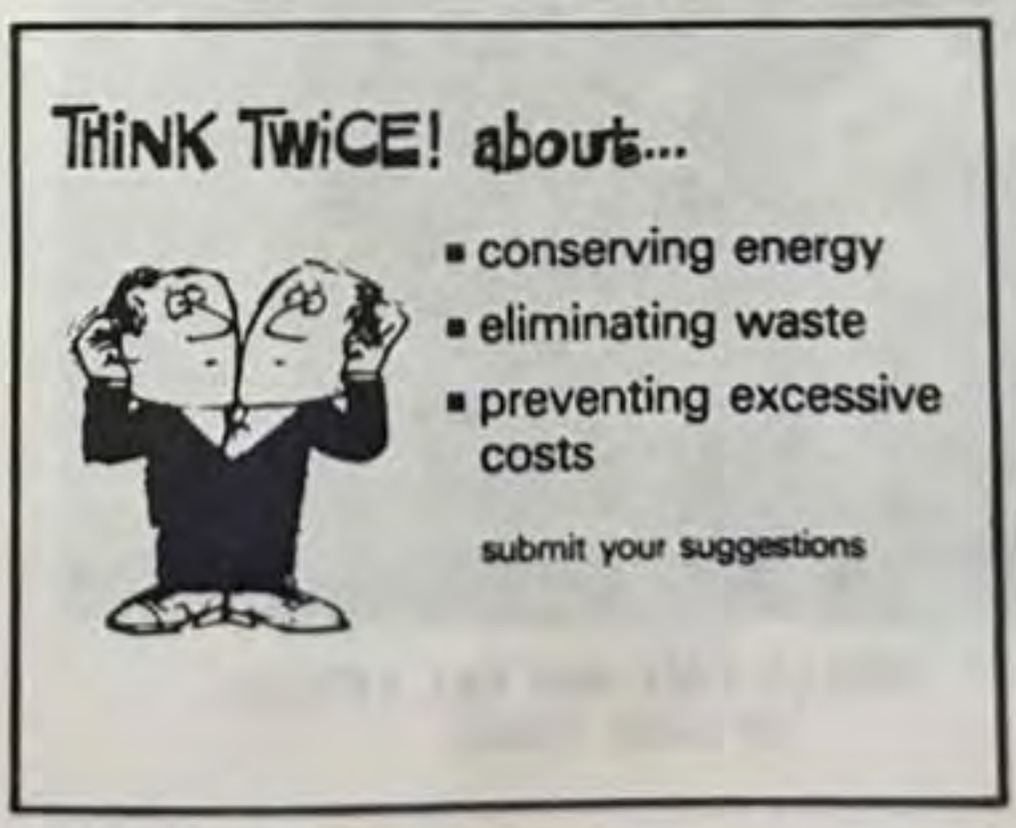
To celebrate his tenth year in retirement, Kiff built an exact replica of the lighthouse on Sabine Bank. He had tinkered for 11 month with some tin cans, a plastic bottle, an alarm clock and six-volt battery, using a pocket knife, a file and a pair of pliers.

Every thing functions, from the flashing lantern on top of the lighthouse, to the rudders on the two hand carved boats.

Through isolation, storms, and mosquitos, "It was a good life," Kiff says, "both then and now." He doesn't get to the lighthouse at Point au Fer Reef now that the Coast Guard has taken over the light, but he still goes down to the Atchafalaya River to watch the water on its journey to the sea.



SHIP SHOAL LIGHTHOUSE IN THE GULF
-OFFICIAL COAST GUARD PHOTO-



MORGAN CITY ARCHIVES

SUBJECT HEADINGS

RCE Godfrey Kiff

E Aug. 1979

Service Pins



