JUL 08 2025 PM03:14

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

Date: 6/15/2025

REQUESTER INFORMATION

Name (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Researcher ID Card Number
Burns, Andrew	
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
Overman, Walter, H.		1903 WA

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: 1979 CA

State of Residence (upon entry into service):

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

Researcher Signature: Walter Overman

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)		
Lighthouse Service (AK)		
From: 1937	To: 1939	
(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-0005941978

Attendant Signature:

CMRS Search Request Number(s): submitted to archival search 7/11/25

Remarks:

25 JUL 15 PM12:43:54

SCREENING NOTES

☐ Reviewed and Nothing Removed JMH

☐ 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:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

APPOINTMENT DIVISION

Overman, Walter H. (Name)

Calif. (Legal Residence)

DATE OF BIRTH 8-7-1903

STATUS

DESIGNATION	SERVICE AND GRADE	SALARY	ACTION	BUREAU	DIST.	STATION	DATE OF EFFECT
Keeper		1380	Prob.	L. H.	16	at large	2-15-38
Discontinued W.O.P. Close of January 4, 1939 (Negligent & careless in the performance of duties)							

41—8040

201

INDEXED

December 30, 1938.

Mr. Walter H. Overman,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

In view of a report to the effect that your services during the probationary period have been unsatisfactory in that you have been found indifferent, negligent and careless in your work, especially in the operation of the fog signal, the Department, upon recommendation of the Commissioner of Lighthouses, and in accordance with paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII, has discontinued, without prejudice, your services as keeper at $1380 per annum in the Lighthouse Service, effective at the close of business on January 4, 1939.

By direction of the Secretary:

CARDED

Respectfully,

EDW. J. GARDNER

JAN 23 1939

Chief, Division of Personnel.

DIVISION OF PERSONNEL
ENTERED ON JOURNAL
JAN 28 1939
SHEET NO 39-13
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

C

SPECIAL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DEC 23 1938
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

December 20, 1938.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DEC 30 1938
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

Subject: 16th Supt's. letter Dec.9,1938, discontinuance services during probation, Walter H. Overman.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce, together with inclosures, with recommendation that Keeper Walter H. Overman be discontinued during probation effective at the close of January 4, 1939, for the reasons stated by the Superintendent in paragraph three of his letter, the Bureau concurring with the view of the Superintendent that Mr. Overman's retention in the Service is not warranted under the circumstances.

Particular attention is invited to paragraph 4 of the Superintendent's letter to the effect that Mr. Overman is now in the United States, and contemplates sailing for Alaska immediately after January 1st, and that it is therefore desirable to notify him of the termination of his services as early as practicable. For this reason it is recommended that the Department notify the Bureau of its action as early as it can.

* Without prejudice says Mr. Gross

H. D. King
Commissioner of Lighthouses.

RG-EK

Action O. K.!
Kerlin
Adm. Asst. to Secy.

LIGHTHOUSES

DEC 19 8 42 AM '38

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 16TH DISTRICT
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

December 9, 1938.

Commissioner of Lighthouses
Washington, D. C.

1. Enclosed are three Reports on Probationary Appointee covering the probationary period of Walter H. Overman, additional keeper at large, 16th District, $1380. per annum, who entered on duty February 15, 1938, and whose probationary period will expire at the close of February 14, 1939.

2. Two of these reports are unfavorable as to the appointee, and the third is for a short period only under the supervision of an assistant keeper acting as employee in charge of the station during the absence of the regular keeper on leave.

3. On account of two unfavorable reports from different keepers serving at different stations, and considering the fact that Overman was cautioned during the period of his probationary appointment on account of using liquor at a lightstation and being under the influence of liquor at the station, it is recommended that the appointment be not made permanent.

4. Mr. Overman is now on accumulated leave in the States, approved to January 4, 1939. He has heretofore indicated his intention of returning to duty on the first steamer sailing from Seattle after January 1. If he is not to be retained permanently in the Service, it would be to his disadvantage and of no benefit to the Service for him to incur the expense of returning to duty for the comparatively short period which would elapse between January 4 and February 14, the expiration of his probationary appointment. It is therefore recommended that his probationary appointment be terminated effective at the close of January 4, 1939.

W. R. Merrell

Superintendent

Enclosure:
3 Reports on Probationary Appointee

this report is to be made at the expiration of the tenth month of service.

If service has been unsatisfactory, recommendation for discontinuance under the provisions of paragraph (c) of section 1 of Civil Service Rule VII should be forwarded immediately to the Department. A full statement of reasons should be set forth under "Remarks."

COMMERCE
(Department)

16th LIGHTHOUSE DISTRICT
(Bureau or office)

KETCHIKAN ALASKA
(Place and date)

To The Secretary of Commerce, (The Chief of the Appointment Division)
(Head of department or establishment)

The probationary period of the person named below expires at the close of business on February 14, 1939, 192 .

The conduct and capacity of this employee have -- been satisfactory during the probationary period, and (he) ~~(she)~~ is -- considered qualified for absolute appointment.

Name Walter H. Overman

Position Additional Keeper at Large

Salary $1380. per annum

Appropriation Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Station At Large in the 16th Lighthouse District.

Date of entrance on duty February 15, 1938.

Remarks:

This report covers period Feb. 15, 1938 to Mar. 21, 1938.

The above named has been under my charge during the Keepers absence for medical attention.

John H. Bailey
First Asst. Keeper
(Signature of immediate superior)

Submitted: See Superintendent's accompanying letter

(Head of bureau or office)

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 10—1732

rm No. 17
resident, March 26, 1926

SUPERINTENDEN
OF LIGHTHOUSE
NOV 14 1938
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

REPORT ON PROBATIONARY APPOINTEE

This report to be made at expiration of fifth month of service. In cases where the probationary period comprises one year, this report is to be made at the expiration of the tenth month of service.

If service has been unsatisfactory, recommendation for discontinuance under the provisions of paragraph (c) of section 1 of Civil Service Rule VII should be forwarded immediately to the Department. A full statement of reasons should be set forth under "Remarks."

COMMERCE
(Department)

16th LIGHTHOUSE DISTRICT
(Bureau or office)

KETCHIKAN ALASKA
(Place and date)

To The Secretary of Commerce (The Chief of the Appointment Division)
(Head of department or establishment)

The probationary period of the person named below expires at the close of business on February 14, 1939, 192 .

The conduct and capacity of this employee have been satisfactory during the probationary period, and (he) (she) is considered qualified for absolute appointment.

Name Walter H. Overman

Position Additional Keeper at Large

Salary $1380. per annum

Appropriation Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses

Station At Large in the 16th Lighthouse District.

Date of entrance on duty February 15, 1938

Remarks:

This report covers period Mar. 22, 1938 to July 12, 1938.

(See remarks attached letter) W H Overman
(Signature of immediate superior)

Submitted: See Supt's indorsement accompanying letter

(Head of bureau or office)

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 10—1732

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPERINTENDENT
OF LIGHTHOUSES
NOV 14 1938
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT

Cape Decision Light
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

Nov 1st 1938, 19

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
Ketchikan, Alaska.

Remarks "Overman probation period".

Sir:-

Services of Walter H. Overman at this station for period from March 28. to July 12 have been fair.

His boyish stuborm nature would not be suited to any isolated station, to station personal.

Crossed out Keeper

~~From past experience, it has been learned, the office pay-s little if any attention to keepers remarks in this matter and~~ I do not wish to be instrumantal to wish an undesirable assistant on any keeper as has been my experience.

Respectfully,

E M Overman
Keeper.

Civil Service Form No. 17
Executive Order of President, March 26, 1926

OPERATION OF LIGHTHOUSES
OCT 27 1938
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

REPORT ON PROBATIONARY APPOINTEE

This report to be made at expiration of fifth month of service. In cases where the probationary period comprises one year, this report is to be made at the expiration of the tenth month of service.

If service has been unsatisfactory, recommendation for discontinuance under the provisions of paragraph (c) of section 1 of Civil Service Rule VII should be forwarded immediately to the Department. A full statement of reasons should be set forth under "Remarks."

16th LIGHTHOUSE DISTRICT.
(Department)

(Bureau or office)

KETCHIKAN, ALASKA
(Place and date)

To The Secretary of Commerce, (The Chief of the Appointment Division)
(Head of department or establishment)

The probationary period of the person named below expires at the close of business on February 14, 1939., 192 .

The conduct and capacity of this employee have not been satisfactory during the probationary period, and (he) ~~(she)~~ is not considered qualified for absolute appointment.

Name Walter H. Overman

Position Additional Keeper at Large.

Salary $1380. per annum.

Appropriation Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Station At Large, 16th Lighthouse District.

Date of entrance on duty February 15, 1938.

Remarks: This report covers period July 13, 1938 to October 11, 1938, inclusive. Mr. Overman has been granted leave of absence beginning October 12, 1938.

(See papers attached letter)

S. K. Elder
(Signature of immediate superior)
Keeper.

Submitted: See accompanying letter.

(Head of bureau or office) Supt.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 10—1732

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES

OCT 27 1938

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

Tree Point Light
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

October 19, 1938

Superintendent of Lighthouses
16th.District.

Sir:

During the time Mr.W.H.Overman was assigned to this Station his work was not satisfactory for the following reasons, indifference,negligence and carelessnes in his work,especially in the operation of Fog Signal,or other machinery.Several times while he was operating Fog Signal,nearly burnt the bearings out on the Compressors by neglecting to put oil in them,after operating them for several hours.He was fully instructed and shown how to take care of them while operating,and as they were like the ones he had operated at other Stations,I considered it nothing but carelessness.In other work he was very careless and indifferent,as a part of it had to be done over.This may have been because he is a very strong Union man and only worked,or desired to work Union hours,which is impossible on a Light Station due to weather conditions,and the change in watches.

Respectfully,

S. H. Elder.

Keeper.

L

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
SEP 28 1938
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

Office of Superintendent
16th District
Ketchikan, Alaska

July 18, 1938

In file

Walter H. Overman
Additional Keeper at Large
Through the Keeper, Tree Point Lightstation

Charges having been presented against you, based upon information from reliable sources, that on March 9, 1938 you used intoxicating liquor at Five Finger Lightstation and that on that date you were noticeably under the influence of liquor, and such charges having been substantiated by investigation, your attention is called to the fact that use of intoxicating liquor at lightstations is forbidden and you are cautioned against commission of similar offense in future.

W. C. Debrill
Superintendent

WCD:EMV Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses - 16th District
Ketchikan, Alaska - August 5, 1938

Copy of letter of caution sent to Walter H. Overman forwarded to Bureau in compliance with request contained in Bureau endorsement of July 27, 1938, on letter of July 18, 1938.

W. C. Debrill
Superintendent

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES - WASHINGTON
September 27, 1938

Copy submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for information.

For the Commissioner:

W. P. Herman,
Administrative Assistant

STANDARD FORM NO. 6
(Approved by the President 3/28/24)
Revised Dec. 5, 1929

PERSONAL HISTORY STATEMENT

(To be prepared by appointee in own handwriting)

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
JAN 4 1938
DIVISION OF
KETCHIKAN ALASKA

Department or Establishment 16th Lighthouse Dist Date Dec-27,1937

1. Name in full (Mr., Miss, or Mrs.) Overman (Surname) Walter (Given name) Harvey (Middle name)
2. Present address 1736 A-B (Number) Lake (Street) Berkeley (City) Calif. (State)
3. Legal (voting) residence ~~B~~ California (State and Congressional District) (County) Berkeley (City or town)
4. Where born Everett (State or foreign country) Wash (City or town) When born AUG 7 1903 (Month Day Year)
5. If foreign-born, state whether naturalized or alien
6. Indicate sex, marital condition, and race by check, thus: √ If Mrs., state other names under which previously employed.

SEX		MARITAL CONDITION				RACE. (If other, state which)	
Male √	Female	Single	Married √	Divorced	Widowed	White √	Colored

7. Number and ages of dependents domiciled with you two (2) wife - age 22 Baby - age 14 months
8. A complete record of your past service for the United States Government other than military or naval:

BRANCH OF SERVICE	PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT	POSITION	SALARY	DATE APPOINTED			DATE SEPARATED		
				Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year
	None								

9. Are any members of your family, who are domiciled with you, in the U. S. Government service? If so, state below:

NAME	POSITION AND DEPARTMENT OR OFFICE IN WHICH EMPLOYED	RELATIONSHIP
None	Position Department or office	
	Position Department or office	
	Position Department or office	

CANCELED

10. Do you now hold any State or municipal office? If so, state below:
no (Title) (Location) (Date appointment expires)
11. Are you the wife of a disabled veteran or widow or orphan of a person who was in the military or naval service?
(Wife, widow, or orphan) (Name of veteran) (Organization and last year of service)
12. Military and naval record. If any, check (√) to indicate branch and other information, and give dates of enlistment and discharge:

None	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Coast Guard	War veteran	Pensioner	Veterans' Bureau beneficiary

Enlisted None	Discharged None	Enlisted None	Discharged None
Rank None	Rank None	Rank None	Rank None
Organization None	Organization None	Organization None	Organization None

[OVER]

10—1930

13. State any special qualifications not involved in your present position (for instance, lawyer, physician, civil engineer, knowledge of foreign languages, etc.) Sailor on merchant Marine ships - Cartoonist

14. Statement of principal employment other than with the United States Government:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER	POSITION AND CHARACTER OF WORK	LENGTH OF SERVICE
Milo Mfg Co - 111 - 7th S.F.	Shipping clerk	1 year -
Teamsters Union - San Francisco	Truck Driver	3 years -
American Mail Line -	Quartermaster & Sailor -	3 years -

15. Education. Indicate by circling the number of years:

Common school	High school	College	(Name of college, degrees, and dates conferred)
(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8)	(1) (2) 3 4	1 2 3 4	

16. In case of emergency, notify Mrs. Edith Overman

Relationship wife - Post office address 1736 H - Blake - Berkeley Calif.

I certify that the foregoing answers are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Walter H Overman

(Name as usually written and which will be used as official signature)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1930 10—1930

Dept

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
MAR 2 1938
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

Standard Form No. 8
(Approved by the President, May 22, 1925)

LF

OATH OF OFFICE

Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes of the United States

COMMERCE (Department or Establishment) 16th LIGHTHOUSE DISTRICT KETCHIKAN ALASKA (Bureau or Office)

I, Walter H. Overman, (Name in full, printed or typed), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So HELP ME GOD.

Walter H. Overman
(Signature of Appointee)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14 day of February, A.D. 1938.

at Ketchikan, (City or place), Alaska. (State)

[SEAL]

Harry Seery
Chief Clerk

CARDED

NOTE.—If the oath is taken before a Notary Public the date of expiration of his commission should be shown.

Position to which appointed Additional Keeper at Large, 16th Lighthouse Dist., Alaska.

Date of entrance on duty February 15 1938.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 10—1690

Form A-30

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

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON

February 1, 1938.

Mr. Walter H. Overman,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

at a salary of Thirteen Hundred and Eighty dollars per annum

effective upon entrance on duty.

Nature of appointment: Probationary.

Civil Service authority: Manager, Eleventh Civil Service District.

Classification allocation:

CARDED

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

FEB -4 1938

Chief, Division of Personnel.

16
B

Appropriation (unit): Field.

Vice: Ole Forness.

Legal residence: California.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DIVISION OF PERSONNEL
ENTERED ON JOURNAL
FEB 12 1938
SHEET 11-6657 38-56
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SPECIAL

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES JAN 25 1938 SPECIAL

Telegraphic Reply Requested

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE JAN 26 1938 DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES, 16th DISTRICT.

Ketchikan, Alaska. January 14, 1938.
(City) (Date)

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Probationary.

Legal residence, California.

2nd page

Name, Walter H. Overman,

Proposed salary, 1380. p.a.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FEB 1 1938 DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

Position, Keeper ~~in the~~ Lighthouse Service.

Proposed range, 1380 - 1740.

Location, Additional Keeper at Large, in the 16th Lighthouse District.

Appropriation, Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses.

Effective, January 25, 1938, [1] ~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, New appointee.

Former salary, --

Location, --

Former range, --

Rank on eligible list, 1st

Rating, Assistant Lighthouse Keeper.

Percentage, 70, Other eligibles considered: Only name remaining on the Register.

Previous incumbent and his pay, Ole Forness, 1380. p.a.

Services terminated, close Jan. 11, 1938, or thereafter. to be Lt #844

Reason, Reference is made to Nomination dated Dec. 18, 1937, recommending transfer of Mr. Forness to Temporary Additional 2nd. Assistant Keeper at Cape Sarichef Lightstation, which was approved by Bureau wire of 1/11/38.

Members of family in Government service, One, Uncle, Capt. Benjamin Grabau, U.S.Army, Fort Worth, Texas.

Date of birth, August 7, 1903.

Remarks: Mr. Overman has had no previous Government Service.

Through the Manager, 11th U.S.Civil Service District, Seattle, Wn.
Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Jan. 20,.... 19 38.
(Regular for probational appointment--all papers furnished).

Secretary, 11th Civil Service District.

McK

Superintendent

1-26-38

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

JAN 24 1938

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

Action O. K.

Chief Clerk

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

[1] Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—2314

Secretary's Edition

Lighthouse Service Bulletin

ISSUED MONTHLY

Volume IV December, 1935 Christmas Number

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON

Form 73
LF

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES
JAN 24 1938
SPECIAL
Telegraphic Reply Requested

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES, 16th DISTRICT.

Ketchikan, Alaska. (City) January 14, 1938. (Date), 19—

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Probationary.

Name, Walter H. Overman.

Position, Keeper in the Lighthouse Service.

Location, Additional Keeper at Large, in the 16th Lighthouse District.

Effective, January 25, 1938,

Legal residence, California.

Proposed salary, 1380. p.a.

Proposed range, 1380 - 1740.

Appropriation, Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses.

[1] the ~~actual date of entrance on duty~~ or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, New appointee.

Location, —

Former salary, —

Former range, —

Rank on eligible list, 1st

Rating, Assistant Lighthouse Keeper.

Percentage, 70, Other eligibles considered: Only name remaining on the Register.

Previous incumbent and his pay, Ole Forness, 1380. p.a. Lt#844

Services to be terminated, close Jan. 11, 1938, or thereafter.

Reason, Reference is made to Nomination dated Dec. 18, 1937, recommending transfer of Mr. Forness to Temporary Additional 2nd. Assistant Keeper at Cape Sarichef Lightstation, which was approved by Bureau wire of 1/11/38.

Members of family in Government service, One, Uncle, Capt. Benjamin Grabau, U.S.Army, Fort Worth, Texas.

Date of birth, August 7, 1903.

Remarks: Mr. Overman has had no previous Government Service.

Through the Manager, 11th U.S.Civil Service District, Seattle, Wn.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Jan. 20,.... 19.38. (Regular for probational appointment--all papers furnished).

H. Jackson

Secretary, 11th Civil Service District.

McK

E. [illegible]

Superintendent

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

JAN 24 1938

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

W. P. HARMAN

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

[1] Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—2314

Form A-30

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

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON

February 1, 1938.

Mr. Walter H. Overman,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

at a salary of Thirteen Hundred and Eighty dollars per annum

effective upon entrance on duty.

Nature of appointment: Probationary.

Civil Service authority: Manager, Eleventh Civil Service District.

Classification allocation:

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

Chief, Division of Personnel.

16
B

Appropriation (unit): Field.

Vice: Ole Forness.

Legal residence: California.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 11—8657

FEB -5 1938

S. C. Form No. 11

Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at War Department Message Center, Room 3441, Munitions Building, Washington, D. C.

RADIOGRAM

3—9313

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

2/3/38 Rec'd 16th

84 WVY M 25 COM

KETCHIKAN ALASKA 11A FEB 2 1938

LIGHTHOUSES COMMR

WASHN D C

REFERENCE NOMINATION JANUARY FOURTEENTH WALTER H OVERMAN FOR ADDITIONAL KEEPER MAY WE ORDER OVERMAN TO REPORT FOR DUTY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE AVAILABLE TRANSPORTATION TO STATION

DIBRELL

505PM

Approved Feb. 1.

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES
COMMERCE BRANCH 680

Washington D C. FEB - 3 1938

GOVERNMENT USLHE LIGHTHOUSE SUPERINTENDENT KETCHIKAN ALASKA

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT WALTER H OVEMAN APPROVED

KING

WPN

Keeper at large to Dept. 1-24-38.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

HL:LF

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES
FEB 26 11 17 AM '38

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 16TH DISTRICT
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

February 19, 1938.

Commissioner of Lighthouses,
Washington, D. C.

SUBJECT: Probationary appointment, Walter H. Overman as Additional Keeper at Large.

REFERENCE: Department letter dated February 1, 1938.

Inclosed herewith is Oath of Office and Personal History Statement, in the case of Walter H. Overman, appointed to the position of Additional Keeper at Large, VICE: Ole Fornoss, transferred, effective February 15, 1938, under Department letter dated February 1, 1938, at $1380. per annum, (range $1380-1740.)

Inclosures:
Oath of Office, and
Personal History Statement
in duplicate.

Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENT
OF LIGHTHOUSES
JAN 4 1938

STANDARD FORM NO. 6
(Approved by the President 3/28/24)
Revised Dec. 5, 1

PERSONAL HISTORY STATEMENT

(To be prepared by appointee in own handwriting)

Department or Establishment 16 Lighthouse District KETCHIKAN, ALASKA Date Dec 27/37

1. Name in full (Mr., Miss, or Mrs.) Overman (Surname) Walter (Given name) Harvey (Middle name)
2. Present address 1736 A (Number) Blake (Street) Berkeley (City) Calif (State)
3. Legal (voting) residence California (State and Congressional District) (County) Berkeley (City or town)
4. Where born Everett (State or foreign country) Washington (City or town) When born Aug 7 1903 (Month Day Year)
5. If foreign-born, state whether naturalized or alien
6. Indicate sex, marital condition, and race by check, thus: √ If Mrs., state other names under which previously employed.

SEX		MARITAL CONDITION				RACE. (If other, state which)		
Male √	Female	Single	Married √	Divorced	Widowed	√ White	Colored	

7. Number and ages of dependents domiciled with you two (2) wife Age 22 Baby 19 months
8. A complete record of your past service for the United States Government other than military or naval:

BRANCH OF SERVICE	PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT	POSITION	SALARY	DATE APPOINTED			DATE SEPARATED		
				Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year
	None								

9. Are any members of your family, who are domiciled with you, in the U. S. Government service? If so, state below:

NAME	POSITION AND DEPARTMENT OR OFFICE IN WHICH EMPLOYED	RELATIONSHIP
None	Position Department or office	
	Position Department or office	
	Position Department or office	

10. Do you now hold any State or municipal office? If so, state below:

No — (Title) (Location) (Date appointment expires)

11. Are you the wife of a disabled veteran or widow or orphan of a person who was in the military or naval service?

(Wife, widow, or orphan) (Name of veteran) (Organization and last year of service)

12. Military and naval record. If any, check (√) to indicate branch and other information, and give dates of enlistment and discharge:

None	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Coast Guard	War veteran	Pensioner	Veterans' Bureau beneficiary
√							

Enlisted None	Discharged None	Enlisted None	Discharged None
Rank None	Rank None	Rank None	Rank None
Organization None	Organization None	Organization None	Organization None

[OVER]

10—1930

13. State any special qualifications not involved in your present position (for instance, lawyer, physician, civil engineer, knowledge of foreign languages, etc.) Sailor on Merchant Marine ships on High Seas — "Cartonist

14. Statement of principal employment other than with the United States Government:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER	POSITION AND CHARACTER OF WORK	LENGTH OF SERVICE
Milo Neffco - 111 - 7th San Francisco	Shipping clerk -	1 year
Teamsters Union - San Francisco -	Secretary	3 years -
American Mail Line, Seattle -	Quartermaster	
	& Sailor	3 years -

15. Education. Indicate by circling the number of years:

Common school	High school	College	(Name of college, degrees, and dates conferred)
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	

16. In case of emergency, notify Mrs. Edith Oeemann 1736 A Blake Berkeley Calif

Relationship wife - Post office address 1736 A - Blake Berkeley Cal -

I certify that the foregoing answers are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Walter K Oeemann

(Name as usually written and which will be used as official signature)

Ord ad. Kpo Feb. 15, 1938
16th Dist.
JEG

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1930 10—1930

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

WCD:PW

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES
JUL 25 11 46 AM '38

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 16TH DISTRICT
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

July 18, 1938

Commissioner of Lighthouses
Washington, D. C.

7/27 2nd to 16th

SUBJECT: Charges against Walter H. Overman, additional keeper at large, probational appointee.

1. Herewith are submitted charges of use of intoxicating liquor at a lightstation preferred against the above employee under date of May 24, 1938 by the superintendent. Also inclosed is the employee's reply thereto.

2. The charges have been definitely proven and are not denied by Overman. It has been ascertained that the liquor was brought to the station on March 9th by the keeper, N.N. Kashevaroff, who was one of the four men landing at the station on that date from the HEMLOCK's boat, as mentioned in Overman's reply. No suspicion rests against the other three men who landed from the boat.

3. Separation of the probationary employee from the service on account of the charges is not recommended for the following reasons: (a) he is considered entitled to some leniency owing to his recent entrance into the service; (b) his superior, the keeper, was responsible for liquor being used at the station; (c) he has not resorted to prevarication or attempt to shift the blame to someone else; (d) he appears to be interested in the service and anxious to train himself for efficient performance of his duties and for advancement; (e) he has expressed regret and promises not to repeat the offense. It is believed, however, that some action should be taken and it is recommended that a letter of caution be issued by the superintendent in the form submitted herewith.

4. Mr. Overman entered on duty as probationary appointee on February 15, 1938. He arrived at Five Finger Lightstation on February 20 and left there on March 9 for transfer to temporary duty at Cape Decision.

5. Charges against N. N. Kashevaroff, Keeper, are under investigation and will be submitted later.

Superintendent

Inclosures
Charges
Reply
Letter of caution.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

WCD:PW

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES
JUL 25 11 46 AM '38

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 16TH DISTRICT
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

May 24, 1938

Walter H. Overman
Additional Keeper at Large
Cape Decision Lightstation
Through the Keeper

1. Upon information obtained from reliable sources you are charged with the use of intoxicating liquor at a lightstation and while on duty on March 9, 1938 at Five Finger Lightstation and it is further charged that you were noticeably under the influence of liquor when you went on board the HEMLOCK for transfer to Cape Decision under official orders.

2. In accordance with the regulations you will be given a reasonable time to make reply to these charges before further action is taken.

3. You are directed to advise this office where you obtained the liquor which you are charged with using.

Superintendent

Cape Decision
June 11, 1938

(COPY)

Superintendent
Lighthouses
Ketchikan, Alaska

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of May 24, 1938 in regarding charges of being intoxicated at Five Finger lighthouse, and while on duty, and in answering charges I state below.

My watch at the time was from 12 A.M. to 6 A.M. and to the best of my knowledge without looking at a log book, the tender HEMLOCK arrived around 1 P.M. and up to that time there was no liquor ashore at Five Finger. A gallon of whisky was taken ashore from the Tender HEMLOCK by one of four men who came ashore in boat. By which of the four, I do not know, nor do I know who owned it. On arrival of Keeper I was relieved of duty as assistant keeper, and given instructions to pack my gear as I was going to Cape Decision, and not until then as I was packing did I take a drink, and then only when asked by one of the four. In all I had only three small whisky glasses, that was the first drink of liquor I've had in three years, and then only did I take a drink because I felt they would feel I would be the kind to run to the office with the news if I didn't, and because I am in no habit of drinking, it takes very little to effect me. However, I was able to carry two heavy suitcases over the rocks and down to the water edge alone, and on getting aboard tender I went direct to my stateroom, and stayed there. I blame no one for this, as I was <u>not compelled</u> to drink.

As far as my being intoxicated on duty, I deny that, as I stated above I was off watch, and relieved from duty at station. In my 12 years sailing deep water, from sailor to mate, I've never been intoxicated on duty, nor have I ever failed to report for duty thru any intoxication. The American Mail Line and Dollar S.S. Co. where I sailed for about seven years will find no mark against my name, nor any other steamship company I've sailed for.

I do not know if this will mean my dismissal from the Service or not, I trust and hope it won't, as this position means a great deal to my Mother and my family besides myself.

I did not enter the Lighthouse Service to be always only an assistant keeper, but with the idea of getting some place in it. Since I've been up here, I've been studying three to four hours daily on radio and only last month I ordered $190.00 worth of radio equipment to be sent to me, so I may use and learn to make my self of more value to the Service. I've also ordered a course in radio.

I regret this very much, and will promise that never again will the Department of Lighthouse ever be able to file charges against me. Trusting this will meet with your approval and that I may continue in the Service of the Department of Lighthouses,

Respectfully,
/s/ Walter H. Overman

(COPY)

LIGHTHOUSES
JUL 25 11 47 AM '38

June 22, 1938

Sir:-

If I am to be relieved from service I would appreciate enough time that I may try to stop the radio equipment and radio course from coming here. There is a slim possibility of me being able to get my money back on the equipment.

But I hope I may retain myself in the service and be able to continue on with the radio.

Respectfully,

/s/ W. H. Overman

July 27, 1938.

16th Supt's. letter July 18, 1938, charges, Walter H. Overman, keeper at large.

Returned to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Ketchikan, Alaska, approving the writing of a letter of caution as proposed, and with request that duplicate copies be furnished the Bureau for this keeper's file. It is also requested that the probationary report on this employee be submitted at the end of the tenth month, unless occasion arises to submit an unfavorable report at an earlier date.

The last paragraph as to pending action against Keeper N. N. Kashevaroff is also noted.

For the Commissioner:

RG-EK

W. P. Harman
Administrative Assistant

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
KETCHIKAN, ALA.
WCD: PW

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 16TH DISTRICT
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

LIGHTHOUSES
AUG 12 11 38 AM '38

July 18, 1938

Walter H. Overman
Additional Keeper at Large
Through the Keeper, Tree Point Lightstation

Charges having been presented against you, based upon information from reliable sources, that on March 9, 1938 you used intoxicating liquor at Five Finger Lightstation and that on that date you were noticeably under the influence of liquor, and such charges having been substantiated by investigation, your attention is called to the fact that use of intoxicating liquor at lightstations is forbidden and you are cautioned against commission of similar offense in future.

Superintendent

WCD:EMV Office of Superintendent of Lighthousess - 16th District
Ketchikan, Alaska - August 5, 1938

Copy of letter of caution sent to Walter H. Overman forwarded to Bureau in compliance with request contained in Bureau endorsement of July 27, 1938, on letter of July 18, 1938.

Superintendent

- -

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES - WASHINGTON
September 27, 1938
Copy submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for information.

For the Commissioner:

W. P. Harman,
Administrative Assistant

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

WCD:EMV

SPECIAL
Telegraphic Reply Requested

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHTHOUSES
DEC 19 8 42 AM '38

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 16TH DISTRICT
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA
December 9, 1938.

Commissioner of Lighthouses
Washington, D. C.

1. Enclosed are three Reports on Probationary Appointee covering the probationary period of Walter H. Overman, additional keeper at large, 16th District, $1380. per annum, who entered on duty February 15, 1938, and whose probationary period will expire at the close of February 14, 1939.

2. Two of these reports are unfavorable as to the appointee, and the third is for a short period only under the supervision of an assistant keeper acting as employee in charge of the station during the absence of the regular keeper on leave.

3. On account of two unfavorable reports from different keepers serving at different stations, and considering the fact that Overman was cautioned during the period of his probationary appointment on account of using liquor at a lightstation and being under the influence of liquor at the station, it is recommended that the appointment be not made permanent.

4. Mr. Overman is now on accumulated leave in the States, approved to January 4, 1939. He has heretofore indicated his intention of returning to duty on the first steamer sailing from Seattle after January 1. If he is not to be retained permanently in the Service, it would be to his disadvantage and of no benefit to the Service for him to incur the expense of returning to duty for the comparatively short period which would elapse between January 4 and February 14, the expiration of his probationary appointment. It is therefore recommended that his probationary appointment be terminated effective at the close of January 4, 1939.

Superintendent

Enclosure:
3 Reports on Probationary Appointee

RECEIVED

Standard Form No. 17
Approved by the President, March 26, 1926

REPORT ON PROBATIONARY APPOINTEE

This report to be made at expiration of fifth month of service. In cases where the probationary period comprises one year, this report is to be made at the expiration of the tenth month of service.

If service has been unsatisfactory, recommendation for discontinuance under the provisions of paragraph (c) of section 1 of Civil Service Rule VII should be forwarded immediately to the Department. A full statement of reasons should be set forth under "Remarks."

COMMERCE
(Department)

16th LIGHTHOUSE DISTRICT
(Bureau or office)

KETCHIKAN ALASKA
(Place and date)

To The Secretary of Commerce (The Chief of the Appointment Division)
(Head of department or establishment)

The probationary period of the person named below expires at the close of business on February 14, 1939, 192 .

The conduct and capacity of this employee have been satisfactory during the probationary period, and (he) (she) is considered qualified for absolute appointment.

Name Walter H. Overman

Position Additional Keeper at Large

Salary $1380. per annum

Appropriation Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses

Station At Large in the 16th Lighthouse District.

Date of entrance on duty February 15, 1938

Remarks:

This report covers period Mar. 22, 1938 to July 12, 1938.

(See keeper's attached letter)

(s) E. M. TOMAN
(Signature of immediate superior)

Submitted: See Superintendent's accompanying letter

(s) W. C. DIBRELL
(Head of bureau or office)
Supt.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 10—1732

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

COPY:EMV

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

~~OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 16TH DISTRICT~~
~~KETCHIKAN, ALASKA~~
Sixteenth District
Cape Decision Light
November 1st, 1938

Superintendent of Lighthouses
Ketchikan, Alaska

Sir: Remarks "Overman probation period"

Services of Walter H. Overman at this station for period from March 28, to July 12 have been fair.

His boyish stubborn nature would not be suited to any isolated station, to station personnel.

~~From past experience, it has been learned, the office pays little if any attention to keepers' remarks in this matter and~~ I do not wish to be instrumental to wish an undesirable assistant on any keeper as has been my experience.

Respectfully,

(s) E. M. TOMAN
Keeper

DC

Mrs. Pederson from the Department Division of Personnel states informally that the case involving the discontinuance of Walter H. Overman during probation is pending at Kerlin's office, or some of the other officials offices, and that the Personnel Office can do nothing to expedite until it is returned to them, but that this office might call to try to get it approved.

12/30 AEE

Suggs Ben make special contact with Dept from person stated in last ¶ attached, so that Sight can be advised today

RS/12/30

Concur
CAH 12/30

12/30/38

now:
al approved by
son & will be
by immediately
to Pers. Gardner's Office
MCF

Subject: 16th Supt's. letter Dec.9,1938, discontinuance services during probation, Walter H. Overman.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce, together with inclosures, with recommendation that Keeper Walter H. Overman be discontinued during probation effective at the close of January 4, 1939, for the reasons stated by the Superintendent in paragraph three of his letter, the Bureau concurring with the view of the Superintendent that Mr. Overman's retention in the Service is not warranted under the circumstances.

Particular attention is invited to paragraph 4 of the Superintendent's letter to the effect that Mr. Overman is now in the United States, and contemplates sailing for Alaska immediately after January 1st, and that it is therefore desirable to notify him of the termination of his services as early as practicable. For this reason it is recommended that the Department notify the Bureau of its action as early as it can.

12/23 called Dept Mrs Peterson says just going

RG-EK

H. D. King
Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Cal
appt
RJ

P

Dec 1/14/39 Dept asked if without prejudice with upon discussion with Mr. Lucas he felt that was best + so advised Dept. Hm

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES
COMMERCE BRANCH 680

DEC 30 1930

WASHINGTON D C

GOVT USLHE LIGHTHOUSE SUPERINTENDENT KETCHIKAN ALASKA

DISCONTINUANCE DURING PROBATION WALTER H OVERMAN APPROVED EFFECTIVE AT THE CLOSE OF JANUARY FOUR AS RECOMMENDED

KING

- - - - -

December 30, 1938.

Mr. Walter H. Overman,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

In view of a report to the effect that your services during the probationary period have been unsatisfactory in that you have been found indifferent, negligent and careless in your work, especially in the operation of the fog signal, the Department, upon recommendation of the Commissioner of Lighthouses, and in accordance with paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII, has discontinued, without prejudice, your services as keeper at $1380 per annum in the Lighthouse Service, effective at the close of business on January 4, 1939.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

EDW. J. GARDNER

Chief, Division of Personnel.

JAN 26 1939

Bureau of Lighthouses, Wash., Copy to 16th Supt

March 1, 1939.

Mr. Walter H. Overman,
General Delivery,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of February 18, addressed to the President, in regard to reinstatement in this Service, has been referred to this Bureau for acknowledgment and consideration.

This matter is being given consideration and you will be further advised at an early date.

For the Commissioner:

Respectfully,

W. P. Harman
Administrative Assistant

E-K

LIGHTHOUSES
MAR 25 8 36 AM '39

MONTGOMERY WARD

CHICAGO March 21, 1939

Superintendent,
Bureau of Lighthouses,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

M-89331
Balance $61.66
Walter H. Overman,
Kingston, Wash.

3/29 done
copy to file

Dear Sir:

Mr. Overman applied for a credit account in January of this year, at which time he was working and living in Ketchikan, Alaska. He told us that he had been working for your organization in Lighthouse Service for some time, and he assured us that he could make regular monthly payments.

Then, he went to Kingston, Wash., as I understand it, for a vacation for a few days. He was to return to Ketchikan, Alaska, to his regular duties soon. In the meantime, several checks have been returned from his bank unclaimed. In fact, the Federal Bureau of Investigation is working on this case now.

Before taking further action, however, I felt that it was only fair to Mr. Overman, that I secure definite information in an effort to assist him to a friendly understanding.

Mr. Overman purchased clothing and such necessities that he would use in his regular duties, as well as some camera supplies. This was on January 17, and the contract amounted to $72.18. He made two smaller purchases later in the month, amounting to $3.39 and $1.09. He sent a down payment of $5.00 with the order and, in March, we received $10.00. But, this check has been returned unclaimed, and his balance will go back to the original amount of $71.66.

Any assistance you will give me in the way of an explanation regarding Mr. Overman's present employment, and his ability to pay regularly $7.00 each month, will be greatly appreciated. You may be sure that these facts will be held confidential. Thank you.

MONTGOMERY WARD

T. E. RUMAGE
Collection Manager

AJ:LAS
Enc. B.R.E.

March 29, 1939

Montgomery Ward
Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:

The Bureau is in receipt of your letter of March 21 regarding the indebtedness of Walter H. Overman, Kingston, Washington.

The record shows that Mr. Overman was given a probationary appointment in this Service on February 15, 1938, and that his services were discontinued without prejudice on January 4, 1939, before he had completed his probationary period of Service. In view of the fact, therefore, that he is no longer an employee of the Lighthouse Service, the Bureau regrets that it is unable to assist you in the matter.

Respectfully,
For the Commissioner:

W. P. Harman,
Administrative Assistant

hlm/see

hlm
PY

Bureau of Lighthouses, Wash., Copy to 16th Dist.

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
M M Latta
Secretary to the President

U.S.N.
OF LIGHTHOUSES
MAR 13 1939
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

LIGHTHOUSES
FEB 27 10 22 AM '39

San Francisco -
Feb - 18 - 1939

President Roosevelt -
Washington - D. C.

Sir: -

I am writting in regards to a position I held with the Department of Light-houses in the 16th District in Alaska - as Keeper at large - in which I have been realined of duty at the end of my probation period, at not my request - and ask you - if it is possible to be re-instated in the service, - So below are a few facts regarding my case.

On leaving San Francisco in Feb - 1938 to report for duty in Alaska - I left a position which I held in this city for -

three years - and on arriving in Ketchikan, was ordered to go to Cape Decision Light Station, which I did, and reported to the head keeper - at Cape Decision there were two men besides my self. One 70 years old, and the other 65 years old. I was only 35, and from the start there was a dislike shown, by the head keeper Mr Tolman - after being there about 3 months I wrote in requesting a transfer, because the head keeper and I did not get along, and as all letters addressed thru the keeper to the superintendent must be read and approved by the keeper before being sent, and because of my stating reason for requesting transfer, the head keeper from that day on made my time at

Lupie Decision very disagreable, and stated I would never be in the service there a recommendation of his - and by his failure of not recommending me, I was not approved by the Civil Service Board. In one case where we had words was when the subject of a keeper who was out in front of the light station in my opt boyed motor - the motor failed to start, and with out any efforts made, except to send a S.O.S. to a coast guard boat to locate the man, they let him drift to sea - he was never found. At the same time there was at the light-station a 30 horse powered motor boat. and a skiff - boat - these were not lowered - and as I am a sailor from years experience

at Sea, Its against the morals of an American born sailor to let people drown with out at least an attempt made to save lives - this subject we had words over - in which I stated, It would be a good thing for the service, when the regulations were so that a man must have sea experience in order to get into the service and not be a farmer from the interior.

At this point I left station where I was stationed, the keeper blew 4 blasts on the fog horn when a ship passed by - and we people who go to sea know that 4 whistles means distress. results were the ship veered to - and came into the station, One of the assistants Mr Paul Schultz and

I rowed out to the ship, and made an apology to the Captain stating it was a mistake, after coming back to station I told the Keeper that four whistles was as bad as sending a S.O.S. over the air. The head keeper did make the statement that he would fix my recommendation when it came up. This statement he made to my Capt Schultz at the Point Light station.

I would appreciate it, if you would investigate this, and ask of you for a reinstatement in the service. I am married, One child, I don't want relief. But good honest hard work. But I can't stand my family going hungry when for my reason I was let out. If it was for a neglect of duty. It would be

T 0
16 +

differeght,

Since I ie been in the service, I ie studied, night and day on radio- to make my self better, to be more valuable to the service-

So I ask of you- to, give me the opertunity to show I can make good as a man to my family and to the service-

Respectfully-

Walter A Overman-
General Delivery
San Francisco-
California

E-K

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
March 1, 1939.

Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Ketchikan, Alaska, for report and return.

For the Commissioner:

W.P. Harman
W.P.Harman
Administrative Assistant.

APR 8 8 50 AM '39

Endorsement on letter from W. H. Overman to President Roosevelt dated February 18, 1938 and forwarded to this office March 1, 1939 by the Bureau of Lighthouses for report and return.

WCD:PW Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses, 16th District.
Ketchikan, Alaska, March 30, 1939

1. Returned to the Bureau.

2. Mr. Overman had duty at three different lightstations in this district. His services were terminated by the Department during probation on account of unfavorable reports as to suitability for permanent appointment received from the keepers in charge of two of these stations. He had previously been cautioned on account of intoxication while at the third station.

3. He is now being diligently sought by the police department of Seattle for passing a number of worthless checks.

Superintendent

Suggest advise he ~~is delayed~~ may take next civ for exam, that this involves an investigation of his record etc RS 4/10

OK WPH 4/10

Recommend file in view fact that acknowledgment was returned.

EK

concur RS

OK WPH 4/21

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

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

March 1, 1939.

Mr. Walter H. Overman,
General Delivery,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of February 18, addressed to the President, in regard to reinstatement in this Service, has been referred to this Bureau for acknowledgment and consideration.

This matter is being given consideration and you will be further advised at an early date.

For the Commissioner:

Respectfully,

W. P. Harman
Administrative Assistant

E-K