REFERENCE SERVICE SLIP
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Date: 8/18/2025 16:09

REQUESTER INFORMATION

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

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

Name used in Service (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Service Number/SSN	Date & Place of Birth
Traugott, Franz		1862 Germany

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:

State of Residence (upon entry into service):

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

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)		
Lighthouse Service (GA/SC)		
From: 1898	To: 1918	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	

3 folders

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

Researcher Signature: Andrew B Burns

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STAFF USE ONLY

Appointment Time and Date:

Additional Researchers: ☐ Yes ☐ No

CMRS Service Request Number: C0006159550

CMRS Search Request Number(s):

Attendant Signature:

Remarks:

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Rqst sent digitizing

Time Out:

Final Return:

SCREENING NOTES

☒ Reviewed and Nothing Removed ☐ Items Removed and User Informed

Hold Requested: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Total Requests:

Screened Items:

☐ Additional charge outs and signatures on reverse side

TRAUGOTT, FRANZ

Commuted Oct 8, 1912.

OUT FILES

Form 73

ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
SEP 9 1911
DEPT. OF COMMERCE & LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, 6th DISTRICT,

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES: Charleston, S.C., September 7, 1911.

The following recommendation is submitted:

Action proposed, Appointment

Name, Franz Traugott — Legal residence, South Carolina

Position, Keeper — Salary, $720.00 per annum

Location, Tybee Light-Station, Georgia.

Effective on the actual date of entrance on duty.

Former position, Keeper — Former salary, $720.00

Location, Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Ga.

Rank in list of eligibles, — Rating, — Percentage,

Other eligibles considered,

Letters of declination inclosed,

Previous incumbent, Himself — Services terminated, _____

Reason,

Remarks: (Change in designation.)

Appropriation, Salaries of keepers of lighthouses.

W. A. Field.
Captain, USN., Inspr., 6th LH. Dist.

Department of Commerce and Labor
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

H B — SEPTEMBER 9, 1911.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved.

11—2314

This recommendation is made in view of the fact that Tybee Beacon Light will be moved and the name changed, and the light placed in charge of another keeper. It is further recommended that the new position to which Mr. Traugott's appointment is recommended be authorized.

O. P. Leavenworth
ACTING COMMISSIONER.

180 20P

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

Washington

September 29, 1911.

Mr. Frens Trangott,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

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

~~Keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia,~~

in the ~~Lighthouse Service,~~

at a salary of ~~Seven Hundred and Twenty~~ dollars per ~~annum~~,

effective beginning ~~September 15, 1911~~, ~~or as soon thereafter~~ on and after which date you have continuously served in the above-mentioned position. ~~as you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.~~

(By change from Keeper of Tybee Light Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Georgia, at $60 per month.)

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(Signed) A. CORTON-CUMMING

Le
D

Acting Chief Clerk.

Appropriation: Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses,

Vice: New position,

Legal Residence: South Carolina.

11—3692

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
Washington



October 6, 1911.

Sir:

The Department has amended its orders of the 19th ultimo appointing Messrs. Franz Traugott, Scudday W. Sullivan and Reinhard Heisser as keeper, first assistant keeper and second assistant keeper, respectively, of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, so that the date of effect is September 15, 1911, instead of September 19, 1911.

Returned herewith are the notices of appointment issued to Messrs. Traugott, Sullivan and Heisser on the 19th ultimo.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

Acting Chief Clerk.

The Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Inclosure No. 4463.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

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

HDK-AHT

October 8, 1912.

Commendation.

Franz Traugott, Keeper Tybee Light Station.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
OCT 10 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

This letter of commendation is addressed to you in recognition of the efficient condition in which the Station under your charge has been maintained during the quarter ending September 30, 1912.

Inspector.

Copies to:

Scudday Sullivan, 1st Assistant,
Reinhard Heisser, 2nd Assistant.

HDK-HMD

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service.

Quarterly
Commendation.

Office of Inspector, 6th District,
Charleston, S. C.,

May 20,1913.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
MAY 22 1913
DEP'T OF COMMERCE

Franz Traugott, Tybee Light:

You are hereby commended for the generally efficient condition of your station on the occasion of inspection for quarter ending March 31, 1913.

KING
Inspector.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
DEC 9 1913
HOUSES

Office of Inspector, 6th District
Charleston, S.C. Dec. 6, 1913.

HDK-CAR
Commendation.
1st Quarter, 1913-14.

Mr. Franz Traugott, Keeper, Tybee Light Station, Fort Screven, Ga.

You are hereby commended for the excellent condition of your station and its appurtenances on the occasion of inspection during the period July 1 to October 31, 1913.

KING,
Inspector.

LIGHT
JAN 29 1914
HOUSES

Tybee Light Station, Ft. Screven, Ga.

January 20, 1914.

To: :Lighthouse Inspector,

Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

Referring to conversation which Mr. F. H. Bruggeman, Keeper Hunting Island Light Station had with you personally in regards to he and I transferring, I wish to state to you that it is my wish and is agreeable by me that this exchange be made, if possible, by February 15, 1914.

Hoping this transfer will me your approval.

Respectfully,

sgd Franz Traugott

Form 73a

REPORT OF TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

~~OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR,~~ ~~DISTRICT.~~

January 30, 1914. , 191

Secretary of Commerce:
~~THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:~~

The following-named employee **will be** transferred as indicated, and **will enter** upon duty at his new station on **or about February 15, 1914:**

Name, **Franz Traugott** Position, **Keeper**

From **Tybee Light Station, Ga.,** To **Hunting Island L. S., ~~Ga.~~ S C**

Previous incumbent, **Frederick H. Bruggeman**

Services terminated, **February 14, 1914.** Reason, **Transfer.**

.....

~~Acting Commissioner.~~

, 191

The above-referred-to transfer became effective beginning with .....

.....

Inspector.

11—4598

McC.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

January 30, 1914.

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for his information.

(Signed)
~~Inclosure~~

Acting Commissioner.

MoC.

January 30, 1914.

Subject: Franz Traugott, transfer.

Referred to Sixth Inspector, with the information that while Traugott's last appointment reads at a particular station, yet for the purpose of transfer he is considered in the Lighthouse Service at large, so that a new appointment need not be issued in this case. The Bureau has therefore prepared form 73a and submitted it to the Department, showing that Traugott will be transferred on or about February 15, 1914. 3 ~~Two~~ copies of form 73a are attached hereto. When the transfer is actually made, fill in the effective date in the appropriate place, transmit two copies of the form to this office, and retain the other copy for the files of your office, in accordance with the instructions on the back of the form. See also Bureau circular No. 185, of November 11, 1912, and No. 304, of June 28, 1913.

Acting Commissioner.

Form 73a

Copy.

Per

REPORT OF TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES MAR 7 1914

~~OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR,~~ ~~DISTRICT.~~

January 30, 1914. , 191

~~Secretary of Commerce:~~
~~THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:~~

The following-named employee will be transferred as indicated, and will enter upon duty at his new station on or about February 15, 1914:

Name, Frank Trowgott Position, Keeper

From Tybee Light Station, Ga., To Hunting Island L. S., ~~Ga.~~ SC

Previous incumbent, Frederick H. Bruggemann

Services terminated, February 14, 1914. Reason, Transfer.

(~~Signed~~)

~~Acting Commissioner.~~
Office Inspector, Sixth Lighthouse District.
Charleston, S. C. March 6, 1914. , 191

The above-referred-to transfer became effective beginning with March 1, 1914.

sgd. J King

Inspector.

11—4598

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for his information.

MAR 9 1914

noted 3-10-14

Acting Commissioner.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUN 7 1909
NO.

EFFICIENCY REPORT

(Read the instructions on the reverse side of this Form before attempting to fill it out.)

1. Bureau Light-House Inspector, 6th Dist. 2. Where employed Tybee, Ga.
3. Name Frans Traugott 4. Where born Germany.
5. Age 47 4/6 46 6. Position Kpr. Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Ga.
7. Compensation $60.00 p.m. 8. When appointed (a) August 11, 1898.
9. How appointed (b) Through Civil Service Examination.
10. Appointed from State South Carolina. Congressional District 1st County Charleston.
11. Status under Civil Service Rules (c) Classified Competitive.
12. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No.
13. Other Government service None
14. Duties (describe fully) Must be familiar with the workings of the apparatus placed in his charge, responsible for the management and care of the lights and of all the government property in his care. Required to enforce careful attention to duty of his assistants.
15. Efficiency Quantity of work (d) 9/10 Quality of work (e) Average. Interest manifested in work (f) Yes
16. Is this employee fully earning the salary he is now receiving? Yes
17. Remarks (g) Warned May 17, 1909, spare lantern, closets and store room not in neat condition.

Oct. 11, 1909 - 7th Dep't. States no further action will be taken at present time, it appearing that he has demonstrated himself to be a competent employee.

J. H. Hetherington
Comdr., U.S.N., Ret'd, Insp. 6th L.H. District.
Head of Bureau or Office.

June 2, 19 09.

11—3005

READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 3

Department of Commerce and Labor

EFFICIENCY REPORT

May 11, 1911.

(The parenthetical letters refer to instructions on page 3, which instructions should be read and understood before attempting to fill out the form.)

1. Name Franz Traugott 2. Age 49 (Last birthday.)

3. Bureau Lighthouses (6th Dist.) 4. Position Keeper

5. Compensation $60.00 p.m. 6. Where employed Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon Lights, Ga.

7. When appointed (*a*) Aug. 11, 1898 8. How appointed (*b*) Through Civil Service Examination

9. Status under Civil Service Rules (*c*) Classified Competitive

10. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No

11. Does the employee receive a pension? No If so, state the amount

12. Other Government service None

13. Duties (describe fully) Must be familiar with the workings of the apparatus in his charge. Responsible for the care and management of the light and all government property in his care. Required to enforce careful attention to duty by his assistants.

14. Has the employee special qualifications? No If so, state them

15. Efficiency (*d*):

	Averages.	Relative weights.	Products of averages multiplied by weights.
Quantity of work	90	2	180
Quality of work	85	3	255
Interest manifested in work (see also Question 17)	100	3	300
Attendance		2	
		8	735

16. In the following form state the number of days of annual leave, sick leave, and leave without pay taken in each of the years 1908, 1909, and 1910:

1908.			1909.			1910.		
Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.	Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.	Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.

17. Is this employee a purely routine employee, or does he manifest interest, not only in his own work but also in the work of the office or bureau as a whole, to the extent of overtime work or voluntary efforts by suggestion or otherwise to add to its efficiency? (Answer fully.) Performs the duties required.

18. On the basis of efficiency alone, is this employee overpaid or underpaid as compared with others in your office engaged on the same grade of work, or is his salary a fair equivalent for the service rendered? (Answer fully.) Salary is a fair equivalent for service rendered. If the present salary is above or below a fair equivalent, state what, in your opinion, it should be.

19. Is this employee superannuated? No If so, what percentage of salary is unearned?

20. Remarks: (*e*)

The official who is primarily responsible for the statements herein submitted will sign here—

H. Rueld.

Comd'r U. S. N. Light House Inspr. 6th. District.

The official who approves the statements thus submitted will sign here—

11—4259

Chief of Bureau or Office.

Form 73

NOMINATION

CAR

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT DEC 23 1915 HOUSES

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Sixth DISTRICT,

Charleston, S.C., (City.) December 20 (Date.), 1915.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Appointment.

Name, **Franz Traugott.** Legal residence, **South Carolina.**

Position, **Keeper.** Salary, **$732.00, per annum**

Location, **Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.** Appropriation, **Sal.Kprs.of Lighthouses.**

Effective **January 1, 1916.** {~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, Same. Former salary, **$720.00, per annum.**

Location, **Same.**

Rank on eligible list, - Rating, - Percentage, - , Other eligibles considered:

Previous incumbent, himself. Services terminated, **December 31, 1915.**

Reason, **See remarks.**

Relatives in Government Service, None.

Remarks: In accordance with schedule of pay Bureau circular No.142,1915 and Bureau letter December 17, 1915. Nominee is deserving increase of salary authorized.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. , 191

H. L. BEACH.

Secretary, Civil Service District.

Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

DEC 23 1915

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

Acting Commissioner

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

11—2314

GENERAL APPOINTMENT—FIXED DATE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

LIGHT
DEC 29 1915
HOUSES

December 24, 1915.

M. Franz Traugott,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office, and to actual entrance upon duty (unless on authorized leave) on the date indicated, ~~Keeper~~ in the ~~Lighthouse Service~~ at a salary of ~~Seven Hundred and Thirty-two~~ dollars per ~~annum~~, effective January 1, 1916.

(By increase in compensation from $720 per annum.)

Ed Jan 1, 1916

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,
(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS
Chief of Appointment Division.

R
M

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.
Vice:
Legal Residence: South Carolina.

DEC 29 1915

11—1393

LIGHT
MAY4 1917
HOUSES

Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation,

Washington.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comsr.

May 3, 1917.

5/4/17 ackdg. above ind. to 6th Instate

George R. Putnam, Esq.,

Commissioner, Bureau of Lighthouses,

Department of Commerce,

Washington, D.C.

LIGHT
MAY 10 1917
HOUSES

Dear Sir:

Quoted below for your general information and such action as you deem appropriate, is an extract from report of Arthur E. Gregory, Department Agent, located at Savannah, Georgia, covering an interview with Capt. Charles B. Elliot and Lieut. Geo. B. Elliot, at Beaufort, S. C.

"At Beaufort, South Carolina.

Capt. Chas. B. Elliot and Lieut. George B. Elliot were very strong in their opinion that one Traufert a full blooded German and Senior Keeper of the Light-house on Hunting Island, should be removed and transferred from his present position. They both stated that they knew of nothing which could be brought against this man, but that before the war, he was very much pro-german in his expressions, and that on account of his position, he would be able to do a great deal of harm if he so desired.

"They also stated that the Care-Taker of Senator Don Cameron's estate was a full blooded

German and a great friend of Traufert's and that they believed that he should also be removed. There was nothing they could bring against him either, but that on account of his close proximity to the Light-house and the large estate he had under his control on the Island, that their field for doing harm if they so desired, was unlimited."

Very truly yours,

A B Bielaski

Chief.

JEH.
Inclosure.

May 4, 1917.

~~CONFIDENTIAL.~~

Subject:- Letter, May 3, Bureau Investigation, Dept. of Justice, relative to keeper Hunting Island Lt. Sta.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston, S. C., for investigation, report and recommendation, and for action if necessary. Return the attached letter to the Bureau with your report.

B

Acting Commissioner.

Keeper Trangott

Confidential
Determined to be an
Administrative Marking
Not National Security Information
By RH NARA Date 08/26/2025

JEH.

May 4, 1917.

Chief,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your letter of May 3, 1917, quoting extract from report of Arthur E. Gregory, Department of Justice Agent, at Savannah, Ga., with reference to Mr. Traufert, keeper of the light station on Hunting Island, etc., and to state that the matter will receive prompt attention by this Bureau.

Respectfully,

Traugott

Commissioner.

JEH.
Inclosure.

COPY.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

May 4, 1917.

LIGHT
MAY 10 1917
HOUSE

"Traufert"

~~CONFIDENTIAL.~~

Subject:- Letter, May 3, Bureau Investigation, Dept. of Justice, relative to keeper Hunting Island Lt. Sta.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston, S. C., for investigation, report and recommendation, and for action if necessary. Return the attached letter to the Bureau with your report.

5/10/17, more Department

Confidential
Determined to be an
Administrative Marking
Not National Security Information
By _____ NARA Date 08/26/2025

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.

acting Commissioner

(Signed).
Acting Commissioner

HLB-CAR

Office of the Inspector, 6th District,
Charleston, S.C., May 7, 1917.

1. Returned together with letter of May 3, 1917, from the Department of Justice to the Commissioner.
2. Charges of disloyalty against Keeper Traugott (not Traufert) had been previously made to me personally by the 2d Assistant Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station when in Charleston recently on leave of absence.
3. Hunting Island Light Statidn was inspected on April 23, 1917. Assistant Superintendent Dillon who made the inspection had instructions to make an investigation of the Keeper's alleged disloyalty.
4. Assistant Superintendent Dillon's report to me is enclosed herewith. It will be noted that Mr. Dillon does not consider that the charges of disloyalty were proved. I concur in his opinion.
5. In connection with this case attention is called to the fact that when charges of disloyalty were preferred against Keeper Bruggeman at Tybee Light Station I proposed to the Bureau that Bruggeman be transferred to Hunting Island Light Station.
6. In view of the charges against the present Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station it appears that the transfer of a keeper under suspicion from one station to another will be of no avail. Doubtless there will be someone to question his loyalty no matter where he may be sent.
7. The loyalty of another keeper of German birth has also been questioned. I refer to August F. Wichmann, Keeper of Cape Romain Light Station. Investigation in his case clearly establishes the fact that he was pro-German in sympathies before a state of war was declared. Since that time he was not known to have given any indication of disloyalty. The

(b) Suspend him indefinitely on suspicion of disloyalty.
(c) Discharge him from the Service on suspicion of disloyalty.

10. In the case of Traugott I cannot recommend his transfer to Hilton Head as suggested by Assistant Superintendent Dillon in his report for two reasons, first, while it would solve the trouble amongst the keepers at Hunting Island it is not believed that a keeper in Traugott's physical condition should be sent to a one keeper station (he has only partially recovered from a stroke of paralysis) and second, charges of disloyalty would still stand against him and if disloyal he could probably do as much harm in one place as at another.

11. I have to recommend that Keeper Traugott be not transferred but that the course of procedure be one of those mentioned in paragraph 9 above, the Department to direct the action to be taken after having promulgated its general policy in such cases.

H. L. Beck

Lighthouse Inspector

Refer to Dept. recommending that no further action be taken in these cases at this time, and that 6th Insp. be advised that previous instructions to transfer Bruggeman to another station be cancelled, subject however to further request in this matter being made by the commanding officer Coast defenses, Fort Screven. In all these and similar cases Insp. to keep Bureau advised in case future ground for suspicion arises.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
MAY 10 1917
HOUSES

FPD-CAR
D

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

The Lighthouse Inspector:- April 25, 1917.

In compliance with your instructions I proceeded to Hunting Island Light Station April 23, 1917, to investigate the causes of inharmony at the station and the allegations of disloyalty to the Government made by the 1st and 2nd Assistant Keepers against the Keeper:-

Each Keeper was questioned carefully in regard to the above matters and the following deductions are drawn from the statements.

1. The Keeper's wife is undoubtedly the most disturbing element at the station. She has an unbridled tongue and an ungovernable temper and to a great extent rules the actions of the Keeper against his own better judgment.

2. All the trouble is private family trouble accentuated to a degree bordering on violence.

3. There is no evidence to show that any of the Keeper's are neglectful of their routine duties.

4. The Assistant Keeper in my presence confirmed and affirmed threats against the Keeper when he shall have met him off the reservation.

5. The 1st Assistant Keeper admitted receiving an official communication which he refused to show to the Keeper.

6. Neither the 1st Assistant Keeper nor 2nd Assistant Keeper asserted that the Keeper had made any remarks or indicated in his actions that the Keeper was disloyal to the Government since the entrance of the U.S.Government into war with Germany. Previous to the election of President Wilson the Keeper was charged with having said that there were 30,000 Germans in America who would defeat him in the election.About two years ago the Keeper was charged with having cursed President Wilson for allowing the United States to supply the allies. The Keeper denies these two latter charges.

7. There is some evidence from the actions of the two Assistant Keepers of a conspiracy to undermine the Keepers position.

My impression of the whole trouble is that the allegations of disloyalty on the part of the two assistants are so flimsy that there is nothing to them. That the Keeper is in great bodily fear of the 1st Assistant there is no doubt and on account of his enfeedled physical condition he has a right to immediate consideration. However the Keeper is responsible for the conduct of his wife. No matter to which station she is sent she will stir up strife as she has always done in the past. Mr. Traugott aught to be retired on account of disability. There being no provision for this the only solution I can suggest is that he be required to transfer with Mr. Sisson at Hilton Head Light Station.

H. P. Dillon

Assistant Superintendent.

JEH.
Inclosures.

May 11, 1917.

Secretary of Commerce:

There is inclosed copy of letter of May 3, 1917, received from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, relative to the keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, together with copy of report of May 7, of the 6th Inspector, and copy of inclosure thereto.

The Bureau recommends that no further action be taken at this time in the case of the keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, as well as in the case of the keeper of Cape Romain Light Station, the latter case being referred to in paragraph 7 of the Inspector's report of May 7.

It is also recommended that the 6th Inspector be advised that previous instructions, which are contained in Department letter of April 20, 1917, to transfer Frederick H. Bruggeman, keeper of Tybee Light Station, Ga., are canceled, subject however to further request in this matter being made by the Commanding Officer of Coast Defenses, Fort Screven, Ga., and that in these and similar cases the Inspector is to keep the Bureau advised in case future ground for suspicion arises.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

LIGHT HOUSES MAY 15 1917

May 14, 1917.

Very good Rec to bttr
Be good accdgly

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Receipt is acknowledged of the Bureau's letter of the 11th instant, and enclosures, relative to letter of May 3, 1917, received from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, regarding Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina.

Upon consideration of the correspondence, the Department has approved the Bureau's recommendation that no further action be taken at this time in the case of the keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, or in the case of August F. Wichmann, keeper of Cape Romain Light Station, South Carolina, referred to in the Sixth Inspector's report of May 7, 1917. Authority has been granted, as recommended, to advise the Inspector that previous instructions to transfer Frederick H. Bruggeman, keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, have been canceled, subject however to further request being made by the Commanding Officer of Coast Defenses, Fort Screven, Georgia; also that the Inspector be directed to keep the Bureau advised in these and similar cases should the conduct of the employees be open to suspicion.

By direction of the Secretary:

(SIGNED) GEO. C. HAVENNER

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

JEH.
1 inclosure.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
May 16, 1917.

File

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston, S. C., for his information and files, reference being made to his indorsement of May 7, 1917. Be governed

McC.

Rec.

~~October 2~~, 1918.

Subject: Letter, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, (Oct 3418)
Franz Traugott, keeper, Hunting Island L.S., alleged German activities.

Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C.

It appears that the evidence herewith is of a character that warrants immediate suspension of Traugott, and preferment of charges with a view to dismissal, and the Superintendent should take this action unless there are strong reasons for some other course. Advise Bureau promptly.

McC.

Franz Traugott,
charges.

November 2, 1918.

Chief, Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of October 30, 1918, concerning the alleged German activities of Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina.

I beg to inform you that the matter is being investigated and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at a later date.

Respectfully,

Acting Commissioner

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

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
NOV 11 1918
HOUSES
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6TH DISTRICT

~~Office of Inspector, 6th District~~
CHARLESTON, S. C.

PP-JPS

Nov. 5, 1918.

Franz Traugott,
Kpr. Hunting Island Light Station,
(To be delivered by Master of Tender ARBUTUS.)

Sir:-

You are hereby suspended from duty effective upon receipt of this letter, for period not to exceed 90 days, pending decision on charges preferred against you for disloyalty to the Government of the United States. This suspension shall be with lawful pay and allowances if you are exonerated of the charges, of if the same are not found sufficiently substantiated to justify suspension without pay, and shall be without pay and allowances if they are sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action.

Copy of charges preferred against you is enclosed herewith. Acknowledge receipt of this letter immediately.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG.
1st Asst. Superintendent of Lighthouses.

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

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSE NOV 14 1918

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 4th DISTRICT

NOV 14 1918

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Hydrog.
Engr. Comsn.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

PP-JPS

11/14/18, mailed 6th

Nov. 12, 1918.

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

SUBJECT: Suspension and charges against Franz Traugott, Keeper Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

REFERENCES: Bureau letter of November 2nd forwarding report from Department of Justice and endorsement thereon from this office of November 9th, forwarding copy of letter of suspension.

Forwarded herewith in duplicate are charges preferred against Franz Traugott, Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C., for disloyalty to the Government of the United States, dated November 5, 1918, and his answer thereto dated November 9, 1918.

Keeper Traugott was suspended from duty November 8, 1918, for period not to exceed 90 days pending decision of charges preferred against him. Copy of letter of suspension was forwarded the Bureau November 9, 1918.

The papers in this case are forwarded the Bureau without recommendation for the following reason:

The report made by the Agent of the Department of Justice was received in this office during the absence of the Superintendent, and he has not yet had an opportunity to state his views on this matter. It is expected that the Superintendent will return to this office about the 20th of the month, and if final action is to be deferred until his return for his recommendation, it is requested that this office be so advised, and his recommendation will be made on his return to this office.

In connection with Mr. Traugott's case Bureau attention is respectfully invited to previous confidential communication from the Department of Justice forwarded by Bureau endorsement of May 4th and reply of this office of May 7th, 1917.

Papers from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, forwarded with Bureau endorsement of November 2nd are returned herewith.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG.
1st Asst. Superintendent.

JFS

COPY.



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service.

Sixth District
Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)
Nov. 9th, 1918.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 5th. instant, which was received on the 8th., informing me of my suspension from the service for a period not to exceed 90 days pending decission on charges prefered against me for disloyalty to the U.S. Government.

Replying to the charges, I most respectfully state that I most positively deny every one of them and respectfully ask that I be given the privilege of facing my accusers, which I think is but just and fair to me also my family.

As to the charges prefered against me by Rees, I positively state that they are false, as I have never had a conversation with him concerning the war or the President or the Kaiser. Rees and I have not been on friendly temms, certainly not sufficiently so for me to hold such a conversation with him futhermore he was transfered from Hunting Island as mate on the light ship so his stay under me was not so long and I feel well satisfeyed that charge is simply brought against me for malice.

I also positively deney that I had any such conversation with Malloy. He and I have always disagreed of and on and never did get along together after he married into my wifes family our relationship became more strained and we had nothing to do with each other only in the line of duty and under such conditions I certainly would not have any such conversation with him as he claims.

I allowed Mr. Janette to read his charges and after reading it over said that he did not have such a conversation with Special Employee Boyne at any time, and authorizes me to deney every word of it. This I will and must also deney even if I were not authorized by him to do so, for he and I have never had such a conversation together.

I did have a conversation with the person representing himself as Special Employee Boyne, and during the conversation we did speak of the war. He was very talkative and in the conversation, among other things, he said that President Wilson wants to get the Kaiser out, and I said it would be better for Germany to be ruled by a President. We did not have very much to say as our conversation was short and I did not have the time to spend with him on that subject. I deny that I made the statements which he accredits to me and I ask that I be confronted with him and the others, so that I can have the full opportunity of vindicating myself for the benefit of my family of little ones.

Therefore I trust one can eaisly judge that the charges made against me by Rees and Malloy were simply from the malice which they heed towards me.

Respectfully,
(Sgd) Franz Traugott.

PS. Kindly address any information tending to my person to Beaufort, S. C.

Am receive letter, most
diresct meeting the accus-
ers with them or signed in Traugott's

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

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

PF-EMK

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
NOV 14 1918
HOUSES
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6th DISTRICT

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT

CHARLESTON, S. C.

November 5, 1918.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Kpr.Hunting Isld.Light Station.

You are charged with disloyalty to the Government of the United States, and you are given six days after the receipt of this letter in which to make a written reply, and show cause why you should not be dismissed from the United States Lighthouse Service.

The charges against you are based upon the investigation and report made by the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, October 17,1918-October 25,1918:

The following statements are quoted from the report made by the Department of Justice and you are required to answer each statement quoted below:

(1) Statement of John Rees, formerly 2d Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.-

in his letter

"Rees further informed this office/that TRAUGOTT had made the statement that the Kaiser was at the head of all the world and there was no greater country in this world than Germany. REES further stated that TRAUGOTT cursed the President and made remarks, saying the President Wilson was not fit to rule anybody" - - - -

(2) Statement of Clarence Malloy, formerly 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.-

"MALLOY stated that TRAUGOTT was continually cursing the President and making remarks that he was no good, and if he did not look out there were four Million Germans in the United States who would cause him trouble."

(3) Statement of Devaney F. Jennette, now 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.- interviewed by Special Employe Bonyne:

"He stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against the Government. Mr. JENNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JENNETTE also had heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and an outrage for this country to send negroes to France to fight against white people." - - - -

LIGHT
NOV 14 1918
HOUSES

(4) Statement of Special Employe Bonyne:

"Special Employee Bonyne, after this information had been learned from JEANNETTE, interviewed TRAUGOTT under cover, TRAUGOTT believing that Special Employee Bonyne was simply there as the Captain of the Naval Patrol Boat and making the usual rounds of inspection, Special Employee Bonyne in questioning TRAUGOTT first, questioned as to whether he was a Swede, TRAUGOTT denied this, stating to Special Employee Bonyne that he was a German. Special Employee Bonyne at this point began speaking German with him, and in a short time had gained the confidence of TRAUGOTT, and TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that the "Bald-Headed son-of-a-bitch, President Wilson, did not know how to run this country, and he had no brains, and it took a brainy man like the Kaiser, Wilhelm, to run this country and hold the respect of the people. TRAUGOTT further stated that Wilson and the American people were damn fools if they thought they were going to dethrone the Kaiser, that it was impossible to do this, and that further, the German people would stick together and finally win this war. TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that he and all Germans were going back to Germany as soon as this war was over and help re-establish the German population and commerce.

"TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne, in discussing the submarine policies of the German Government, that he thought the Germans had a right to sink any ships they say fit to sink, that they were fighting a civilized war and not fighting any inhuman war like the Allies were fighting, and that further, he thought it was a disgrace for this country to send negro troops to France to fight against white people. TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee BONYNE that this country had no business getting into this war, that it was only a bunch of grafters out of Wall street who started this war.

"TRAUGOTT further stated that the German people were going to stick together and that once a German always a German, and that it would be impossible to break down their Morale."

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. Gregg,

First Assistant Superintendent.

JSC-JEH.

Washington D C November 14 1918

Lighthouse Superintendent Charleston S C

Mail immediately original ~~copy~~ any letter your files known be Traugotts handwriting

PUTNAM.

Commissioner.

To Dept. 10:10 a.m.
11/14/18.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONSS TO SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Hydrog.
Engr. Comm.
Mar. Engr.
Personnal
Accounts.
Contracts
Insp. Clk.
Dep. Comdr.
Comdr.

LIGHT HOUSES NOV 16 1918

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6th DISTRICT

~~Office of Inspector 6th District~~ NOV 14 1918 9 19 AM

CHARLESTON, S. C.

PF-JFS

Wrote 6th Supt. 11/18/18

Nov. 14, 1918.

SUBJECT: Charges Franz Traugott,
Kpr. Hunting Island Lt. Station.

Cmsr

Rec all pp to Dept, rec
T be dismissed eff on date
Dept order
Returned

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Referring to Bureau telegram of November 14th, enclosed herewith is original letter known to be in the handwriting of Franz Traugott, Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station. Also enclosed is original receipt signed in the presence of Capt. Brooks of the Lighthouse Tender Arbutus, signed by Mr. Traugott, acknowledging receipt of letter of suspension and letter preferring charged against him.

Mr. Traugott suffered a stroke of paralysis in September 1916, and since that date some of the letters etc., received from him have not been actually written by him.

It was noted by this office that his letter answering charges was not in his own handwriting.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG

1st Asst. Superintendent.

HMC-AA

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.
November 18, 1918.

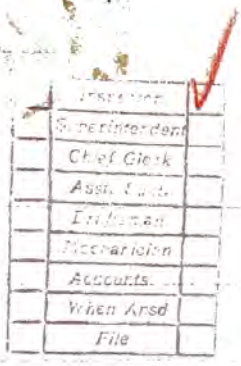
1. Submitted to Secretary of Commerce recommending that Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C., at $732 per annum be dismissed from the Lighthouse Service for disloyalty, effective at the close of November 8, 1918, the date on which he was suspended from duty.

2. The 6th Superintendent will be instructed to submit statement whether Traugott had taken leave in excess of the accrued rate.

3. It is requested that the inclosed letter dated October 30, 1918, and accompanying papers from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, be returned to the Bureau when their services shall have been served.

Acting Commis...









Beaufort S. C.
Oct ~~November~~ 27th 1916

To
Light-House Inspector
Charleston S. C.

Sir:

This is to inform you that my intentions are to return to Hunting Island Light Station on the fifth day of November which date my leave expires.

I have improved so well, that I will be able to perform most of my duties, and with the aid of a substitute for a while, I shall be capable to fulfill all.

I will use my own judgement in obtaining a person at my own expence who will answer for said purpose. Trusting this will meet you approval.

Respectfully. Benj Gaugett.

Hydrog.
Engr. Con
Mar. Engr
Account
Contract
Chf. Cl
Dep. Co
Commr.

LIGHT
NOV 18 1918
HOUSES

NOV 18 1918 12 17 PM

November 16, 1918.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department hereby approves the action taken by the Acting Superintendent of the Sixth Lighthouse District in suspending from ~~duty~~ Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, effective November 8, 1918, and to continue for a period not to exceed ninety days, pending disposition of charges preferred against him for disloyalty to the Government of the United States.

(SIGNED) WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
NOV 19 1918

To Superintendent of Lighthouses Charleston, S.C.

For his information, guidance, and files of office. See Bureau Letter of Nov. 18

No. R

Acting Commissioner.

HMD-AA

Franz Traugott,
charges.

November 18, 1918.

Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C.

1. Referring to your letters of Nov. 5, and Nov. 14, 1918, relative to the charges of disloyalty preferred against Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

2. The Bureau considers the evidence against Traugott sufficient to establish his disloyalty to the United States Government, notwithstanding the general denial in his reply dated November 9, 1918, to charges, and recommendation has this day been made to the Department that he be dismissed from the service, effective at the close of November 8, 1918, the date on which he was suspended from duty.

3. Report at the proper time whether Traugott has taken leave in excess of the accrued rate in accordance with Regulations 1918, Art. 488, 2d par.

Acting Commissioner

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

HLB-HFS

297120

LIGHT FEB 17 1919 HOUSES

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

LIGHT APR 19 1919 HOUSES

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

February 14, 1919.

SUBJECT: Disloyalty charges against Franz Traugott.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Asst. Chf. Clk.
Drftsmn.

INCLOSURES:
1. Letter dated Jan. 8/19 to Superintendent of Lighthouses from City Manager of Beaufort, S. C., and the Chairman of Beaufort Chamber of Commerce.
2. Copy of my letter of Feb. 7/19 to Devaney F. Jennette, 1st Asst. Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station.
3. Devaney F. Jennette's reply dated Feb. 11/19.

Rec no steps toward his reinstatement 20 Feb'19

1. Franz Traugott was dismissed from the position of Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C. effective at the close of November 8, 1918. The action of the Department was based on a report made by Special Employee Bonyne of the Department of Justice. His evidence against Traugott consisted of statements said to have been made in letters from (a) C. Malloy, former 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, (b) John Rees, former 2d Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, (c) alleged verbal statements made by Devaney F. Jennette, 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station to Special Employee Bonyne, and (d) alleged verbal statements made by Franz Traugott to Bonyne himself.

2. Similar allegations which had been made by Malloy and Rees while they were still stationed at Hunting Island Light Station were investigated by this office. In this connection attention is invited to my indorsement of May 7, 1917 returning a confidential communication of May 4, 1917 referring to this office for investigation and report a Department of Justice letter of May 3,1917 addressed to the Commissioner of Lighthouses. My conclusion as to the charges made by Malloy and Rees were that they were largely the result of malice toward the keeper. Assistant Superintendent Dillon independently came to the same conclusion in his report of December 5, 1917, a copy of which was forwarded with my indorsement of May 7, 1917, referred to above.

3. First Assistant Keeper Jennette flatly denies that he made statements attributed to him by Special Employee Bonyne of the Department of Justice. In this connection attention is invited to Mr. Jennette's letter of February 11/19 enclosed herewith which was written in reply to my letter of February 7th.

4. The most damaging evidence against Traugott consists of Special Employee Bonyne's report of the alleged statements of Traugott to him in the course of conversation between them in the German language. The accuracy of his account would not be open to question were it not for the fact that Jennette denies flatly that he made statements which Special Employee Bonyne attributed to him, and to the further fact that at least one other part of Bonyne's

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION MAR
LIGHT HOUSES FEB
LIGHT HOUSES

eport which has no bearing on Traugott's loyalty is misleading. I refer to he paragraph of his report which reads as follows: "After making an inspection of this island and the lighthouse Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded back to the Naval patrol boat and there requested Ensign Taylor of the Naval Reserves to make soundings of the waters around Hunting Island. The sounding showed that there is from 30 to 50 ft. of water all behind this island with an outlet directly to the ocean." It is a matter of personal knowledge to me, which fact is verified by the charts, that a boat drawing as much as 4 ft. of water cannot proceed through the usual outlet at low tide.

5. Attention is invited to reference 1. It appears that Mr. Traugott is living in Beaufort in destitute circumstances. On account of his not having fully recovered from a stroke of paralysis which he suffered while he was on duty as Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, he is not qualified physically to perform all of the duties of a keeper. In fact I can think of no position in the Service that he can fill except that of watchman at the Lighthouse Depot. I am not prepared however to recommend Traugott's reinstatement and employment in such a position unless and until some one else comes to the same conclusion as I, namely, that Traugott was not actually disloyal to the Government of the United States, although I am fully convinced that before this country went to war his sympathies were entirely with Germany. It is difficult to believe that any sane man who knew that his loyalty was in question would make such unguarded statements to any stranger and particularly to one from a Government vessel.

H. D. Beck

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Bureau of Lighthouses, March 4, 1919.

McC.
3 inclosures.

Respectfully forwarded to Chief, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, inviting attention to the statements bearing on the reliability of report of Special Employee Bonyne, with request for any further comment you may desire to make on this case, with return of inclosed papers.

[illegible]

Commissioner.

SCHER
LMAN

J. ALBERT KINGHORN
MAYOR

W. E. RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN



CITY OF BEAUFORT

SOUTH CAROLINA Jan. 8th, 1919.

HAL R. POLLITZER
CITY MANAGER
CITY ENGINEER





Mr. H.S. Beck, Supt. #2.

The people of Germany are appealing to the sympathies of the American people for food and supplies after having committed the most heinous crimes known to mankind and we are willing after having attained our purpose in this great conflict to lend these people a helping hand, so why not in this case, if this man made such remarks, to punish him, but not force him and his family of little ones into starvation after having served this country for more than 25 years without a scratch against his record.

Trusting that you will see fit to re-consider your action in this matter and re-instate him, I am,

Yours very truly,

Hal R Pollitzer

Frederick S C Christensen
Chairman Beaufort Chamber of Comm

HRP-OW

J. ALBERT KINGHORN
MAYOR

W. E. RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN

CITY OF BEAUFORT

SOUTH CAROLINA

HAL R. POLLITZER
CITY MANAGER
CITY ENGINEER

Jan 8th, 1919.

Mr. H.S. Beck,
Supt. of Light Houses,
6th District,
Charleston, S.C.

My Dear Mr. Beck:-

I have been requested by several citizens in the town to write you with reference to Mr. Franz Traugott, former keeper of the Hunting Island Light Station, to see if there is anything that could be done to have this man re-instated, even as an assistant keeper if not altogether.

LIGHT
FEB 17 19[illegible]
HOUSES

I have read all of the pro-German remarks made by Mr. Traugott in your letter to him of Nov. 5th and have had a talk with him and others. He flatly denies ever having made the reamrks that are accredited to him. He makes affidavits to this; and from statements made by people who have been in close touch with him ever since he has been here, I cannot believe they are altogether true.

However whether they are true or not he seems repentant and this with his long term of service and utter destitute circumstances of this family and his inability to do any other kind of work, we request that you re-consider your decision in this matter and if posible give some duties whereby he can earn a living.

LIGHT

THE SUMMER CENTER OF SOUTH CAROLINA

was informed by JEANNETTE that up to [illegible] eral of TRAUGOTT'S friends come to visit him in a small launch, and that these men would stay several days at a time, but that he (JEANNETTE) did not know what their business was as they were friends of the keeper, however, he, (JEANNETTE) had heard them speaking in German."

In view of the verbal statements which you made to me when I inspected Hunting Island Light Station on February 4, 1919, you are instructed to make a written statement in regard to the above quotation from Mr. Bonyne's report. You are requested either to affirm or deny each statement alleged to have been made by you to Mr. Bonyne, and in addition to this you will please state just what disloyal remarks if any, you ever heard Mr. Traugott make.

H. L. Beck.

COPY.

HLB-JFS

February 7, 1919.

Mr. Devaney F. Jennette,
1st Asst. Keeper, Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S. C.

(Through the Keeper.)

The following is quoted from a report on the alleged German activities of former Keeper Franz Traugott:

"Upon arriving at the Hunting Island Light-House, Agent and Sepcial Employee Bonyne, first interviewed confidentially, Mr. JEANNETTE, the assistant keeper at this light, and upon making our business known to Mr. JEANNETTE, he stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT att this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against this Government. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JEANNETTE also has heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and an outrage for this country to send negroes to France to fight against white people.

In interviewing Mr. JEANNETTE Agent learned that there consisted two watches during the night at the Light-house, one watch running from sun-down to midnight and the second watch running to dawn, and that these watches were alternated between himself and TRAUGOTT, one night TRAUGOTT taking the first watch and the next night he taking the first watch. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that it was very easy for anyone to change the time of this revolving light, which is set now to revolve every thirty seconds, but that it was possible to change this time so that the light would revolve either slower or faster, and in this way you could signal to boats at sea.

Agent questioned Mr. JEANNETTE, as to whether there had been any visitors at the Hunting Island Light-House who had stayed any length of time there, and was informed by JEANNETTE that up to some few months ago there used to be several of TRAUGOTT'S friends come to visit him in a small launch, and that these men would stay several days at a time, but that he (JEANNETTE) did not know what their business was as they were friends of the keeper, however, he, (JEANNETTE) had heard them speaking in German."

In view of the verbal statements which you made to me when I inspected Hunting Island Light Station on February 4, 1919, you are instructed to make a written statement in regard to the above quotation from Mr. Bonyne's report. You are requested either to affirm or deny each statement alleged to have been made by you to Mr. Bonyne, and in addition to this you will please state just what disloyal remarks if any, you ever heard Mr. Traugott make.

H. L. Beck,
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Superintendent
Personnel Clerk
File

SIXTH DISTRICT

Hunt... C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)

Feb the 11th, 1919

Superintendent of Light Houses Charleston S.C.

Sir

(Through the Keeper)

Sir

Refering to the Statements of Mr Barnes I will make the following Statements as to what I said to him

(1) I never did hear Mr Trangott Curse the President Willison or make any remarks against this Gavernment

(2) I did hear Mr Trangott say the U.S. Shoued not have gone to war against germany as thire was so many Germans in this Country it would cause hard feelings

(3) I never did hear Mr Trangott say anything against President Willison

Sixth Superintend's letter Feb. 14, 1919, disloyalty charges, Franz Traugott former keeper of Hunting Island L. S.

Bureau of Lighthouses, March 4, 1919.

McC.
3 inclosures.

Respectfully forwarded to Chief, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, inviting attention to the statements bearing on the reliability of report of Special Employee Bonyne, with request for any further comment you may desire to make on this case, with return of inclosed papers.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
MAR 4 - 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston S C

for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner.

Chief Clerk.

McC.

APR 10 1919

Dear Bishop:

Referring to your letter of April 4, 1919, on behalf of the reinstatement of Mr. Franz Traugott, Beaufort, S. C., as keeper in the Lighthouse Service, you are respectfully informed that the matter is under consideration and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

The Rt. Rev. Wm. C. Russell, D. D.,
Bishop of Charleston,
Charleston, S. C.

LIGHTHOUSES--Bureau's files.

Exact copy as signed by_____

Mailed_____by_____

File

Original herewith not signed by Dept. See acknowledgment dated April 11/19 which was prepared in the Secretary's Office

JSC 4/12

per AKT

APR 12 1919 10 42 AM

LIGHT HOUSES APR 12 1919

Hydrog.
Engr. Const.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Rep. Center
Commr.

April 11, 1919.

Copy ltr + file JRA Apr 12

CHIEF CLERK APR 12 1919

13

My dear Bishop Russell:

I am glad to have your kind letter of the 4th instant on behalf of the reinstatement of Mr. Franz Traugott, Beaufort, S.C., to the position of keeper in the Lighthouse Service.

Let me say to you that the matter has been referred to the Superintendent of Lighthouses with request for his careful consideration. He advises me that he will go into the matter thoughtfully and will inform you as soon as a decision can be reached.

With kind personal regards,

I am

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary of Commerce.

The Rt. Rev. Wm. T. Russell, D.C.,
Bishop of Charleston,
114 Broad Street,
Charleston, S.C.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
APR 14 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses Charleston, S. C.

for his information, guidance, and files of office. The above-mentioned letter was referred to you by Bureau indorsement of recent date.

Acting Commissioner.

S.

GRV

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Thulo

APR 16 1919 8 50 A

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT APR 16 1919 HOUSES

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 4th DISTRICT
~~Office of Inspector 5th District~~

CHARLESTON, S. C.

HLB-JFS

Hydrog.
Engr. Comm.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comr
Comm.

April 14, 1919.

LIGHT APR 21 1919 HOUSES

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Subject: Request for reinstatement of former Keeper Franz Traugott.

Inclosure: Letter from Bishop Russell to Secretary of Commerce.

1. The inclosure is returned to the Bureau as directed.

2. Attention is invited to my letter of February 14, 1919, on the subject of disloyalty charges against Franz Traugott and particularly to paragraph 5.

3. It appears that a copy of my letter referred to above was forwarded by the Bureau of Lighthouses to the Chief, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, on March 4, 1919, with a request for comment on the reliability of the report of Special Employee Boyne.

4. I made no definite recommendation in regard to reinstating Traugott and giving him employment. I wrote the letter of February 14, 1919 in order that the whole case might be reviewed. I do not recall any material facts that have not been placed before the Bureau in one report or another. If the reply from the Chief of the Bureau of Investigation should cast doubt on the reliability of the Boyne report I would recommend that consideration then be given to the reinstatement of Traugott in a position which he is qualified to fill. The only one available is that of night watchman at the Charleston Lighthouse Depot which is now filled by a temporary employee.

H. L. Beck,
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

APR 7 1919 4 PM

Bishop's House
114 Broad St.

Rt. Rev. Wm. T. Russell, D. D.

4/10/19 Ackd
4/10/19 Answ Copy 6th

Charleston, S. C. April 4, 1919.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Supt.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comm'r
Comm'r.

Rec'd 6th

LIGHT HOUSES APR 7 1919

SUPT. LIGHTHOUSES CHARLESTON, S. C. APR 12 1919
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Workshop
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot

LIGHT HOUSES APR 16 1919

The Hon. Wm. Cox Redfield,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Allow me to intercede in behalf of Mr. Trougot of Beaufort S. C. He was in the Light-House Service before and during a part of the war. He was accused of being disloyal, and lost his position. After making inquiries, I feel quite certain that this charge was unfounded, and probably was the result of malice on the part of some who desired his position. Yesterday I had a talk with Mr. Beck in charge of the Light-House Service at Charleston, and I gathered from what he said that he was of my opinion. Mr. Beck has recommended a review of the case and reinstatement of the man.

Mr. Trougot has a wife and six small children and they are in a destitute condition. Up to the present I have been helping them to keep them from starvation. I think it will be an act of justice, and I am sure it will be an act of charity, to give the man an opportunity to earn sufficient for his little family.

With every good wish, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

+ Wm. T. Russell

Bishop of Charleston.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
APR 10 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston S C
for report and return, with recommendation.

Acting Commissioner.

APR 19 1919 10 15 A

LIGHT
APR 19
HOUSES

Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation,

Washington.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
CHIEF, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.
AND REFER TO INITIALS.
HBL.

LOB
HBL

April 18, 1919.

Hydros
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Chief
Secy.

4/19 copy 6th

Rec no steps towards his reinstatement

George R. Putnam, Esq.,
Commissioner of Lighthouses,
Department of Commerce,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the file of correspondence transmitted to this Office under date of the fourth ultimo, with respect to Franz Traugott, former Lighthouse Keeper at Hunting Island, South Carolina, you are advised that I have since communicated with the agent making the investigation and he informs me that the report in question contains an accurate statement of the facts developed.

With respect to the depth of the water at the outlet from Hunting Island to the sea, the agent states as follows:

> "Where the Patrol Boat was anchored in Harbor River, there were five (5) fathoms of water. The soundings for this depth was made by Ensign Taylor, Commander of the "Lady Anne", and also by Captain Laird, former Harbormaster, who was acting as pilot from Savannah to Hunting Island. **********
>
> "Superintendent Beck in this part of his letter apparently refers to the small creek directly behind Hunting Island, but this creek is not the waters referred to in my report."

The portion of the U. S. Coast Survey Chart No. 154,

which the Agent states "shows the nearest way to sea from where the Patrol-boat was anchored", is enclosed herewith.

As requested, I am returning the file submitted by you.

Very truly yours,

W. Ellen

Acting Chief.

Enclosures.

No. 154 PRICE 50 CENTS



APR 28 1919 9 30 A

HMC

LIGHT APR 28 1919 HOUSES

APR 2[illegible] 1919

My dear Bishop Russell:

13

1. Referring again to your letter of April 4, 1919, on behalf of the reinstatement of Mr. Franz Traugott, formerly keeper of Huntington Island Light Station, South Carolina, in the Lighthouse Service.

2. Permit me to state that after careful reconsideration of the case, it does not appear that any new facts or circumstances have come to light which would justify the Department in recommending to the Civil Service Commission that certificate for reinstatement be issued. It is a rule of the Commission, governing positions in the classified civil service, that a person can not be reinstated on condemation of the delinquency or misconduct that occasioned his separation, and that the Department in proposing the reinstatement of an employee who was removed from office, shall state that the charges were not true, that they did not justify removal, or that a similar punishment would not in general be imposed for a similar offense.

3. In view of all the facts I do not believe that the Department would be justified in reversing its action in the case, notwithstanding Mr. Traugott's physical and financial condition.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary.

The Rt. Rev. Wm. T. Russell, D. D.,
Bishop of Charleston,
114 Broad Street,
Charleston, S. C.

LIGHTHOUSES---Bureau's files. WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Exact copy as signed by

Mailed APR 26 1919 Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington

To Superintendent of Lighthouses.....

for his information, guidance, and files of office. Charleston, S. C.

Inclosed is copy of letter dated Apr. 18, 1919, from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, relative to this case. Reference your letters of Feb. 14, and April 14, 1919.

Acting Commissioner

MAY 1 1919 9 13 AM

BISHOP'S HOUSE
114 BROAD STREET
CHARLESTON, S. C.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr
Commr.

abob
KTSD
May 1

CHIEF CLERK

LIGHT
MAY 1 1919
4 HOUSES

1919 APR 30 PM

April 28, 1919.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Your favor of April 26th is just received.

While I regret that nothing can be done for Mr. Traugott I beg to thank you for your kind consideration of my request.

With every best wish, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

+ Wm. T. Russell

Bishop of Charleston.

The Hon. W. Redfield,

Department of Commerce,

Washington, D. C.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
MAY 12 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S.C.
for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner.

See previous correspondence in this case.

Chief Clerk.

935

Hlb

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO SUPERINTENDENT LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

File
Kml

LIGHT HOUSES NOV 26 3 53

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 4th DISTRICT

CHARLESTON, S. C.

PF-JFS

Nov. 22, 1918.

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Referring to nomination for appointment of James Smith as Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C., I have to state that this nomination is forwarded before receipt of notification of action taken by the Department on Bureau recommendation for dismissal of Franz Traugott for the reason that a principal keeper is needed at Hunting Island Light Station as soon as practicable.

The nomination of Smith is submitted for consideration provided Franz Traugott is dismissed from the Service.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG.
1st Asst. Superintendent.

MAR 21 1919 10 22 AM

LIGHT
MAR 21 1919
HOUSES

Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation,

Washington.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
CHIEF, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
AND REFER TO INITIALS.

HBL-LOB

Hydrog.
Engr. Co
Mar. Ens
Personn
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Contrac
Chf. Cl
Dep. C
Comm

March 20, 1919.

G. R. Putnam, Esq.,

Commissioner, Bureau of Lighthouses,

Department of Commerce,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Receipt is acknowledged of your file of correspondence with respect to Franz Traugott, formerly Light House Keeper at Hunting Island, South Carolina.

This matter is being taken up with our Division Superintendent at Atlanta, and upon receipt of his reply I shall communicate with you further on the subject.

Yours very truly,

W. E. Allen.

Acting Chief.

McC 1 1

APR 1 0 1919

Dear Bishop:

1. Referring again to your letter of April 4, 1919, on behalf of the reinstatement of Mr. Frans Traugott, Beaufort, S. C., as keeper in the Lighthouse Service, you are respectfully informed that the matter is under consideration and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

The Rt. Rev. Wm. C. Russell, D. D.,
Bishop of Charleston,
Charleston, S. C.

2.

McM

Temporary

JUN 19 1920 12 15 PM

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

APPOINTMENT DIVISION

WASHINGTON

7/1/20, wrote Dept.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts
Contracts
Opr. Clk.
Insp. Constr.
Superintendent

June 19, 1920.

LIGHT HOUSES JUN 19 1920

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Transmitted herewith for remark and return, with recommendation, is letter dated June 16, 1920, from Franz Traugott, formerly Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, enclosing letter dated May 28, 1920, addressed to him by the 6th District Superintendent and affidavit to accompany application for a copy of the order of his dismissal from the Lighthouse Service.

By direction of the Secretary:

Clifford Harding

Chief of Appointment Division.

Enclosure 2292.
✓C-S

JEH:LON
Inclosures

Franz Traugott.

July 1, 1920.

Secretary of Commerce:

1. Referring to Department letter of June 19, 1920, inclosing correspondence received from Franz Traugott, formerly keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S.C., requesting copy of notice of his dismissal from the Lighthouse Service.

2. It appears from the affidavit accompanying Mr. Traugott's letter that he desires copy of the chargespreferred against him, and it is recommended that, unless the Department considers it inadvisable, Mr. Traugott be furnished a copy of letter of charges addressed to him on November 5, 1918, as well as copy of Department notice of dismissal dated November 21, 1918.

3. Correspondence accompanying Department letter of June 19, is inclosed as requested.

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

EMK

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

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

February 28, 1917.

Mr.Franz Traugott, Kpr.,
Hunting Island L.S.,
Frogmore, SC.

Answer the following questions and return this paper to this office by return mail.

Are you a naturalised citizen of the United States? Yes

If not, a citizen, have you taken out your first papers?

If a naturalised citizen, your certificate of naturalization, or the certificate of naturalization of one of your parents (if such parent was naturalised while you were a minor) must be forwarded to this office.
After proper entry has been made in this office, the certificate will be returned to you.

This matter must be given immediate attention.

H. L. Beck,
Inspector, 6th L. H. District.

EMK:::Office:Inspr.,6th:District,:March:5,1917:

Signature: Franz Traugott

Designation, Vessel or Station. Hunting Island S.C.

EMK.

Office Inspr., 6th Dist., March 5, 1917.
Certificate of naturalization of FRANZ TRAUGOTT, issued by the U.S. Circuit Court, District of South Carolina, Fourth Circuit, May 16, 1898. April Term 1898. Charleston, S.C.
Native of Province of Hahover, Empire of Germany.

Paper returned to Mr.Traugott this day.

COMMUNICATIONS TO
INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

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

March 5
~~February 28~~, 1917.

Mr. Framz Traugott,
Kpr.Hunting Island L.S.,
Frogmore, S.C.

naturalization

Your certificate of naturlaisation is returned herewith, proper entry having been made in this office.

Please acknowledge receipt by signing and returning this paper to this office.

H. L. Beach
Lighthouse Inspector.

Received above paper this
day of March 9th 1917.

Franz Traugott
Signature.

JFS

COPY.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
Bureau of Investigation,
WASHINGTON.

Address reply to Chief, Bureau of Investigation, and refer to initials. H.B.L.

HBL:RT

11/2/18 ackgd.

October 30th, 1918.

George R. Putnam, Esquire,

Chief of Lighthouse Service,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

For your information and such action as you see fit to take, I am sending to you a report from our Agent at Savannah, Georgia, dated October 17, 1918, concerning one Franz Traugott, alleged German activities, formerly reported Fraugott.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd)A.B.Bielaski
Chief.

The following is pencil memorandum written by Mr. Putnam:

Ack, & refer to 6th. it appears that the evidence herewith is of a character that warrants immediate suspension of Traugott, and preferment of charges with advice to dismissal, and Supt. should take this action unless there are strong reasons for some other course. Advise Bureau promptly.

(Sgd) P.

Form No. 1.

Report made by:	Place where made:	Date when made:	Period for which made:
Nell E. Jackson,	Savannah, Ga.	10/25/1918.	10/17/1918.

Title of case and offense charged or nature of matter under investigation:

In re: FRANZ TRAUGOTT: Alleged German Activities:

Formerly reported: FRANZ FRAUGOTT:

Statement of operations, evidence collected, names and addresses of persons interviewed, place visited, etc:

At SAVANNAH, Enroute for Hunting Island,

and at Hunting Island.

Referring to Agent's report of the 2nd inst., 1918, on the above entitled matter, and purusant to instructions of Agt. in Charge Wright, Agent accompanied by Special Employee Bonyne, left this day on the Naval Reserve Patrol Boat for the purpose of proceeding to Hunting Island, in order to make an investigation of the alleged German activities of FRANZ TRAUGOTT, the light house keeper at the Hunting Island Light Station.

It may be remembered that this matter was reported to this office February 10th, 1918, at which time Special Employee Bonyne succeeded in gaining information from one JOHN REES, the former assistant light-house keeper at Hunting Island, which information was never acted upon at this time, the information having been misplaced in these offices and later found by Agent in Charge Wright.

A letter was written to JOHN REES, who is now living at Southport, N. C., asking for any information he might have, and some time later an answer was received to the letter written by Agent in Charge Wright, from REES, stating that he had destroyed the Log-Book he had kept while at the Hunting Light-house, which Log-Book contained all the Pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT during the time REES was stationed at this Light-house, but, however, REES informed this office that TRAUGOTT had made many Pro-German remarks and had almost gotten into trouble with him (REES) because REES would not side with the Kaiser. REES further informed this office in his letter that TRAUGOTT had made the statement that the Kaiser was at the head of all the world and there was no greater country in this world than Germany. REES further stated that TRAUGOTT cursed the President and made remarks, saying the President Wilson was not fit to rule anybody; REES also furnished this office with the name of Clarence Malloy,

Copy of this report furnished to:

Washington, Atlanta, Savannah.

formerly first-assistant Light-House keeper at Hunting Island, as being a who could furnish information as to certain disloyal remarks made by TRAUGOTT.

A letter was written to CLARENCE MALLOY at Hillsboro-Light Station, DEERFIELD, Fla., inquiring as to any information he might have concerning the remarks made by TRAUGOTT, and later an answer was received, in which Malloy stated that TRAUGOTT was continually cursing the President and making remarks that he was no good, and if he did not look out there were Four Million Germans in the United States who would cause him trouble.

A full report of the investigation made by Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, is being submitted in this day's report, although the investigation consisted of three days time.

Upon arriving at Hunting Island, which Island is situated on the coast of South Carolina, between Port Royal Sound and St. Helena Sound, in a very isolated section of the country, there being no residence anywhere in this neighborhood. Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, proceeded some five miles up a creek to the Hunting Island Light. This light is situated in the center of Hunting Island, and is one of the largest in this section, it being a revolving light of 64,000,00 candle power, and having a reading distance of some Eighteen miles.

Upon arriving at the Hunting Island Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, first interviewed confidentially, Mr. JEANNETTE, the assistant keeper at this light, and upon making our business known to Mr. JEANNETTE, he stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against this Government. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JEANNETTE also has heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and

outrage for this country to send negroes to France to fight against white people.

In interviewing Mr. JEANNETTE, Agent learned that there consisted two watches during the night at the Light-house, one watch running from sun-down to midnight and the second watch running to dawn, and that these watches were alternated between himself and TRAUGOTT, one night TRAUGOTT taking the first watch and the next night he taking the first watch. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that it was very easy for anyone to change the time of this revolving light, which is set now to revolve every thirty seconds, but that it was possible to change this time so that the light would revolve either slower or faster, and in this way you could signal to boats at sea.

Agent questioned Mr. JEANNETTE as to whether there had been any visitors at the Hunting Island Light-House who had stayed any length of time there, and was informed by JEANNETTE that up to some few months ago there used to be several of TRAUGOTT'S friends come to visit him in a small launch, and that these men would stay several days at a time, but that he (JEANNETTE) did not know what their business was as they were friends of the keeper, however, he, (JEANNETTE) had heard them speaking in German.

Special Employee Bonyne, after this information had been learned from JEANNETTE, interviewed TRAUGOTT under cover, TRAUGOTT believing that Special Employee Bonyne was simply there as the Captain of the Naval Patrol Boat and making the usual rounds of Inspection. Special Employee Bonyne in questioning TRAUGOTT first, questioned hi as to whether he was a Swede, TRAUGOTT denied this, stating th Special Employee Bonyne that he was a German. Special Employee Bonyne at this point began speaking German with him, and in a short time had gained the confidence of TRAUGOTT, and TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that the "Bald-headed son-of-a-bitch, President Wilson, did not know how to run this Country, and he had no brains, but it took a brainy man like the Kaiser, Wilhelm, to run this country and hold the respect of his people. TRAUGOTT furthers stated that Wilson and the American people were damn fools if they thought they were

ing to dethrone the Kaiser, that it was impossible to do this, and that further, the German people would stick together and finally win this war. TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that he and all Germans were going back to Germany as soon as this war was over and help re-establish the German population and commerce.

TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne, in discussing the submarine policies of the German Government, that he thought the Germans had a right to sink any ships they saw fit to sink, that they were fighting a civilized War and not fighting any inhuman war like the Allies were fighting, and that further, he thought it was a disgrace for this country to send negro troops to France to fight against white people. TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne that this country had no business getting into this war, that it was only a bunch of grafters out of Wall street who started this war.

TRAUGOTT further stated that the German people were going to stick together and that once a German always a German, and that it would be impossible to break down their Morale.

During the interview Special Employee Bonyne had with TRAUGOTT, TRAUGOTT asked Special Employee Bonyne if there were not two men from the Department of Justice in his party, but as Special Employee Bonyne and Agent were dressed in Naval Overalls; TRAUGOTT was convinced that there were no men from the Department of Justice in the boat.

After making and inspection of this Island and the Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded back to the Naval Patrol Boat and there requested Ensign Taylor of the Naval Reserves to make soundings of the waters around Hunting Island. The sounding showed that there is from Thirty to Fifty feet of water all behind this Island, with an outlet directly to the Ocean.

From Hunting Island Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded to Beaufort, S.C. at which place TRAUGOTT'S family lives, and there interviewed Sheriff White of Beaufort, as to whether he had any information concerning any pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT, but Sheriff White stated that TRAUGOTT was

...as in Beaufort so little of his time that he had never had any occasion to hear TRAUGOTT talk.

Agent also interviewed Postmaster E. D. RANEY, at Beaufort, S. C., but could gather no information from him as to any pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT at Beaufort.

Agent also interviewed the Naval Section Commander at Beaufort, who has Hunting Island in his section to be patrolled, and learned from him that there had been an investigation by the Naval Intelligence at Hunting Island, but that no definite information had been obtained, although they investigated TRAUGOTT, as it had been reported that there was a wireless on Hunting Island, also a sub-marine base at this point. Agent is enclosing copy of the report made by the Naval Intelligence on this matter.

In connection with the Hunting Island investigation, it is known to be a fact that Captain Hulst, Captain of the former German Steamer HOHENFELDE, which was interned in this harbor for sometime, made several mysterious trips from Savannah to Charleston in a power-boat belonging to the HOHENFELDE, and that Captain HULST was gone eleven days at one time, being unable to explain his absence, other than he had gone to Charleston, he also took with him a chart of the inland waterways, which it was known by the Naval Intelligence that these charts were returned from Charleston to Savannah by messenger and turned over to the Captain of the Dutch ship "Zeebur" and from here carried to Germany.

Also it is known to be a fact that a tug left Savannah in February 1918, by the name of Edgar F. Comey, towing two barges of Piling and one barge of Coal consigned to COMMERCIAL COAL COMPANY, New York, but that this coal never reached New York, it being claimed by the tug-boat Captain that this coal was lost off Hunting Island in St. Helena's Sound, however, Special Employee Bonyne who at that time was connected with the British Consul here as an Inspector of Commerce, had occasion to investigate this same barge of coal and developed the information that this barge of coal was anchored off Hunting Island, where it

page 6.

PORT ROYAL SECTION:
SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

181-S Beaufort, S. C. July 20th, 1918.

From: Section Aid for Infomation.
To: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.
Subject: Keepers at Hunting Island.
Reference: (a) Your letter July 3rd, 1918. File No. 932.A-5

1. There are three men at Hunting Island Light House with the following names and nationalties:

(a). Hans Traugott, a naturalized German. His last papers were taken out in 1898.

(b). G. Jeannette, an American born citizen.

(c). A negro assistant, name unknown.

2. I will personally investigate them further than the above when I return from Jacksonville.

(Signed) H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

PORT ROYAL SECTION.

SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

File No.

181-S

Beaufort, S. C. July 30, 1918.

From: Section Aid for Information.
To: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: Keepers at Hunting Island Light House.

REFERENCE: (a) Your letter July 3, 1918, File No.932: A-5.
(b) My letter July 20, 1918, File No. 181-S.

1. On Friday July 25th, I visited Hunting Island Light House to ascertain the status of Keeper Traugott. Frank Traugott, a mariner by trade, was born in the province of Hanover, Germany on September 2, 1862. Traugott came to this country while still a young man and received his naturalization papers in May 1898. These papers were issued in Charleston, S. C. by J. E. Hagood, Clerk of the Circuit Court, U.S. District of South Carolina. Traugott has never been back to Germany since he received his papers in 1898. Traugott was keeper for the light house in Fifth Section at Tybee Roads for nearly four years.

2. Traugott's wife is of Spanish descent, her grand-parents coming over from Spain, Mrs. Traugott was born in St. Augustine, Fla.

3. G. [illegible]nette, first assistant keeper, was born in North Carolina.

4. Joe Jackson, the negro assistant, was raised in this Section.

5. The Government owns 138 acres near the beach where the Light House is situated, and 2 acres at their wharf on the west side of the island. Mr. Thomas Lee owns a tract of land on the north side of the island, the south side being owned by Senator Cameron, who also owns Coffin's Point. I looked over this land on account of Junker, an Austrian, who is connected with Senator Cameron's places as keep of them.

6. While on Hunting Island, I went up to the top of the light house in order to view the surrounding country and ocean. The binoculars furnished this light house are not very good as it was very hard for me to distinguish eight ships which I saw ten miles out at sea.

(Signed) H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

U.S.S. Jeanette, S. P. 149

Beaufort, S. C.

July 10th, 1918.

From: Commanding Officer.

To: Section Commander.

Subject: Report on investigation of St. Philip's and Capers Island.

1. On Monday July 8th, I landed on St. Philip's Island at Bay Point with ten marines and two sailors. I searched all that part of the Island to Horse Creek for wireless and anything which might enable the Germans to operate submarines.

2. Tuesday, July 9th, with two marines and two sailors, I landed on the north point of St. Philip's Island. I searched it, but as it was covered with dense vegetation, I was unable to make much progress. Under the circumstances, we covered all the ground possible and nothing was found on the whole of St. Philip's Island.

3. I sent two petty officers over to Capers Island, and as it was not covered with vegetation, they were able to see the whole of the Island from an old geodetic survey stake. Nothing was found at this place.

(Signed) E. L. Morgan.

(COPY)

PORT ROYAL SECTION:

SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

181-S.

Beaufort, S. C. July 10, 1918.

FROM: Section Aid for Information.

TO: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: St. Philip's Island and vicinity.

Enclosures: (1)

1. Enclosed is a report of an investigation of St. Philips Island and vicinity that Ensign Morgan conducted with the crew of the Jeanette and Marines furnished by the Post Commander at Paris Island.

2. Ensign Morgan has been instructed to investigate Fripp's, Pritchard and Hunting Island, starting this investigation on Thursday, July 11th.

3. A further report of this subject will be forwarded to you in the next few days.

H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

HEADQUARTERS, SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT

Peoples Office Building,

Charleston, S. C.

July 8-1918.

FROM: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

TO: Section Aid for Information, Beaufort, S. C.

SUBJECT: Investigation to determine possible submarine Base or wireless outfit on St. Philip's Island, or its vicinity.

1. A personal letter contains the following on possible enemy activities in your section:

"On account of your local knowledge and because I think the matter should be brought to the notice of the Navy Department, I am presuming to write to you on the subject that was reported to me just before my leaving Savannah, for duty in New York City, to the effect that the Captain of the interned German steamer "HOHENFELDE" had made two mysterious visits from Thunderbolt to St. Philip's Island on the eastern side of Bay Point, and that on these trips he would not allow any of the men who accompanied him to go ashore. I intended to investigate this matter before leaving Beaufort, but telegraphic orders to report immediately in New York interferred with my doing so. Trenchards Inlet, as you may remember leads from the main channel to St. Philip's Island and carries a depth of 9 feet at mean low tide. The Captain of this steamer made two trips in motor boats from Savannah to Charleston, S. C., taking with him the Coast Survey Charts, and check on the Inland Water route and the Inlets leading from the ocean up among these Islands. Having completed his work, he sent the corrected charts, by messenger to Jacksonville, and by the Steward of a Dutch ship to Germany. Upon discovering these facts, I put a detective on his track until his final arrest in Savannah upon the declaration of War. I questioned him closely after his arrest, and am am convinced that, though he denied it, he is a reserve officer, in the imported German Navy, and accredited agent of their Government. There may may be nothing in the report that I have mentioned above, but I believe that it would be advisable to institute a very careful search on this and the neighboring Islands, where, as you well know, the conditions are ideal for the concealment of the wireless apparatus and for the establishment of a base for the supply of gasolene to German submarines".

"port Royal Harbor is of such easy access from the open ocean, so little used commercially and the Islands am so seldom visited, that it would be a very simple matter to conceal any movements in this locality".

"port Royal Harbor is practically undefended, and the small detachment at Port Fremont, which is the only defense for the Marine Training Station on Paris Island, was only sent them after I had constituted myself its

garrison upon the declaration of the war, and informed the War Department that I would stay until relieved which happened within a week. I am also informed that the keeper of Hunting Island Light House is German.C.P.E.".

2. It is requested that you conduct an investigation to determine any possible submarine base, or wireless device that may exist in the localities mentioned above, and submit report of investigation to this office.

(Signed) Chas. L. McClasky.

Acting.

COPY.

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

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR CHARLESTON, S. C.

PP-EMK

Extra Copies

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6th DISTRICT

~~OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT~~

CHARLESTON, S. C.

November 5, 1918.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Kpr.Hunting Isld.Light Station.

You are charged with disloyalty to the Government of the United States, and you are given six days after the receipt of this letter in which to make a written reply, and show cause why you should not be dismissed from the United States Lighthouse Service.

The charges against you are based upon the investigation and report made by the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, October 17,1918-October 25,1918:

The following statements are quoted from the report made by the Department of Justice and you are required to answer each statement quoted below:

(1) Statement of John Rees, formerly 2d Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.-

in his letter

"Rees further informed this office/that TRAUGOTT had made the statement that the Kaiser was at the head of all the world and there was no greater country in this world than Germany. REES further stated that TRAUGOTT cursed the President and made remarks, saying the President Wilson was not fit to rule anybody" - - - -

(2) Statement of Clarence Malloy, formerly 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.-

"MALLOY stated that TRAUGOTT was continually cursing the President and making remarks that he was no good, and if he did not look out there were four Million Germans in the United States who would cause him trouble."

(3) Statement of Devaney F. Jennette, now 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.- interviewed by Special Employe Bonyne:

"He stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against the Government. Mr. JENNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JENNETTE also had heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and an outrage for this country to send negroes to France to fight against white people." - - - -

(4) Statement of Special Employe Bonyne:

"Special Employee Bonyne, after this information had been learned from JEANNETTE, interviewed TRAUGOTT under cover, TRAUGOTT believing that Special Employee Bonyne was simply there as the Captain of the Naval Patrol Boat and making the usual rounds of inspection. Special Employee Bonyne in questioning TRAUGOTT first, questioned as to whether he was a Swede, TRAUGOTT denied this, stating to Special Employee Bonyne that he was a German. Special Employee Bonyne at this point began speaking German with him, and in a short time had gained the confidence of TRAUGOTT, and TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that the "Bald-Headed son-of-a-bitch, President Wilson, did not know how to run this country, and he had no brains, and it took a brainy man like the Kaiser, Wilhelm, to run this country and hold the respect of the people. TRAUGOTT further stated that Wilson and the American people were damn fools if they thought they were going to dethrone the Kaiser, that it was impossible to do this, and that further, the German people would stick together and finally win this war. TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that he and all Germans were going back to Germany as soon as this war was over and help re-establish the German population and commerce."

"TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne, in discussing the submarine policies of the German Government, that he thought the Germans had a right to sink any ships they say fit to sink, that they were fighting a civilized war and not fighting any inhuman war like the Allies were fighting, and that further, he thought it was a disgrace for this country to send negro troops to France to fight against white people. TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee BONYNE that this country had no business getting into this war, that it was only a bunch of grafters out of Wall street who started this war.

"TRAUGOTT further stated that the German people were going to stick together and that once a German always a German, and that it would be impossible to break down their Morale."

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. Gregg

First Assistant Superintendent.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONSS TO SUPERINTENDENT LIGHTHOUSES CHARLESTON, S. C.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

PF-EMK

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6th DISTRICT

~~OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT~~

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For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. Gregg,

First Assistant Superintendent.

JFS

COPY.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service.

Sixth District
Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)
Nov. 9th, 1918.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 5th. instant, which was received on the 8th., informing me of my suspension from the service for a period not to exceed 90 days pending decission on charges prefered against me for disloyalty to the U.S. Government.

Replying to the charges, I most respectfully state that I most positively deny every one of them and respectfully ask that I be given the privilege of facing my accusers, which I think is but just and fair to me also my family.

As to the charges prefered against me by Rees, I positively state that they are false, as I have never had a conversation with him concerning the war or the President or the Kaiser. Rees and I have not been on friendly terms, certainly not sufficiently so for me to hold such a conversation with him futhermore he was transfered from Hunting Island as mate on the light ship so his stay under me was not so long and I feel well satisfayed that charge is simply brought against me for malice.

I also positively deney that I had any such conversation with Malloy. He and I have always disagreed of and on and never did get along together after he married into my wifes family our relationship became more strained and we had nothing to do with each other only in the line of duty and under such conditions I certainly would not have any such conversation with him as he claims.

I allowed Mr. Janette to read his charges and after reading it over said that he did not have such a conversation with Special Employee Boyne at any time, and authorizes me to deney every word of it. This I will and must also deney even if I were not authorized by him to do so, for he and I have never had such a conversation together.

I did have a conversation with the person representing himself as Special Employee Boyne, and during the conversation we did speak of the war. He was very talkative and in the conversation, among other things, he said that President Wilson wants to get the Kaiser out, and I said it would be better for Germany to be ruled by a President. We did not have very much to say as our conversation was short and I did not have the time to spend with him on that subject. I deny that I made the statements which he accredits to me and I ask that I be confronted with him and the others, so that I can have the full opportunity of vindicating myself for the benefit of my family of little ones.

Therefore I trust one can eaisly judge that the charges made against me by Rees and Malloy were simply from the malice which they heed towards me.

Respectfully,

(Sgd) Franz Traugott.

PS. Kindly address any information tending to my person to Beaufort, S. C.

JFS

C O P Y.

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JFS

COPY.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
Address reply to Bureau of Investigation, HBL:RT
Chief, Bureau of Investigation, WASHINGTON.
and refer to initials.
H.B.L.

11/2/18 ackgd. October 30th, 1918.

George R. Putnam, Esquire,

Chief of Lighthouse Service,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

For your information and such action as you see fit to take, I am sending to you a report from our Agent at Savannah, Georgia, dated October 17, 1918, concerning one Franz Traugott, alleged German activities, formerly reported Fraugott.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd)A.B.Bielaski
Chief.

The following is pencil memorandum written by Mr. Putnam:

Ack, & refer to 6th. it appears that the evidence herewith is of a character that warrants immediate suspension of Traugott, and preferment of charges with ^ad vice to dismissal, and Supt. should take this action unless there are strong reasons for some other course. Advise Bureau promptly.

(Sgd) P.

Form No. 1.

Report made by:	Place where made:	Date when made:	Period for which made:
Howell E. Jackson,	Savannah, Ga.	10/25/1918.	10/17/1918.

Title of case and offense charged or nature of matter under investigation:

In re: FRANZ TRAUGOTT: Alleged German Activities:

Formerly reported: FRANZ FRAUGOTT:

Statement of operations, evidence collected, names and addresses of persons interviewed, place visited, etc:

At SAVANNAH, Enroute for Hunting Island,

and at Hunting Island.

Referring to Agent's report of the 2nd inst., 1918, on the above entitled matter, and pursuant to instructions of Agt. in Charge Wright, Agent accompanied by Special Employee Bonyne, left this day on the Naval Reserve Patrol Boat for the purpose of proceeding to Hunting Island, in order to make an investigation of the alleged German activities of FRANZ TRAUGOTT, the light house keeper at the Hunting Island Light Station.

It may be remembered that this matter was reported to this office February 10th, 1918, at which time Special Employee Bonyne succeeded in gaining information from one JOHN REES, the former assistant light-house keeper at Hunting Island, which information was never acted upon at this time, the information having been misplaced in these offices and later found by Agent in Charge Wright.

A letter was written to JOHN REES, who is now living at Southport, N. C., asking for any information he might have, and some time later an answer was received to the letter written by Agent in Charge Wright, from REES, stating that he had destroyed the Log-Book he had kept while at the Hunting Light-house, which Log-Book contained all the Pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT during the time REES was stationed at this Light-house, but, however, REES informed this office that TRAUGOTT had made many Pro-German remarks and had almost gotten into trouble with him (REES) because REES would not side with the Kaiser. REES further informed this office in his letter that TRAUGOTT had made the statement that the Kaiser was at the head of all the world and there was no greater country in this world than Germany. REES further stated that TRAUGOTT cursed the cursed the President and made remarks, saying the President Wilson was not fit to rule anybody; REES also furnished this office with the name of Clarence Malloy,

Copy of this report furnished to:

Washington, Atlanta, Savannah.

formerly first-assistant Light-House keeper at Hunting Island, as being a ... who could furnish information as to certain disloyal remarks made by TRAUGOTT.

A letter was written to CLARENCE MALLOY at Hillsboro-Light Station, DEERFIELD, Fla., inquiring as to any information he might have concerning the remarks made by TRAUGOTT, and later an answer was received, in which Malloy stated that TRAUGOTT was continually cursing the President and making remarks that he was no good, and if he did not look out there were Four Million Germans in the United States who would cause him trouble.

A full report of the investigation made by Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, is being submitted in this day's report, although the investigation consisted of three days time.

Upon arriving at Hunting Island, which Island is situated on the coast of South Carolina, between Port Royal Sound and St. Helena Sound, in a very isolated section of the country, there being no residence anywhere in this neighborhood. Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, proceeded some five miles up a creek to the Hunting Island Light. This light is situated in the center of Hunting Island, and is one of the largest in this section, it being a revolving light of 64,000,00 candle power, and having a reading distance of some Eighteen miles.

Upon arriving at the Hunting Island Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, first interviewed confidentially, Mr. JEANNETTE, the assistant keeper at this light, and upon making our business known to Mr. JEANNETTE, he stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against this Government. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JEANNETTE also has heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and

...his country to send negroes to France to fight against white prople.

...interviewing Mr. JEANNETTE, Agent learned that there consisted two watches ...night at the Light-house, one watch running from sun-down to midnight and the ...watch running to dawn, and that these watches were alternated between himself ...TRAUGOTT, one night TRAUGOTT taking the first watch and the next night he taking the first watch. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that it was very easy for anyone to change the time of this revolving light, which is set now to revolve every thirty seconds, but that it was possible to change this time so that the light would revolve either slower or faster, and in this way you could signal to boats at sea.

Agent questioned Mr. JEANNETTE as to whether there had been any visitors at the Hunting Island Light-House who had stayed any length of time there, and was informed by JEANNETTE that up to some few months ago there used to be several of TRAUGOTT'S friends come to visit him in a small launch, and that these men would stay several days at a time, but that he (JEANNETTE) did not know what their business was as they were friends of the keeper, however, he, (JEANNETTE) had heard them speaking in German.

Special Employee Bonyne, after this information had been learned from JEANNETTE interviewed TRAUGOTT under cover, TRAUGOTT believing that Special Employee Bonyne was simply there as the Captain of the Naval Patrol Boat and making the usual rounds of Inspection. Special Employee Bonyne in questioning TRAUGOTT first, questioned hi as to whether he was a Swede, TRAUGOTT denied this, stating th Special Employee Bonyne that he was a German. Special Employee Bonyne at this point began speaking German with him, and in a short time had gained the confidence of TRAUGOTT, and TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that the "Bald-headed son-of-a-bitch, President Wilson, did not know how to run this Country, and he had no brains, but it took a brainy man like the Kaiser, Wilhelm, to run this country and hold the respect of his people. TRAUGOTT furthers stated that Wilson and the American people were damn fools if they thought they were

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TRAUGOTT further stated that the German people were going to stick together and that once a German always a German, and that it would be impossible to break down their Morale.

During the interview Special Employee Bonyne had with TRAUGOTT, TRAUGOTT asked Special Employee Bonyne if there were not two men from the Department of Justice in his party, but as Special Employee Bonyne and Agent were dressed in Naval Overalls; TRAUGOTT was convinced that there were no men from the Department of Justice in the boat.

After making and inspection of this Island and the Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded back to the Naval Patrol Boat and there requested Ensign Taylor of the Naval Reserves to make soundings of the waters around Hunting Island. The sounding showed that there is from Thirty to Fifty feet of water all behind this Island, with an outlet directly to the Ocean.

From Hunting Island Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded to Beaufort, S.C. at which place TRAUGOTT'S family lives, and there interviewed Sheriff White of Beaufort, as to whether he had any information concerning any pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT, but Sheriff White stated that TRAUG was

little of his time that he had never had any occasion to hear

also interviewed Postmaster E. D. RANEY, at Beaufort, S. C., but could gather formation from him as to any pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT at Beaufort.

Agent also interviewed the Naval Section Commander at Beaufort, who has Hunting Island in his section to be patrolled, and learned from him that there had been an investigation by the Naval Intelligence at Hunting Island, but that no definite information had been obtained, although they investigated TRAUGOTT, as it had been reported that there was a wireless on Hunting Island, also a sub-marine base at this point. Agent is enclosing copy of the report made by the Naval Intelligence on this matter.

In connection with the Hunting Island investigation, it is known to be a fact that Captain Hulst, Captain of the former German Steamer HOHENFELDE, which was interned in this harbor for sometime, made several mysterious trips from Savannah to Charleston in a power-boat belonging to the HOHENFELDE, and that Captain HULST was gone eleven days at one time, being unable to explain his absence, other than he had gone to Charleston, he also took with him a chart of the inland waterways, which it was known by the Naval Intelligence that these charts were returned from Charleston to Savannah by messenger and turned over to the Captain of the Dutch ship "Zeebur" and from here carried to Germany.

Also it is known to be a fact that a tug left Savannah in February 1918, by the name of Edgar F. Comey, towing two barges of Piling and one barge of Coal consigned to COMMERCIAL COAL COMPANY, New York, but that this coal never reached New York, it being claimed by the tug-boat Captain that this coal was lost off Hunting Island in St. Helena's Sound, however, Special Employee Bonyne who at that time was connected with the British Consul here as an Inspector of Commerce, had occasion to investigate this same barge of coal and developed the information that this barge of coal was anchored off Hunting Island, where it

page 6.

PORT ROYAL SECTION:
SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

181-S Beaufort, S. C. July 20th, 1918.

From: Section Aid for Information.
To: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.
Subject: Keepers at Hunting Island.
Reference: (a) Your letter July 3rd, 1918. File No. 932.A-5

1. There are three men at Hunting Island Light House with the following names and nationalties:

(a). Hans Traugott, a naturalized German. His last papers were taken out in 1898.

(b). G. Jeanette, an American born citizen.

(c). A negro assistant, name unknown.

2. I will personally investigate them further than the above when I return from Jacksonville.

(Signed) H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)



PORT ROYAL SECTION.

SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

File No.

181-S

Beaufort, S. C. July 30, 1918.

From: Section Aid for Information.
To: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: Keepers at Hunting Island Light House.

REFERENCE: (a) Your letter July 3, 1918, File No.932: A-5.
(b) My letter July 20, 1918, File No. 181-S.

1. On Friday July 25th, I visited Hunting Island Light House to ascertain the status of Keeper Traugott. Frank Traugott, a mariner by trade, was born in the province of Hanover, Germany on September 2, 1862. Traugott came to this country while still a young man and received his naturalization papers in May 1898. These papers were issued in Charleston, S. C. by J. E. Hagood, Clerk of the Circuit Court, U.S. District of South Carolina. Traugott has never been back to Germany since he received his papers in 1898. Traugott was keeper for the light house in Fifth Section at Tybee Roads for nearly four years.

2. Traugott's wife is of Spanish descent, her grand-parents coming over from Spain, Mrs. Traugott was born in St. Augustine, Fla.

3. G. [illegible]Janette, first assistant keeper, was born in North Carolina.

4. Joe Jackson, the negro assistant, was raised in this Section.

5. The Government owns 138 acres near the beach where the Light House is situated, and 2 acres at their wharf on the west side of the island. Mr. Thomas Lee owns a tract of land on the north side of the island, the south side being owned by Senator Cameron, who also owns Coffin's Point. I looked over this land on account of Junker, an Austrian, who is connected with Senator Cameron's places as keep of them.

6. While on Hunting Island, I went up to the top of the light house in order to view the surrounding country and ocean. The binoculars furnished this light house are not very good as it was very hard for me to distinguish eight ships which I saw ten miles out at sea.

(Signed) H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

U.S.S. Jeanette, S. P. 149

Beaufort, S. C.

July 10th, 1918.

From: Commanding Officer.

To: Section Commander.

Subject: Report on investigation of St. Philip's and Capers Island.

1. On Monday July 8th, I landed on St. Philip's Island at Bay Point with ten marines and two sailors. I searched all that part of the Island to Horse Creek for wireless and anything which might enable the Germans to operate submarines.

2. Tuesday, July 9th, with two marines and two sailors, I landed on the north point of St. Philip's Island. I searched it, but as it was covered with dense vegetation, I was unable to make much progress. Under the circumstances, we covered all the ground possible and nothing was found on the whole of St. Philip's Island.

3. I sent two petty officers over to Capers Island, and as it was not covered with vegetation, they were able to see the whole of the Island from an old geodetic survey stake. Nothing was found at this place.

(Signed) E. L. Morgan.

(COPY)

PORT ROYAL SECTION:

SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

61-C.

Beaufort, S. C. July 10, 1918.

FROM: Section Aid for Information.

TO: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: St. Philip's Island and vicinity.

Enclosures: (1)

1. Enclosed is a report of an investigation of St. Philips Island and vicinity that Ensign Morgan conducted with the crew of the Jeanette and Marines furnished by the Post Commander at Paris Island.

2. Ensign Morgan has been instructed to investigate Fripp's, Pritchard and Hunting Island, starting this investigation on Thursday, July 11th.

3. A further report of this subject will be forwarded to you in the next few days.

H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

HEADQUARTERS, SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT

Peoples Office Building,

Charleston, S. C.

July 5-1918.

FROM: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

TO: Section Aid for Information, Beaufort, S. C.

SUBJECT: Investigation to determine possible submarine Base or wireless outfit on St. Philip's Island, or its vicinity.

1. A personal letter contains the following on possible enemy activities in your section:

"On account of your local knowledge and because I think the matter should be brought to the notice of the Navy Department, I am presuming to write to you on the subject that was reported to me just before my leaving Savannah, for duty in New York City, to the effect that the Captain of the interned German steamer "HOHENFELDE" had made two mysterious visits from Thunderbolt to St. Philip's Island on the eastern side of Bay Point, and that on these trips he would not allow any of the men who accompanied him to go asjore. I intended to investigate this matter before leaving Beaufort, but telegraphic orders to report immediately in New York interferred with my doing so. Trenchards Inlet, as you may remember leads from the main channel to St. Philip's Island and carries a depth of 9 feet at mean low tide. The Captain of this steamer made two trips in motor boats from Savannah to Charleston, S. C., taking with him the Coast Survey Charts, and check on the Inland Water route and the Inlets leading from the ocean up among these Islands. Having completed his work, he sent the corrected charts, by messenger to Jacksonville, and by the Steward of a Dutch ship to Germany. Upon discovering these facts, I put a detective on his track until his final arrest in Savannah upon the declaration of War. I questioned him closely after his arrest, and am am convinced that, though he denied it, he is a reserve officer, in the imported German Navy, and accredited agent of their Government. There may may be nothing in the report that I have mentioned above, but I believe that it would be advisable to institute a very careful search on this and the neighboring Islands, where, as you well know, the conditions are ideal for the concealment of the wireless apparatus and for the establishment of a base for the supply of gasolene to German submarines".

"port Royal Harbor is of such easy access from the open ocean, so little used commercially and the Islands am so seldom visited, that it would be a very simple matter to conceal any movements in this locality".

"port Royal Harbor is practically undefended, and the small detachment at Port Fremont, which is the only defense for the Marine Training Station on Paris Island, was only sent them after I had constituted myself its

...son upon the declaration of the war, and informed the War Department ...d I would stay until relieved which happened within a week. I am also informed that the keeper of Hunting Island Light House is German.C.P.E.".

2. It is requested that you conduct an investigation to determine any possible submarine base, or wireless device that may exist in the localities mentioned above, and submit report of investigation to this office.

(Signed) Chas. L. McClasky.

Acting.

COPY.

JFS

Report Form No. 1.

Report made by:	Place where made:	Date when made:	Period for which made:
Howell E. Jackson.	Savannah, Ga.	10/25/1918.	10/17/1918.

Title of case and offense charged or nature of matter under investigation:

In re: FRANZ TRAUGOTT: Alleged German Activities:

Formerly reported: FRANZ FRAUGOTT:

Statement of operations, evidence collected, names and addresses of persons interviewed, place visited, etc:

At SAVANNAH, Enroute for Hunting Island,

and at Hunting Island.

Referring to Agent's report of the 2nd inst., 1918, on the above entitled matter, and purusant to instructions of Agt. in Charge Wright, Agent accompanied by Special Employee Bonyne, left this day on the Naval Reserve Patrol Boat for the purpose of proceeding to Hunting Island, in order to make an investigation of the alleged German activities of FRANZ TRAUGOTT, the light house keeper at the Hunting Island Light Station.

It may be remembered that this matter was reported to this office February 10th, 1918, at which time Special Employee Bonyne succeeded in gaining information from one JOHN REES, the former assistant light-house keeper at Hunting Island, which information was never acted upon at this time, the information having been misplaced in these offices and later found by Agent in Charge Wright.

A letter was written to JOHN REES, who is now living at Southport, N. C., asking for any information he might have, and some time later an answer was received to the letter written by Agent in Charge Wright, from REES, stating that he had destroyed the Log-Book he had kept while at the Hunting Light-house, which Log-Book contained all the Pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT during the time REES was stationed at this Light-house, but, however, REES informed this office that TRAUGOTT had made many Pro-German remarks and had almost gotten into trouble with him (REES) because REES would not side with the Kaiser. REES further informed this office in his letter that TRAUGOTT had made the statement that the Kaiser was at the head of all the world and there was no greater country in this world than Germany. REES further stated that TRAUGOTT cursed the cursed the President and made remarks, saying the President Wilson was not fit to rule anybody; REES also furnished this office with the name of Clarence Malloy,

Copy of this report furnished to:

Washington, Atlanta, Savannah.

o was formerly first-assistant Light-House keeper at Hunting Island, as being a man who could furnish information as to certain disloyal remarks made by TRAUGOTT.

A letter was written to CLARENCE MALLOY at Hillsboro-Light Station, DEERFIELD, Fla., inquiring as to any information he might have concerning the remarks made by TRAUGOTT, and later an answer was received, in which Malloy stated that TRAUGOTT was continually cursing the President and making remarks that he was no good, and if he did not look out there were Four Million Germans in the United States who would cause him trouble.

A full report of the investigation made by Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, is being submitted in this day's report, although the investigation consisted of three days time.

Upon arriving at Hunting Island, which Island is situated on the coast of South Carolina, between Port Royal Sound and St. Helena Sound, in a very isolated section of the country, there being no residence anywhere in this neighborhood. Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, proceeded some five miles up a creek to the Hunting Island Light. This light is situated in the center of Hunting Island, and is one of the largest in this section, it being a revolving light of 64,000,00 candle power, and having a reading distance of some Eighteen miles.

Upon arriving at the Hunting Island Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, first interviewed confidentially, Mr. JEANNETTE, the assistant keeper at this light, and upon making our business known to Mr. JEANNETTE, he stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against this Government. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JEANNETTE also has heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and

an outrage for this country to send negroes to France to fight against white proole.

In interviewing Mr. JEANNETTE, Agent learned that there consisted two watches during the night at the Light-house, one watch running from sun-down to midnight and the second watch running to dawn, and that these watches were alternated between himself and TRAUGOTT, one night TRAUGOTT taking the first watch and the next night he taking the first watch. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that it was very easy for anyone to change the time of this revolving light, which is set now to revolve every thirty seconds, but that it was possible to change this time so that the light would revolve either slower or faster, and in this way you could signal to boats at sea.

Agent questioned Mr. JEANNETTE as to whether there had been any visitors at the Hunting Island Light-House who had stayed any length of time there, and was informed by JEANNETTE that up to some few months ago there used to be several of TRAUGOTT'S friends come to visit him in a small launch, and that these men would stay several days at a time, but that he (JEANNETTE) did not know what their business was as they were friends of the keeper, however, he, (JEANNETTE) had heard them speaking in German.

Special Employee Bonyne, after this information had been learned from JEANNETTE, interviewed TRAUGOTT under cover, TRAUGOTT believing that Special Employee Bonyne was simply there as the Captain of the Naval Patrol Boat and making the usual rounds of Inspection. Special Employee Bonyne in questioning TRAUGOTT first, questioned hi as to whether he was a Swede, TRAUGOTT denied this, stating th Special Employee Bonyne that he was a German. Special Employee Bonyne at this point began speaking German with him, and in a short time had gained the confidence of TRAUGOTT, and TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that the "Bald-headed son-of-a-bitch, President Wilson, did not know how to run this Country, and he had no brains, but it took a brainy man like the Kaiser, Wilhelm, to run this country and hold the respect of his people. TRAUGOTT furthers stated that Wilson and the American people were damn fools if they thought they were

FS

COPY.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
Bureau of Investigation,
WASHINGTON.

Address reply to Bureau of Investigation, and refer to initials. H.B.L.

HBL:RT

11/2/18 ackgd.

October 30th, 1918.

George R. Putnam, Esquire,
Chief of Lighthouse Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

For your information and such action as you see fit to take, I am sending to you a report from our Agent at Savannah, Georgia, dated October 17, 1918, concerning one Franz Traugott, alleged German activities, formerly reported Traugott.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd)A.B.Bielaski
Chief.

The following is pencil memorandum written by Mr. Putnam:

Ack, & refer to 6th. it appears that the evidence herewith is of a character that warrants immediate suspension of Traugott, and preferment of charges with advice to dismissal, and Supt. should take this action unless there are strong reasons for some other course. Advise Bureau promptly.

(Sgd) P.

dethrone the Kaiser, that it was impossible to do this, and that further, the people would stick together and finally win this war. TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that he and all Germans were going back to Germany as soon as the war was over and help re-establish the German population and commerce.

TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne, in discussing the submarine policies of the German Government, that he thought the Germans had a right to sink any ships they saw fit to sink, that they were fighting a civilized War and not fighting any inhuman war like the Allies were fighting, and that further, he thought it was a disgrace for this country to send negro troops to France to fight against white people. TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne that this country had no business getting into this war, that it was only a bunch of grafters out of Wall street who started this war.

TRAUGOTT further stated that the German people were going to stick together and that once a German always a German, and that it would be impossible to break down their Morale.

During the interview Special Employee Bonyne had with TRAUGOTT, TRAUGOTT asked Special Employee Bonyne if there were not two men from the Department of Justice in his party, but as Special Employee Bonyne and Agent were dressed in Naval Overalls; TRAUGOTT was convinced that there were no men from the Department of Justice in the boat.

After making and inspection of this Island and the Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded back to the Naval Patrol Boat and there requested Ensign Taylor of the Naval Reserves to make soundings of the waters around Hunting Island. The sounding showed that there is from Thirty to Fifty feet of water all behind this Island, with an outlet directly to the Ocean.

From Hunting Island Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded to Beaufort, S.C. at which place TRAUGOTT'S family lives, and there interviewed Sheriff White of Beaufort, as to whether he had any information concerning any pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT, but Sheriff White stated that TRAUGOTT was

in Beaufort so little of his time that he had never had any occasion to hear TRAUGOTT talk.

Agent also interviewed Postmaster E. D. RANEY, at Beaufort, S. C., but could gather no information from him as to any pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT at Beaufort.

Agent also interviewed the Naval Section Commander at Beaufort, who has Hunting Island in his section to be patrolled, and learned from him that there had been an investigation by the Naval Intelligence at Hunting Island, but that no definite information had been obtained, although they investigated TRAUGOTT, as it had been reported that there was a wireless on Hunting Island, also a sub-marine base at this point. Agent is enclosing copy of the report made by the Naval Intelligence on this matter.

In connection with the Hunting Island investigation, it is known to be a fact that Captain Hulst, Captain of the former German Steamer HOHENFELDE, which was interned in this harbor for sometime, made several mysterious trips from Savannah to Charleston in a power-boat belonging to the HOHENFELDE, and that Captain HULST was gone eleven days at one time, being unable to explain his absence, other than he had gone to Charleston, he also took with him a chart of the inland waterways, which it was known by the Naval Intelligence that these charts were returned from Charleston to Savannah by messenger and turned over to the Captain of the Dutch ship "Zeebur" and from here carried to Germany.

Also it is known to be a fact that a tug left Savannah in February 1915, by the name of Edgar F. Comey, towing two barges of Piling and one barge of Coal consigned to COMMERCIAL COAL COMPANY, New York, but that this coal never reached New York, it being claimed by the tug-boat Captain that this coal was lost off Hunting Island in St. Helena's Sound, however, Special Employee Bonyne who at that time was connected with the British Consul here as an Inspector of Commerce, had occasion to investigate this same barge of coal and developed the information that this barge of coal was anchored off Hunting Island, where it

PORT ROYAL SECTION:
SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

181-S Beaufort, S. C. July 20th, 1918.

From: Section Aid for Information.
To: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.
Subject: Keepers at Hunting Island.
Reference: (a) Your letter July 3rd, 1918. File No. 932.A-5

1. There are three men at Hunting Island Light House with the following names and nationalties:

(a). Hans Traugott, a naturalized German. His last papers were taken out in 1898.

(b). C. Jednette, an American born citizen.

(c). A negro assistant, name unknown.

2. I will personally investigate them further than the above when I return from Jacksonville.

(Signed) H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

(COPY)

PORT ROYAL SECTION.

SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

File No.

161-S

Beaufort, S. C. July 30, 1918.

From: Section Aid for Information.
To: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: Keepers at Hunting Island Light House.

REFERENCE: (a) Your letter July 3, 1918, File No.932: A-5.
(b) My letter July 20, 1918, File No. 161-S.

1. On Friday July 25th, I visited Hunting Island Light House to ascertain the status of Keeper Traugott. Frank Traugott, a mariner by trade, was born in the province of Hanover, Germany on September 2, 1862. Traugott came to this country while still a young man and received his naturalization papers in May 1898. These papers were issued in Charleston, S. C. by J. E. Hagood, Clerk of the Circuit Court, U.S. District of South Carolina. Traugott has never been back to Germany since he received his papers in 1898. Traugott was keeper for the Light house in Fifth Section at Tybee Roads for nearly four years.

2. Traugott's wife is of Spanish descent, her grand-parents coming over from Spain, Mrs. Traugott was born in St. Augustine, Fla.

3. G. Janette, first assistant keeper, was born in North Carolina.

4. Joe Jackson, the negro assistant, was raised in this Section.

5. The Government owns 138 acres near the beach where the Light House is situated, and 2 acres at their wharf on the west side of the island. Mr. Thomas Lee owns a tract of land on the north side of the island, the south side being owned by Senator Cameron, who also owns Coffin's Point. I looked over this land on account of Junker, an Austrian, who is connected with Senator Cameron's places as keep of them.

6. While on Hunting Island, I went up to the top of the light house in order to view the surrounding country and ocean. The binoculars furnished this light house are not very good as it was very hard for me to distinguish eight ships which I saw ten miles out at sea.

(Signed) H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

U.S.S. Jeanette, S. P. 149

Beaufort, S. C.

July 10th, 1918.

From: Commanding Officer.

To: Section Commander.

Subject: Report on investigation of St. Philip's and Capers Island.

1. On Monday July 8th, I landed on St. Philip's Island at Bay Point with ten marines and two sailors. I searched all that part of the Island to Horse Creek for wireless and anything which might enable the Germans to operate submarines.

2. Tuesday, July 9th, with two marines and two sailors, I landed on the north point of St. Philip's Island. I searched it, but as it was covered with dense vegetation, I was unable to make much progress. Under the circumstances, we covered all the ground possible and nothing was found on the whole of St. Philip's Island.

3. I sent two petty officers over to Capers Island, and as it was not covered with vegetation, they were able to see the whole of the Island from an old geodetic survey stake. Nothing was found at this place.

(Signed) E. L. Morgan.

(COPY)

PORT ROYAL SECTION:

SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

181-S.

Beaufort, S. C. July 10, 1918.

FROM: Section Aid for Information.

TO: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: St. Philip's Island and vicinity.

Enclosures: (1)

1. Enclosed is a report of an investigation of St. Philips Island and vicinity that Ensign Morgan conducted with the crew of the Jeanette and Marines furnished by the Post Commander at Paris Island.

2. Ensign Morgan has been instructed to investigate Fripp's, Pritchard and Hunting Island, starting this investigation on Thursday, July 11th.

3. A further report of this subject will be forwarded to you in the next few days.

H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

File No.

932: A-5

No-L.

HEADQUARTERS, SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT

Peoples Office Building,

Charleston, S. C.

July 3-1918.

FROM: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

TO: Section Aid for Information, Beaufort, S. C.

SUBJECT: Investigation to determine possible submarine Base or wireless outfit on St. Philip's Island, or its vicinity.

1. A personal letter contains the following on possible enemy activities in your section:

"On account of your local knowledge and because I think the matter should be brought to the notice of the Navy Department, I am presuming to write to you on the subject that was reported to me just before my leaving Savannah,f for duty in New York City, to the effect that the Captain of the interned German steamer "HOHENFELDE" had made two mysterious visits from Thunderbolt to St. Philip's Island on the eastern side of Bay Point, and that on these trips he would not allow any of the men who accompanied him to go ashore. I intended to investigate this matter before leaving Beaufort, but telegraphic orders to report immediately in New York interferred with my doing so, Trenchards Inlet, as you may remember leads fwom the main channel to St. Philip's Island and carries a depth of 9 feet at mean low tide. The Captain of this steamer made two trips in motor boats from Savannah to Charleston, S. C., taking with him the Coast Survey Charts, and check on the Inland Water route and the Inlets leading from the ocean up among these Islands. Having completed his work, he sent the corrected charts, by messenger to Jacksonville, and by the Steward of a Dutch ship to Germany. Upon discovering these facts, I put a detective on his track until his final arrest in Savannah upon the declaration of War. I questioned him closely after his arrest, and am am convinced that, though he denied it, he is a reserve officer, in the imported German Navy, and accredited agent of their Government. There may may be nothing in the report that I have mentioned above, but I believe that it would be advisable to institute a very careful search on this and the neighboring Islands, where, as you well know, the conditions are ideal for the concealment of the wireless apparatus and for the establishment of a base for the supply of gasolene to German submarines".

"Port Royal Harbor is of such easy access from the open ocean, so little used commercially and the Islands am so seldom visited, that it would be a very simple matter to conceal any movements in this locality".

"Port Royal Harbor is practically undefended, and the small detachment at Port Fremont, which is the only defense for the Marine Training Station on Paris Island, was only sent them after I had constituted myself its

garrison upon the declaration of the war, and informed the War Department that I would stay until relieved which happened within a week. I am also informed that the keeper of Hunting Island Light House is German.C.P.E.".

2. It is requested that you conduct an investigation to determine any possible submarine base, or wireless device that may exist in the localities mentioned above, and submit report of investigation to this office.

(Signed) Chas. L. McClasky.

Acting.

COPY.

PF-JFS

May 28, 1920.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
C/o Little Sisters of the Poor,
Savannah, Ga.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of May 24,1920, requesting copy of charges on which you were dismissed from the Lighthouse Service:

I have to state that the Regulations of the Lighthouse Service do not permit the issuance of copies of records without authority from the Secretary of Commerce. The following is quoted from the Regulations of the Lighthouse Service:

SUPT ✓
LIGHTHOUSES
CHARLESTON, S. C.
OCT 8 1921
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

Franz Joseph Traugott,
% Little Sisters of the Poor
Savannah
Ga.

PF-JFS

May 28, 1920.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
C/o Little Sisters of the Poor,
Savannah, Ga.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of May 24,1920, requesting copy of charges on which you were dismissed from the Lighthouse Service:

I have to state that the Regulations of the Lighthouse Service do not per- the issuance of copies of records without authority from the Secretary of The following is quoted from the Regulations of the Lighthouse

...ce of copies of accounts and records.-Applications for copies ...uments, accounts, records, or files should be made to the Sec- ... of Commerce through the Commissioner of Lighthouses and ...d be accompanied by an affidavit, duly attested by a notary pub- ...setting forth the interest of the applicant and showing the rea- ...hy, and the purpose for which, the copies are desired, and that ...information requested will not be used for any purpose inimical ...he interests of the Government."

Respectfully,

H. L. Beck,
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Savannah Ga. May. 24. 20

SUPT.
LIGHTHOUSES
CHARLESTON, S. C.
MAY 26 1920
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

Light-House Supt-
Charleston SC

Dear Sir

I filled the
position Light-House Keeper at Hunting
Island up to 1918. I was discharged
that year and the papers of complaint
against me I have misplaced. and I
have every desire to have a copy
same. and I would be pleased if you
would furnish me with it. and oblige

Yours Resp-

Frank Traugott

Address
Little Sisters of the Poor

HLB-JWS

Mr. Niels Christensen,
Beaufort, S. C.

July 14, 1919.

Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 12, 1919, in which you ask if there is any chance of reinstating Franz Traugott. There seems to be no probability of his being reinstated. This case was reviewed by the Department of Commerce in April of this year. The Honorable Wm. C. Redfield, Secretary of Commerce, made the following statement in a letter to one who had interested himself in behalf of Mr. Traugott.

> "Permit me to state that after careful reconsideration of the case, it does not appear that any new facts or circumstances have come to light which would justify the Department in recommending to the Civil Service Commission that certificate for reinstatement be issued. It is a rule of the Commission, governing positions in the classified civil service, that a person can not be reinstated on condonation of the delinquency or misconduct that occasioned his separation, and that the Department in proposing the reinstatement of an employee who was removed from office, shall state that the charges were not true, that they did not justify removal, or that a similar punishment would not in general be imposed for a similar offense.
>
> In view of all the facts I do not believe that the Department would be justified in reversing its action in the case, notwithstanding Mr. Traugott's physical and financial condition."

In view of the statement quoted above I have considered that the action which was taken in Mr. Traugott's case should be regarded as final.

With personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

H. L. Beck,

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

CHRISTENSEN & SONS

WHOLESALE HARDWARE & MILL SUPPLIES

SUPT. LIGHTHOUSES
CHARLESTON, S. C.
JUL 14 1919
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

BEAUFORT, S.C. July 12, 1919.

Mr. H. S. Beck,
Supt Lighthouses,
Sixth District,
Charleston, S. C.

Dear Mr. Beck,

Do you think that there is any chance of re-instating Franz Trougott? He has certainly been punished and his family are objects of charity. It occurs to me that in view of his length of service the Department might consider re-instatement. If any further statement would assist the matter I would be glad totake it up.

Very truly,

Niels Christensen

Regards to you and Mrs Beck -

HLB-JFS

Mrs. Franz Traugott,
Beaufort, S. C.

May 20, 1919.

Madam:-

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of May 19, 1919, requesting information as to whether or not there is any probability of Mr. Traugott's reinstatement in the Lighthouse Service. This whole matter was placed before the Department in Washington again recently and the decision which was reached leads me to believe that you should consider the action which was taken in Mr. Traugott's case final. There seems to be no probability of his being reinstated in the Lighthouse Service.

Respectfully,

H. L. BECK

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Beaufort, S. C.
May 19. 1918

SUPT. LIGHTHOUSES CHARLESTON, S. C. MAY 20 1919 1st. Asst. Supt. Chief Clerk Asst. Supt. Voucher Personnel Property Proposals Depot File

Sup. Light Houses
Charleston
S. C.

Sir: Regreting I must
note you in regards
to Mr Young alt. but
owing to my awful
circumstances I am
now then compelled
to seek if their is any
thing that is coming
his way. for the

Charleston, S. C.

SUPT. LIGHTHOUSES CHARLESTON, S. C. MAY 19 1919 1st. Asst. Supt. Chief Clerk Asst. Supt. Voucher Personnel Property Proposals Depot File

pril 28, 1919.

hile I regret that
nk you for your kind

Charleston.

houses, Washington
d, 2. 1919
on, S. C.
See previous

Chief Clerk.

William C. Redfield

Secretary.

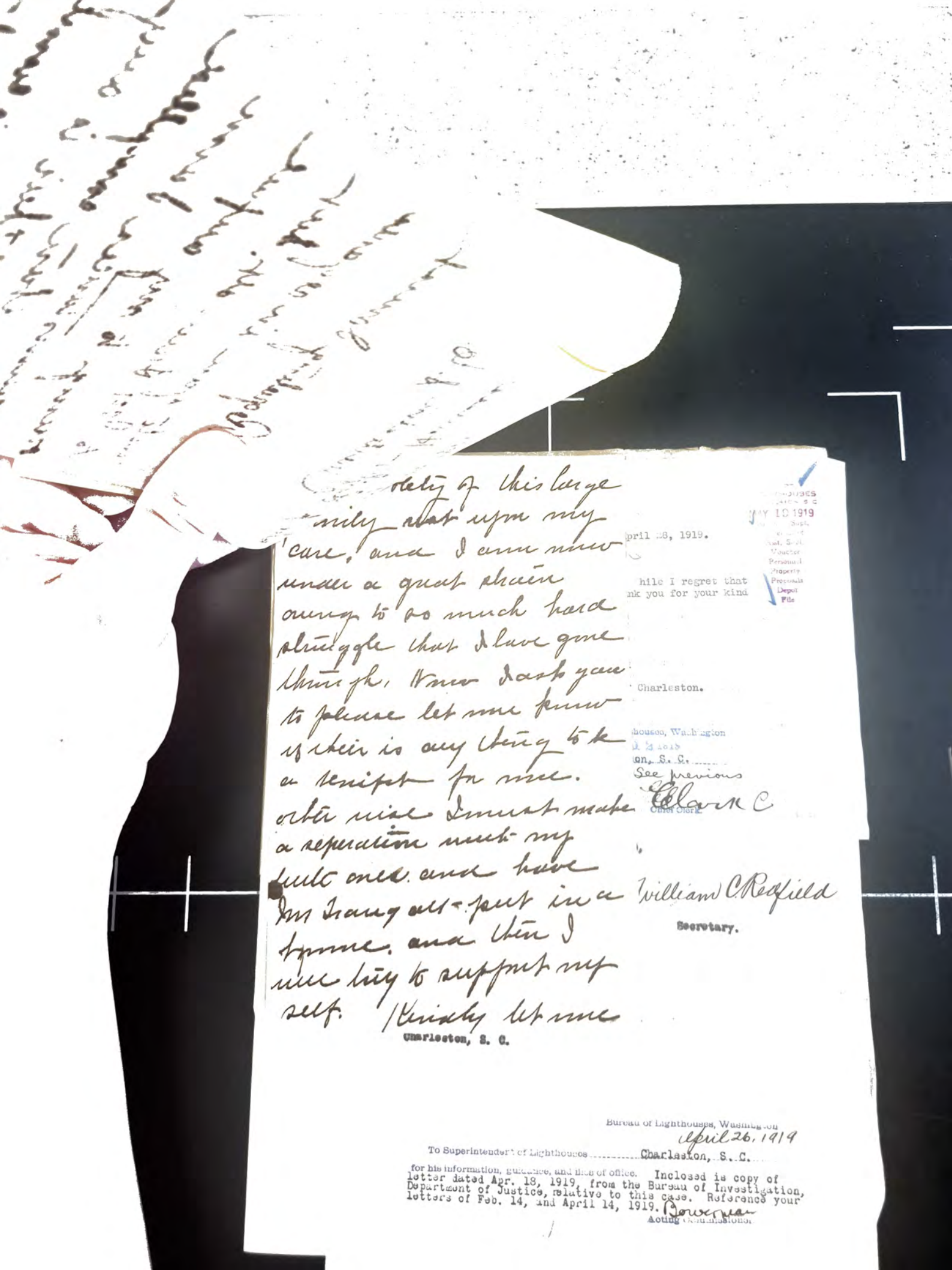
Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
April 26, 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses ..... Charleston, S. C. .....

for his information, guidance, and files of office. Inclosed is copy of letter dated Apr. 18, 1919, from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, relative to this case. Reference your letters of Feb. 14, and April 14, 1919.

Acting Commissioner.

J



...bility of this large
...mily that upon my
care, and I am now
under a great strain
owing to so much hard
struggle that I have gone
through. Now I ask you
to please let me know
if their is any thing to be
a receipt for me.
After this I must make
a separation with my
little ones and have
Jas Young all - put in a
home. and then I
will try to support my
self. Kindly let me

Charleston, S. C.

...pril 26, 1919.

...hile I regret that
...nk you for your kind

Charleston.

...louse, Washington
...on, S. C.
See previous

Chief Clerk.

William C. Redfield
Secretary.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
April 26, 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C.

for his information, guidance, and file of office. Inclosed is copy of letter dated Apr. 18, 1919, from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, relative to this case. Reference your letters of Feb. 14, and April 14, 1919.

Acting Commissioner.

from you at your earliest date.

Respectfully

Jno F Langwick.

SUPT. LIGHTHOUSES CHARLESTON, S.C.
MAY 19 1919
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

April 28, 1919.

While I regret that
nk you for your kind

Charleston.

houses, Washington
1, 2, 1919
on, S. C.
See previous

Chief Clerk.

William C. Redfield

Secretary.

Charleston, S. C.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
April 26, 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses ..... Charleston, S.C. .....

for his information, guidance, and files of office. Inclosed is copy of letter dated Apr. 18, 1919, from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, relative to this case. Reference your letters of Feb. 14, and April 14, 1919.

Bowerman
Acting Commissioner.

...Street,
...harleston, S. C.

...ear Mr. Secretary:

April 28, 1919.

Your favor of April 26th is just received. While I regret that nothing can be done for Mr. Traugott I beg to thank you for your kind consideration of my request.

With every best wish, I remain,

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) +Wm. T. Russell
Bishop of Charleston.

The Hon. W. Redfield,
Department of Commerce,
Washington, D. C.

SUPT. LIGHTHOUSES CHARLESTON, S C
MAY 19 1919
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
MAY 12 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C.

for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner. See previous correspondence in this case.

Chief Clerk.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) William C. Redfield

Secretary.

The Rt. Rev. Wm. T. Russell, D. D.,
Bishop of Charleston,
114 Bread Street,
Charleston, S. C.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
April 26, 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses Charleston, S. C.

for his information, guidance, and files of office. Inclosed is copy of letter dated Apr. 18, 1919, from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, relative to this case. Reference your letters of Feb. 14, and April 14, 1919.

Acting Commissioner.

SUPT. LIGHTHOUSES CHARLESTON, S. C.
APR 30 1919
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

(COPY)

APR 26 1919

My dear Bishop Russell:

1. Referring again to your letter of April 4, 1919, on behalf of the reinstatement of Mr. Frans Traugott, formerly keeper of Huntington Island Light Station, South Carolina, in the Lighthouse Service.

2. Permit me to state that after careful reconsideration of the case, it does not appear that any new facts or circumstances have come to light which would justify the Department in recommending to the Civil Service Commission that certificate for reinstatement be issued. It is a rule of the Commission, governing positions in the classified civil service, that a person can not be reinstated on condonation of the delinquency or misconduct that occasioned his separation, and that the Department in proposing the reinstatement of an employee who was removed from office, shall state that the charges were not true, that they did not justify removal, or that a similar punishment would not in general be imposed for a similar offense.

3. In view of all the facts I do not believe that the Department would be justified in reversing its action in the case, notwithstanding Mr. Traugott's physical and financial condition.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) William C. Redfield

Secretary.

The Rt. Rev. Wm. T. Russell, D. D.,
Bishop of Charleston,
114 Broad Street,
Charleston, S. C.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
April 26, 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses ..... Charleston, S. C. .....

for his information, guidance, and files of office. Inclosed is copy of letter dated Apr. 18, 1919, from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, relative to this case. Reference your letters of Feb. 14, and April 14, 1919. Bowerman

Acting Commissioner.

(Copy)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
Bureau of Investigation,
Washington.

SUPT.
LIGHTHOUSES
CHARLESTON, S. C
APR 30 1919
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

April 18, 1919.

George R. Putnam, Esq.,
Commissioner of Lighthouses,
Department of Commerce,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the file of correspondence transmitted to this Office under date of the fourth ultimo, with respect to Franz Traugott, former Lighthouse Keeper at Hunting Island, South Carolina, you are advised that I have since communicated with the agent making the investigation and he informs me that the report in question contains an accurate statement of the facts developed.

With respect to the depth of the water at the outlet from Hunting Island to the sea, the agent states as follows:

> "Where the Patrol Boat was anchored in Harbor River, there were five (5) fathoms of water. The soundings for this depth was made by Ensign Taylor, Commander of the "Lady Anne," and also by Captain Laird, former Harbormaster, who was acting as pilot from Savannah to Hunting Island. **********
>
> "Superintendent Beck in this part of his letter apparently refers to the small creek directly behind Hunting Island, but this creek is not the waters referred to in my report."

The portion of the U. S. Coast Survey Chart No. 154, which the Agent states "shows the nearest way to sea from where the Patrol-boat was anchored," is enclosed herewith.

As requested, I am returning the file submitted by you.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) W. E. ALLEN

Acting Chief.

Enclosures.

for S. C.

April 20. 1919

SUPT. LIGHTHOUSES
CHARLESTON, S. C.
APR 21 1919
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

Superintendent of Lighthouses
Charleston S C

Sir.

Replying to your letter of April 16th shall say that Mr Traugott physical emotion seems to be about the same & since the awful strain of the past has caused him to suffer a great deal from many

April 16, 1919.

have to inform you that
regard to Mr. Traugott's
Bureau of Lighthouses at

Mr. Traugott's present
better or worse since he
capable of performing?
such a position should

BECK

tendent of Lighthouses.

ing
ge plus
for
S. C.

Washington
e.

LIGHTHOUSES

April 16, 1919.

have to inform you that
regard to Mr. Traugott's
Bureau of Lighthouses at

r. Traugott's present
etter or worse since he
apable of performing?
such a position should

BECK

endent of Lighthouses.

Washington

I am full able to
serve the unknown
night understand
should it be offered to
him, and shall
be more than glad to
have the chance to
accept same. He
also desire to more
than ever grieve to learn
what ever may be in
his favor.

Begging you will
to take his family to
enlist & yours
care.

Respectfully
yours
S. C.

Respectfully
Mrs F Traugott
109 Carthage st
Beaufort S.C.

P.S. Do they no chance
for Mr Traugott - to
get a Light house
Position again I
think not - the age
& his try thinned
he not suitable

HLB-JFS

April 16, 1919.

Mrs. Franz Traugott,
109 Carthage St.,
Beaufort, S. C.

Madam:-

1. Referring to your letter of April 15th I have to inform you that I am unable to state what action will be taken in regard to Mr. Traugott's case. The whole matter has been referred to the Bureau of Lighthouses at Washington.

2. I shall be glad to know something about Mr. Traugott's present physical condition; has it changed either for the better or worse since he left the light station? What kind of duty is he capable of performing? Would he be able to act as a night watchman, and if such a position should be offered to him in Charleston would he accept it?

Respectfully,

H. L. BEOK

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Mrs. F. Traugott

AT. -COPY-

LIGHTHOUSES
CHARLESTON, S. C
APR 17 1919
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

April 11, 1919.

My dear Bishop Russel

on the 4th. instant
to the S. C.,

the Su ferred to
He advi ideration.
as soon inform you

I am

The Rt. Re
Bishop
114 s, Washington
9 D.C.

in
9.00.

be glad if you
would kindly give
me any informa-
tion you can
in this regards.
Kindly oblige
Mrs F Traynor
109 Carhartge Street
Beaufort
S. C.

AT. -COPY*

SUPT.
LIGHTHOUSES
CHARLESTON, S.C
APR 17 1919
1st. Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher
Personnel
Property
Proposals
Depot
File

April 11, 1919.

My dear Bishop Russel;

I am glad to have your kind letter of the 4th. instant on the behalf of the reinstatement of Mr. Franz Traugott, Beaufort, S. C., to the position of keeper in the Lighthouse Service.

Let me say to you that the matter has been referred to the Superintendent of Lighthouses with request for his careful consideration. He advises me that he will go into the matter thoughtfully and will inform you as soon as a decision can be reached.

With kind personal regards,

I am Yours very truly,

(Sgd) William C. Redfield

Secretary of Commerce.

The Rt. Rev. Wm. T. Russell, D. C.
Bishop of Charleston,
114 Broad Street,
Charleston, S. C.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
APR 14 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses Charleston, S.C.

for his information, guidance, and files of office. The above-mentioned letter was referred to you by Bureau indorsement of recent date.

Acting Commissioner.

HLB-JFS

April 14, 1919.

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Subject: Request for reinstatement of former Keeper Franz Traugott.

Inclosure: Letter from Bishop Russell to Secretary of Commerce.

1. The inclosure is returned to the Bureau as directed.

2. Attention is invited to my letter of February 14, 1919, on the subject of disloyalty charges against Franz Traugott and particularly to paragraph 5.

3. It appears that a copy of my letter referred to above was forwarded by the Bureau of Lighthouses to the Chief, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, on March 4, 1919, with a request for comment on the reliability of the report of Special Employee Boyne.

4. I made no definite recommendation in regard to reinstating Traugott and giving him employment. I wrote the letter of February 14, 1919 in order that the whole case might be reviewed. I do not recall any material facts that have not been placed before the Bureau in one report or another. If the reply from the Chief of the Bureau of Investigation should cast doubt on the reliability of the Boyne report I would recommend that consideration then be given to the reinstatement of Traugott in a position which he is qualified to fill. The only one available is that of night watchman at the Charleston Lighthouse Depot which is now filled by a temporary employee.

H. L. Beck,
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

C O P Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of the Secretary
Washington.

MR. PUTNAM:

Chief of Bureau:

Please prepare a reply for the signature of Secretary Redfield, and return original letter to this office.

(Sgd) Ruth A. Sudwalth.

JFS

C O P Y.

Bishop's House
114 Broad St.

Rt.Rev.Wm.T.Russell,D.D.

Charleston, S. C.
April 4, 1919.

The Hon. Wm. Cox Redfield,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Allow me to intercede in behalf of Mr. Traugott of Beaufort, S. C. He was in the Light-House Service before and during part of the War. He was accused of being disloyal, and lost his position. After making inquiries, I feel quite certain that this charge was unfounded, and probably was the result of malice on the part of some who desired his position. Yesterday I had a talk with Mr.Beck in charge of the Light-House Service at Charleston, and I gathered from what he said that he was of my opinion. Mr. Beck has recommended a review of the case and reinstatement of the man.

Mr. Traugott has a wife and six small children and they are in a destitute condition. Up to the present I have been helping them to keep them from starvation. I think it will be an act of justice, and I am sure it will be an act of charity, to give the man an opportunity to earn sufficient for his little family.

With every good wish, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd)+Wm. T. Russell

Bishop of Charleston.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington,
Apr. 10, 1919.

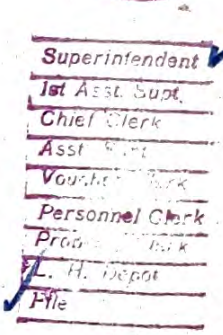
To Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C., for report and return, with recommendation.

(Sgd) Conway,

Acting Commissioner.

(COPY)





Sixth Superintendent's letter Feb. 14, 1919, disloyalty charges, Franz Traugott, former keeper Hunting Island L. S.

McC.

Bureau of Lighthouses, March 4, 1919.

3 inclosures.

Respectfully forwarded to Chief, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, inviting attention to the statements bearing on the reliability of report of Special Employee Bonyne, with request for any further comment you may desire to make on this case, with return of inclosed papers.

[Signed] G. R. Putnam
Commissioner.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington

MAR 4 - 1919

To Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston S C

for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner.

Clark
Chief Clerk.

Hunting Island Light Station,
Hunting Island, S. C., ~~Nov.~~ February 26 ~~th~~ 1919.

Received from First Assistant Keeper, D. F. Jennette, Department Commerce letter dated November 21, 1918, dismissing me from the Lighthouse Service.

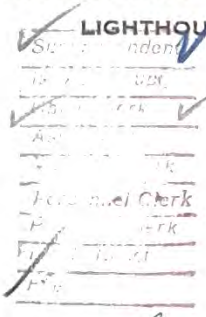
Franz Frangott

deposited in box No 58 R.F.D route at Mactures the point where the mail for this Station goes from the Frogmore P.O. by this R.F.D. Carrier on Feb 17-1919 I am unable to state that the letter was detained at the Frogmore P.O. but it was without a doubt detained some place I will carry out your instructions and deliver letter to Mr. Frangatt. and take his receipt for same

Respectfully Submited
Devaney F. Jennette
Asst Keeper

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE





SIXTH DISTRICT

Lighting Island Light Station S. C.

(Depot, Vessel, or Station)

Feb 24, 1919

Superintendent of Light Houses
Charlestan S. C.

Through the Keeper
Sir

In reply to your letter of Feb 20 - 1919
I desire to State that the letter in question was deposited in box No 58 R.F.D route at Mactures the point where the mail for this Station goes from the Frogmore P.O. by this R.F.D. Carrier on Feb 17 - 1919 I am unable to state that the letter was detained at the Frogmore P.O. but it was without a daubt detained same place I will carry out your instructions and deliver letter to Mr. Trawgatt. and take his receipt for same

Respectifully Submited
Devaney F. Gennette
1 asst Keeper

HLB-JFS

February 20, 1919.

Mr. Devaney F. Jennette,
1st Asst. Keeper, Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S. C.

(Through the Keeper).

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 18th, stating that you had received my letter of November 25, 1918 on February 17, 1919.

2. Please advise from whom the letter in question was received. Was it delivered by the postmaster at Frogmore, S. C., and if so, is there reason to believe that it was detained in the Frogmore Postoffice or at some other place.

3. You will carry out your original instructions in regard to delivering the letter to Mr. Traugott. You will not make a special trip to Beaufort however to do so but will deliver it at the first convenient opportunity.

H. L. BECK

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Superintendent
1st Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Clerk
Vouchers Clerk
Personnel Clerk
Property Clerk
U. S. Hydrographic
File

U. S. LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE FEB 20 1919 Charleston S. C.

SIXTH DISTRICT

Station S. C.

(Depot, Vessel, or Station)

Feb 18, 1919

Superintendent of Light Houses

Through the Keeper Charlestan S.C.

Sir

Refering to your letter of November 25-1918 I will State that I have just received it Feb 17-1919 Inregards to letter address to Mr- Franze Trangatt now of Beaufort S.C. I desire to be informed if I Shall carry out your instructions and deliver letter dissmissing him from the Light House Service and take his receipt for it as nearly three months has elapsed Sence the Date of your letter I request the above informations

Respectfully Submitted

Devaney F. Jennette

1 asst Keeper

HLB-MFS

February 14, 1919.

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

SUBJECT: Disloyalty charges against Franz Traugott.

INCLOSURES: 1. Letter dated Jan. 8/19 to Superintendent of Lighthouses from City Manager of Beaufort, S. C., and the Chairman of Beaufort Chamber of Commerce.
2. Copy of my letter of Feb. 7/19 to Devaney F. Jennette, 1st Asst. Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station.
3. Devaney F. Jennette's reply dated Feb. 11/19.

1. Franz Traugott was dismissed from the position of Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C. effective at the close of November 8, 1918. The action of the Department was based on a report made by Special Employee Bonyne of the Department of Justice. His evidence against Traugott consisted of statements said to have been made in letters from (a) C. Malloy, former 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, (b) John Rees, former 2d Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, (c) alleged verbal statements made by Devaney F. Jennette, 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station to Special Employee Bonyne, and (d) alleged verbal statements made by Franz Traugott to Bonyne himself.

2. Similar allegations which had been made by Malloy and Rees while they were still stationed at Hunting Island Light Station were investigated by this office. In this connection attention is invited to my indorsement of May 7, 1917 returning a confidential communication of May 4, 1917 referring to this office for investigation and report a Department of Justice letter of May 3,1917 addressed to the Commissioner of Lighthouses. My conclusion as to the charges made by Malloy and Rees were that they were largely the result of malice toward the keeper. Assistant Superintendent Dillon independently came to the same conclusion in his report of December 5, 1917, a copy of which was forwarded with my indorsement of May 7, 1917, referred to above.

3. First Assistant Keeper Jennette flatly denies that he made statements attributed to him by Special Employee Bonyne of the Department of Justice. In this connection attention is invited to Mr. Jennette's letter of February 11/19 enclosed herewith which was written in reply to my letter of February 7th.

4. The most damaging evidence against Traugott consists of Special Employee Bonyne's report of the alleged statements of Traugott to him in the course of conversation between them in the German language. The accuracy of his account would not be open to question were it not for the fact that Jennette denies flatly that he made statements which Special Employee Bonyne attributed to him, and to the further fact that at least one other part of Bonyne's

report which has no bearing on Traugott's loyalty is misleading. I refer to the paragraph of his report which reads as follows: "After making an inspection of this island and the lighthouse Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded back to the Naval patrol boat and there requested Ensign Taylor of the Naval Reserves to make soundings of the waters around Hunting Island. The sounding showed that there is from 30 to 50 ft. of water all behind this island with an outlet directly to the ocean." It is a matter of personal knowledge to me, which fact is verified by the charts, that a boat drawing as much as 4 ft. of water cannot proceed through the usual outlet at low tide.

5. Attention is invited to reference 1. It appears that Mr. Traugott is living in Beaufort in destitute circumstances. On account of his not having fully recovered from a stroke of paralysis which he suffered while he was on duty as Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, he is not qualified physically to perform all of the duties of a keeper. In fact I can think of no position in the Service that he can fill except that of watchman at the Lighthouse Depot. I am not prepared however to recommend Traugott's reinstatement and employment in such a position unless and until some one else comes to the same conclusion as I, namely, that Traugott was not actually disloyal to the Government of the United States, although I am fully convinced that before this country went to war his sympathies were entirely with Germany. It is difficult to believe that any sane man who knew that his loyalty was in question would make such unguarded statements to any stranger and particularly to one from a Government vessel.

H. L. Beck,

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

UFS

C O P Y.

CITY OF BEAUFORT

South Carolina Jan. 8th, 1919.

Mr. H. S. Beck,
Supt. of Light Houses,
6th District,
Charleston, S. C.

Mr. Dear Mr. Beck:-

I have been requested by several citizens in the town to write you with reference to Mr. Franz Traugott, former keeper of the Hunting Island Light Station, to see if there is anything that could be done to have this man re-instated, even as an assistant keeper if not altogether.

I have read all of the pro-German remarks made by Mr. Traugott in your letter to him of Nov. 5th and have had a talk with him and others. He flatly denies ever having made the reamrks that are accredited to him. He makes affidavitw to this; and from statements made by people who have been in close touch with him ever since he has been here, I can not believe they are altogether true.

However whether they are true or not he seems repentant and this with his long term of service and utter destitute circumstances of this family and his inability to do any other kind of work, we request that you re-consider your decision in this matter and if possible give some duties whereby he can earn a living.

The people of Germany are appealing to the sympathies of the American people for food and supplies after having committed the most heinous crimes known to mankind and we are willing after having attained our purpose in this great conflict to lend these people a helping hand, so why not in this case, if this man made such remarks, to punish him, but not force him and his family of little ones into starvation after having served this country for more than 25 years without a scratch against his record.

Trusting that you will see fit to re-consider your action in this matter and re-instate him, I am,

Yours very truly,

(Sgd) Hal. R. Pollitzer,
Frederick H. Christensen,
Chairman Beaufort Chamber of Commerce.

HRP-)W

HLB-JFS

January 10, 1919.

Mr. Hal R. Pollitzer,
City Manager,
Beaufort, S. C.

Sir:

1. I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 8, 1919 with reference to Mr. Franz Traugott, former Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, and requesting that I reconsider my action in dismissing him from the Lighthouse Service. You are in error in thinking that I dismissed him from the Service, or that it is within my power to reinstate him. He was dismissed by the Secretary of Commerce, Washington, D. C., and the Secretary's action was based on a report by an agent of the Department of Justice to the effect that Mr. Traugott had been guilty of disloyalty to the Government of the United States.

2. It is my intention in the near future to make a further investigation relative to the charges of disloyalty which were preferred against Mr. Traugott, and after having made that investigation it is possible that I will be able to submit facts to the Department which may induce the Secretary to give consideration to the question of reinstating Mr. Traugott at a less responsible position than that which he held.

Respectfully,

H. L. BECK

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Traugott

HLB-JFS

February 7, 1919.

Mr. Devaney F. Jennette,
1st Asst. Keeper, Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S. C.

(Through the Keeper.)

The following is quoted from a report on the alleged German activities of former Keeper Franz Traugott:

> "Upon arriving at the Hunting Island Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, first interviewed confidentially, Mr. JEANNETTE, the assistant keeper at this light, and upon making our business known to Mr. JEANNETTE, he stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against this Government. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JEANNETTE also has heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and an outrage for this country to send negroes to France to fight against white people.
>
> In interviewing Mr. JEANNETTE, Agent learned that there consisted two watches during the night at the Light-house, one watch running from sun-down to midnight and the second watch running to dawn, and that these watches were alternated between himself and TRAUGOTT, one night TRAUGOTT taking the first watch and the next night he taking the first watch. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that it was very easy for anyone to change the time of this revolving light, which is set now to revolve every thirty seconds, but that it was possible to change this time so that the light would revolve either slower or faster, and in this way you could signal to boats at sea.
>
> Agent questioned Mr. JEANNETTE as to whether there had been any visitors at the Hunting Island Light-House who had stayed any length of time there, and was informed by JEANNETTE that up to some few months ago there used to be several of TRAUGOTT'S friends come to visit him in a small launch, and that these men would stay several days at a time, but that he (JEANNETTE) did not know what their business was as they were friends of the keeper, however, he, (JEANNETTE) had heard them speaking in German."

In view of the verbal statements which you made to me when I inspected Hunting Island Light Station on February 4, 1919, you are instructed to make a written statement in regard to the above quotation from Mr. Bonyne's report. You are requested either to affirm or deny each statement alleged to have been made by you to Mr. Bonyne, and in addition to this you will please state just what disloyal remarks if any, you ever heard Mr. Traugott make.

H. L. BECK
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

JFS

COPY.

Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.
Feb. the 11th, 1919.

Superintendent of Light Houses Charleston, S. C.

Sir:

(Through the Keeper)

Sir:

Refering to the statements of Mr. Bonynes I will make the following statements as to what I said to him

(1) I never did hear Mr. Traugott curse the President Willison or make any remarks against this Goverment.

(2) I did hear Mr. Traugott say the U.S. should not have gone to war against germany as there was so many Germans in the country it would cause hard feelings.

(3) I never did hear Mr. Traugott say anything against President Willison.

(4) I never heard Mr. Traugott say it was a shame to send negroes to France to fight against white People.

(5) I did state how the watches was being run at that time as there was only two keepers at the station then.

(6) In reply to his question I said that such a thing as changing the time of the lens could be done in the event of a keeper being Disloyal and had prearrenged for such signals with the enemy.

(7) I did not say that friends of Mr. Traugott came here in a Launch and stayed here for several Days at a time.

(8) Mr. Jackson was with Mr. Bonynes and heard the conversation I had with Mr. Bonynes.

Respectfully submitted.
(Sgd) Devaney F. Jennette
1st Asst. Keeper.

Traugott

HLB-JFB

Jan. 2, 1919.

Mr. James Smith,
Kpr. Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S. C.

1. Form 30 containing a list of Government property found by you at Hunting Island Light Station, Certificate C having been signed by retiring Keeper Franz Traugott on Dec. 8, 1918 and by you on Dec. 30, 1918, has been verified in this office, and I have this day approved it.

2. Two discrepancies have been noted and you are requested to make further search for the articles and advise this office whether or not found.

Page 16, Scissors, straight, You report 1 on hand. There should be 2.

Page 19, Sectional ladder. You report 14 sections on hand. There should be 15 sections according to the records of this office.

H. L. BEOK
Supt. of Lighthouses.

Copy to Mr. Franz Traugott, Beaufort, S. C., for his information. The check for the balance of salary and subsistence due you is enclosed.

H. L. BEOK
Supt. of Lighthouses.

Traugott

HLB-JFS

Dec. 23, 1918.

Mr. James Smith,
Kpr. Hunting Island Lt. Sta.,
Frogmore, S. C.

On November 25th, 1918, the following letter was written to Mr. D.F. Jennette, 1st Asst. Keeper:

"Enclosed herewith is letter addressed to Mr. Franz Traugott, dismissing him from the Lighthouse Service, effective at the close of November 8th, 1918, Deliver this letter to Mr. Traugott and take his receipt for same.

Also enclosed is form 30 in triplicate to be used as receipt for property. After all the property has been listed on form 30 and duly signed, one copy is to be furnished this office, one copy delivered to Mr. Traugott and one copy retained at the light station. Mr. Traugott will be allowed a reasonable time to move his effects and leave the light station. Report the day he leaves.

Mr. James Smith has been nominated for transfer and appointment as Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, and it is expected that he will report there early in December."

The instructions in regard to preparation of Form 30 will be carried out by you. If these property returns have already been prepared it will only be necessary for you to satisfy yourself that they are correct, after which they should be disposed of in accordance with the instructions in the above quoted letter. This matter should be attended to without delay in order that the balance of salary due Mr. Traugott may be paid.

H. L. BECK
Supt. of Lighthouses.

JPS

Dec. 23, 1918.

Mr. Franz Trougott,
Beaufort, B. C.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of December 20th you are advised that it is probable that your successor in the position of Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station has arrived there or if not he will arrive within a few days. He has been given instructions to attend to the preparation of property returns at once an order that the balance of salary due you may be paid.

Respectfully,

F. [illegible]
Supt. of Lighthouses.

HLB-JFS

Dec. 23, 1913.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Beaufort, S. C.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of December 20th you are advised that it is probable that your successor in the position of Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station has arrived there or if not he will arrive within a few days. He has been given instructions to attend to the preparation of property returns at once in order that the balance of salary due you may be paid.

Respectfully,

[illegible] L. BEOS
Supt. of Lighthouses.

Superintendent ✓
1st Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Voucher Clerk
Personnel Clerk
Probation Clerk
L. H. Depot
File

DEC 21 1918
Inspector
Charleston
S. C.

Beaufort S. C.
Dec 20 1918

Superintendent Light Houses
Charleston
S C

Sir.

Referring to your letter dated Dec 12th will state I have no knowledge what-ever of Jno Jenette receiving form 80. I mislaid my wife while on her trip to Hunting Island to enquire of Jno Jenette if he had received any papers to that effect this was on Dec 13. 1918. On Dec 16th I enquired over the

to Jno Jarrell.

phone by message to please have the Launch to Beaufort to convey me to the in order that I might attend to your instructions, for I am badly in need of the articles Ruan which is due me and am now ready to comply with orders.

Please advise me what I shall do as soon as possible.

Resp.

Franz Traugott.

Pulaski Council No. 153, Royal Arcanum

MEETS FIRST AND THIRD FRIDAY. 8:30 P. M.
K. OF P. HALL. BARNARD & YORK STS.

DEC 16 1918
Charleston, S. C.

F. M. FITZGERALD. REGENT
101 WEST GORDON ST.

DAVE L. CHRISTIAN. SECRETARY
101 WEST GORDON ST.

JOHN H. CALAIS. TREASURER
CHATHAM BANK & TRUST CO.

WM. N. NICHOLS. COLLECTOR
7 WEST BAY ST.

Superintendent
1st Asst. Supt.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Clerk
Voucher Clerk
Personnel Clerk
Pro... Clerk
L. H. Tender
File

SAVANNAH, GA. Dec. 15/18

Light Ispector
Light House Board
Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir =

Mr. Franz Trangott, a member of our Order, has informed us that he has been suspended for 90 days, and I write to ask, on account of his age and condition, if there is any way to get him re-instated earlier.

I am informed that he has six small children, only one being able to assist in providing for the family.

I understand he has been in the service over 20 years and has never before been in trouble with the Board. He is, from letters I have seen, in a very serious condition and needs aid to sustain him and his family. Kindly let me know if there is any one I can take up the matter with in his behalf.

I do not know why, or how he became suspended, but do feel that he is in dire distress and needs help. Any true American will help a fallen man, even though he be his worst enemy; that is why I am writing you.

Kindly let me hear from you, and I will appreciate it.

Yours very respectfully

Dave L. Christian

HLB-JFS

Dec. 16, 1918.

Mr. Dave L. Christian,
101 West Gordon St.,
Savannah, Ga.

Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 15th in behalf of Mr. Franz Traugott. Mr. Traugott was Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station which is not far from Beaufort, S. C. He has been in the L ighthouse Service a good many years and I believe your statements in regard to his age, condition, family, etc., are correct. He was suspended while an investigation was being made of certain charges against him, but he is now no longer connected with the Lighthouse Service. He was dismissed from the Service at the close of November 8, 1918, by direction of the Secretary of Commerce, it having been considered by the Department that the charges of disloyalty against the Government of the United States had been proved to a degree sufficient to warrant such action. It would probably be useless to take up the matter of reinstating Mr. Traugott with any one unless it can be proved conclusively that Mr. Traugott has not been disloyal to the Government of the United States. If such proof can be adduced it can be laid before the Secretary of Commerce either directly or through this office.

Respectfully,

H. L. BECK

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6th DISTRICT

~~OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT~~

CHARLESTON, S. C.

10.55 A.M. Dec. 14, 1918.

Long distance call for Superintendent of Lighthouses from Hunting Island Light Station. Mrs. Traugott asked if station launch could be used to assist in moving her furniture away. My permission given if satisfactory to 1st Asst. Jennette in charge of station. She replied that he had expressed his willingness to let her have the launch if same met with my approval.

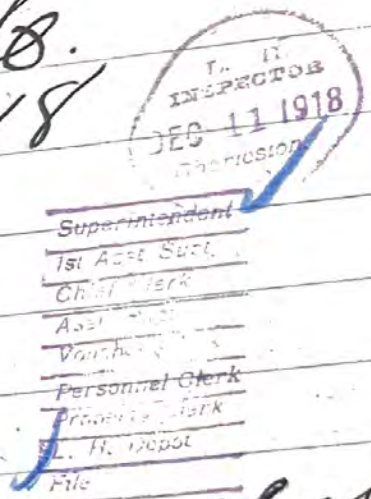
H.H.B.

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

File

Beaufort. S.C.
Dec. 10 1918

Sup. of Light Houses
Charleston
S.C.



Sir. Kindly cause me if I shall receive pay for my service from the 1st Nov to the 8th Nov. for which I am entitled. and please cause same made as soon as possible. I called the attention of the Office to please address my letter Beaufort and not Hunting Island.

Please Oblige

J. J. Lamyan

214 Harlington St

Beaufort S.C.

(over)

HLB-JFS

Dec. 12, 1918.

Mr. Franz Trangott,
214 Washington St.,
Beaufort, S. C.

Referring to your letter of December 10th, you are advised that the amount of salary due you from November 1st to November 8th will be mailed you after the property at Hunting Island Light Station has been checked up. You were so advised in my letter of November 5th, 1918, in which it was also stated that the 1st Asst. Keeper, D. F. Jennette, had been furnished Form 30 in duplicate to be used as receipt for property. Mr. Jennette was instructed on the same date that after all the property had been listed on Form 30 and been duly signed, one copy was to be furnished this office, one copy delivered to you and one copy retained at the light station. As soon as the property return has been received at this office and verified your salary check will be sent to you.

H. L. BECK

Supt. of Lighthouses.

Form 1201

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT — GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT 145 EAST BAY ST., CHARLESTON, S. C.

1 B HB 13

BEAUFORT S C 8AM DEC 9 1918

512

SUPERINDENT LIGHT HOUSES

CHARLESTON S C

NO LETTER FROM HUNTINGISLAND GRANT ME PERMISSION TO GET TRAUGATTS

Form 56

THG-CAR

TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Exempt from tax

IDENTIFICATION CARD NO.

RECEIVER'S No.	TIME FILED	CHECK
	10:15 a.m.	PAID, GOVERNMENT RATE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Charleston SC December 9, 1918
(Place and date)

SEND TO Mrs. Franz Traugott Beaufort S.C.

Permission granted removal furniture Hunting Island Light Station.

B E C K

Copy to Mr. D. F. Jennette, Keeper Hunting Island Light Station.

GREGG

CHARGE BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES, WASHINGTON, D. C.

APPROPRIATION FOR "GENERAL EXPENSES, LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE."

ATTEST:

T. H. GREGG
(Name)

First Asst. Supt.
(Title)

11—4649

HLB-JFS

Dec. 2, 1918.

Mrs. Franz Traugott,
214 Washington St.,
Beaufort, S. C.

Dear Madam:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 29th, 1918, requesting that I dispose of the charges which resulted in your husband's suspension from duty at my earliest opportunity.

You are advised that this matter has already been disposed of by the Department having dismissed Mr. Traugott from the Lighthouse Service effective at the close of November 8th, 1918. The Department considered that the charges of disloyalty to the Government of the United States which had been made against your husband had been sustained to a degree sufficient to warrant his dismissal from the Service. Department letter dismissing Mr. Traugott was forwarded on Nov. 25th to Hunting Isld. Lt. Station, Forgmore, S.C.

Respectfully,

H. L. BECK

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Beaufort South Carolina
Nov 29th 1918

L. H. INSPECTOR
DEC 2 1918
Charleston, S. C.
Superintendent
1st A. Dist.
Ch.
Asst.
Vo.
Furnaceal Clerk

Superintendent of Light Houses
Charleston.
S. C.

Dear Sir:-

I take this liberty of writing to you in relation to the suspension of my husband. Franz Traugott. as Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station. and to earnestly request that action be taken at the earlist possible time.

Mr. Traugott has a very large family entirely dependent upon him for support. He has no income from any source whatever except what he gets from his salary. and when that is stopped. we are left without any means of support and must fall on the charity of the public.

He was stricken with paralysis while in the line of duty. at the Station and is

unable to perform any other kind work by which he may earn a support for himself and family. I am sure that unless some relief comes to us very soon we will be in a most embarassing position, as we will be unable to secure the absolute necessaries of life, such as food, clothing and fuel for the winter, which is already upon us. We have nothing to depend upon but his salary and his suspension for three months, with nothing coming to us during that time, means nothing less that great suffering to him, his wife and children.

In the interest of him and his little ones, I am urgently requesting that you dispose of his case at once, for I am sure that Inspector Traugott is innocent of the charges and that an investigation thoroughly and impartially made will ephonorate him and

a to his position.

Earnestly asking that
an despose of the matter at your
st opportunity.

I am very respectfully.

Mrs F. Trenholm.

Beaufort. S. C.

214 Washington Street.

Traugott

PF-JFS

Nov. 25, 1918.

D. F. Jennette,
1st Asst. Kpr. Hunting Isld.Lt.Sta.,
Frogmore, S. C.

(In charge of station).

Enclosed herewith is letter addressed to Mr. Franz Traugott, dismissing him from the Lighthouse Service, effective at the close of November 8th, 1918. Deliver this letter to Mr. Traugott and take his receipt for same.

Also enclosed is form 30 in triplicate to be used as receipt for property. After all the property has been listed on form 30 and duly signed, one copy is to be furnished this office, one copy delivered to Mr. Traugott and one copy retained at the light station. Mr. Traugott will be allowed a reasonable time to move his effects and leave the light station. Report the day he leaves.

Mr. James Smith has been nominated for transfer and appointment as Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, and it is expected that he will report there early in December.

H. L. BECK

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

-JFS

Nov. 25, 1918.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Hunting Island, S. C.

(Through 1st Asst. Keeper.)

Enclosed herewith is Department letter dated November 21st, 1918, dismissing you from position of Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C. at $960 per annum, effective at the close of November 8, 1918.

You will be allowed a reasonable time to move your effects and leave the light station.

Also enclosed is notice of change in salary for the period November 1st to November 8th, 1918.

The 1st Assistant Keeper, D. F. Jennette, has been furnished form 30 in triplicate to be used as receipt for property.

The amount of salary due you from November 1st to November 8th will be mailed you after the property has been checked up.

Furnish this office your address for sending pay check.

H. L. BECK

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

LIGHT HOUSES
NOV 22 1918

November 21, 1918.

Sir:

Having been charged with disloyalty to the Government of the United States, and the charges having been sustained to a degree sufficient to warrant such action, the Department, upon the recommendation of the Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses of the 18th instant, has dismissed you from the position of keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, at $960 per annum, effective at the close of November 8, 1918.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) W. S. GILCHRIST

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Ho/R

6th

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6th DISTRICT

~~OFFICE OF INSPECTOR 6TH DISTRICT~~

CHARLESTON, S. C.

November 26, 1918.

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Subject: Franz Traugott- leave.
Reference: Bureau letter of Nov.18,1918,3d par.

Traugott has not taken leave in excess of the accrued rate in accordance with the Regulations 1918.

H. L. Beck,

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

A

z Traugott,
arges.

November 18, 1918.

Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C.

1. Referring to your letters of Nov. 5, and Nov. 14, 1918, relative to the charges of disloyalty preferred against Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

2. The Bureau considers the evidence against Traugott sufficient to establish his disloyalty to the United States Government, notwithstanding the general denial in his reply dated November 9, 1918, to charges, and recommendation has this day been made to the Department that he be dismissed from the service, effective at the close of November 8, 1918, the date on which he was suspended from duty.

3. Report at the proper time whether Traugott has taken leave in excess of the accrued rate in accordance with Regulations 1918, Art. 488, 2d par.

(Signed) J. S. Conway
Acting Commissioner

2-JFS

SUBJECT: Charges Franz Traugott,
Kpr. Hunting Island Lt. Station.

Nov. 14, 1918.

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Referring to Bureau telegram of November 14th, enclosed herewith is original letter known to be in the handwriting of Franz Traugott, Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station. Also enclosed is original receipt signed in the presence of Capt. Brooks of the Lighthouse Tender Arbutus, signed by Mr. Traugott, acknowledging receipt of letter of suspension and letter preferring charges against him.

Mr. Traugott suffered a stroke of paralysis in September 1916, and since that date some of the letters etc., received from him have not been actually written by him.

It was noted by this office that his letter answering charges was not in his own handwriting.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG.

1st Asst. Superintendent.

Form 1201

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

N L
three symbols
the check (number of
this is a telegram. Other-
its character is indicated by the
symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT 145 EAST BAY ST., CHARLESTON, S. C.

118AN J 16 GVT

DC WASHINGTON DC 1025A NOV 14 18

LIGHTHOUSE SUPT 575

CHARLESTON SC

MAIL IMMEDIATELY ORIGINAL ANY LETTER YOUR FILES KNOWN BE TRAUGOTTS HANDWRITING

PUTNAM

1040AM

er.

[illegible] on this matter. It is expected that the Superintendent will return to this office about the 20th of the month, and if final action is to be deferred until his

Nov. 12, 1918.

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

SUBJECT: Suspension and charges against Franz Traugott, Keeper Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

REFERENCES: Bureau letter of November 2nd forwarding report from Department of Justice and endorsement thereon from this office of November 9th, forwarding copy of letter of suspension.

Forwarded herewith in duplicate are charges preferred against Franz Traugott, Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C., for disloyalty to the Government of the United States, dated November 5, 1918, and his answer thereto dated November 9, 1918.

Keeper Traugott was suspended from duty November 8, 1918, for period not to exceed 90 days pending decision of charges preferred against him. Copy of letter of suspension was forwarded the Bureau November 9, 1918.

The papers in this case are forwarded the Bureau without recommendation for the following reason:

The report made by the Agent of the Department of Justice was received in this office during the absence of the Superintendent, and he has not yet had an opportunity to state his views on this matter. It is expected that the Superintendent will return to this office about the 20th of the month, and if final action is to be deferred until his return for his recommendation, it is requested that this office be so advised, and his recommendation will be made on his return to this office.

In connection with Mr. Traugott's case Bureau attention is respectfully invited to previous confidential communication from the Department of Justice forwarded by Bureau endorsement of May 4th and reply of this office of May 7th, 1917.

Papers from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, forwarded with Bureau endorsement of November 2nd are returned herewith.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG

1st Asst. Superintendent.

C O P Y.

November 8, 1918.

Received of R. A. Brooks, Master of the U.S. Lighthouse Tender ARBUTUS:
Two letters from the Superintendent of Lighthouses, dated November 5, 1918;
One suspending me from duty as Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.,
and the other preferring charges against me.

(Sgd) Franz Traugott,
Keeper Hunting Island Light Station.

Our official letter
Delivered by Master "Arbutus".
D. F. Jennette
1st asst. Keeper.
Hunting Isld. Lt. Sta.
Nov. 7/18.

Delivered 9.30 A.M.
by Capt. Brooks

C O P Y.

Beaufort, S. C.,
Oct. 27th, 1916.

To
Lighthouse Inspector,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

This is to inform you that my intentions are to return to Hunting Island Light Station on the fifth day of November which date my leave expires.

I have improved so well, that I will be able to perform most of my duties, and with the aid of a substitute for a while, I shall be capable to fulfill all.

I will use my own judgment in obtaining a person at my own expense who will answer for said purpose.

Trusting this will meet you approval,

Respectfully,

(Sgd) Franz Traugott.

Copy of old letter taken out of leave absence file to show handwriting fwd with letter Nov. 14/18 RFT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service.

Sixth District
Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)
Nov. 9th, 1918.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 5th. instant, which was received on the 8th., informing me of my suspension from the service for a period not to exceed 90 days pending decission on charges prefered against me for disloyalty to the U.S. Government.

Replying to the charges, I most respectfully state that I most positively deny every one of them and respectfully ask that I be given the privilege of facing my accusers, which I think is but just and fair to me also my family.

As to the charges prefered against me by Rees, I positively state that they are false, as I have never had a conversation with him concerning the war or the President or the Kaiser. Rees and I have not been on friendly terms, certainly not sufficiently so for me to hold such a conversation with him futhermore he was transfered from Hunting Island as mate on the light ship so his stay under me was not so long and I feel well satisfeyed that charge is simply brought against me for malice.

I also positively deney that I had any such conversation with Malloy. He and I have always disagreed of and on and never did get along together after he married into my wifes family our relationship became more strained and we had nothing to do with each other only in the line of duty and under such conditions I certainly would not have any such conversation with him as he claims.

I allowed Mr. Janette to read his charges and after reading it over said that he did not have such a conversation with Special Employee Boyne at any time, and authorizes me to deney every word of it. This I will and must also deney even if I were not authorized by him to do so, for he and I have never had such a conversation together.

I did have a conversation with the person representing himself as Special Employee Boyne, and during the conversation we did speak of the war. He was very talkative and in the conversation, among other things, he said that President Wilson wants to get the Kaiser out, and I said it would be better for Germany to be ruled by a President. We did not have very much to say as our conversation was short and I did not have the time to spend with him on that subject. I deny that I made the statements which he accredits to me and I ask that I be confronted with him and the others, so that I can have the full opportunity of vindicating myself for the benefit of my family of little ones.

Therefore I trust one can easily judge that the charges made against me by Rees and Malloy were simply from the malice which they heed towards me.

Respectfully,

(Sgd) Franz Traugott.

PS. Kindly address any information tending to my person to Beaufort, S. C.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Kpr.Hunting Isld.Light Station.

November 5, 1918.

You are charged with disloyalty to the Government of the United States, and you are given six days after the receipt of this letter in which to make a written reply, and show cause why you should not be dismissed from the United States Lighthouse Service.

The charges against you are based upon the investigation and report made by the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, October 17,1918-October 25,1918:

The following statements are quoted from the report made by the Department of Justice and you are required to answer each statement quoted below:

(1) Statement of John Rees, formerly 2d Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.-

"Rees further informed this office in his letter that TRAUGOTT had made the statement that the Kaiser was at the head of all the world and there was no greater country in this world than Germany. [redacted] further stated that TRAUGOTT cursed the President and made remarks, saying the President Wilson was not fit to rule anybody" - - - -

(2) Statement of Clarence Malloy, formerly 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.-

"MALLOY stated that TRAUGOTT was continually cursing the President and making remarks that he was no good, and if he did not look out there were four million Germans in the United States who would cause him trouble."

(3) Statement of Devaney P. Jennette, now 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.- interviewed by Special Employe Bonyne:

"He stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against the Government. Mr. JENNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JENNETTE also had heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and an outrage for this country to send negroes to France to fight against white people." - - - -

of Special Employe Bonyne:

"Special Employee Bonyne, after this information had been learned from JEANNETTE, interviewed TRAUGOTT under cover, TRAUGOTT believing that Special Employee Bonyne was simply there as the Captain of the Naval Patrol Boat and making the usual rounds of inspection. Special Employee Bonyne in questioning TRAUGOTT first, questioned as to whether he was a Swede. TRAUGOTT denied this, stating to Special Employee Bonyne that he was a German. Special Employee Bonyne at this point began speaking German with him, and in a short time had gained the confidence of TRAUGOTT, and TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that the "Bald-Headed son-of-a-bitch, President Wilson, did not know how to run this country, and he had no brains, and it took a brainy man like the Kaiser, Wilhelm, to run this country and hold the respect of the people. TRAUGOTT further stated that Wilson and the American people were damn fools if they thought they were going to dethrone the Kaiser, that it was impossible to do this, and that further, the German people would stick together and finally win this war. TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that he and all Germans were going back to Germany as soon as this war was over and help re-establish the German population and commerce.

"TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne, in discussing the submarine policies of the German Government, that he thought the Germans had a right to sink any ships they say fit to sink, that they were fighting a civilized war and not fighting any inhuman war like the Allies were fighting, and that further, he thought it was a disgrace for this country to send negro troops to France to fight against white people. TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne that this country had no business getting into this war, that it was only a bunch of grafters out of Wall street who started this war.

"TRAUGOTT further stated that the German people were going to stick together and that once a German always a German, and that it would be impossible to break down their Morale."

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. Gregg,

First Assistant Superintendent.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

Nov 2

October 2, 1918.

Subject: Letter, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, Franz Traugott, keeper, Hunting Island L.S., alleged German activities.

Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C.

It appears that the evidence herewith is of a character that warrants immediate suspension of Traugott, and preferment of charges with a view to dismissal, and the Superintendent should take this action unless there are strong reasons for some other course. Advise Bureau promptly.

(Signed) A. J. Peters

PF-JFS

Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses,
Charleston, S. C., Nov. 9, 1918.

Returned to the Commissioner of Lighthouses with statement that Mr. Franz Traugott, Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C., was suspended from duty effective November 8th. was sent in duplicate

Enclosed herewith is copy of letter delivered to Mr. Traugott by the Master of Tender Arbutus on November 8th suspending him from duty.

The letter preferring charges against Mr. Traugott was also delivered at the same time. He was given six days after receipt of letter to make reply.

As soon as his reply is received the papers will be forwarded with recommendation.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG
1st Asst. Superintendent.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

LIGHT
NOV 18 1918
HOUSES

NOV 20 1918

November 16, 1918.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department hereby approves the action taken by the Acting Superintendent of the Sixth Lighthouse District in suspending from duty Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, effective November 8, 1918, and to contimue for a period not to exceed ninety days, pending disposition of charges preferred against him for disloyalty to the Government of the United States.

William C. Redfield

Secretary.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
NOV 19 1918

To Superintendent of Lighthouses Charleston, S. C.

For this information, guidance, and files of office.

H. R. See Bureau letter of Nov. 18.

Conway

Acting Commissioner.

Nov. 5, 1918.

...tion.

...aster of Tender ARBUTUS.)

You are hereby suspended from duty effective upon receipt of this letter, for period not to exceed 90 days, pending decision on charges preferred against you for disloyalty to the Government of the United States. This suspension shall be with lawful pay and allowances if you are exonerated of the charges, or if the same are not found sufficiently substantiated to justify suspension without pay, and shall be without pay and allowances if they are sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action.

Copy of charges preferred against you is enclosed herewith.

Acknowledge receipt of this letter immediately.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG

1st Asst. Superintendent of Lighthouses.

PP-CAR

November 5, 1918.

Mr. Franz Traugotty
Keeper Hunting Island Light Station.
(To be delivered by Master Tender ARBUTUS).

Referring to letter from this office of November 5, 1918, suspending you from duty pending action on charges preferred against you:

You are relieved of all duty in connection with the Lighthouse Service pending final action in your case. There is no objection to your remaining at Hunting Island Light Station during the period of your suspension if you desire to remain there.

It is to be distinctly understood however, if you remain at the Station, that you are in no way to interfere with the work of the Service. You will refrain from criticizing officials of the United States Government and conduct yourself in such a manner as will in no way arouse suspicion of your loyalty to the United States Government.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG

First Assistant Superintendent.

PP-CAR

Office of the Superintendent of Lighthouses,
Charleston, S.C., November 5, 1918.

Mr. D. F. Jennette,
First Assistant Keeper,
Hunting Island Light Station.

The above is copy of letter referring to suspension of Mr. Franz Traugott, Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station.

Mr. Traugott has been suspended from the Lighthouse Service effective from date of delivery of letter of suspension to be delivered by Master of Tender ARBUTUS. Until further orders you are in chare of the Light Station and will act in all matters as though you were the principal Keeper.

Mr. Traugott is to be allowed to remain at the station in accordance with instructions contained in above letter.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG

First Assistant Superintendent.

No. 1.

Made by:	Place where made:	Date when made:	Period for which made:
Lowell E. Jackson	Savannah, Ga.	10/25/1918.	10/17/1918.

Title of case and offense charged or nature of matter under investigation:

In re: FRANZ TRAUGOTT: Alleged German Activities:

Formerly reported: FRANZ FRAUGOTT:

Statement of operations, evidence collected, names and addresses of persons interviewed, place visited, etc:

At SAVANNAH, Enroute for Hunting Island,

and at Hunting Island.

Referring to Agent's report of the 2nd inst., 1918, on the above entitled matter, and pursuant to instructions of Agt. in Charge Wright, Agent accompanied by Special Employee Bonyne, left this day on the Naval Reserve Patrol Boat for the purpose of proceeding to Hunting Island, in order to make an investigation of the alleged German activities of FRANZ TRAUGOTT, the light house keeper at the Hunting Island Light Station.

It may be remembered that this matter was reported to this office February 10th, 1918, at which time Special Employee Bonyne succeeded in gaining information from one JOHN REES, the former assistant light-house keeper at Hunting Island, which information was never acted upon at this time, the information having been misplaced in these offices and later found by Agent in Charge Wright.

A letter was written to JOHN REES, who is now living at Southport, N. C., asking for any information he might have, and some time later an answer was received to the letter written by Agent in Charge Wright, from REES, stating that he had destroyed the Log-Book he had kept while at the Hunting Light-house, which Log-Book contained all the Pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT during the time REES was stationed at this Light-house, but, however, REES informed this office that TRAUGOTT had made many Pro-German remarks and had almost gotten into trouble with him (REES) because REES would not side with the Kaiser. REES further informed this office in his letter that TRAUGOTT had made the statement that the Kaiser was at the head of all the world and there was no greater country in this world than Germany. REES further stated that TRAUGOTT cursed the President and made remarks, saying the President Wilson was not fit to rule anybody; REES also furnished this office with the name of Clarence Malloy,

Copy of this report furnished to:

Washington, Atlanta, Savannah.

...y first-assistant Light-House keeper at Hunting Island, as being a could furnish information as to certain disloyal remarks made by TRAUGOTT.

A letter was written to CLARENCE MALLOY at Hillsboro-Light Station, DEERFIELD, Fla., inquiring as to any information he might have concerning the remarks made by TRAUGOTT, and later an answer was received, in which Malloy stated that TRAUGOTT was continually cursing the President and making remarks that he was no good, and if he did not look out there were Four Million Germans in the United States who would cause him trouble.

A full report of the investigation made by Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, is being submitted in this day's report, although the investigation consisted of three days time.

Upon arriving at Hunting Island, which Island is situated on the coast of South Carolina, between Port Royal Sound and St. Helena Sound, in a very isolated section of the country, there being no residence anywhere in this neighborhood. Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, proceeded some five miles up a creek to the Hunting Island Light. This light is situated in the center of Hunting Island, and is one of the largest in this section, it being a revolving light of 64,000,00 candle power, and having a reading distance of some Eighteen miles.

Upon arriving at the Hunting Island Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, first interviewed confidentially, Mr. JEANNETTE, the assistant keeper at this light, and upon making our business known to Mr. JEANNETTE, he stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against this Government. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JEANNETTE also has heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and

...his country to send negroes to France to fight against white prople.

In interviewing Mr. JEANNETTE, Agent learned that there consisted two watches ...ng the night at the Light-house, one watch running from sun-down to midnight and the second watch running to dawn, and that these watches were alternated between himself and TRAUGOTT, one night TRAUGOTT taking the first watch and the next night he taking the first watch. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that it was very easy for anyone to change the time of this revolving light, which is set now to revolve every thirty seconds, but that it was possible to change this time so that the light would revolve either slower or faster, and in this way you could signal to boats at sea.

Agent questioned Mr. JEANNETTE as to whether there had been any visitors at the Hunting Island Light-House who had stayed any length of time there, and was informed by JEANNETTE that up to some few months ago there used to be several of TRAUGOTT'S friends come to visit him in a small launch, and that these men would stay several days at a time, but that he (JEANNETTE) did not know what their business was as they were friends of the keeper, however, he, (JEANNETTE) had heard them speaking in German."

Special Employee Bonyne, after this information had been learned from JEANNETTE, interviewed TRAUGOTT under cover, TRAUGOTT believing that Special Employee Bonyne was simply there as the Captain of the Naval Patrol Boat and making the usual rounds of Inspection. Special Employee Bonyne in questioning TRAUGOTT first, questioned hi as to whether he was a Swede, TRAUGOTT denied this, stating th Special Employee Bonyne that he was a German. Special Employee Bonyne at this point began speaking German with him, and in a short time had gained the confidence of TRAUGOTT, and TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that the "Bald-headed son-of-a-bitch, President Wilson, did not know how to run this Country, and he had no brains, but it took a brainy man like the Kaiser, Wilhelm, to run this country and hold the respect of his people. TRAUGOTT furthers stated that Wilson and the American people were damn fools if they thought they were

the Kaiser, that it was impossible to do this, and that further, the ...ie would stick together and finally win this war. TRAUGOTT stated to ...al Employee Bonyne that he and all Germans were going back to Germany as soon as this war was over and help re-establish the German population and commerce.

TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne, in discussing the submarine policies of the German Government, that he thought the Germans had a right to sink any ships they saw fit to sink, that they were fighting a civilized war and not fighting any inhuman war like the Allies were fighting, and that further, he thought it was a disgrace for this country to send negro troops to France to fight against white people. TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne that this country had no business getting into this war, that it was only a bunch of grafters out of Wall street who started this war.

TRAUGOTT further stated that the German people were going to stick together and that once a German always a German, and that it would be impossible to break down their Morale.

During the interview Special Employee Bonyne had with TRAUGOTT, TRAUGOTT asked Special Employee Bonyne if there were not two men from the Department of Justice in his party, but as Special Employee Bonyne and Agent were dressed in Naval Overalls; TRAUGOTT was convinced that there were no men from the Department of Justice in the boat.

After making and inspection of this Island and the Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded back to the Naval Patrol Boat and there requested Ensign Taylor of the Naval Reserves to make soundings of the waters around Hunting Island. The sounding showed that there is from Thirty to Fifty feet of water all behind this Island, with an outlet directly to the Ocean.

From Hunting Island Agent and Special Employee Bonyne proceeded to Beaufort, S.C. at which place TRAUGOTT'S family lives, and there interviewed Sheriff White of Beaufort, as to whether he had any information concerning any pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT, but Sheriff White stated that TRAUGOTT was

so little of his time that he had never had any occasion to hear talk.

Agent also interviewed Postmaster E. D. RANEY, at Beaufort, S. C., but could gather no information from him as to any pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT at Beaufort.

Agent also interviewed the Naval Section Commander at Beaufort, who has Hunting Island in his section to be patrolled, and learned from him that there had been an investigation by the Naval Intelligence at Hunting Island, but that no definite information had been obtained, although they investigated TRAUGOTT, as it had been reported that there was a wireless on Hunting Island, also a sub-marine base at this point. Agent is enclosing copy of the report made by the Naval Intelligence on this matter.

In connection with the Hunting Island investigation, it is known to be a fact that Captain Hulst, Captain of the former German Steamer HOHENFELDE, which was interned in this harbor for sometime, made several mysterious trips from Savannah to Charleston in a power-boat belonging to the HOHENFELDE, and that Captain HULST was gone eleven days at one time, being unable to explain his absence, other than he had gone to Charleston, he also took with him a chart of the inland waterways, which it was known by the Naval Intelligence that these charts were returned from Charleston to Savannah by messenger and turned over to the Captain of the Dutch ship "Zeebur" and from here carried to Germany.

Also it is known to be a fact that a tug left Savannah in February 1916, by the name of Edgar F. Comey, towing two barges of Piling and one barge of Coal consigned to COMMERCIAL COAL COMPANY, New York, but that this coal never reached New York, it being claimed by the tug-boat Captain that this coal was lost off Hunting Island in St. Helena's Sound, however, Special Employee Bonyne who at that time was connected with the British Consul here as an Inspector of Commerce, had occasion to investigate this same barge of coal and developed the information that this barge of coal was anchored off Hunting Island, where it

C O P Y.

ess reply to
Bureau of Investigation,
and refer to initials.
H.B.L.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
Bureau of Investigation,
WASHINGTON.

HBL:RT

11/2/18 ackgd.

October 30th, 1918.

George R. Putnam, Esquire,

Chief of Lighthouse Service,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

For your information and such action as you see fit to take, I am sending to you a report from our Agent at Savannah, Georgia, dated October 17, 1918, concerning one Franz Traugott, alleged German activities, formerly reported Fraugott.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd)A.B.Bielaski
Chief.

The following is pencil memorandum written by Mr. Putnam:

Ack, & refer to 6th. it appears that the evidence herewith is of a character that warrants immediate suspension of Traugott, and preferment of charges with advice to dismissal, and Supt. should take this action unless there are strong reasons for some other course. Advise Bureau promptly.

(Sgd) P.

PORT ROYAL SECTION:
SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

181-S

Beaufort, S. C. July 20th, 1918.

From: Section Aid for Information.
To: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.
Subject: Keepers at Hunting Island.
Reference: (a) Your letter July 3rd, 1918. File No. 932.A-5

1. There are three men at Hunting Island Light House with the following names and nationalties:

(a). Hans Traugott, a naturalized German. His last papers were taken out in 1898.

(b). G. Jeanette, an American born citizen.

(c). A negro assistant, name unknown.

2. I will personally investigate them further than the above when I return from Jacksonville.

(Signed) H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

PORT ROYAL SECTION.

SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

File No.

181-S

From: Beaufort, S. C. July 30, 1918.
To: Section Aid for Information.
Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: Keepers at Hunting Island Light House.

REFERENCE: (a) Your letter July 3, 1918, File No.932: A-5.
(b) My letter July 20, 1918, File No. 181-S.

1. On Friday July 25th, I visited Hunting Island Light House to ascertain the status of Keeper Traugott. Frank Traugott, a mariner by trade, was born in the province of Hanover, Germany on September 2, 1862. Traugott came to this country while still a young man and received his naturalization papers in May 1898. These papers were issued in Charleston, S. C. by J. E. Hagood, Clerk of the Circuit Court, U.S. District of South Carolina. Traugott has never been back to Germany since he received his papers in 1898. Traugott was keeper for the light house in Fifth Section at Tybee Roads for nearly four years.

2. Traugott's wife is of Spanish descent, her grand-parents coming over from Spain, Mrs. Traugott was born in St. Augustine, Fla.

3. G. [illegible]Janette, first assistant keeper, was born in North Carolina.

4. Joe Jackson, the negro assistant, was raised in this Section.

5. The Government owns 138 acres near the beach where the Light House is situated, and 2 acres at their wharf on the west side of the island. Mr. Thomas Lee owns a tract of land on the north side of the island, the south side being owned by Senator Cameron, who also owns Coffin's Point. I looked over this land on account of Junker, an Austrian, who is connected with Senator Cameron's places as keep of them.

6. While on Hunting Island, I went up to the top of the light house in order to view the surrounding country and ocean. The binoculars furnished this light house are not very good as it was very hard for me to distinguish eight ships which I saw ten miles out at sea.

(Signed) H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

e. S. P. 149

Beaufort, S. C.

From: Commanding Officer.

To. Section Commander.

July 10th, 1918.

Subject: Report on investigation of St. Philip's and Capers Island.

1. On Monday July 8th, I landed on St. Philip's Island at Bay Point with ten marines and two sailors. I searched all that part of the Island to Horse Creek for wireless and anything which might enable the Germans to operate submarines.

2. Tuesday, July 9th, with two marines and two sailors, I landed on the north point of St. Philip's Island. I searched it, but as it was covered with dense vegetation, I was unable to make much progress. Under the circumstances, we covered all the ground possible and nothing was found on the whole of St. Philip's Island.

3. I sent two petty officers over to Capers Island, and as it was not covered with vegetation, they were able to see the whole of the Island from an old geodetic survey stake. Nothing was found at this place.

(Signed) E. L. Morgan.

(COPY)

PORT ROYAL SECTION:

SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

181-S.

Beaufort, S. C. July 10, 1918.

FROM: Section Aid for Information.

TO: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: St. Philip's Island and vicinity.

Enclosures: (1)

1. Enclosed is a report of an investigation of St. Philips Island and vicinity that Ensign Morgan conducted with the crew of the Jeanette and Marines furnished by the Post Commander at Paris Island.

2. Ensign Morgan has been instructed to investigate Fripp's, Pritchard and Hunting Island, starting this investigation on Thursday, July 11th.

3. A further report of this subject will be forwarded to you in the next few days.

H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

HEADQUARTERS, SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT

Peoples Office Building,

Charleston, S. C.

July 3-1918.

FROM: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

TO: Section Aid for Information, Beaufort, S. C.

SUBJECT: Investigation to determine possible submarine Base or wireless outfit on St. Philip's Island, or its vicinity.

1. A personal letter contains the following on possible enemy activities in your section:

"On account of your local knowledge and because I think the matter should be brought to the notice of the Navy Department, I am presuming to write to you on the subject that was reported to me just before my leaving Savannah,f for duty in New York City, to the effect that the Captain of the interned German steamer "HOHENFELDE" had made two mysterious visits from Thunderbolt to St. Philip's Island on the eastern side of Bay Point, and that on these trips he would not allow any of the men who accompanied him to go ashore. I intended to investigate this matter before leaving Beaufort, but telegraphic orders to report immediately in New York interferred with my doing so, Trenchards Inlet, as you may remember leads from the main channel to St. Philip's Island and carries a depth of 9 feet at mean low tide. The Captain of this steamer made two trips in motor boats from Savannah to Charleston, S. C., taking with him the Coast Survey Charts, and check on the Inland Water route and the Inlets leading from the ocean up among these Islands. Having completed his work, he sent the corrected charts, by messenger to Jacksonville, and by the Steward of a Dutch ship to Germany. Upon discovering these facts, I put a detective on his track until his final arrest in Savannah upon the declaration of War. I questioned him closely after his arrest, and am convinced that, though he denied it, he is a reserve officer, in the imported German Navy, and accredited agent of their Government. There may be nothing in the report that I have mentioned above, but I believe that it would be advisable to institute a very careful search on this and the neighboring Islands, where, as you well know, the conditions are ideal for the concealment of the wireless apparatus and for the establishment of a base for the supply of gasolene to German submarines".

"Port Royal Harbor is of such easy access from the open ocean, so little used commercially and the Islands are so seldom visited, that it would be a very simple matter to conceal any movements in this locality".

"Port Royal Harbor is practically undefended, and the small detachment at Port Fremont, which is the only defense for the Marine Training Station on Paris Island, was only sent them after I had constituted myself its

...son upon the declaration of the war, and informed the War Department ...hat I would stay until relieved which happened within a week. I am also informed that the keeper of Hunting Island Light House is German.C.P.E.".

2. It is requested that you conduct an investigation to determine any possible submarine base, or wireless device that may exist in the localities mentioned above, and submit report of investigation to this office.

(Signed) Chas. L. McClasky.

Acting.

COPY.

Traugott.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

WASHINGTON

May 14, 1917.

LIGHT
MAY 15 1917
HOUSES

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Receipt is acknowledged of the Bureau's letter of the 11th instant, and enclosures, relative to letter of May 3, 1917, received from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, regarding Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina.

Upon consideration of the correspondence, the Department has approved the Bureau's recommendation that no further action be taken at this time in the case of the keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, or in the case of August F. Wichmann, keeper of Cape Romain Light Station, South Carolina, referred to in the Sixth Inspector's report of May 7, 1917. Authority has been granted, as recommended, to advise the Inspector that previous instructions to transfer Frederick H. Bruggeman, keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, have been canceled, subject however to further request being made by the Commanding Officer of Coast Defenses, Fort Screven, Georgia; also that the Inspector be directed to keep the Bureau advised in these and similar cases should the conduct of the employees be open to suspicion.

By direction of the Secretary:

G. C. Havenner

JEH.
1 inclosure.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
May 16, 1917.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston, S. C., for his information and files, reference being made to his indorsement of May 7, 1917. Be governed accordingly. Inclosed is copy of Bureau letter of May 11, above referred to.

/C-L

Putnam

COPY.

JEH.
Inclosures.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

May 11, 1917.

Secretary of Commerce:

There is inclosed copy of letter of May 3, 1917, received from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, relative to the keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, together with copy of report of May 7, of the 6th Inspector, and copy of inclosure thereto.

The Bureau recommends that no further action be taken at this time in the case of the keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, as well as in the case of the keeper of Cape Romain Light Station, the latter case being referred to in paragraph 7 of the Inspector's report of May 7.

It is also recommended that the 6th Inspector be advised that previous instructions, which are contained in Department letter of April 20, 1917, to transfer Frederick H. Bruggeman, keeper of Tybee Light Station, Ga., are canceled, subject however to further request in this matter being made by the Commanding Officer of Coast Defenses, Fort Screven, Ga., and that in these and similar cases the Inspector is to keep the Bureau advised in case future ground for suspicion arises.

(Signed). G. R. Putnam.

C O P Y- CAR

JEH,
Inclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON May 4, 1917.

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

Subject:- Letter, May 3, Bureau Investigation, Dept. of Justice, relative to keeper Hunting Island Lt.Sta.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston,S.C., for investigation, report and recommendation, and for action if necessary. Return the attached letter to the Bureau with your report.

(Signed) Bowerman
Acting Commissioner.

Confidential
Determined to be an
Administrative Marking
Not National Security Information
By KH NARA Date 08/28/2025

HLB-CAR Office of the Inspector, 6th District,
Charleston,S.C., May 7, 1917.

1. Returned together with letter of May 3, 1917, from the Department of Justice to the Commissioner.
2. Charges of disloyalty against Keeper Traugott (not Traufert) had been previously made to me personally by the 2d Assistant Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station when in Charleston recently on leave of absence.
3. Hunting Island Light Station was inspected on April 23, 1917. Assistant Superintendent Dillon who made the inspection had instructions to make an investigation of the Keeper's alleged disloyalty.
4. Assistant Superintendent Dillon's report to me is enclosed herewith. It will be noted that Mr. Dillon does not consider that the charges of disloyalty were proved. I concur in his opinion.
5. In connection with this case attention is called to the fact that when charges of disloyalty were preferred against Keeper Bruggeman at Tybee Light Station I proposed to the Bureau that Bruggeman be transferred to Hunting Island Light Station.
6. In view of the charges against the present Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station it appears that the transfer of a keeper under suspicion from one station to another will be of no avail. Doubtless there will be someone to question his loyalty no matter where he may be sent.
7. The loyalty of another keeper of German birth has also been questioned. I refer to August F. Wichmann, Keeper of Cape Romain Light Station. Investigation in his case clearly establishes the fact that he was pro-German in sympathies before a state of war was declared. Since that time he was not known to have given any indication of disloyalty. Two men whom I questioned did not believe that he would be loyal if put to a test, but admitted that this was only a matter of belief.
8. I am now of the opinion that transferring keepers whose loyalty has been questioned would be no solution of the problem. It seems to me that in such cases as we have in this district, where no specific charge can be proved, the disposition to be made of the employees should be determined by the general policy of the Government which latter should be decided by the heads of the departments after careful deliberation. In this connection it would be pertinent to inquire what the War Department is doing with its own employees of German birth.
9. If it be conceded that transfers will not solve the problem it would appear to be necessary to follow one of the following courses:

(a) Take no action against the employee unless he can be proved to be disloyal.

(b) Suspend him indefinitely on suspicion of disloyalty.
(c) Discharge him from the Service on suspicion of disloyalty.

10. In the case of Traugott I cannot recommend his transfer to Hilton Head as suggested by Assistant Superintendent Dillon in his report for two reasons, first, while it would solve the trouble amongst the keepers at Hunting Island it is not believed that a keeper in Traugott's physical condition should be sent to a one keeper station (he has only partially recovered from a stroke of paralysis) and second, charges of disloyalty would still stand against him and if disloyal he could probably do as much harm in one place as at another.

11. I have to recommend that Keeper Traugott be not transferred but that the course of procedure be one of those mentioned in paragraph 9 above, the Department to direct the action to be taken after having promulgated its general policy in such cases.

H. L. Beck

Lighthouse Inspector.

Quoted below for your general information and such action as you deem appropriate, is an extract from report of Arthur R. Gregory, Department Agent, located at Savannah, Georgia, covering an interview with Capt. Charles E. Elliott and Lieut. Geo. E. Elliott, at Beaufort, S. C.

Hilton Head, South Carolina.

Capt. Chas. E. Elliott and Lieut. George E. Elliott were very strong in their opinion that the alleged a full blooded German and present keeper of the Light-house on Hunting Island, should be removed and transferred from his present position. They both stated that they knew of nothing which could be brought against this man, but that before the war, he was very much pro-German in his expressions, and that on account of his position, he would be able to do a great deal of harm if he so desired.

They also stated that the Care-Taker of

COPY - CAR

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
WASHINGTON.
May 3, 1917.

George R. Putnam, Esq.,

Commissioner, Bureau of Lighthouses,

Department of Commerce,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Quoted below for your general information and such action as you deem appropriate, is an extract from report of Arthur E. Gregory, Department Agent, located at Savannah, Georgia, covering an interview with Capt. Charles B. Elliott and Lieut. Geo. B. Elliot, at Beaufort, S. C.

"At Beaufort, South Carolina.

Capt. Chas. B. Elliott and Lieut. George B. Elliott were very strong in their opinion that one Traufert a full blooded German and Senior Keeper of the Light-house on Hunting Island, should be removed and transferred from his present position. They both stated that they knew of nothing which could be brought against this man, but that before the war, he was very much pro-german in his expressions, and that on account of his position, he would be able to do a great deal of harm if he so desired.

"They also stated that the Care-Taker of Senator Don Cameron's estate was a full blooded

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT

CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 25, 1917.

German and a great friend of Traufert's and they believed that he should also be removed. There was nothing they could bring against him either, but that on account of his close proximity to the Light-house and the large estate he had under his control on the Island, that their field for doing harm if they so desired, was unlimited."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) A. B. Bielarhi ?

Chief.

CATIONS TO
SPECTOR
N. S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

AR

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

April 25, 1917.

e Lighthouse Inspector:-

In compliance with your instructions I proceeded to Hunting Island Light Station April 23, 1917, to investigate the causes of inharmony at the station and the allegations of disloyalty to the Government made by the 1st and 2nd Assistant Keepers against the Keeper:-

Each Keeper was questioned carefully in regard to the above matters and the following deductions are drawn from the statements.

1. The Keeper's wife is undoubtedly the most disturbing element at the station. She has an unbridled tongue and an ungovernable temper and to a great extent rules the actions of the Keeper against his own better judgment.

2. All the trouble is private family trouble accentuated to a degree bordering on violence.

3. There is no evidence to show that any of the Keeper's are neglectful of their routine duties.

4. The Assistant Keeper in my presence confirmed and affirmed threats against the Keeper when he shall have met him off the reservation.

5. The 1st Assistant Keeper admitted receiving an official communication which he refused to show to the Keeper.

6. Neither the 1st Assistant Keeper nor 2nd Assistant Keeper asserted that the Keeper had made any remarks or indicated in his actions that the Keeper was disloyal to the Government since the entrance of the U.S.Government into war with Germany. Previous to the election of President Wilson the Keeper was charged with having said that there were 30,000 Germans in America who would defeat him in the election. About two years ago the Keeper was charged with having cursed President Wilson for allowing the United States to supply the allies. The Keeper denies these two latter charges.

7. There is some evidence from the actions of the two Assistant Keepers of a conspiracy to undermine the Keepers position.

My impression of the whole trouble is that the allegations of disloyalty on the part of the two assistants are so flimsy that there is nothing to them. That the Keeper is in great bodily fear of the 1st Assistant there is no doubt and on account of his enfeebled physical condition he has a right to immediate consideration. However the Keeper is responsible for the conduct of his wife. No matter to which station she is sent she will stir up strife as she has always done in the past. Mr. Trangott aught to be retired on account of disability. There being no provision for this the only solution I can suggest is that he be required to transfer with Mr. Sisson at Hilton Head Light Station.

F. P. Dillon,

Assistant Superintendent.

JEH.
Inclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON May 4, 1917.

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L.~~

Subject:- Letter, May 3, Bureau Investigation, Dept. of Justice, relative to keeper Hunting Island Lt. Sta.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston, S. C., for investigation, report and recommendation, and for action if necessary. Return the attached letter to the Bureau with your report.

Confidential
Determined to be an
Administrative Marking
Not National Security Information
By [illegible] NARA Date 08/28/2025

Bowerman

Acting Commissioner

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN SALARY
KEEPERS -- LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

November 13, 1918.

LIGHT HOUSES NOV 15 1918

NOV 15 1918 11 48 AM

NOV 18 19 Commission D. C.

Sir: Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

You are advised that your 732 salary as keeper in the Lighthouse Service has November changed to 860 from (The above rate or pay includes longevity pay of $60.)

No new appointment will be issued to you as a result of this change, and an oath of office is not required.

By direction of the Secretary:

TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

IDENTIFICATION CARD NO. .....

No.	TIME FILED	CHECK
		PAID, GOVERNMENT RATE

BUSINESS

Charleston, S.C. August 20, 1917.
(Place and date)

Keeper, Keeper Sterling Island Light Station,

Beaufort, S. C.

Return to your station after arrival of morning train.

BECK.

HLB-MBT 9:25 A.M.

Confirmation mailed.

CHARGE BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES, WASHINGTON, D. C.

APPROPRIATION FOR "GENERAL EXPENSES, LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE."

ATTEST: H. L. BECK
(Name)

Inspector, 6th, Lighthouse District
(Title)

11—4649

Five Dollars per month
untill the bill is paid

Light house Inspector
Charleston S. C.

June 2. 1917

Sir replying to Your letter
May 28. 1917 in the regards
of Settling this matter
between the Keeper and my self
matters has been Settled with
Satisfaction between Keeper and
my self he has promised to give
me five Dollars per month
untill the bill is paid

Submitted
Fanz Traugott

Respectfully
C Malloy
1 asst Keeper

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

HLB-CAR

Mr. C. Malloy,
1st Asst. Keeper,
Hunting Island Light Station.
(Through the Keeper.)

May 28, 1917.

Your letter of May 16, 1917, was referred to Keeper Traugott for his comment. The Keeper's letter is now before me.

The matter is a personal one between you and the Keeper. I would decline to take any part in it if it were not for the fact that decidedly inharmonious relations between keepers can not be permitted without detriment to the efficiency of the service. You and the Keeper can no doubt settle your difficulties amicably if you will discuss them calmly and alone where you will not be interfered with by others. So far as the Lighthouse Service is concerned the trouble is between you and the Keeper each of you being held responsible for the conduct of the members of his family. In this connection see "Instructions to Employees", paragraph 52 on page 15.

Unless you and the Keeper can settle your troubles in a friendly way before you are transferred elsewhere matters may have been brought to such a pass that one or more dismissals from the Service may become necessary. It should be borne in mind by you that the Keeper has been very ill and has had many difficulties to contend with. No doubt he will meet you more than half way in any advance toward settling your personal troubles. After discussion with the Keeper report through the Keeper what progress has been made in coming to an agreement.

H. L. Beck

Lighthouse Inspector.

HLB-CAR

Office of the Inspector, 6th District,
Charleston, S.C., May 28, 1917.

Copy to Keeper Hunting Island Light Station for his information, files and guidance. The Keeper's attention is also called to "Instructions to Employees paragraph 52." The Inspector may refuse permission to reside at stations to members of keeper's families who are contentious and cause trouble.

H. L. Beck

Lighthouse Inspector.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Inspector
Superintendent
Chief Clerk
Assistants
Engineer
Draftsman
Accounts
Watch and Clock
File

SIXTH DISTRICT
Hunting Island Light Station S C
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)
May 24 th, 1917

To
Light House Inspector
Charleston S.C.

Sir:

Your letter dated May 21st 1917. received and will state you, to the best of my ability the information which is required in regards to the enclosed bill which 1st asst. Keeper C. Malloy has without any knowledge of my personal knowing made and forwarded to you.

He presented me a bill similar account on April the 4th made out to my wife, this was done in revenge which had arosed on February 13th. Privioes to a trip to Beaufort. Father more Mrs. Malloy boarded with my wife six weeks before her marriage with the understanding that when she was settled with her newly married life that she would

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SIXTH DISTRICT
Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)

....., 191

make a settlement for her board nothing more was thought of either accounts, yet several times my wife mentioned this affair to Mrs. Malloy several months after she was married and received no satisfaction at all from her.

On April the 4th. when 1st. asst. Keeper Malloy presented the bill as I have stated my wife made out a bill amounting to $30. allowing $5 per week for her board, also requesting 1st. asst. Keeper Malloy to come over and have a personally settlement with the accounts this he absolutely refused to do.

I shall state truthfully I did not know nothing about this bill untill April the 4th. for it being made was done by 1st. asst. Keeper Malloy's own personal responsibility, I not giving permission for him to inform

SIXTH DISTRICT
Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)
....., 191

Beaufort merchants to give anything that was requested by my family and he would be responsible for same. (what his bill calls for was gotten by himself) This was done during my illness in Sept. and Oct. 1916. and I certainly could not have given no one the permission to make accounts for my family, even in a friendly way and afterwards they could hold me responsible for same.

If 1st ass't. Keeper Malloy had complied with our wishes as I have stated all could have been settled on both sides but of course the family feeling still exists and no understanding can be made.

As far as 1st ass't. Keeper stating that I refused to make any settlement this is false for I have never had any personal conversation with him in regards to this affair.

I do not refuse to have a settlement made in regards to both accounts, in order to a

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SIXTH DISTRICT

.....
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)

....., 191

further family trouble.
Respectfully
Lanz Trangott

Hunting Island
Lt. Station
May 18. 1917.

Light House Inspector
6th District Charleston S.C.

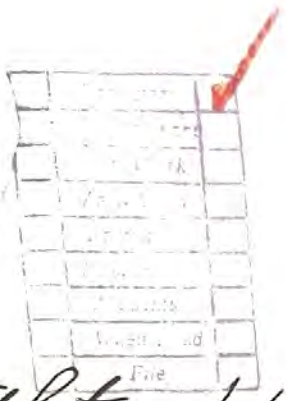
May 21, 1917.

HLB-CAR

Mr. F. Traugott,
Keeper Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S.C.

The inclosed letter from C. Malloy, 1st Assistant Keeper, is forwarded for your information and comment.
Return the letter and its inclosure with your reply.

H. L. BECK
Lighthouse Inspector.



Hunting Island
Lt. Station
May 18. 1917.

ight House Inspector
6 district Charleston S.C.

Sir I will Inclose Statement
showing the amount that
Keeper Traugott as been
Owing me Since Sept th 6. 1916.
I have sent the bill to him
and he dont want to pay it
so I will take it up with You
asking You Kindly to assist
me in collecting this acct
any thing You can do towards
helping me in this will
be thankfully appreciated
by me

Respectfully
C Mallory
1 asst Keeper

ash			
Bread	$	10	" 00
"		3	" 60
bottlene		2	" 60
Bacon		1	" 50
Sugar		1	" 00
bot		1	" 00
Eggs		2	" 50
check		1	" 47
feed		1	" 70
coffee			" 70
			" 35
		26	" 47

ask of you to try and make a seperation, as soon as possible, for the station s
if you see a benifit to any old invoices

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SIXTH DISTRICT
Sullivans Island Light Station, S. C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)
April 12th, 1917

To
Light House Inspector
Charleston S. C.

Sir:

All endeavors have been tried by me in order, that I would not be compelled to ask your assistance in gaining peace at this station, among the assistances and Keepers in family and private matters. This trouble has been here for the past few months, and makes it very disagreeable for our families to live together. I Kindly ask of you to try and make a seperation, as soon as possible, for the station sake, and if you see a benifit for my self in regards to my childrens schooling I am willing to be moved rather then live in such unpeace. Regretting to trouble you with such matters but I judge plainly this trouble will not end until your division has settled all.

Respectfully. Frank Sprague

HLB-CAR

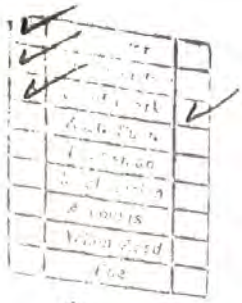
January 24, 1917.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Keeper Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S. C.

Your letter of January 16 in reply to my letter of January 12 has been received. No further action will be taken at this time in regard to the matter and the incident will be considered closed.

B E C K,

Inspector.



No 1.

315
Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

January 16th 1917

To
Light House Inspector
Charleston S. C.

Sir:

Regreting to be obliged to reply to your questions dated Jan. 12th 1917. of which I shall truthfully state are mostly false.

(Question 1.) On Dec. 30th 1916. I did write 2nd ast. Keeper Rees and informed him that it would be impossible for sta. Launch to be in Beaufort, according to Mr. Rees own private arrangements with me before leaving the station, that he would return before his leave was expired I expecting the oil supply, was in doubt wether the boat would make the trip to Beaufort before this, my reason of writing the letter.

" 2. In regard to Mr. Rees finding station Launch in Beaufort on Jan. 9th this is false for Launch did not leave sta. wharf until Wednesday Jan. 10

315
Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

at 2.30 am. arriving in Beaufort the same day at 1.30 P.M.

Ques. 3. On the morning of Jan 9th 1st asst. Keeper reported to me that he would like to go to Beaufort to resupply his groceries, as he had run out so we talked the matter over in regards to the oil supply, and decided that he would make the trip on Jan. 10th returning the next day Jan. 11th

I instructed him if 2nd asst. Keeper was in Beaufort to inform him that the boat was in Beaufort, and the time she would leave.

In regards to the bull, I had an opportunity to have help with the Killing of the beef and as the Launch was to make the trip. I admit I did send the beef along.

" 4. Yes 1st asst. Keeper did have full instruction from me to return the next day as soon as possible on account of the oil supply.

" 5 I beg to state that this is also false I. positively was not left alone on Tuesday night and Wednesday night, as you shall see that I.

No. 3.

Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

(Question No. 5 continued.) did watch only one night which was Jan. 10th.

I had partly decided to try and have the Launch in Beaufort but no definite time was given, for Mr. Rees did not notify me as to our private agreement. It was impossible for me to notify Mr. Rees of ex the launch expecting to be in Beaufort on Jan. 10th as our mail system does not allow a letter to reach Beaufort in such a short time You shall see in my foregoing statement that I positively did not perform watch two nights and I was not left alone I have improved physically so far that with aid I could easily perform one night watch now. Yes on Dec. 14th I discharged my helper.

Respectfully
Franz Traugott

HLB-CAR

January 12, 1917.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Keeper Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S.C.

I have received information to the following effect:

1 - On Dec.30,1916, you wrote to 2d Asst.Keeper Rees and told him that it would be impossible for the station launch to be in Beaufort to meet him when he returned from authorized leave of absence,which expired on January 10,1917.

2 - When Mr. Rees was in Beaufort on Jan.9th looking for a means of getting back to the station he found the station launch therein charge of the 1st Asst.Keeper.

3 - It is stated that you had killed a "bull" and sent the 1st Asst. Keeper to Beaufort with the beef to sell.

4 - The 1st Asst. had instructions from you it is presumed, or at least he stated that it was his intention to return to the station on Thursday morning Jan. 11, 1917.

5 - It thus appears that you were left alone at the station on Tuesday night, as well as on Wednesday night, if the launch did not return to the station until Thursday morning.

An explanation is desired from you in regard to the various points involved. In your reply state why you informed Mr. Rees that the launch could not meet him in Beaufort if it was your intention to send it there at about the time he was expected to return.

If, after advising Mr. Rees that it could not be sent to Beaufort you later decided to do so why did you not inform Mr. Rees by letter that he would find it there?

Why did you send the launch to Beaufort when doing so meant that you would be left without any assistants at the station for two nights when you are in not a proper condition to be left alone?

In this connection it is understood that you had previously discharged the man whom you had employed to assist you personally. Explain the reported killing and selling of beef.

Understand that charges of misconduct have not been preferred against you but also understand that the circumstances reported to this office demand a complete and satisfactory explanation without any evasion whatever.

A prompt reply is desired.

L. LeBLANC

Lighthouse Inspector.

Beaufort S C

Sir

Jany 10th 1917

To Inspector of Light house
Charleston. S.C. Sixth District

My wish to report to you that i got to Beaufar-
Tuesday night at 5.35 P.M all Stores was Closed
I could not get a few things that i needed to
Take with me to the Island it was rather late
When i got Ready to go i was about to Start to
The Island and walk it if i could not get a
Horse and buggy i heard a power boat
Working and it happen to be the Station named
1st Asst his wife and Keeper is wife was on the
Beaufort warf i reparet to 1st asst and ask him
When he was go back to the Station thursday
Morning if the weather is fine so Keeper can stay
All night by himself he Killed a bull and
Sent the 1st asst with the head to Beaufort to de
He said he cannot stay one night for to send the
Launch for the 2nd asst ones i enclase the letter
be forwarded to me to say he could not send the boat for me

Respectfully John Reed
2nd Asst Keeper

Thanking you

I did not get throug with my examinendian
I put my foot in it there was a few questions
I could not rember do i Copyed on some
Paper and i was copying it at the office
And i was quite eggnarent of the matter
I did not know it was against the rule
But it was it was som of the standings
I was copying one mistake in Compass
Work Inspector gave me another Chance to start
at the Compass work and go over it so i said
i would rather wait for some other time as my
Leave was up and had to report for duty
The next day i expect to go over them
Mistakes some other time

Respectfully

John Rees
2nd Asst Keeper

Frank Lange

Hunting Island. S C
Dec 30. 1916

Mr J Rees
Rei.

I find it impossible to Launch to be in Beaufort for you to return to the Ska on date you desire.

Do you place have ample time to arange for returning to the Ska some way, so you promised to return as soon as you could.

All provisions will have to be obtained after your return.

Resp.

Franz Traugott.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHT

HLB-CAR

Mr. C. Malloy,
1st Asst.Keeper,
Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S.C.

Sept. 25, 1916.

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of September 23 in regard to Keeper Traugott.

Advise this office of the name and address of the physician who is treating Mr. Traugott.

Inspector.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Inspector
Supt. of Dists.
Chief Clerk
Asst. Supt.
Engineman
Electrician
Accounts
Property Acct'd
File

LIGHT

L. H. SEP 25 19 S. C.

SIXTH DISTRICT
Hunting Island Light Station S. C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)

Sept 23, 1916

Light House inspector
6. district Charleston S. C.
Sir replying to your letter
dated Sept. 14. 1916
in the regards of Keeper
Trenholm condition the last I
have herd from him he dont
Seem to improve is left arm and
lage is Just the same as it was
the day I Taken him to Beaufort

Respectfully
C. Malloy
1 asst Keeper

APPOINTMENT FIXED DATE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

PF-CAR

January 3, 1916.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Keeper Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S. C.

Enclosed herewith is your appointment increasing your salary from January 1, 1916.

Also enclosed is Oath of Office which you will execute before a Notary Public having a seal and return to this office as early as practicable.

Inspector.

By direction of the Secretary.

Respectfully,

Appropriation:

Vice:

Legal Residence:

NERAL APPOINTMENT—FIXED DATE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

LIGHT
DEC 29 1915
HOUSES

December 24, 1915.

Mr. Franz Traugott,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office, and to actual entrance upon duty (unless on authorized leave) on the date indicated, ~~Keeper~~ in the ~~Lighthouse Service~~ at a salary of ~~Seven Hundred and Thirty-two~~ dollars per ~~annum~~, effective January 1, 1916.

(By increase in compensation from $720 per annum.)

Entered on duty Jany 1/16.
Oath taken Jany 10/16
Fwd. Jany 12/16

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS
Chief of Appointment Division.

R
M

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice:

Legal Residence: South Carolina.

11—1303

Commerce and Labor
Light-House Establishment

Office of Inspector 6th Dist.
Charleston, S. C.
May 2, 1911

37

EMPLOYEES OF LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE.

1. Name Tony Traugott

2. Are you an honorably discharged soldier or sailor, answer "Yes" or "No" No.

3. Do you draw a pension answer "Yes" or "No" No.

4. If so state amount per annum $

5. If you served in any other branch of the Government Service before appointment in Lighthouse Service give position and date explain fully in answer to other Government Service.

All appointed employees are directed to fill out the above questions and return this paper to the office by return mail.

H. A. Field
Commander U.S.N.
Inspector 6th L.H District

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Sixth DISTRICT.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES: Charleston, S.C., December 20, 191 5.
(City.) (Date.)

Action recommended, Appointment.

Name, Franz Traugott.

Position, Keeper. Legal residence, South Carolina.

Location, Hunting Island Light Station, S.C. Salary, $732.00, per annum/

Effective January 1, 1916. Appropriation, Sal.Kprs.of Lighthouses.

{*~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or
{as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, Same.

Location, Same. Former salary, $720.00, per annum.

Rank on eligible list, - Rating, - Percentage, - , Other eligibles considered:

Previous incumbent, himself.

Reason, See remarks. Services terminated, December 31, 1915.

Relatives in Government Service, None.

Remarks: In accordance with schedule of pay Bureau circular No.142,1915 and Bureau letter December 17, 1915. Nominee is deserving increase of salary authorized.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the
U. S. Civil Service Commission. , 191

....
Secretary, Civil Service District. H. L. BECK,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

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*Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—3814

HLB-CAR

December 21, 1915.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Keeper Hunting Island Light Station,
Frogmore, S. C.

The Department has approved a new schedule of pay of lighthouse keepers which was prepared by the Bureau of Lighthouses.

This new pay schedule will be effective January 1, 1916, and it will increase the pay of your position from $720.00, per annum to $732.00, per annum.

H. L. BECK,

Inspector.

Copy

OF TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

~~OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR,~~ ~~DISTRICT.~~

~~The Commissioner of Lighthouses.~~ Secretary of Commerce:

January 30, 1914. , 191

The following-named employee will be transferred as indicated, and will enter upon duty at his new station on or about February 15, 1914:

Name, Frank Traugott Position, Keeper

From Tybee Light Station, Ga., To Hunting Island L. S., ~~Ga.~~ SC

Previous incumbent, Frederick H. Bruggeman

Services terminated, February 14, 1914. Reason, Transfer.

~~Acting Commissioner.~~
Office Inspector, Sixth Lighthouse District.
Charleston, S. C. March 6, 1914. , 191

The above-referred-to transfer became effective beginning with March 1, 1914.

Inspector.

11—4598

McC.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

January 30, 1914.

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for his information.

(Signed)

~~Inclosure~~

Acting Commissioner.

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
Washington

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
FEB 3 1914
SIXTH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S.C.

January 30, 1914.

Subject: Franz Traugott, transfer.

Referred to Sixth Inspector, with the information that while Traugott's last appointment reads at a particular station, yet for the purpose of transfer he is considered in the Lighthouse Service at large, so that a new appointment need not be issued in this case. The Bureau has therefore prepared form 73a and submitted it to the Department, showing that Traugott will be transferred on or about February 15, 1914. Three copies of form 73a are attached hereto. When the transfer is actually made, fill in the effective date in the appropriate place, transmit two copies of the form to this office, and retain the other copy for the files of your office, in accordance with the instructions on the back of the form. See also Bureau circulars No. 185, of November 11, 1912, and No. 304, of June 28, 1913.

Acting Commissioner.

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES JAN 29 1914

AHT

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Sixth DISTRICT,

COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES: Charleston, (City.) South Carolina January 27, 1914. (Date.)

Action recommended, transfer and appointment.

Name, Franz Traugott

Position, Keeper — Legal residence, South Carolina

Location, Hunting Island Light Station, S.C. — Salary, $720.00 per annum.

Effective February 15, 1914 — Appropriation, Sal. Kprs. Lt. Houses.

Former position, Keeper — { this date, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Location, Tybee Light Station, Ga. — Former salary, $720.00 per annum.

Rank on eligible list, - - - Rating, - - - Percentage, - - - - ; Other eligibles considered:

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Previous incumbent, Frederick H. Bruggeman Services terminated, rec. February 14, 1914.

Reason, Transfer.

Relatives in Government Service, Not any.

Remarks: Quarters are provided by the Government.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission.

, 191

H. D. King

Secretary, Civil Service District

Inspector, 6th L.H. District.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

Tybee Light Station, Ft. Screven, Ga.

January 20, 1914.

To: :Lighthouse Inspector,

Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

Referring to conversation/~~with~~ which Mr. F. H. Bruggeman, Keeper Hunting Island Light Station had with you personally in regards to he and I transferring, I wish to state to you that it is my wish and is agreeable by me that this exchange be made, if possible, by February 15, 1914.

Hoping this transfer will me your approval.

Respectfully,

sgd Franz Traugott

(C O P Y)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND

OFFICE OF THE SECRETAR

WASHINGTON

DRAWING NO.
FILE NO.

Sir:

On September 19, 1911, the Depa
Traugott, Scudday W. Sullivan, and Reinha
first assistant keeper, and second assist
tively, of Tybee Light Station, Georgia.

On October 3, 1911, the Inspecto
house District requested that the date of
Traugott's, Sullivan's, and Heisser's appo
September 15, 1911, inasmuch as the Depart
positions and pay effective September 15,
now certifies on the oaths of office of th
entered on Duty on September 19, 1911.

It is therefore requested that t
formed why Messrs. Traugott, Sullivan, and
on duty until September 19, and that the I
to return their appointments in order that the proper date of
effect may be entered thereon.

Respectfully,

BEN J. CABLE

Acting Secretary.

The Commissioner of Lighthouses.

INDORSEMENT SLIP

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT
OFFICE OF ENGINEER, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

November 10, 1911., 19

2nd *Indorsement*

Respectfully returned to the Commissioner of Lighthouses with the statement that the within Keepers entered on duty September 15, 1911. Oathes of Office have been corrected accordingly.

Captain, U.S.N., Inspector
6th Lighthouse District.

Nov. 8, 1911.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
Bureau of Light-Houses
Washington.

Respectfully referred to the Inspector of the Sixth L. H. District for his information, proper action, and return wit a report.

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
Washington

Mr. Franz Traugott,

September 29, 1911.

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

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

Keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia,

in the Lighthouse Service,

at a salary of Seven Hundred and Twenty dollars per annum,

effective beginning September 15, 1911, on and after which date

you have continuously served in the above-mentioned position.

~~as you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.~~

(By change from Keeper of Tybee Light Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Georgia, at $60 per month.)

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

Le
D

(Signed) A. GORDON CUMMING

Acting Chief Clerk.

Appropriation: Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses,

Vice: New position,

Legal Residence: South Carolina.

11-3008

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

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

September 23, 1911.

PF-CAR

THREE inclosures.

Mr. Franz Traugott,

Keeper Tybee Light Station,

Fort Screven, Ga.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith are appointments for yourself and two (2) Assistants. These new appointments were necessary on account of Tybee Front Range having been placed under the care of another Keeper.

You and the two Assistants will please sign the enclosed oath of office before a Notary and return them to this office as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

H. A. FIELD,

Captain, U.S.N. Inspector 6th Lighthouse District.

H. A. Field,

Captain, U.S.N., Inspr. 6th L.H.Dist.

APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE
OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR,

6th DISTRICT.

Charleston, S.C., September 7, 191 1.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following recommendation is submitted:

Action proposed, Appointment

Name, Franz Traugott

Position, Keeper — Legal residence, South Carolina

Location, Tybee Light-Station, Georgia. — Salary, $720.00 per annum

Effective on the actual date of entrance on duty.

Former position, Keeper — Former salary, $720.00

Location, Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Ga.

Rank in list of eligibles, — Rating, — Percentage,

Other eligibles considered,

Letters of declination inclosed,

Previous incumbent, Himself — Services terminated, _____

Reason,

Remarks: (Change in designation.)

H. A. Field,

Captain, USN., Inspr. 6th Lt. Dist.

Department of Commerce and Labor
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved.

11—3814

64

718.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Office of the Secretary
Washington
October 11, 1909.

Gentlemen:

The Department approves the Board's recommendation of the 7th instant, that no further action be taken at the present time in the case of Franz Traugott, who was given 60 days to become efficient, it appearing the he has demonstrated himself to be a competent employee.

Respectfully,(Sgd.) Ormsby McHarg,Acting Secretary

The Light-House Board.

Department of Commerce and Labor N.

Light-House Board, Oct. 13, 1909.

Respectfully referred to the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District for his information, proper action, and return to this Office as soon as practicable.

By order of the Board:

(Sgd.) T. S. Clark, Clief Clerk.

F-Mc.

Office L.H.Inspector, 6th District,Charleston, S.C.,
October 16, 1909.

Respectfully returned to the Light-House Board.

Contents noted.

(Sgd.) J.H.Hetherington, Comdr.,USN.,Ret'd,
Inspr.,6th L.H.District.

APPOINTMENT—PRIOR DATE

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

718

715

195

Mr. Franz Treugott, of South Carolina, is hereby appointed August 18, 1908.

Keeper of Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Georgia,

in the Light-House Service,

at a salary of Sixty dollars per month;

this appointment to be effective beginning July 1, 1908, he having entered upon duty on that date and since continuously served in the above-mentioned position. (Succeeds himself.)

Payment of the compensation authorized in this appointment is subject to the oath of office being taken.

(By change in designation from Keeper of Tybee Light-Station, Georgia, at $720 per annum.)

(Signed) Herbert Knox Smith,
Acting Secretary.

Date of oath: ....., 190

The Light-House Board.

11—1774

C

D

Reprimand.

July 27, 1909.

Mr. Franz Traugott, Keeper,
Tybee Light-Station, Ga.,
Through the Inspector of
The 6th Light-House District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:

1. The Board states that your efficiency rating for 1909 is unsatisfactory. It seems that you are not giving an equivalent amount of work for the salary paid you. This condition will not be tolerated by the Board, and you are therefore given 60 days from August, 1, 1909 in which to demonstrate that you are such a competent employee as to warrant your retention in the Light-House Service.

2. If in that time it is found that you are still below a fair standard of efficiency, recommendation will be made to the Department that you be dismissed from the Light-House Service.

3. This letter of reprimand is written by direction of the Department, based upon the efficiency report submitted in your case by the Light-House Inspector.

Respectfully,

Lt.Col.,Corps of Engineers,U.S.A.,
Engineer Secretary.

30

TRANSFER OR PROMOTION OF KEEPER

ATJ.
File No. 718.
Two inclosures.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
Washington

24 July, 1907.

The Inspector, Sixth L. H. District,

Charleston, S. C.

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR JUL 26 1907 SIXTH DISTRICT CHARLESTON, S.C.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of 21 June, '07, the Board incloses herewith Department letter of 22 July, '07, transferring Mr. Franz Traugott, of South Carolina, to the position of Keeper of Tybee, Ga., Light-Station, to date from 1 Aug., '07, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty, with pay at the rate of $720 a year, in the place of Mr. Thorwald Danielsen, appointed Master in the Light-House Service.

Immediately upon the receipt of this notice, the Board requests that the new Keeper be directed to report in person at the Light-Station, that he may be installed, and he should enter at once upon his duties by giving to the retiring Keeper a detailed receipt, in duplicate, on Form 31, for all the public property at the station for which the Keeper is responsible. One copy of this receipt is to be retained by the Keeper and the other copy should be given to you by the retiring Keeper, to enable you to judge of the correctness of the return of property thus stated to be at the Light-Station.

This certificate will be your warrant for paying to the retiring Keeper any balance of salary that may be due; and until such certificate is presented or special authority is received from this Office, all balances of salary due the retiring Keeper will be withheld.

When Mr. Traugott has taken the prescribed oath the Board requests you to promptly forward it at once to this Office, and state when he entered on duty.

Respectfully,

C

O. B. Johnson

Chief Clerk.

JWB

718

...AL APPOINTMENT—WITHOUT FIXED DATE

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

718
29

Mr. Franz Traugott, of South Carolina, July 29, 1907.

is hereby appointed Keeper of Tybee Light-Station, Georgia, in the Light-House Service, with compensation at the rate of Seven Hundred and Twenty dollars per annum, effective beginning August 1, 1907, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty. (Vice Thorvald Danielsen)

Payment of the compensation authorized in this appointment is subject to the oath of office being taken.

(By transfer from Keeper of Hunting Island Light-Station, South Carolina, at $740 per annum.)

(Signed) Lawrence O. Murray,
Major, Corps of Engineers,
Assistant Secretary.

11—1871

The Light-House Board.

W

NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT.

Treasury Department,

OFFICE OF THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD,

Washington, D. C., 17 April, *1902.*

Capt. James C. Sanford, *U. S. A.,*

Engineer 6th *Light-House District,*

Charleston, S.C.

SIR:

The Board informs you that, by letter of 15 April, 1902 *the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury has* promoted and *appointed* Mr. Franz Traugott, *Keeper of* the Hunting Island, S.C. Light-Station, *at a salary of* $ 740. *per annum, in place of* Mr. Joseph Rantia, resigned.

Respectfully,

D W Lockwood

Major, Corps of Engineers, *U. S. A.,*

Engineer Secretary.

ure.

...TION OF KEEPER.

28

Treasury Department,

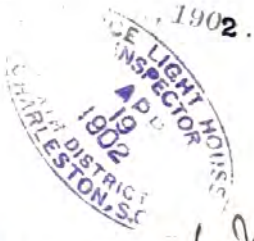
OFFICE OF THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD.

Washington, D. C., 17 April, 1902.

Commander Wells L.Field, U.S.N.,

Inspector 6th Light-House District,

Charleston, S.C.



Sir:

The Board incloses for delivery Department letter of 15 April, 1902, addressed to Mr. Franz Traugott, promoting and appointing him Keeper of the Hunting Island Light-Station, S.C. in the place of Mr.Joseph Rantia, resigned, to take effect on 16 April, 1902.

Immediately upon the receipt of this notice, please direct the new Keeper to report in person at the Light-station, that he may be installed, and he should enter at once upon his duties by giving to the retiring Keeper a detailed receipt, in duplicate (on Form 31), for all the public property at the station for which the Keeper may have been responsible. One copy of this receipt is to be retained by the Keeper and the other copy should be given to you by the retiring Keeper, to enable you to judge of the correctness of the return of property thus stated to be at the Light-station. This certificate will be your warrant for paying to the retiring Keeper any balance of salary that may be due; and until such certificate is presented or special authority is received from this Office, all balances of salary due the retiring Keeper will be withheld.

The Board requests you to forward as early as practicable the oath made necessary by this new appointment.

Respectfully.

W Maynard

Captain, U.S.N.,

Naval Secretary.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD,

Washington, 12 August, 1901.

...ld be addressed
...e Board. In writ-
...bject of this letter
...wing file number:

FILE No. 718.

393

One inclosure.

AUG 15 1901 DISTRICT CHARLESTON, S.C.

Commander John A. Rodgers, U. S. N.,
Inspector 6th L. H. District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:

Enclosed the Board sends you for delivery Department letter of 7 August, 1901, addressed to Mr. Franz Traugott, informing him that he is appointed temporary First Assistant Keeper of the Hunting Island Light-Station, S. C., from 17 January, to 29 January, 1901, with pay at the rate of $540 a year.

Respectfully,

Wm Kaulmann

Major, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.,
Engineer Secretary.

NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT

365 B.H.

One *Inclosure*

Treasury Department

OFFICE OF
THE U. S. LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

Washington, D. C., 31 January, 1901.

Commander J. A. Rodgers, *U. S. N.*

Inspector Sixth *L. H. District*

Charleston, S. C.

OFFICE LIGHT INSPECTOR FEB 2 1901 SIXTH DIST. CHARLESTON, S.C.

Encl.

Sir:

Inclosed is transmitted a letter from the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury to Mr. Franz Traugott, transferring, promoting and *appointing h*im — First Assistant — *Keeper of the Light-*Station *at* Hunting Island, S. C., *in place of* Mr. Joseph U. Smith, transferred, *which the Board requests you to have delivered as addressed*

This change of grade makes a new oath necessary.

Respectfully, yours

F. Lauder Pury

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval *Secretary*

(Letters should be addressed to "THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD.")

114 Ltr. S.

Treasury Department,
Office of the Light-House Board,
Washington, D. C., 18 Feb'y, 1899.

LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR FEB 1899 DISTRICT CHARLESTON

A.J.7

Commander C. H. Arnold, U. S. N.
Inspector 6th L.-H. District,
Charleston, South Carolina.

Sir:

Enclosed is sent you for delivery Department letter of 17 Feb'y, '99, addressed to Mr. Franz Traugott, informing him that, having served satisfactorily a probationary period of six months, he is absolutely appointed Second Assistant Keeper of the Charleston, South Carolina, Light-Station, to date from 22 Feb'y, '99, with pay at the rate of $450. a year.

Respectfully,

S. M. Ackley

Commander, U. S. N.

Naval Secretary.

R

234

ASSISTANT KEEPER.

1 Inclosure.

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR AUG 18 1898 SIXTH DISTRICT CHARLESTON, S.C.

Treasury Department,

OFFICE U. S. LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD,

Washington, D. C., 15 August, *1898.*

Commander C.H. Arnold, *U. S. N.,*

Inspector 6th *Light-House District,*

Charleston, S. C.

delivered Aug 22/98

$470.00

Sir:

Inclosed herewith is transmitted a letter, dated 11 August, *1898.*

from the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury to Mr. Franz Traugott, *appointing* him Second *Assistant Keeper of* Charleston Light Station, South Carolina. for a probationary period of six months from date of oath. *in the place of* Manuel Soria, transferred, *to take effect on*, *which please have delivered as addressed.*

The oath of office on Form 111 must be taken and subscribed to by the new Second *Assistant Keeper and forwarded to this Office at an early day.*

Respectfully yours,

L. M. Ackley

Commander, *U. S. N.,*

Naval *Secretary.*

May 11, 1911.

Franz Traugott

Lighthouses (6th Dist.)

$60.00 P.m.

Aug. 11, 1898

49

Keeper

Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon Lights, Ga.

Through Civil Service Examination

Classified Competitive

No

No

No None

Must be familiar with the workings of the apparatus in his charge. Responsible for the care and management of the light and all government property in his care. Required to enforce careful attention to duty by his assistants.

No

90	180
85	255
100	300
8	735
~~92~~	

91.875

#60. Fem

Aug. 11, 1898

Tybee Lt. Station, Ga.

Through Civil Service Examination

Classified Competitive

No.

No.

Name

a.c.

No

90	100
85	25
100	300

8) 725 (91 1/8

72

~~92.0%~~

91.875%

1. Bureau

3. Name Franz Trangott 4. Where born Germany

5. Age 47 6. Position Keeper Tybee Beacon and Tybee Lt. Sta. Ga.

7. Compensation $60.00 per mo. 8. When appointed (a) Aug. 11, 1898

9. How appointed (b) Through civil service examination

10. Appointed from — State S. C.; Congressional District 1st; County Charleston, S. C.

11. Status under Civil Service Rules (c) Classified Competitive

12. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No.

13. Other Government service None

14. Duties (describe fully) Must be familiar with the markings of the apparatus placed in his charge. Responsible for the management and care of the light and of the care of all government property in his care. Required to enforce careful attention to duty of his assistants.

15. Efficiency — Quantity of work (d) Good; Quality of work (e) average; Interest manifested in work (f) yes

16. Is this employee fully earning the salary he is now receiving? yes

17. Remarks (g) Warned May 17, 1909. Spare lantern, Closets and store room not in neat Condition.

COMD'R J. H. HETHERINGTON, U. S. N. RETIRED,

...MERCE AND LABOR:

...edge receipt of a copy of Department Circular No. 152, ... 1907, relating to political activity of officeholders, and fully ...nd its purport.

Franz Traugott
(Name.)
Light-Keeper
(Position.)
Light House Service
(Bureau, Office, or Service.)

I

July 13th 1907.

FORM OF U. S. LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR 8th District,

11—2861

Charleston, S. C., July 2, 1907.

Circular-To employees:
Sir: Fill in the answers to the following questions and return same immediately to this office with check receipts.
When answering question 1 if you have a middle name furnish it. Example: If your name is George Johnson Jones, give full name, do not write it G.J.Jones or George J.Jones.

1. Name Franz Joseph Traugott
2. State if single, or married, widower or divorced married
3. Birthplace, give State or country Germany
4. Number of years in service nine years on 2nd of August 1907
5. Age at last birthday 44 years
6. Color white
7. If war veteran state which war

Respectfully
Hugh Rodman, Lt. Comdr., U.S.N., Inspector.

Franz Traugatt born 9th day Sept - 1862

Franz Traugott

Franz Traugott

STATE FROM WHICH APPOINTED
S. C.

INACTIVE

STATUS

DESIGNATION	SALARY	OFFICE, BUREAU, OR DIVISION	DATE APPOINTED
Keeper, Hunting I. L. Sta., S. C.	$740 pa	Light-House	
Kpr Tybee, Ga.	720	"	Aug 1-07
Kpr, Tybee L.S. Tybee Beacon Lot, Ga	$60 pm	"	July 1, 1908
Keeper Tybee I.S. Ga	$720	"	Sept. 15, 1911.
" Hunting Isl. I.S. S.C.	720.	"	March 1. 1914
" " " " "	732.	"	Jan 1. 1916
" Increases "	960	"	Nov 4, 1916.
	Dismissed w.f. Nov 8, 1918.		

INACTIVE

11—1248

A&B.

(All communications should be addressed to "THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD.")

Treasury Department,

Office of the Light-House Board,

B.

Washington, D. C. August 3, 1898.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The Board has the honor to ask the appointment of Mr. Franz Traugott as Second Assistant Keeper at Charleston light-station, S.C., in the place of Mr. Manuel Soria, transferred, with salary at the rate of $450. a year.

Mr. Traugott has passed the required Civil Service examination and his name is on the eligible list for the Sixth Light-House District, forwarded on 30 July, '98, to the Civil Service Commission through the Department. The rating of Mr. Traugott was 95. in his examination.

Respectfully yours,

C. H. Ackley

Commander, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

Form No. 111.

OATH OF OFFICE.

Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes.

I, Frans Traupott of Charleston S. C. hereunto, do solemnly Swear 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.

Frans Traupott

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 22 day of August, A. D. 189[illegible]

J. A. Mingo

Notary Public S.C.

NAME OF OFFICE.	NAME OF STATION.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which appointed.
Second Asst. Keeper	Charleston Light House	Germany	South Carolina

This Oath should be taken before a Justice of the Peace, Notary Public, a Judge, or a Clerk of a Court, and never before a Collector of Customs, as the latter has no power to administer an oath in such cases. It should be taken at or before the time *when an employé goes on duty*, whether he holds an appointment or not. When attested it should be forwarded to the LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD.

[Ed. 2-19-'90—2,000.]

(*All communications should be addressed to "THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD."*)

Treasury Department,

B. **Office of the Light-House Board,**

Washington, D. C., January 24, 1899.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The Board has the honor to ask that Mr. Franz Traugott, Second Assistant Keeper Charleston light-station, S.C., be given a full appointment to date from 22 Feb'y '99, with pay at the rate of $450. a year.

The probationary appointment of Mr. Traugott will expire on 21 Feb'y '99, and the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District recommends that he be given a full appointment.

Respectfully yours,

J. W. Ackley

Commander, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

H.

(All communications should be addressed to "THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD.")

W

Treasury Department,

Office of the Light-House Board,

Washington, D. C., 16 Feb'y, '99.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The Board has the honor to ask that Mr. Franz Traugott be given a full appointment as Second Assistant Keeper of Charleston, S.C., Light-Station, to date from 22 Feb'y, '99, with pay at the rate of $450. a year.

The probationary appointment of Mr. Traugott will expire on 21 Feb'y, '99, and the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District recommends that he receive a full appointment.

Respectfully yours,

J. W. Ackley

Commander, U. S. N.

Naval Secretary.

H.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

All communications should be addressed to "The Light-House Board."

Washington, 25 Jan'y, 1901.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:

The Board has the honor to ask the transfer and promotion of Mr. Franz Traugott, from the position of Second Assistant Keeper at the Charleston, S.C., light-station, to that of First Assistant Keeper at the Hunting Island, S.C., light-station, with pay at the rate of $540 a year, in the place of Mr. Joseph U. Smith, who has been transferred and promoted.

Respectfully,

Francis Key
Captain, U.S.N.,
Naval Secretary.

D.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD,

Washington, 26 July, 1901.

Communications should be addressed to the Light-House Board. In writing upon the subject of this letter quote the following file number:

FILE No. 718.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The Board has the honor to refer to Department letter of 30 Jany., 1901, appointing Mr. Franz Traugott, First Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island, S. C., light-station, with pay at the rate of $540. a year.

It was found necessary to assign Mr. Traugott to duty on 17 Jany., 1901. The Board therefore begs to ask that the employment of Mr. Traugott be authorized from 17 to 29 Jany., 1901, inclusive, at the above named rate of pay.

Respectfully,

W. Maynard

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

W.M.G.

Ark Copy

Form No. 1053. APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY APPOINTMENT.

S

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
FILE NO. C 1003h
AND DATE OF THIS LETTER.
CERTIFICATION DIVISION.

Address: "CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, D. C."

United States
Civil Service Commission,
Washington, D. C.

August 3, 1901.

WRS

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:

Referring to your letter of July 30, 1901, you are advised that the Commission has approved, under section 13 of Rule VIII, the emergency appointment, for a period not exceeding thirty days, of Franz Traugott as First Assistant Keeper of the Hunting Island Light-Station, South Carolina, at $540 per annum, from Jan. 17, to Jan. 29, 1901, inclusive.

By direction of the Commission:

W. A. Rodenberg

Acting President.

D.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD,

Communications should be addressed to the Light-House Board. In writing upon the subject of this letter quote the following file number:

FILE NO. 718.

Washington, 27 March, 1902.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The Board has the honor to ask the promotion of Mr. Franz Traugott, from the position of First Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island, S. C., light-station, to that of Keeper at the same station, with pay at the rate of $740. a year, to date from 16 April, 1902, in the place of Mr. Joseph Rantia, resigned.

Respectfully,

W. Maynard
Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT.
Form 111.—Ed. 6 19 1901 1,500.

OATH OF OFFICE.

PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 1757, REVISED STATUTES.

I, Franz Spangott do solemnly swear 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.

Franz Spangott.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 1st day of May A. D. 1902

C. o. d. 16 Apr. 1902. J.

[signature]
Notary Public

NAME OF OFFICE.	NAME OF STATION.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which appointed.
Keeper	Hunting Island	Germany	South Carolina.

This Oath should be taken before a Justice of the Peace, Notary Public, a Judge, a Clerk of a Court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a Collector of Customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. *The oath should be taken on or after the date of the appointment.*

PERSONAL INFORMATION SHEET

NOTE.—This sheet is to be used only in cases of persons transferred to the Department of Commerce and Labor, by operation of law, July 1, 1903.

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

May 15, 1904.

To the Heads of Bureaus of the Department of Commerce and Labor:

For the purpose of enabling the Department to obtain a complete record of its officers and employees, you are hereby requested to furnish the information called for in Part II of this form, relative to each appointee or employee, now in the service, who was serving in your Bureau June 30, 1903, and was transferred to the Department of Commerce and Labor July 1, 1903, pursuant to the acts of Congress approved February 14, 1903, and March 3, 1903, and to have every such person answer each of the questions in Part I of this form and sign the same. Officers in charge, subordinate to heads of Bureaus, are expected to review this sheet, after it has been executed, to see that all questions have been answered, and, after doing so, to forward it immediately to the head of the Bureau for transmission to the Department.

Geo. B. Cortelyou

Secretary.

CARDED.

PART I.

(Blanks in Part I are to be filled by the appointee or employee; but if he is unable to write legibly, another person may write the answers at his dictation. In either case, the statement is to be signed by the appointee or employee. If he is unable to write, he may sign by mark in the presence of one witness. If he is unable to answer any question, he should indicate that fact.)

1. What is your full name? (Do not use initials, but spell out each name and state whether Mr., Miss, or Mrs. Example: Mr. John Richard Doe.) *Mr. Franz Traugott*

2. How do you write your name on the pay roll? *Franz Traugott*

3. What is your present legal (voting) residence? (Give city or town, State or Territory, county, and Congressional district.)

Beaufort (City or town.) *South Carolina* (State or Territory.) *Beaufort* (County.) *1 nd* (Congressional district.)

4. What is your race? (Answer "white," "colored," or "Mongolian.") *white*

5. Where were you born? *Lehe Provinz Hannover Germany*

6. When were you born? *September* (Month.) *2nd* (Day.) *1862* (Year.)

7. Are you pensioned by the United States Government? (Answer "Yes" or "No.") *no*

11—1433

8. Are there any members of your family, besides yourself, in the civil service of the United States Government? (If so, give below their names, relationship, the Departments and Bureaus or Services in which they are employed, and the positions they occupy.)

Name.	Relationship.	Department.	Bureau or Service.	Position.
	No			

9. How long were you in the civil service of the United States Government prior to July 1, 1903?

four years ten months seven days

10. If you were appointed through a civil service examination, state, as near as you recollect, the name and date of the examination. If not so appointed, state how you entered the service. (Examples: "Appointed before position was classified;" or, "By reinstatement;" or, "By transfer from ————," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position, and salary, if known.)

Through a civil service examination Aug. 11. 1898

11. Have you any physical disabilities? (If so, describe briefly. If you have defective eyesight, state whether corrected by glasses.)

Ruptured, three years ago

12. Were you in the military or naval service of the United States during the Civil or Spanish-American wars? (If so, give the information called for by the blanks below.)

Regiment and company, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
	No		

13. If you served in the military or naval service of the United States at any time, other than during the Civil and Spanish-American wars, indicate such service in the spaces below.

Regiment and company, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
	~		

14. What was your occupation prior to entering the United States civil service? (It is intended that the answer to this question shall state briefly the lines of work followed by you before receiving your present appointment, with the exception of your service for the Government indicated in your answers to questions 9, 12, and 13.)

Mason and Steward

15. What education have you received? (Indicate the grades of schools you have attended, and, in case you have attended schools of higher grade than high schools, give the institution, degrees received, and date in each case. Example: "Public school; high school; business college; Cornell University, A. B., 1900; Columbia University, LL. B., 1903.")

Public school

16. What special qualifications have you—professional, technical, mechanical, etc.? (Examples: Qualified as "Lawyer," or "Civil Engineer," or "Draftsman," or "Carpenter.")

Mason by the old standard

17. What, if any, civil service examinations have you passed? (State name and date of each, as near as you recollect.)

Passed civil service examination for 2nd Asst. Light-Keeper August the 11th, 1898.

18. Were the answers to the foregoing questions written by you? (If not, state the name and address of the person who wrote them for you.)

Yes

19. State the date upon which the above blanks were filled. May 29th, 1904

Witness:

(Signature) Franz Traugott

In case signature is by mark.

P. O. Address: Frogmore
City or town.
Beaufort County
Number and street.
South Carolina
State or Territory.

Reviewed, approved, and forwarded JUL 13 1904, 190

(Signature) A C Hodgson

(Official title) Cmd'r U. S. N. Light House Inspr. 6th. District.

PART II.

(Blanks in Part II are to be filled by the executive officers of the various Bureaus of the Department, or, at their direction, by some official who can give the information desired. If unable to answer any question, indicate that fact.)

1. State the Bureau or Service, place, and district in which the person who answered the above questions was employed July 1, 1903.

Light House Service, Hunting Island, S.C. Sixth
Bureau or Service. Place (city, town, or station). District.

2. What position did he hold July 1, 1903? Keeper

3. On what date was he appointed to this position? April 16, 1902 E.D.

4. How long had he served in the Bureau or Service in which he was employed July 1, 1903? Oath May 1, 1902
Four years, 10 months, 19 days

5. What was his salary July 1, 1903? $740. Per annum

6. From what appropriation was he paid July 1, 1903?
Salaries of Keepers

7. Was the position he held July 1, 1903, excepted, competitive, or unclassified under the civil service rules?
Competitive

11—1433

8. If the position was classified, state the date of classification. May 6, 1896

9. If the appointee or employee was appointed through examination, state the kind of examination. If not so appointed, state how he entered the position. (Examples: "Appointed before position was classified;" or, "By reinstatement;" or, "By transfer from ——— ———," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position, and salary, if known.)

Examination for asst. Keeper Light-House Service

10. Is the appointee or employee required to give bond? No.

(Signature) A C Hodgson

(Official title) Lieut. U. S. N. Light House Inspr. 6th. District.

JUL 13 1904

Date: ———————————, 190

11—1433

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

Washington

ATJ.

File No. 718.

25 June, 1907.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
JUN 27 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

4

The Honorable,

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:-

The Board has the honor to ask the transfer of Mr. Franz Traugott of South Carolina, from the position of Keeper of Hunting Island, S. C., Light-Station, with pay at the rate of $740 a year, to that of Keeper of Tybee, Ga., Light-Station, with pay at the rate of $720 a year, to date from 1 Aug. '07, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty, in the place of Mr. Thorwald Danielsen, whose transfer has been asked. The transfer has not been requested.

This transfer which carries with it a reduction in pay is asked at the request of Mr. Traugott.

Respectfully,

U Sebree

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

6-28-07

a Thorwald Danielsen, of S.C. has qualified for Master and has been probationally appointed as such, but I will not say that he is the same person as the one above mentioned.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
JUN 27 1907
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

WROTE BOARD
JUN 29 1907

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
APPOINTMENT WRITTEN
JUL 22 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

718

Washington

June 29, 1907.

Gentlemen:

Referring to the Board's request of the 25th instant for the transfer of Franz Traugott from the position of keeper of Hunting Island Light-Station, South Carolina, to that of keeper of Tybee Light-Station, Georgia, in the place of Thorwald Danielsen, the Department has to state that no request for the transfer of Mr. Danielsen has been received.

Yours very respectfully,

Assistant Secretary.

The Light-House Board.

June 29, 1907.

My dear Captain Sebree:

This is an official letter, but I am writing it so that it will be sure to go to your desk.

A letter signed by you, dated June 22, was received in the Division of Appointments on June 25, requesting authority for the probationary appointment of Mr. Charles B. Mellin, of California, to the position of mate in the Light-House Service, to date from June 10, 1907, the date of his entrance on duty.

The records of this office show that Mr. Mellin has been considered three times for permanent appointment, namely, for Light Vessel No. 70, for the MADRONO and for the ARMERIA. As you know, when an eligible is certified and considered three times his name is removed off the eligible list and he cannot be considered again unless he passes another examination and his name is restored to the register. The strange part of this whole affair is that not only is Mr. Mellin not eligible for even consideration for a probationary appointment, but in the teeth of that fact he is actually on duty and has been since June 10. The letter for your signature was evidently prepared by some one in your office who seemed to have no knowledge at all of the fact of the three previous considerations of Mr. Mellin's name and the consequent fact that he is off the rolls altogether.

Other instances in which inexcusable errors have been made may be readily cited. For example, on June 25 the Board addressed a letter to the Secretary, requesting the transfer of Franz Tragott to the position of keeper of Tybee, Georgia, Light Station "in the the place of Thorwald Danielsen, whose transfer has been asked". No request for the transfer of Mr. Danielsen has been received.

On June 26 the Board addressed another communication to the Department, recommending the transfer and promotion of Adam Schlamp to the position of painter under the direction of the engineer of the third light-house district in the place of Patrick D. Kinney, absent on account of ill health. It does not appear from the records of the Appointment Division, or from the Board's statement, that the position to which it is proposed to transfer Mr. Schlamp is vacant.

On June 27 the Board requested the appointment of Mrs. Susan Bennetts as acting second assistant keeper of Portage Lake Ship Canals, Michigan, Light Station, to date from June 19, the date of her entrance on duty, in the place of Richard L. Kowalke, resigned. The records kept here show that Mr. Kowalke did not resign until June 30.

On June 27 the Board also requested the probationary appointment of Frank Weller, of California, to the position of third as-

of the inspector of the twelfth light-house district, forwarded by the Board on October 18, places the St George Light Station in class IV. If the inspector of the twelfth light-house district rated Mr. Weller to conform to the requirements of paragraph 2, Rule V, of the present Civil-Service Regulations Governing the Light-House Service, he should forward the revised classification of lights provided in that paragraph and rule.

I have to request that you immediately put in charge of this work in your Bureau some one who will be able to conduct the appointment affairs of the Light-House Establishment in such manner that a large percentage of the work will not have to be done over again in the Department and a constant watch kept for such blunders as these. I beg to state further that if the Board will send over a recommendation for the dismissal, or at least the reduction in pay, of the clerk or clerks responsible for such blunders as these, the recommendation will be promptly acted on.

May I ask you to please give this matter your immediate personal attention.

Yours very respectfully,

Assistant Secretary.

Captain Uriel Sebree,
Naval Secretary, the Light-House Board,
Department of Commerce and Labor.

GENERAL APPOINTMENT—WITHOUT FIXED DATE

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

719

July 22 1907.

Mr. Franz Trangoli, of South Carolina., is hereby appointed

Keeper of Tybee Light-Station, Georgia,

in the Light-House Service,

with compensation at the rate of Seven Hundred and Twenty

dollars per annum, effective beginning August 1, 1907,

or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty. (Vice Thorvald Danielsen)

Payment of the compensation authorized in this appointment is

subject to the oath of office being taken.

(By transfer from Keeper of Hunting Island Light-Station, South Carolina,

at $740 per annum.)

CARDED

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
REPORTED
JUL 24 1907
TO DISBURSING OFFICER
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Lawrence O. Murray
Assistant Secretary.

11-1871

The Light-House Board.

CHANGE REPORTED
AUG - 1907
U. S. COMMISSION.

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 1757, REVISED STATUTES)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
AUG 17 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

I, Franz Traugott do solemnly Swear 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.**

Franz Traugott

Light House Board,
Entered upon duty.
Date 1 Aug. '07

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 10 day of August, A. D. 1907

J B Johnson
Chief Clerk.

[a] Name: J B Johnson

{Affix official seal.}

[c] Official title: Notary Public

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
AUG 16 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

NAME OF OFFICE.	NAME OF STATION.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which appointed.
Light-House Keeper	Tybee, Ga.	Germany	South Carolina

[a] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.
[b] Insert here "Sworn to" or "Affirmed," as the case may be.
[c] This Oath should be taken before a Justice of the Peace, Notary Public, Judge, Clerk of a Court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a Collector of Customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. *The oath should be taken on or after the date of the appointment.*

In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

11—944

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
AUG 17 1907
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Form 73 ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEE

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

718

THE CHIEF CLERK RECEIVED AUG 13 1908 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Office of the Inspector, 6th L. H. Dist.,

Charleston, S.C.,

The Light-House Board,

July 29, 1908. (Date)

Washington, D. C.

Sirs: I have the honor to recommend the (1) change in designation (Probationary appointment, transfer, promotion, etc.)

of (2) Mr. Franz Traugott to Exc of (3) South Carolina (State of legal residence)
(Name of person—letter for letter—as reported to Board)

from (4) Keeper
(Official title of present position, as Keeper, First Assistant Keeper, etc.)

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED AUG 13 1908 DEPT OF COMMERCE & LABOR

at (5) Tybee Light-Station, Ga.,
(Official name of aid, as given in Light List, as Absecon Light-Station, N. J.)

at (6) $720.00 per an. (Salary now paid) to (7) Keeper (Official title of position, as Keeper, First Assistant Keeper, etc.)

at (8) Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon, Ga., Light, at
(Official name of aid, as given in Light List, as Absecon Light-Station, N. J.)

(9) $60.00 per mo. (Salary recommended) effective beginning (10) July 1, 1908, (the date of his entrance on duty) ~~(or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty)~~
(Strike out the clause not appropriate)

in the place of (11) himself is recommended for change in desig-
(State name of last person holding position)

who (12) nation, on (13) June 30, 1908.
(Died, transferred, resigned, dismissed, etc.) (Last day of service)

Mr. (14) ------- stands No. (15) --- in list of eligibles,
Class (16) ---, with an average of (17) --- per cent, and
was considered with (18) -------
(19) letters of declination of ------- herewith.

This amount of pay is the same as that recommended by the report of the Committee on Equalization of Pay, approved June 25, 1908. The salary is arranged on a monthly basis in accordance with that report and the designation of the keeper is changed to include an additional light.

Respectfully,

Chas. H. Rockwell

Comdr, U.S.N., Inspr. 6th L.H.Dist.

8-13-08

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

August 12, 1908.

Approved, and respectfully forwarded to the Honorable the Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

INDEXED.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK FORWARDED AUG 13 1908 TO APPOINTMENTS DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS APPOINTMENT WRITTEN AUG 18 1908 DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

J. M. Helm

Captain, U. S. N.

Naval Secretary.

11—2314

GENERAL APPOINTMENT—PRIOR DATE

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

718

August 18, 1908.

Mr. Frank Traugott, of South Carolina, is hereby appointed Keeper of Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Georgia, in the Light-House Service, at a salary of Sixty dollars per month, this appointment to be effective beginning July 1, 1908, he having entered upon duty on that date and since continuously served in the above-mentioned position. (Succeeds himself.)

Payment of the compensation authorized in this appointment is subject to the oath of office being taken.

(By change in designation from Keeper of Tybee Light-Station, Georgia, at $720 per annum.)

REPORTED AUG 19 1908 TO DISBURSING CLERK DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Acting Secretary.

Date of oath: ....., 190

The Light-House Board.

CHANGE REPORTED AUG 1908 C. G. ADOPTED

Enclosures.

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
RECEIVED
SEP 1 1908

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 1757, REVISED STATUTES)

Department of Commerce and Labor

No. 718

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

I, Franz Traugott

do solemnly[a] swear 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.

Franz Traugott

[b] Sworn and subscribed before me, this 24 day of August, A. D. 1908

(Affix official seal here.)

[c](Name:) J. P. Johnson

(Official title:) Notary Public

OFFICIAL TITLE.	NAME OF STATION.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which appointed.
Keeper $60 mo.	Tybee Lt. Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Ga.	Germany	S.C.

OFFICE OF THE Inspector, 6th LIGHT-HOUSE DISTRICT,

Charleston, S.C. (Address.), August 27, 1908. (Date.)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on July 1st 1908. (Date.)

(Signed:) Jno. Pr Rodman

Commander U.S.N.,
Inspector 6th L.H.District.

[a] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[b] Insert here "Sworn to" or "Affirmed," as the case may be.

[c] This Oath should be taken before a Justice of the Peace, Notary Public, Judge, Clerk of a Court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a Collector of Customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

REGARDED

NOTE CAREFULLY.

The oath may be executed at any time subsequent to the actual issuance of the appointment certificate, but no compensation should be paid until the oath is executed in proper form. Whenever possible the oath should be executed upon the date of actual entrance upon duty.

A letter of transmittal (use Form 95) should accompany Oath, stating the **exact** date of the entrance on duty of the ... and the above blank also filled out and ... signed by the district officer.

(CROSS REFERENCE - - E F F I C I E N C Y)

At a conference it was decided to take the action outlined in the following cases:

EDWARD B. MAGWOOD, Give him 60 days in which to improve. If he fails to improve, dismiss him on charges.
VICTOR R. THELNING, Same as MAGWOOD.
FRANZ TRAUGOTT, Same as MAGWOOD.
FREDERICK SHRIVER, SAme as MAGWOOD.
SAMUEL JONES, File charges with view of dismissal.
JACK FLANNIGAN, Give him 30 days in which to improve. If he fails to improve, dismiss him on charges.
FENWICK D. RUTH, Give him 60 days in which to improve. If he fails to improve, dismiss him on charges.
JOSEPH W. SPRINKLE, Same as Ruth.
WILLIAM EGLY, File charges with view to dismissal.

FILE WITH

SEE MEMO DATED JULY 13, 1909, IN FILE OF

MISC. 271/4.
Also see Dept. letter of July 8, 1909, in same file.

BTD
718



Reprimand. July 27, 1909.

Mr. Franz Traugott, Keeper,
Tybee Light-Station, Ga.,
Through the Inspector of
The 6th Light-House District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:

1. The Board states that your efficiency rating for 1909 is unsatisfactory. It seems that you are not giving an equivalent amount of work for the salary paid you. This condition will not be tolerated by the Board, and you are therefore given 60 days from August, 1, 1909 in which to demonstrate that you are such a competent employee as to warrant your retention in the Light-House Service.

2. If in that time it is found that you are still below a fair standard of efficiency, recommendation will be made to the Department that you be dismissed from the Light-House Service.

3. This letter of reprimand is written by direction of the Department, based upon the efficiency report submitted in your case by the Light-House Inspector.

Respectfully,

✓ Lt.Col.,Corps of Engineers,U.S.A.,

B

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
Washington

ATJ.
718.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
OCT 9 1909
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

October 7, 1909.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
OCT 9 1909
12.45
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND L. BUR.

Franz Traugott,
efficiency.

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:

Referring to the memorandum for the Light-House Board, dated July 13, 1909, indicating the action to be taken in the cases of certain persons in the Light-House Service, beginning with the name of George W. Halliday, whose efficiency records are not up to the required standard, the Board has the honor to state that it is informed by the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District that Franz Traugott, keeper of Tybee Light-Station, and Tybee Beacon Light, Ga., has demonstrated that he is a competent employe, and his retention in the Light-House Service is respectfully recommended.

2. In view of the Inspector's statement, the Board recommends that no further action be taken in this case at the present time.

Respectfully,

N. Niles

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
OCT 9 1909
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Light Board

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

718

October 11, 1909.

Gentlemen:

The Department approves the Board's recommendation of the 7th instant, that no further action be taken at the present time in the case of Franz Traugott, who was given 60 days to become efficient, it appearing that he has demonstrated himself to be a competent employee.

Respectfully,

Acting Secretary.

The Light-House Board.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUN 7 1909
NO.

EFFICIENCY REPORT

(Read the instructions on the reverse side of this Form before attempting to fill it out.)

1. Bureau Light-House Inspector, 6th Dist. 2. Where employed Tybee, Ga.
3. Name Franz Traugott 4. Where born Germany.
5. Age ~~47~~ 46 6. Position Kpr. Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Ga.
7. Compensation $60.00 p.m. 8. When appointed (*a*) August 11, 1898.
9. How appointed (*b*) Through Civil Service Examination.
10. Appointed from — State South Carolina. Congressional District 1st County Charleston.
11. Status under Civil Service Rules (*c*) Classified Competitive.
12. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No.
13. Other Government service None
14. Duties (describe fully) Must be familiar with the workings of the apparatus placed in his charge, responsible for the management and care of the lights and of all the government property in his care. Required to enforce careful attention to duty of his assistants.
15. Efficiency — Quantity of work (*d*) 9/10 Quality of work (*e*) Average. Interest manifested in work (*f*) Yes
16. Is this employee fully earning the salary he is now receiving? Yes
17. Remarks (*g*) Warned May 17, 1909, spare lantern, closets and store room not in neat condition.

O. R.

CARD C.

Form 73 **ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE**

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, 6th DISTRICT.

Charleston, S.C., September 7 , 1911.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:,

The following recommendation is submitted:

Action proposed, Appointment

Name, Franz Traugott Ef 91.8 Legal residence, South Carolina

Position, Keeper Salary, $720.00 per annum

Location, Tybee Light-Station, Georgia.

Effective on the actual date of entrance on duty.

Former position, Keeper $ 60. p.m. Former salary, $720.00

Location, Tybee Light-Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Ga.

Rank in list of eligibles, Rating, Percentage,

Other eligibles considered,

Letters of declination inclosed,

Previous incumbent, Himself Services terminated, -------

Reason,

Remarks: (Change in designation.)

Appropriation, Salaries of keepers of lighthouses.

N. Heald.

Captain, USN., Inspr., 6th LH. Dist.

Department of Commerce and Labor

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

H B

SEPTEMBER 9, 1911.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved.

This recommendation is made in view of the fact that Tybee Beacon Light will be moved and the name changed, and the light placed in charge of another keeper. It is further recommended that the new position to which Mr. Traugott's appointment is recommended be authorized.

9-12-11

C Vrooman

ACTING COMMISSIONER.

11—2314

WROTE BUREAU

BL of Sept. 14, 1911 gives reasons why the pay of the Keeper and Asst. Keepers of Tybee L. Sta. should not be changed, notwithstanding the fact that the care of 1 light was taken from their charge. See file of

MISC. 646.

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
Washington

September 19, 1911.

Mr. Frank Tracy,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

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

Keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia.

in the Lighthouse Service,

at a salary of Seven Hundred and Twenty dollars per annum,

effective beginning September 19, 1911, or as soon thereafter as you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

(By change from Keeper of Tybee Light Station and Tybee Beacon Light, Georgia, at $60 per month.)

CHANGE REPORTED
SEP -- 1911
C. S. COMMISSION.

* 10/6/11 Changed

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

CARDED.

Acting Chief Clerk.

Appropriation: Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses,
Vice: New position,

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
REPORTED
SEP 20 1911

READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 3

37

Department of Commerce and Labor

EFFICIENCY REPORT

May 11, 1911.

(The parenthetical letters refer to instructions on page 3, which instructions should be read and understood before attempting to fill out the form.)

1. Name Franz Traugott 2. Age 49 (Last birthday.)

3. Bureau Lighthouses (6th Dist.) 4. Position Keeper Tybee Light-Station and Tybee

5. Compensation $60.00 p.m. 6. Where employed Beacon Lights, Ga.

7. When appointed (a) Aug. 11, 1898 8. How appointed (b) Through Civil Service Examination

9. Status under Civil Service Rules (c) Classified Competitive

10. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No

11. Does the employee receive a pension? No If so, state the amount

12. Other Government service None

13. Duties (describe fully) Must be familiar with the workings of the apparatus in his charge. Responsible for the care and management of the light and all government property in his care. Required to enforce careful attention to duty by his assistants.

14. Has the employee special qualifications? No If so, state them

15. Efficiency (d):

	Averages.	Relative weights.	Products of averages multiplied by weights.
Quantity of work	90	2	180
Quality of work	85	3	255
Interest manifested in work (see also Question 17)	100	3	300
Attendance		2	
Total		8/10	735
Average percentage			91.875

RECEIVED JUN 1 1911 DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

11—4259

16. In the following form state the number of days of annual leave, sick leave, and leave without pay taken in each of the years 1908, 1909, and 1910:

1908.			1909.			1910.		
Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.	Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.	Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.

17. Is this employee a purely routine employee, or does he manifest interest, not only in his own work but also in the work of the office or bureau as a whole, to the extent of overtime work or voluntary efforts by suggestion or otherwise to add to its efficiency? (Answer fully.) Performs the duties required.

18. On the basis of efficiency alone, is this employee overpaid or underpaid as compared with others in your office engaged on the same grade of work, or is his salary a fair equivalent for the service rendered? (Answer fully.) Salary is a fair equivalent for service rendered. If the present salary is above or below a fair equivalent, state what, in your opinion, it should be.

19. Is this employee superannuated? No If so, what percentage of salary is unearned?

20. Remarks: (e)

The official who is primarily responsible for the statements herein submitted will sign here—

A. Field.

Comd'r U. S. N. Light House Inspr. 6th. District.

The official who approves the statements thus submitted will sign here—

T. B. Putnam

Chief of Bureau or Office.

T.B.C.

11—4259

INDORSEMENT SLIP

Department of Commerce and Labor

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

H B

Washington

OCTOBER 5, 1911

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
RECEIVED
OCT 6- 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

First Indorsement.

Sixth Lighthouse Inspector's letter of October 3, 1911, recommending change in effective date of appointments of keepers at Tybee Light Station.

Respectfully submitted to the Secre-

tary of Commerce and Labor, recommended for approval.

G T Putnam

Commissioner.

WB

OCT 6 1911

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT



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

PF-CAR

October 3, 1911.

Tybee Light Station, Ga.
appointment of Keepers, returned.

The Commissioner of Lighthouses,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to letter from this office September 27, 1911, returning appointments of Keepers of Tybee Range Front Light, Oyster Beds Range, Ga., and Jones Island Range Light Station, S. C., with recommendation that the dates effective be changed to September 15, 1911, the date Tybee Range Front Light was placed in charge of these Keepers, returned herewith are appoitments in duplicate of Keepers of Tybee Light Station for correction.

It is respectfully stated that it would seem that the dates the appointments of Keepers of Tybee Station should be corrected to read September 15, 1911. In letter from this office of September 7, 1911, forwarding nominations, it was stated that Tybee Front Light would be lighted September 15, 1911, and Department letter of September 15, 1911, authorized change in title and change in pay effective September 15, 1911.

When nominations were submitted September 7, 1911, the

October 6, 1911.

Sir:

The Department has amended its orders of the 19th ultimo appointing Messrs. Prince Traugott, Scudday W. Sullivan and Reinhard Beisner as keeper, first assistant keeper and second assistant keeper, respectively, of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, so that the date of effect is September 15, 1911, instead of September 19, 1911.

Returned herewith are the notices of appointment issued to Messrs. Traugott, Sullivan and Beisner on the 19th ultimo.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

CARDED.

Acting Chief Clerk.

The Commissioner of Lighthouses.

CHANGE REPORTED
SEP - - 1911
U. S. COMMISSION

REPT. THE SECRETARY
RECEIVED
OCT 9 - 1911

subject to taking the oath of office,

dollars per annum,

on and after which date

you have continuously served in the above-mentioned position.

CARDE

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

November 7, 1911.

Sir

On September 19, 1911, the Department appointed Frank Traugott, Benida, W., Sullivan, and Reinhard Heisser, keeper, first assistant keeper, and second assistant keeper, respectively, of Tybee Light Station, Georgia.

On October 3, 1911, the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District requested that the date of effect of Messrs. Traugott's, Sullivan's, and Heisser's appointments be made September 15, 1911, inasmuch as the Department authorized the positions and pay effective September 15, 1911. The Inspector now certifies on the oaths of office of those persons that they entered on duty on September 19, 1911.

It is therefore requested that the Department be informed why Messrs. Traugott, Sullivan, and Heisser did not enter on duty until September 19, and that the Inspector be directed to return their appointments in order that the proper date of effect may be entered thereon.

Respectfully,

Acting Secretary

The Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Inclosure No. 1264.

INDORSEMENT SLIP

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT
OFFICE OF ENGINEER, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES NOV 13 1911 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

November 10, 1911., 19

2nd Indorsement

Respectfully returned to the Commissioner of Lighthouses with the statement that the within Keepers entered on duty September 15, 1911. Oathes of Office have been corrected accordingly.

OFFICE OF THE ... FORWARDED ... NOV ... 191 ... APPOINTMENT

H. L. Reed.

Captain, U.S.N., Inspector
6th Lighthouse District.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Bureau of Light-Houses
Washington
NOV 13 1911
Respectfully submitted to the Honorable the Secretary of Commerce and Labor for his information.

C. M. Meriwether
Acting Commissioner

CARDED.

of Commerce and Labor
CE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES NOV 8 1911 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK NOV 8 1911 DEPARTMENT RECEIVED NOV 8 1911

November 7, 1911.

911, the Department appointed Franz
llivan, and Reinhard Heisser, keeper,
and second assistant keeper, respec-
Station, Georgia.
, the Inspector of the Sixth Light-
d that the date of effect of Messrs.
and Heisser's appointments be made
smuch as the Department authorized
ffective September 15, 1911. The In-
n the oaths of office of those per-
on duty on September 19, 1911.
quested that the Department be in-
gott, Sullivan, and Heisser did not
tember 19, and that the Inspector
heir appointments in order that the
ay be entered thereon.

Respectfully,

H. Taylor
Acting Secretary.

NOV 8 - 1911
Department of Commerce and Labor
Bureau of Light-Houses
Washington
Respectfully referred to the Inspector of the Sixth Light-

nf Commerce and Labor
DE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
NOV 8 1911
RECEIVED
1911

November 7, 1911.

Sir:

On September 19, 1911, the Department appointed Franz Traugott, Scudday W. Sullivan, and Reinhard Heisser, keeper, first assistant keeper, and second assistant keeper, respectively, of Tybee Light Station, Georgia.

On October 3, 1911, the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District requested that the date of effect of Messrs. Traugott's, Sullivan's, and Heisser's appointments be made September 15, 1911, inasmuch as the Department authorized the positions and pay effective September 15, 1911. The Inspector now certifies on the oaths of office of those persons that they entered on duty on September 19, 1911.

It is therefore requested that the Department be informed why Messrs. Traugott, Sullivan, and Heisser did not enter on duty until September 19, and that the Inspector be directed to return their appointments in order that the proper date of effect may be entered thereon.

Respectfully,

per

Acting Secretary.

NOV 8 - 1911
Department of Commerce and Labor
Bureau of Light-Houses
Washington

Respectfully referred to the Inspector of the Sixth Light-

CARDED.

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

I, Franz Traugott

do solemnly[1] swear (See below.) 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.

Franz Traugott
(Appointee signs here.)

[2] Sworn to (See below.) and subscribed before me, this[3] 25th day of September, A. D. 191/

(Affix Official seal here.)

[4](Name) J. J. Johnson

(Official title) Notary Public

OFFICIAL TITLE.	RATE OF PAY.	NAME OF STATION, VESSEL, OR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT.
Keeper Lighthouse Service	$720.00 p.a.	Tybee Light-Station, Ga.

(The above should be filled in by the district officer before sending to appointee.)

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, 6th DISTRICT

Charleston, S. C., October 12, 1911.
(Address.) (Date.)

CARDED.

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on September 15, 1911.

W. Sheild.

Captain, U. S. N., Inspector 6th Lighthouse District.

[1] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.

[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

Failure to fill out this oath properly will result in its return for correction.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS

LIGHT
JAN 29 1914
HOUSES

OFFICE LIGHT
INSPECTION
JAN
2
1914
CHARLESTON

Tybee Light Station
Fort Screven Ga.
January 20th 1914

To

Light House Inspector
Charleston S.C.

Sir:

Refering to conversation which Mr F. H. Ruggeman Keeper Hunting Island Light Station had with you personally in regards to he and I transfering. I wish to state to you that it is my wish, and is agreeable by me. that this exchange be made, if possible by February 15th 1914.

Hoping this transfer will meet your approval.

Respectfully
Franz Traugott.

Form 73a

REPORT OF TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

~~OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR,~~ ~~DISTRICT.~~ 5

CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE FEB 2 1914

January 30, 1914. , 191

Secretary of Commerce:
~~THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:~~ 6th Dist.

APPOINTMENTS FEB 3 1914 3.37

The following-named employee will be transferred as indicated, and will report upon duty at his new station on or about February 15, 1914:

Name, Franz Traugott Position, Keeper $720.

From Tybee Light Station, Ga., To Hunting Island L. S., S.C.

Previous incumbent, Frederick H. Bruggeman

Services terminated, February 14, 1914. Reason, Transfer.

ACCOUNTANT DIVISION RECEIVED FEB 3 1914 TO DISBURSING CLERK

~~Acting Commissioner.~~

, 191

The above-referred-to transfer became effective beginning with .....

.....

Inspector.

CARDED.

11—4598

McC.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

2-3-14

January 30, 1914.

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for his information.

Acting Commissioner.

Copy.

Form 73a

REPORT OF TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, DISTRICT.

January 30, 1914.

Secretary of Commerce:
THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following-named employee will be transferred as indicated, and will enter upon duty at his new station on or about February 15, 1914:

Name, Franz Traugott Position, Keeper 720

From Tybee Light Station, Ga., To Hunting Island, L.S. S.C. 11-8

Previous incumbent, Frederick H. Bruggeman

Services terminated, February 14, 1914. Reason, Transfer.

Report date effect

Acting Commissioner.

Office Inspector, Sixth Lighthouse District.
Charleston, S. C. March 6, 1914. , 191

The above-referred-to transfer became effective beginning with March 1, 1914.

King

Inspector.

11—4598

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

MAR 9 1914

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for his information.

3-11-14

Bureau

Form 73



NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE



OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Sixth DISTRICT,

Charleston, S.C., December 20, 1915.
(City.) (Date.)



THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

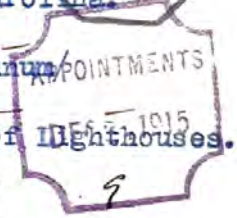
Action recommended, Appointment.

Name, Franz Traugott.

Legal residence, South Carolina.

Position, Keeper.

Salary, $732.00, per annum.



Location, Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.

Appropriation, Sal. Kprs. of Lighthouses.

Effective January 1, 1916. { ~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, Same.

Former salary, $720.00, per annum.

Location, Same.

Rank on eligible list, - Rating, - Percentage, - , Other eligibles considered:

Previous incumbent, himself. Services terminated, December 31, 1915.

Reason, See remarks. (Increase auth. D.L. 12/16/15)

Relatives in Government Service, None.

Remarks: In accordance with schedule of pay Bureau circular No.142,1915 and Bureau letter December 17, 1915. Nominee is deserving increase of salary authorized.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. , 191

.....
Secretary, Civil Service District.

H. L. Beck
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

12/24/15 MMcf

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON
DEC 23 1915

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

Secretary.

GENERAL APPOINTMENT—FIXED DATE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

December 24, 1915.

Mr. Franz Traugott,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office, and to actual entrance upon duty (unless on authorized leave) on the date indicated, ~~Keeper~~

in the ~~Lighthouse Service~~

at a salary of ~~Seven Hundred and Thirty-two~~ dollars per ~~annum~~,

effective January 1, 1916.

(By increase in compensation from $720 per annum.)

CARDED

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED DEC 27 1915 JOURNAL

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

R
M

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice:

Legal Residence: South Carolina.

CHANGE REPORTED JAN 1916 U. S. COMMISSIONER

11—1303

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT JAN 14 1916 HOUSES

CHIEF CLERK JAN 18 1916

APPOINTMENTS JAN 18 1916 2

I, Franz Traugott.

do solemnly [1] swear (See below) 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.

Franz Traugott

(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this [3] 10th day of January, A. D. 1916

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) W. E. Schuper

(Official title) Notary Public

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
Present Keeper.	$732.00, p.a.	Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.
Former [5] Same.	$720.00, p.a.	Same.

(The above should be filled in by the district officer before sending to appointee)

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, Sixth District

CARDED.

Charleston, S.C., (Address) January 12, 1916. (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on January 1, 1916. (Date)

W. L. Beck

(Signature, followed by title)

Inspector, 6th L.H. District.

[1] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.

[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

[5] Give this information in all cases where new oath is required.

Failure to fill out this oath properly will result in its return for correction.

11—944

JEH.
Inclosures.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

May 11, 1917.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION NECESSARY ACTION TAKEN MAY 14 1917 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

CHIEF CLERK MAY 11 1917 5

Secretary of Commerce:

There is inclosed copy of letter of May 3, 1917, received from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, relative to the keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, together with copy of report of May 7, of the 6th Inspector, and copy of inclosure thereto.

MAY 11 1917

The Bureau recommends that no further action be taken at this time in the case of the keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, as well as in the case of the keeper of Cape Romain Light Station, the latter case being referred to in paragraph 7 of the Inspector's report of May 7.

SECRETARY MAY 12 1917

MAY 16 1917

It is also recommended that the 6th Inspector be advised that previous instructions, which are contained in Department letter of April 20, 1917, to transfer Frederick H. Bruggeman, keeper of Tybee Light Station, Ga., are canceled, subject however to further request in this matter being made by the Commanding Officer of Coast Defenses, Fort Screven, Ga., and that in these and similar cases the Inspector is to keep the Bureau advised in case future ground for suspicion arises.

G. R. Putnam

May 12, 1917.

APPROVED:

William C. Redfield

C/
L

Secretary.

F. C. 2.
5
9 [illegible]

COPY- JEH.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
WASHINGTON.

May 3, 1917.

George R. Putnam, Esq.,
Commissioner, Bureau of Lighthouses,
Department of Commerce,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Quoted below for your general information and such action as you deem appropriate, is an extract from report of Arthur E. Gregory, Department Agent, located at Savannah, Georgia, covering an interview with Capt. Charles B. Elliot and Lieut. Geo. B. Elliot, at Beaufort, S. C.

"At Beaufort, South Carolina.

Capt. Chas. B. Elliot and Lieut. George B. Elliot were very strong in their opinion that one Traufert a full blooded German and Senior Keeper of the lighthouse on Hunting Island, should be removed and transferred from his present position. They both stated that they knew of nothing which could be brought against this man, but that before the war, he was very much pro-german in his expressions, and that on account of his position, he would be able to do a great deal of harm if he so desired.

"They also stated that the Care-Taker of Senator Don Cameron's estate was a full blooded German and a great friend of Traufert's and that they believed that he should also be removed. There was nothing they could bring against him either, but that on account of his close proximity to the lighthouse and the large estate he had under his control on the Island, that their field for doing harm if they so desired, was unlimited."

Very truly yours,

(Signed). A. B. Bielaski.
Chief.

COPY.

COPY-CAR

JEH.
Inclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON May 4, 1917.

LIGHT MAY 10 1917 HOUSES

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L.~~

Subject:- Letter, May 3, Bureau Investigation, Dept. of Justice, relative to keeper Hunting Island Lt.Sta.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston, S. C., for investigation, report and recommendation, and for action if necessary. Return the attached letter to the Bureau with your report.

Confidential
Determined to be an
Administrative Marking
Not National Security Information
By [illegible] NARA Date 08/28/2035

(Signed).
Acting Commissioner

HLB-CAR

Office of the Inspector, 6th District,
Charleston, S.C., May 7, 1917.

1. Returned together with letter of May 3, 1917, from the Department of Justice to the Commissioner.
2. Charges of disloyalty against Keeper Traugott (not Traufert) had been previously made to me personally by the 2d Assistant Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station when in Charleston recently on leave of absence.
3. Hunting Island Light Station was inspected on April 23, 1917. Assistant Superintendent Dillon who made the inspection had instructions to make an investigation of the Keeper's alleged disloyalty.
4. Assistant Superintendent Dillon's report to me is enclosed herewith. It will be noted that Mr. Dillon does not consider that the charges of disloyalty were proved. I concur in his opinion.
5. In connection with this case attention is called to the fact that when charges of disloyalty were prefereed against Keeper Bruggeman at Tybee Light Station I proposed to the Bureau that Bruggeman be transferred to Hunting Island Light Station.
6. In view of the charges against the present Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station it appears that the transfer of a keeper under suspicion from one station to another will be of no avail. Doubtless there will be someone to question his loyalty no matter where he may be sent.
7. The loyalty of another keeper of German birth has also been questioned. I refer to August F. Wichmann, Keeper of Cape Romain Light Station. Investigation in his case clearly establishes the fact that he was pro-German in sympathies before a state of war was declared. Since that time he was not known to have given any indication of disloyalty. Two men whom I questioned did not believe that he would be loyal if put to a test but admitted that this was only a matter of belief.
8. I am now of the opinion that transferring keepers whose loyalty has been questioned would be of no solution of the problem. It seems to me that in sich cases as we have in this district, where no specific charge can be proved, the disposition to be made of the employees should be determined by the general policy of the Government which latter should be decided by the heads of the departments after careful deliberatuon.. In this connection it would be pertinent to inquire what the War Department is doing with its own employees of German birth.
9. If it be conceded that transfers will not solve the problem it would appear to be necessary to follow one of theffollowing courses:
(a) Take no action against the employee unless he can be proved to be disloyal.

(b) Suspend him indefinitely on suspicion of disloyalty.
(c) Discharge him from the Service on suspicion of disloyalty.

10. In the case of Traugott I cannot recommend his transfer to Hilton Head as suggested by Assistant Superintendent Dillon in his report for two reasons, first, whilst it would solve the trouble amongst the keepers at Hunting Island it is not believed that a keeper in Traugott's physical condition should be sent to a one keeper station (he has only partially recovered from a stroke of paralysis) and second, charges of disloyalty would still stand against him and if disloyal he could probably do as much harm in one place as at another.

11. I have to recommend that Keeper Traugott be not transferred but that the course of procedure be one of those mentioned in paragraph 9 above, the Department to direct the action to be taken after having promulgated its general policy in such cases.

H. L. Beck

Lighthouse Inspector.

COPY- JEH.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Office of Inspector, 6th District,
Charleston, S. C.

April 25, 1917.

The Lighthouse Inspector:-

In compliance with your instructions I proceeded to Hunting Island Light Station April 23, 1917, to investigate the cause of inharmony at the station and the allegations of disloyalty to the Government made by the 1st and 2nd Assistant Keepers against the Keeper:

Each Keeper was questioned carefully in regard to the above matters and the following deductions are drawn from the statements.

1. The Keeper's wife is undoubtedly the most disturbing element at the station. She has an unbridled tongue and an ungovernable temper and to a great extent rules the actions of the Keeper against his own better judgment.

2. All the trouble is private family trouble accentuated to a degree bordering on violence.

3. There is no evidence to show that any of the Keepers are neglectful of their routine duties.

4. The Assistant Keeper in my presence confirmed and affirmed threats against the Keeper when he shall have met him off the reservation.

5. The 1st Assistant Keeper admitted receiving an official communication which he refused to show to the Keeper.

6. Neither the 1st Assistant Keeper nor 2nd Assistant Keeper asserted that the Keeper had made any remarks or indicated in his actions that the Keeper was disloyal to the Government since the entrance of the U. S. Government into war with Germany. Previous to the election of President Wilson the Keeper was charged with having said that there were 30,000 Germans in America who would defeat him in the election. About two years ago the Keeper was charged with having cursed President Wilson for allowing the United States to supply the allies. The Keeper denies these two latter charges.

7. There is some evidence from the actions of the two Assistant Keepers of a conspiracy to undermine the Keeper's position.

My impression of the whole trouble is that the allegations of disloyalty on the part of the two assistants are so flimsy that there is nothing to them. That the Keeper is in great bodily fear of the 1st Assistant there is no doubt and on account of his enfeebled physical condition he has a right to immediate consideration. However, the Keeper is responsible for the conduct of his wife. No matter to which station she is sent she will stir up strife as she has always done in the past. Mr. Traugott ought to be retired on account of disability. There being no provision for this the only solution I can suggest is that he be required to transfer with Mr. Sisson at Hilton Head Light Station.

(Signed). F. P. Dillon.
Assistant Superintendent.

May 14, 1917.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Receipt is acknowledged of the Bureau's letter of the 11th instant, and enclosures, relative to letter of May 3, 1917, received from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, regarding Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina.

Upon consideration of the correspondence, the Department has approved the Bureau's recommendation that no further action be taken at this time in the case of the keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, or in the case of August F. Wichmann, keeper of Cape Romain Light Station, South Carolina, referred to in the Sixth Inspector's report of May 7, 1917. Authority has been granted, as recommended, to advise the Inspector that previous instructions to transfer Frederick H. Bruggeman, keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, have been canceled, subject however to further request being made by the Commanding Officer of Coast Defenses, Fort Screven, Georgia; also that the Inspector be directed to keep the Bureau advised in these and similar cases should the conduct of the employees be open to suspicion.

By direction of the Secretary:

(SIGNED) GEO. C. HAVENNER

C-L

USE TYPEWRITER—SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK.

UNITED STATES
BUREAU OF EFFICIENCY.
FORM 8.

PF-JFS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
8—4789-2

MAKE NO ENTRIES IN THIS COLUMN.

LIGHT
SEP 28 1916
HOUSES

RECORD OF CIVIL EMPLOYEE.

JULY 1, 1916.

1. Name: (Surname first. Given name in full. For women write Miss or Mrs. before given name.)

Trougott, Franz

2. Department:

Commerce

3. Bureau, office, or service:

Lighthouse Service, 6th District.

4. Designation of position:

Keeper in the Lighthouse Service.

5. Occupation (if not clearly shown by answer to question 4):

Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

6. Annual earnings:

$720.00

7. Kind of appropriation:

LS

8. Present rate of pay:

$ 726.00

9. Initial rate of pay:

$ 450.00

10. Total length of service (give the total of ALL U. S. GOVT. SERVICE with the exceptions stated on the back of this card)—

Substitute— Years:	Months:	Regular— Years:	Months:
		17	10

11. State, Territory, or foreign country of birth (do not give town):

Germany.

12. Race:

W

13. Sex:

M

14. Date of birth—

Month: September

Year: 1862

15. Kinds of schools attended, years attended, and degrees taken:

E6 H3

16. Marital condition:

M

17. War veteran?

No.

18. Appointed from—

Congressional district and State: 2 South Carolina

County: Beaufort

19. Civil service status:

C

20. Method by which classified status was obtained:

BEO

21. Place of employment—

City: Hunting Island Lt.Sta.

State: South Carolina.

DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD.

11—5869

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN SALARY
KEEPERS -- LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

November 13, 1918.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
M

Sir: Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

You are advised that your salary as keeper in the Lighthouse Service has been changed from $732 per annum to $960 per annum, effective November 1, 1918. (The above rate of pay includes longevity pay of $60.)

No new appointment will be issued to you as a result of this change, and an oath of office is not required.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(Signed) Clifford Ramsdell
Chief of Appointment Division.

CARDED

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
NOV 16 1918

R
Ho

OR BASIS OF THIS ACTION SEE
LETTER DATED 10/17/18
INITIALS OF 10957C

McC.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

5.

Nov—

October 2, 1918

NOV 4 1918

LIGHT NOV 11 1918 HOUSES

Subject: Letter, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, Franz Traugott, keeper, Hunting Island L.S., alleged German activities.

Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C.

It appears that the evidence herewith is of a character that warrants immediate suspension of Traugott, and preferment of charges with a view to dismissal, and the Superintendent should take this action unless there are strong reasons for some other course. Advise Bureau promptly.

NOV 11 1918 9 00 AM

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comr.
Commr.

Dept a. J. Putnam CHIEF CLERK

Dept a. J. Putnam Nov 12

PF-JFS

Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses,
Charleston, S. C., Nov. 9, 1918. 1918 NOV 14 PM 4 32

Returned to the Commissioner of Lighthouses with statement that Mr. Franz Traugott, Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C., was suspended from duty effective November 8th.

Enclosed herewith is copy of letter delivered to Mr. Traugott by the Master of Tender Arbutus on November 8th suspending him from duty. 1918 NOV 14 PM 4 26

The letter preferring charges against Mr. Traugott was also delivered at the same time. He was given six days after receipt of letter to make reply.

As soon as his reply is received the papers will be forwarded with recommendation.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Gregg

1st Asst. Superintendent.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION NOV 16 1918 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Lighthouses NOV 14 1918

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce recommended for approval.

1918 NOV 14 PM 3 03

Commissioner.

Mc Kel

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

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT NOV 11 1918 HOUSES

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 4th DISTRICT

~~Office of Inspector, 4th District~~
CHARLESTON, S. C.

FF-JFS

Nov. 5, 1918.

Franz Traugott,
Kpr. Hunting Island Light Station,
(To be delivered by Master of Tender ARBUTUS.)

Sir:-

You are hereby suspended from duty effective upon receipt of this letter, for period not to exceed 90 days, pending decision on charges preferred against you for disloyalty to the Government of the United States. This suspension shall be with lawful pay and allowances if you are exonerated of the charges, of if the same are not found sufficiently substantiated to justify suspension without pay, and shall be without pay and allowances if they are sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action.

Copy of charges preferred against you is enclosed herewith. Acknowledge receipt of this letter immediately.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. GREGG
1st Asst. Superintendent of Lighthouses.

November 15, 1918.

...missioner of Lighthouses:

The Department hereby approves the action taken by the Acting Superintendent of the Sixth Lighthouse District in suspending from duty Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, effective November 8, 1918, and to continue for a period not to exceed ninety days, pending disposition of charges preferred against him for disloyalty to the Government of the United States.

(SIGNED) WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary.

Ho/R

...ENT DIVISION (E&F)
NOV 15 1918
...OF COMMERCE

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES NOV 16 1918

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6th DISTRICT

~~Office of Inspector, 6th District~~
CHARLESTON, S. C.

PF-JFS

APPOINTMENTS

Nov. 14, 1918.

SUBJECT: Charges Franz Traugott,
Kpr. Hunting Island Lt. Station.

1918 NOV 19 PM 3 27

5

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

CHIEF CLERK 1918

Referring to Bureau telegram of November 14th, enclosed herewith is original letter known to be in the handwriting of Franz Traugott, Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station. Also enclosed is original receipt signed in the presence of Capt. Brooks of the Lighthouse Tender Arbutus, signed by Mr. Traugott, acknowledging receipt of letter of suspension and letter preferring charges against him.

1918 NOV 19 PM 1 30

Mr. Traugott suffered a stroke of paralysis in September 1916, and since that date some of the letters etc., received from him have not been actually written by him.

It was noted by this office that his letter answering charges was not in his own handwriting.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Grigg

APPOINTMENT DIVISION NOV 21 1918 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

HMC-AA

1st Asst. Superintendent.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.
November 18, 1918.

1. Submitted to Secretary of Commerce recommending that Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C., at $732 per annum be dismissed from the Lighthouse Service for disloyalty, effective at the close of November 8, 1918, the date on which he was suspended from duty.

11/19/18 ap16

2. The 6th Superintendent will be instructed to submit statement whether Traugott had taken leave in excess of the accrued rate.

Retain as part of charges

3. It is requested that the inclosed letter dated October 30, 1918, and accompanying papers from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, be returned to the Bureau when their services shall have been served.

DISMISSAL approved to take effect at the close of November 8, 1918.

1918 NOV 20 PM 5

1918 NOV 19 AM 11 34

Hoover

Secretary.

1918 NOV 19

Acting Commissioner.

LIGHT
NOV 16 1918
HOUSES

November 8 1918.

Received of R. B. Brooks, Master of the U.S.Lighthouse Tender ARBUTUS:

Two letters from the Superintendent of Lighthouses, dated November 5,1918; One suspending me from duty as Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S.C., and the other preferring charges against me.

Frank Fraser

Keeper Hunting Island Light Station.

Our Official Letter
Delivered by Master Arbutus:
D. F. Jennette
1st asst Keeper.
Hunting Island Light Sta
11/05. 7/18.

Delivered 9.30 A.M.
by Capt Brooks

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

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES
NOV 14 1918

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6th DISTRICT

PF-JFS

~~Office of Inspector, 6th District~~

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Nov. 12, 1918.

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

SUBJECT: Suspension and charges against Franz Traugott, Keeper Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

REFERENCES: Bureau letter of November 2nd forwarding report from Department of Justice and endorsement thereon from this office of November 9th, forwarding copy of letter of suspension.

Forwarded herewith in duplicate are charges preferred against Franz Traugott, Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C., for disloyalty to the Government of the United States, dated November 5, 1918, and his answer thereto dated November 9, 1918.

Keeper Traugott was suspended from duty November 8, 1918, for period not to exceed 90 days pending decision of charges preferred against him. Copy of letter of suspension was forwarded the Bureau November 9,1918.

The papers in this case are forwarded the Bureau without recommendation for the following reason:

The report made by the Agent of the Department of Justice was received in this office during the absence of the Superintendent, and he has not yet had an opportunity to state his views on this matter. It is expected that the Superintendent will return to this office about the 20th of the month, and if final action is to be deferred until his return for his recommendation, it is requested that this office be so advised, and his recommendation will be made on his return to this office.

In connection with Mr. Traugott's case Bureau attention is respectfully invited to previous confidential communication from the Department of Justice forwarded by Bureau endorsement of May 4th and reply of this office of May 7th, 1917.

Papers from the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, forwarded with Bureau endorsement of November 2nd are returned herewith.

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Grigg

1st Asst. Superintendent.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SIXTH DISTRICT

Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

(Depot, Vessel, or Station)

Nov 9th, 1918

LIGHT HOUSES NOV 14 1918

Superintendent of Light-houses
Charleston
S C

Sir:-

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 5th. instant. which was received on the 8th., informing me of my suspension from the service for a period not to exceed 90 days pending decision on charges prefered against me for disloyalty to the U.S. Government.

Replying to the charges, I most respectfully state that I most positively deny every one of them and respectfully ask that I be given the privilege of facing my accusers, which I think is but just and fair to me and also my family.

As to the charges prefered

against me by Rees, I positively state that they are false, as I have never had a conversation with him concerning the war or the President or the Kaiser. Rees and I have not been on friendly terms, certainly not sufficiently so for me to hold such a conversation with him. Furthermore he was transfered from Hunting Island as mate on the lightship so his stay under me was not so long and I feel well satisfyed that charge is simply brought against me for malice.

I also positively deny that I had any such conversation with Mallory. He and I have always disagreed of and on and never did get along together after he married into this Liter families over

SIXTH DISTRICT
Morris Island Light Station, S. C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)

....., 191

relationship became more strained and we had nothing to do with each other only in the line of duty and under such conditions I certainly would not have any such conversation with him as he claims.

I allowed Mr Janette to read his charges and after reading it over said that he did not have such a conversation with Special Employee Boyne at any time, and authorize me to deny every word of it. This I will and must also deny even if I were not authorized by him to do so. for he and I have never had such a conversation together.

I did have a conversation with the person representing himself as Special Employee Boyne and during the conversation we did

speak of the war. He was very talkative and in the conversation among other things he said that President Wilson wants to get the Kaiser out and I said it would be better for Germany to be ruled by a President. We did not have very much to say as our conversation was short and I did not have the time to spend with him on that subject. I deny that I made the statements which he accredits to me and I ask that I be confronted with him and the others, so that I can have the full opportunity of vindicating myself for the benefit of my family of little ones.

Therefore I trust one can easily judge that the charges made against me by Rice and

SIXTH DISTRICT
Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.
(Depot, Vessel, or Station)

....., 191

Mallory were simply from the malice which they heed towards me.

Respectfully
Franz Traugott

P. S.

Kindly address any information tending to my person to Beaufort S-C

I don't think this is in Traugotts own hand writing, as signature on Receipt given to Master of Arbutus Engg

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
NOV 14 1918
HOUSES

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

PF-EMK

November 5, 1918.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
Kpr.Hunting Isld.Light Station.

You are charged with disloyalty to the Government of the United States, and you are given six days after the receipt of this letter in which to make a written reply, and show cause why you should not be dismissed from the United States Lighthouse Service.

The charges against you are based upon the investigation and report made by the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, October 17,1918-October 25,1918:

The following statements are quoted from the report made by the Department of Justice and you are required to answer each statement quoted below:

(1) Statement of John Rees, formerly 2d Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.-

"Rees further informed this office in his letter that TRAUGOTT had made the statement that the Kaiser was at the head of all the world and there was no greater country in this world than Germany. REES further stated that TRAUGOTT cursed the President and made remarks, saying the President Wilson was not fit to rule anybody" - - - -

(2) Statement of Clarence Malloy, formerly 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.-

"MALLOY stated that TRAUGOTT was continually cursing the President and making remarks that he was no good, and if he did not look out there were four Million Germans in the United States who would cause him trouble."

(3) Statement of Devaney F. Jennette, now 1st Assistant Keeper at Hunting Island Light Station, S.C.- interviewed by Special Employe Bonyne:

"He stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year, and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against the Government. Mr. JENNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JENNETTE also had heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and an outrage for this country to send negroes to France to fight against white people." - - - -

(4) Statement of Special Employe Bonyne:

"Special Employee Bonyne, after this information had been learned from JEANNETTE, interviewed TRAUGOTT under cover, TRAUGOTT believing that Special Employee Bonyne was simply there as the Captain of the Naval Patrol Boat and making the usual rounds of inspection, Special Employee Bonyne in questioning TRAUGOTT first, questioned as to whether he was a Swede, TRAUGOTT denied this, stating to Special Employee Bonyne that he was a German. Special Employee Bonyne at this point began speaking German with him, and in a short time had gained the confidence of TRAUGOTT, and TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that the "Bald-Headed son-of-a-bitch, President Wilson, did not know how to run this country, and he had no brains, and it took a brainy man like the Kaiser, Wilhelm, to run this country and hold the respect of the people. TRAUGOTT further stated that Wilson and the American people were damn fools if they thought they were going to dethrone the Kaiser, that it was impossible to do this, and that further, the German people would stick together and finally win this war. TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that he and all Germans were going back to Germany as soon as this war was over and help re-establish the German population and commerce.

"TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne, in discussing the submarine policies of the German Government, that he thought the Germans had a right to sink any ships they say fit to sink, that they were fighting a civilized war and not fighting any inhuman war like the Allies were fighting, and that further, he thought it was a disgrace for this country to send negro troops to France to fight against white people. TRAUGOTT also stated to Special Employee Bonyne that this country had no business getting into this war, that it was only a bunch of grafters out of Wall street who started this war.

"TRAUGOTT further stated that the German people were going to stick together and that once a German always a German, and that it would be impossible to break down their Morale."

For and in the absence of the Superintendent of Lighthouses.

T. H. Gregg,

ADDRESS REPLY TO
CHIEF, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
AND REFER TO INITIALS.

HBL.

Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation,

Washington.

HBL:RT

NOV 4 1918

LIGHT
NOV 14 1918
HOUSES

10/2/18 ackgd

October 30th, 1918.

George R. Putnam, Esquire,

Chief of Lighthouse Service,

Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:-

For your information and such action as you see fit to take, I am sending to you a report from our Agent at Savannah, Georgia, dated October 17, 1918, concerning one Franz Traugott, alleged German activities, formerly reported Fraugott.

Yours very truly,

Chief.

REPORT FORM NO. 1

REPORT MADE BY:	PLACE WHERE MADE:	DATE WHEN MADE:	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:
Ronald E. Jackson.	Savannah, Ga.	10/25/1918.	10/17/1918.

TITLE OF CASE AND OFFENSE CHARGED OR NATURE OF MATTER UNDER INVESTIGATION:

In re: FRANZ TRAUGOTT: Alleged German Activities:

Formerly reported: FRANZ FRAUGOTT.

9

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS, EVIDENCE COLLECTED, NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED, PLACES VISITED, ETC.:

At SAVANNAH, Enroute for Hunting Island,

and at HUNTING ISLAND.

RECEIVED OCT 28 1918 Bureau of Investigation

Referring to Agent' report of the 2nd inst., 1918, on the above entitled matter, and purusant to instructions of Agent in Charge Wright, Agent accompanied by Special Employee Bonyne, left this day on the Naval Reserve Patrol Boat for the purpose of proceeding to Hunting Island, in order to make an investigation of the alleged German activities of FRANZ TRAUGOTT, the light house keeper at the Hunting Island Light Station.

It may be remembered that this matter was reported to this office February 10th, 1918, at which time Special Employee Bonyne succeeded in gaining information from one JOHN REES, the former assistant Light-house keeper at Hunting Island, which information was never acted upon at this time, the information having been misplaced in these offices and later found by Agent in Charge Wright.

A letter was written to JOHN REES, who is now living at Southport, N. C., asking for any information he might have, and some time later an answer was received to the letter written by Agent in Charge Wright, from REES, stating that he had destroyed the Log-Book he had kept while at the Hunting Light-house, which Log-Book contained all the Pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT during the time REES was stationed at this Light-house, but, however, REES informed this office that TRAUGOTT had made many Pro-German remarks and had almost gotten into trouble with him (REES) because REES would not side with the Kaiser. REES further informed this office in his letter that TRAUGOTT had made the statement that the Kaiser was at the head of all the world and there was no greater country in this world than Germany. REES further stated that TRAUGOTT cursed the

who was formerly first-assistant Litht-House keeper at Hunting Island, as being a man who could furnish information as to certain disloyal remarks made by TRAUGOTT.

A letter was written to CLARENCE MALLOY at Hillsboro,-Light Station, DEERFIELD, Fla., inquiring as to any information he might have concerning the remarks made by TRAUGOTT, and later an answer was received, in which MALLOY stated that TRAUGOTT was continually cursing the President and making remarks that he was no good, and if he did not look out there were Four Million Germans in the United States who would cause him trouble.

A full report of the investigation made by Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, is being submitted in this day's report, although the investigation consisted of three days time.

Upon arriving at Hunting Island, which Island is situated on the coast of South Carolina, between Port Royal Sound and St. Helena Sound, in a very isolated section of the country, there being no residence anywhere in this neighborhood. Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, proceeded some five miles up a creek to the Hunting Island Light. This light is situated in the center of Hunting Island, and is one of the largest in this section, it being a revolving light of 64.000.00 candle-power, and having a reading distance of some Eighteen miles.

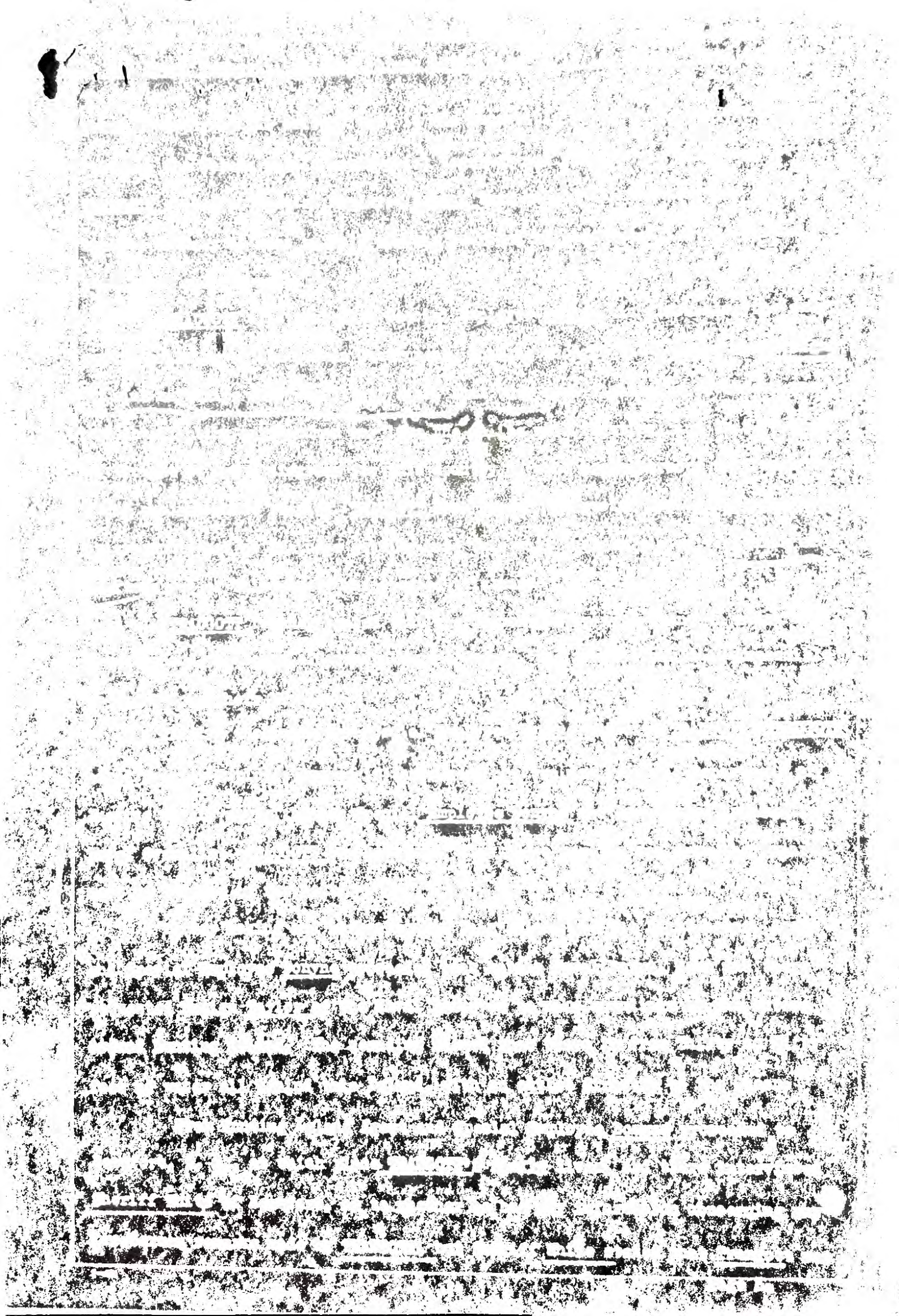
Upon arriving at the Hunting Island Light-House, Agent and Special Employee Bonyne, first interviewed confidentially, Mr. JEANNETTE, the assistant keeper at this light, and upon making our business known to Mr. JEANNETTE, he stated that he had been stationed at Hunting Island for the past year , and had been associated with TRAUGOTT all this time, and that during his association with TRAUGOTT, he had heard him many times curse President Wilson and make pro-German remarks against this Government. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that TRAUGOTT had recently made the remark to him that President Wilson was a thief and was not fit to rule in this country, and that further, the Kaiser was a great man and treated the German people better than Wilson treated the Americans. JEANNETTE also has heard TRAUGOTT make the remark that it was a shame and

an outrage for this country to send negroes to France to fight against white people.

In interviewing Mr. JEANNETTE, Agent learned that there consisted two watches during the night at the light-house, one watch running from sun-down to midnight and the second watch running to dawn, and that these watches were alternated between himself and TRAUGOTT, one night TRAUGOTT taking the first watch and the next night he taking the first watch. Mr. JEANNETTE further stated that it was very easy for anyone to change the time of this revolving light, which is set now to revolve every thirty seconds, but that it was possible to change this time so that the light would revolve either slower or faster, and in this way you could signal to boats at sea.

Agent questioned Mr. JEANNETTE as to whether there had been any visitors at the Hunting Island Light-House who had stayed any length of time there, and was informed by JEANNETTE that up to some few months ago there used to be several of TRAUGOTT'S friends come to visit him in a small launch, and that these men would stay several days at a time, but that he (JEANNETTE) did not know what their business was as they were friends of the keeper, however, he, (JEANNETTE) had heard them speaking in German.

Special Employee Bonyne, after this information had been learned from JEANNETTE, interviewed TRAUGOTT under cover, TRAUGOTT believing that Special Employee Bonyne was simply there as the Captain of the Naval Patrol Boat and making the usual rounds of Inspection. Special Employee Bonyne in questioning TRAUGOTT first, questioned hi as to whether he was a Swede, TRAUGOTT denied this, stating to Special Employee Bonyne that he was a German. Special Employee Bonyne at this point began speaking German with him, and in a short time had gained the confidence of TRAUGOTT, and TRAUGOTT stated to Special Employee Bonyne that the "Bald-headed son-of-a-bitch, President Wilson, did not know how to run this Country, and he had no brains, but it took a brainy man like the Kaiser, Wilhelm, to run this country and hold the respect of his people. TRAUGOTT furthers stated that Wilson and the American people were damn fools if they thought they were



was in Beaufort so little of his time that he had never had any occasion to hear TRAUGOTT talk.

Agent also interviewed Postmaster E. D. RAMEY, at Beaufort, S. C., but could gather no information from him as to any pro-German remarks made by TRAUGOTT at Beaufort.

Agent also interviewed the Naval Section Commander at Beaufort, who has Hunting Island in his section to be patrolled, and learned from him that there had been an investigation by the Naval Intelligence at Hunting Island, but that no definite information had been obtained, although they investigated TRAUGOTT, as it had been reported that there was a wireless on Hunting Island, also a sub-marine base at this point. Agent is enclosing copy of the report made by the Naval Intelligence on this matter.

In connection with the Hunting Island investigation, it is known to be a fact that Captain HULST, Captain of the former German Steamer HOHENFELDE, which was interned in this harbor for sometime, made several mysterious trips from Savannah to Charleston in a power-boat belonging to the HOHENFELDE, and that Captain HULST was gone eleven days at one time, being unable to explain his absence, other than he had gone to Charleston, he also took with him a chart of the inland waterways, which it was known by the Naval Intelligence that these charts were returned from Charleston to Savannah by messenger and turned over to the Captain of the Dutch ship "ZEEBURG" and from here carried to Germany.

Also it is known to be a fact that a tug left Savannah in February 1918, by the name of "EDGAR F. COXEY, towing two barges of piling and one barge of coal consigned to COMMERCIAL COAL COMPANY, New York, but that this coal never reached New York, it being claimed by the tug-boat Captain that this coal was lost off Hunting Island in St. Helena's Sound, however, Special Employee Bonyne who at that time was connected with the British Consul here as an Inspector of Commerce, had occasion to investigate this same barge of coal and developed the information that this barge of coal was anchored off Hunting Island, where it



PORT ROYAL SECTION.

SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT

File No.

161-S

Beaufort, S. C. July 30, 1918.

FROM: Section Aid for Information.
To: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: Keepers at Hunting Island Light House.

References: (a) Your letter July 3, 1918, File No. 932: A-5.
(b) My letter July 20, 1918, File No. 161-S.

1. On Friday July 26th, I visited Hunting Island Light House to ascertain the status of keeper Traugott. Frank Traugott, a mariner by trade, was born in the province of Hanover, Germany on September 2, 1862. Traugott came to this country while still a young man and received his naturalization papers in May 1898. These papers were issued in Charleston, S. C. by J. E. Hagood, Clerk of the Circuit Court, U. S. District of South Carolina. Traugott has never been back to Germany since he received his papers in 1898. Traugott was keeper for the light house in the Fifth Section at Tybee Roads for nearly four years.

2. Traugott's wife is of Spanish descent, her grand-parents coming over from Spain. Mrs Traugott was born in St. Augustine, Fla.

3. G. Jeanette, first assistant keeper, was born in North Carolina.

4. Joe Jackson, the negro assistant, was raised in this Section.

5. The Government owns 136 acres near the beach where the Light House is situated, and 2 acres at their wharf on the west side of the island. Mr. Thomas Lee owns a tract of land on the north side of the island, the south side being owned by Senator Cameron, who also owns Corrin's Point. I looked over this land on account of Junker, an Austrian, who is connected with Senator Cameron's places as keep of them.

6. While on Hunting Island, I went up to the top of the light house in order to view the surrounding country and ocean. The binoculars furnished this light house are not very good as it was very hard for me to distinguish eight ships which I saw ten miles out at sea.

(Signed) H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

U. S. S. JEANETTE, S. P. 149

Beaufort, S. C.

July 10th, 1918.

FROM: Commanding Officer.

TO: Section Commander.

SUBJECT: Report on investigation of St. Philip's and Capers Island.

1. On Monday July 8th, I landed on St. Philip's Island at Bay Point with ten marines and two sailors. I searched all that part of the Island to Horse Creek for wireless and anything which might enable the Germans to operate submarines.

2. Tuesday, July 9th, with two marines and two sailors, I landed on the north point of St. Philip's Island. I searched it, but as it was covered with dense vegetation, I was unable to make much progress. Under the circumstances, we covered all the ground possible and nothing was found on the whole of St. Philip's Island.

3. I sent two petty officers over to Capers Island, and as it was not covered with vegetation, they were able to see the whole of the Island from an old geodetic survey stake. Nothing was found at this place.

(Signed) E. L. Morgan.

(COPY)

PORT ROYAL SECTION:
SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT.

181-S.

Beaufort, S. C. July 10,1918.

FROM: Section Aid for Information

TO: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District.

SUBJECT: St. Philip's Island and vicinity.

Enclosures: (1)

1. Enclosed is a report of an investigation of St. Philip's Island and vicinity that Ensign Morgan conducted with the crew of the Jeanette and Marines furnished by the Post Commander at Parris Island.

2. Ensign Morgan has been instructed to investigate Fripp's, Pritchard and Hunting Island, starting this investigation on Thursday, July 11th.

3. A further report of this subject will be forwarded to you in the next few days.

H. W. Hodge.

(COPY)

File No.

932: A-5

NO-L.

HEADQUARTERS, SIXTH NAVAL DISTRICT

Peoples Office Building,

Charleston, S. C.

July 3-1918.

FROM: Aid for Information, Sixth Naval District

TO: Section Aid for Information, Beaufort, S. C.

SUBJECT: Investigation to determine possible submarine Base or wireless outfit on St. Philip's Island, or its vicinity.

1. A personal letter contains the following on possible enemy activities in your section;

" On account of your local knowledge and because I think the matter should be brought to the notice of the Navy Department, I am presuming to write to you on the subject that was reported to me just before my leaving Savannah, f for duty in New York City, to the effect that the Captain of the interned German steamer "ROHENFELDE" had made two mysterious visits from Thunderbolt to St. Philips Island on the eastern side of Bay Point, and that on these trips he would not allow any of the men who accompanied him to go ashore. I intended to investigate this matter before leaving Beaufort, but telegraphic orders to report immediately in New York interferred with my doing so. Tremchards Inlet, as you may remember leads from the main channel to St. Philip's Island and carries a depth of 9 feet at mean low tide. The Captain of this steamer made two trips in motor boats from Savannah to Charleston, S. C., taking with him the Coast Survey Charts, and check on the Inland Water route and the Inlets leading from the ocean up among these Islands. Having completed his work, he sent the corrected charts, by messenger to Jacksonville, and by the Steward of a Dutch ship to Germany. Upon discovering these facts, I put a detective on his track until his final arrest in Savannah upon the declaration of War. I questioned him closely after his arrest, and am convinced that, though he denied it, he is a reserve officer, in the Imperial German Navy, and accredited agent of their Government. There may be nothing in the report that I have mentioned above, but I believe that it would be advisable to institute a very careful search on this and the neighboring Islands, where, as you well know, the conditions are ideal for the concealment of the wireless apparatus and for the establishment of a base for the supply of gasoline to German submarines".

"Port Royal Harbor is of such easy access from the open ocean, so little used commercially and the Islands so seldom visited, that it would be a very simple matter to conceal any movements in this locality".

"Port Royal Harbor is practically undefended, and the small detachment at Fort Fremont , which is the only defense for the Marine Training Station on Paris Island, was only sent them after I had constituted myself its

garrison upon the declaration of the war, and informed the War Department that I would stay until relieved which happened within a week. I am also informed that the keeper of Hunting Island Light House is German. C.P.E."

2. It is requested that you conduct an investigation to determine any possible submarine base, or wireless device that may exist in the localities mentioned above, and submit report of investigation to this Office.

(Signed) Chas. L. McClasky.

Acting.

COPY.

November 21, 1918.

Sir:

Having been charged with disloyalty to the Government of the United States, and the charges having been sustained to a degree sufficient to warrant such action, the Department, upon the recommendation of the Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses of the 18th instant, has dismissed you from the position of keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, at $960 per annum, effective at the close of November 8, 1918.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(Signed) W. S. [illegible]

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

CARDED

Mr. Frans Traugott,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Ho/R

NOV 22 1918

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

EMK

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Hydrog.
Engr. Comm.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comms.
Commr.

LIGHT NOV 29 1918 HOUSES

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 6th DISTRICT

APPOR. NOV 29 1918 12 25 PM

~~OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT~~

CHARLESTON, S. C.

November 26, ~~1918~~ 1918.

1918 DEC 6 AM 9 07

1918 DEC 5 PM 2 59

Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Subject: Franz Traugott- leave.
Reference: Bureau letter of Nov.18,1918,3d par.

Traugott has not taken leave in excess of the accrued rate in accordance with the Regulations 1918.

H. C. Beck

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

DEC 4 - 1918

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information.

1918 DEC 5 PM 2 06

H. B. Bowerman

Acting Commissioner.

HMC-AA

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

[redacted]

Franz Traugott,
charges.

November 18, 1918.

NOV 20 1918

LIGHT
NOV 29 1918
HOUSES

Superintendent of Lighthouses, Charleston, S. C.

1. Referring to your letters of Nov. 5, and Nov. 14, 1918, relative to the charges of disloyalty preferred against Franz Traugott, keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S. C.

2. The Bureau considers the evidence against Traugott sufficient to establish his disloyalty to the United States Government, notwithstanding the general denial in his reply dated November 9, 1918, to charges, and recommendation has this day been made to the Department that he be dismissed from the service, effective at the close of November 8, 1918, the date on which he was suspended from duty.

3. Report at the proper time whether Traugott has taken leave in excess of the accrued rate in accordance with Regulations 1918, Art. 488, 2d par.

Conway

Acting Commissioner

HMC

APR 26 1919

5

My dear Bishop Russell:

1. Referring again to your letter of April 4, 1919, on behalf of the reinstatement of Mr. Frans Traugott, formerly keeper of Huntington Island Light Station, South Carolina, in the Lighthouse Service.

2. Permit me to state that after careful reconsideration of the case, it does not appear that any new facts or circumstances have come to light which would justify the Department in recommending to the Civil Service Commission that certificate for reinstatement be issued. It is a rule of the Commission, governing positions in the classified civil service, that a person can not be reinstated on condonation of the delinquency or misconduct that occasioned his separation, and that the Department in proposing the reinstatement of an employee who was removed from office, shall state that the charges were not true, that they did not justify removal, or that a similar punishment would not in general be imposed for a similar offense.

3. In view of all the facts I do not believe that the Department would be justified in reversing its action in the case, notwithstanding Mr. Traugett's physical and financial condition.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary.

The Rt. Rev. Wm. T. Russell, D. D.,
Bishop of Charleston,
114 Broad Street,
Charleston, S. C.

DOCKET

LIGHTHOUSES---Appointment Division's files

Exact copy as signed by WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Mailed APR 26 1919 by

June 19, 1920.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Transmitted herewith for remark and return, with recommendation, is letter dated June 16, 1920, from Franz Traugott, formerly Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, enclosing letter dated May 28, 1920, addressed to him by the 6th Superintendent and affidavit to accompany application for a copy of the order of his dismissal from the Lighthouse Service.

By direction of the Secretary:

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HARTRIDGE

Chief of Appointment Division.

Enclosure 2292.
C-S

Little Sisters of the Poor

Savannah Ga June 16th 20

Secretary of Commerce
Washington DC.

Sir

Enclosed please find reply from Light-House Dept-Charleston S.C. to my request-for copy my discharge paper from Hunting Light-Station. Having misplaced the Original. My sole purpose in asking for this instrument-is. to secure from the United States Government a pension, or disability Compensation, and Should it become necessary to have the charges against-me investigated to reach that-end. I have been in the Government Service, twenty two (22) years, and four (4) Months beginning the year 1896. to August 1898. as Cook C. Light-Ship Charleston S.C.

RECEIVED
1920 JUN 18 PM 12

Aug. to 1901. Asst-Keeper Light-Station Morris Island. to 1907. Keeper Hunting Island Light Sta. to 1914. Keeper Tybee Light-Sta. aug to 1918. Keeper Hunting Island Light-Sta.
My claims are based on long, and faithful Service. Although being prostrated in 1916. I continued in the Service to the end. Your attention will oblige

Yours Respectfully
Franz Fraegott

~~Riverside Sanatorium~~
~~North Brother Island~~
~~New York~~

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

PF-JFS

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT 7TH DISTRICT
~~OFFICE OF INSPECTOR 6TH DISTRICT~~
CHARLESTON, S. C. 23

May 28, 1920.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
C/o Little Sisters of the Poor,
Savannah, Ga.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of May 24,1920, requesting copy of charges on which you were dismissed from the Lighthouse Service:

I have to state that the Regulations of the Lighthouse Service do not permit the issuance of copies of records without authority from the Secretary of Commerce. The following is quoted from the Regulations of the Lighthouse Service:

"Issuance of copies of accounts and records.-Applications for copies of documents, accounts, records, or files should be made to the Secretary of Commerce through the Commissioner of Lighthouses and should be accompanied by an affidavit, duly attested by a notary public, setting forth the interest of the applicant and showing the reason why, and the purpose for which, the copies are desired, and that the information requested will not be used for any purpose inimical to the interests of the Government."

Respectfully,

H. L. Beck

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

G e o r g i a ,

Chatham County.

Personally appears Franz Traugott, who on oath says :

He is applying to the Secretary of Commerce of the United States for a copy of charges on which deponent was dismissed from the Light-house Service, and makes this affidavit to accompany said application.

His interest is that he is the person against whom said charges were preferred; the purpose for which the copy is desired is to be filed with application for pension or disability compensation; and the information requested will not be used for any purpose inimical to the interests of the Government.

Sworn to and subscribed before
me, this June 16, 1920.

Franz Traugott

Geo. A. Richter
Notary Public, Chatham County, Ga.

In replying address
Commissioner of Lighthouses

and refer to date of this letter
and file No.

JEH: LON
Inclosures

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

CHIEF CLERK

1920 JUL 2 PM 2 05

July 1, 1920.

Franz Traugott.

Secretary of Commerce:

1. Referring to Department letter of June 19, 1920, inclosing correspondence received from Franz Traugott, formerly keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, S.C., requesting copy of notice of his dismissal from the Lighthouse Service.

APPOINTMENTS

2. It appears from the affidavit accompanying Mr. Traugott's letter that he desires copy of the charges preferred against him, and it is recommended that, unless the Department considers it inadvisable, Mr. Traugott be furnished a copy of letter of charges addressed to him on November 5, 1918, as well as copy of Department notice of dismissal dated November 21, 1918.

1920 JUL 2 PM 2 37

3. Correspondence accompanying Department letter of June 19, is inclosed as requested.

1920 JUL 3 PM 12 14

A. B. Bowerman

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

July 6, 1920.

Dear Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 16th ultimo, the Department incloses herewith copies of your notice of removal from the position of Keeper of Hunting Island Light Station, South Carolina, and a copy of the charges upon which the action was based.

Respectfully,

SIGNED E. F. NEWELL

Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Mr. Franz Traugott,
c/o Little Sisters of the Poor,
Savannah, Georgia.
Inclosure 2510.
C-M