

1993
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
COMMISSION ON INFORMATION
FOR RECOGNITION
of the
CONFERENCE OF
THE GRAND MASTERS OF
MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA



A.D. 1993 / A.L. 5993

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COMMISSION ON INFORMATION
FOR RECOGNITION
of the
CONFERENCE OF
THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA

ANNUAL REPORT

given at
HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS
February 23, 1993



PREFACE

The Commission on Information for Recognition was organized in 1952 as a facility to gather, collate, and from time to time revise information on Grand Lodges in other lands, as a service to the Grand Lodges of this Conference.

The Commission neither advises nor recommends that recognition be given to any Grand Lodges, but merely indicates whether or not it considers that a Grand Lodge in question satisfies the conditions of regularity.

The Commission consists of six members of wide geographical distribution. One new member, usually a Deputy Grand Master, is elected each year, and serves for six years.

After each Annual Meeting of the Conference of Grand Masters, the report, given to and adopted by the Conference, is printed and copies mailed to the Grand Secretaries and to the Chairmen of the Committees on Fraternal Relations of the Grand Lodges of the Conference. Copies are mailed to many interested brethren who are not members of the Conference.

This report is based upon the most recent information available, and in some cases after a conference with members of some of the Grand Lodges mentioned in the report.

All comments on this report and all inquiries on other matters of information on Grand Lodges throughout the world may be addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission, R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.O. Box 1850, Dallas, Texas 75221.



Left to right: G. Ray Marsh, Harald R.K. Weiland, L. Ray Chamberlin, Earl L. Wunder, William A. Gallmeister, Robert L. Dillard, Jr. (not shown - Leopold L. Otway)

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON INFORMATION FOR RECOGNITION

February 23, 1993

To the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America:

Most Worshipful Brother Chairman:

Most Worshipful and Right Worshipful Brethren:

On behalf of the Commission on Information for Recognition, I have the privilege of presenting this 41st Annual Report to this Conference. I will first introduce the other members of this Commission in order of their appointment:

M:W: Bro. L. Ray Chamberlin, P.G.M., Iowa, Vice Chairman

M:W: Bro. William A. Gallmeister, P.G.M., Indiana

M:W: Bro. G. Ray Marsh, P.G.M., South Carolina

M:W: Harald R. K. Weiland, P.G.M., Nova Scotia

R:W: Bro. Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M. of Texas

Secretary-Treasurer

The correspondence and deliberations of the Commission since the last meeting of this Conference are summarized as follows:

BULGARIA

In addition to his questionable activities in his own country, former Grand Master Nenezic of Yugoslavia has intruded into the jurisdiction of Bulgaria. Despite objections he has announced the formation of a new Grand Lodge of Bulgaria solely by his authority. His designated Grand Master apparently views Freemasonry as a commercial business opportunity. This has disrupted legitimate efforts to establish a regular Grand Lodge through normal procedures.

GREECE

The Grand Lodge of Greece has been warned by the Grand Lodge of England for sharing its Masonic authority with the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite in Greece. This warning has not been followed by any official action and is noted for your information.

INDIA

In 1961 when the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland sponsored the establishment of the Grand Lodge of India, they entered into a Concordat with the new Grand Lodge which guaranteed the rights of the Lodges and Brethren of the three Premier Grand Lodges in India the same privileges and courtesies then extended by the three Premier Constitutions to each other. The Concordat also provided that the Lodges and Brethren of the Premier Grand Lodges were not to have undue pressure put on them to join the Grand Lodge of India. In July, 1992 the Grand Lodge of India adopted amendments to its Book of Constitution which are considered by England to breach the guarantee in the Concordat not to exert undue pressure on members of English Lodges in respect of membership of the Grand Lodge of India. Subsequently in September, 1992, England withdrew recognition from India. Ireland has also withdrawn recognition and it is expected that Scotland will take the same action.

IRAN

In 1985 the Grand Lodge of Iran (in Exile) made an agreement with the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts which permitted them to convene in the Grand Lodge Building in Boston. This was detailed in the 1986 Annual Report of this Commission. It now appears there is a schism within the leadership of the Grand Lodge of Iran (in Exile) which may disturb the harmony within member Grand Lodges of this Conference. Your Commission feels obligated to advise that it has never sanctioned recognition of any Grand Lodge in Exile and is of the opinion that such recognition should not be granted.

POLAND

The National Grand Lodge of Poland was re-established on December 27, 1991 as reported by the Commission last year. This Grand Lodge had its first meeting following re-establishment on September 5 and 6, 1992 at Ciazen, a palace near Posnan. This was the first public meeting of Freemasons in Poland in nearly 50 years and on the second day of the meeting a number of non-Masons from the business and professional community were invited to a luncheon to hear the story of Freemasonry. Masons in attendance included M:W: Giuliano di Bernardo, Grand Master of Italy; Paul Cierniak, a Representative of the Grand Lodge National of France and a group from the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

The National Grand Lodge of Poland at this meeting established a foundation called "Royal Art in Poland" to preserve Masonic monuments, libraries and treasures in Poland and disseminate knowledge about Freemasonry. It is reported that the library of the palace in Ciazen, a branch of Posnan's University library, has one of the largest Masonic collections in Europe, estimated at 80 to 100 thousand volumes and manuscripts.

This Grand Lodge has already been recognized by the Grand Lodge of New York and the Grand Lodge National of France.

Present Grand Lodge officers are:

M:W: Tadeusz Gliwic, Grand Master
Jersy Jasinski, Deputy Grand Master
R:W: Tadeusz Cegielski, Grand Secretary

Based on this and other information, the Commission is of the opinion that the National Grand Lodge of Poland is regular and meets the standards for recognition.

ROMANIA

The Commission last year reported that information had been received that the Grand Orient of Italy had "reactivated" its Lodge Concordia in Bucharest. During 1992, the Grand Orient chartered or revived one or more additional Lodges and at least one Lodge of the old Grand Lodge of Romania which was closed in 1948 has been revived.

Through the joint efforts of M:W: Guiliano Di Bernardo, Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Italy and M:W: H. Douglas Lemons, Past Grand Master of California and the support of their respective Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge of Romania was reconstituted in Bucharest on January 24, 1993. The new Grand Master is M:W: Nicolaie Filip. We are advised

by Brother Lemons that 150 Romanian Masons were present at the ceremony on January 24 and that nine additional Lodges are now in operation in various parts of Romania.

Brother Arnold Hermann, a California Mason, and a native of Romania who lives part time in Switzerland, has worked tirelessly with many others in the re-establishment of Freemasonry in Romania.

The Commission is of the opinion that the Grand Lodge of Romania has been regularly established and meets the standards of the Commission for recognition.

RUSSIA

The Commission reported last year that the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) had consecrated a constituent Lodge of Russians to be eventually located in Moscow. The GLNF reports great success in establishing regular Freemasonry in Russia. Its Harmonie Lodge No. 698 is now operating in Moscow and it is anticipated that a Lodge will be consecrated in St. Petersburg next June.

SENEGAL

The Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) constituted a new Grand Lodge in Senegal in West Africa on January 16, 1993. It was formed from a District Grand Lodge of the GLNF. It has 13 Lodges with a total membership of 355. Most of the Lodges are located in Dakar, the capital of Senegal. The former District Grand Master, M:W: Armand Agbogba, became the Grand Master of the new Grand Lodge.

TOGO

The Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) consecrated the Grande Loge Nationale Togolaise in Paris, France on June 6, 1992. It is located in Lome, the capital of the West African country of Togo. It is composed of Lodges previously chartered by the GLNF. We are advised that this Grand Lodge adopted the Constitution of the GLNF and the basic points of regularity.

The Grand Master is M:W: Emmanuel Kotso Nathaniels. The Grand Secretary is Antoine K. Ahiakpor.

The mailing address of the Grande Loge Nationale Togolaise is Domaine des Macons, Djidjole, B.P. 1103, Lome, Togo.

It has already sought recognition from a number of Grand Lodges. The political situation in Togo is not stable at this time and bears careful watching.

VALLE DE MEXICO

The Gran Logia Valle de Mexico applied to this Conference for membership as a voting member. The application was referred to the Commission for our consideration.

This Conference in 1957 adopted the following Committee report:

"In view of the fact that two Grand Lodges have applied for membership that are not recognized by all the Grand Lodges now members of this Conference, we recommend that it is the sense of this Conference that no other Grand Lodges be admitted to membership that are not recognized by all of the Grand Lodges of this Conference."

The Valle de Mexico is not recognized by 13 members of this Conference. The Commission therefore submits that the Grand Lodge Valle de Mexico cannot presently be admitted to membership in this conference.

The address of this Grand Lodge was inadvertently omitted from the listing of regular State Grand Lodges in Mexico printed in the 1992 Report and is as follows:

VALLE DE MEXICO
APARTADO NO. 10
C.P. 06000
MEXICO, D.F.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Commission in its Report of 1991 reviewed briefly the history of the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia and pointed out that the reconstitution of the Grand Lodge in June, 1991 was sponsored by the American-Canadian Grand Lodge of Germany, a member of this Conference and by other Grand Lodges within the Grand Lodges of Germany. In view of this sponsorship, the Commission reached the conclusion that the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia was regular and entitled to recognition. This position was restated in the Commission Report of 1992.

The political situation has deteriorated to a point that it is obvious the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia cannot have influence in all of the former country of Yugoslavia which has now been torn apart by war and political and religious strife. According to information furnished the Commission, Grand Master Zoran D. Nenezic arbitrarily expelled one or more Grand Lodge officers without trial. This resulted in a meeting of the Executive Committee of Grand Lodge officers at which Grand Master Nenezic was suspended from office and authority of the Grand Lodge was vested in the Executive Committee until the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge in March, 1993.

Due to these unfortunate circumstances the Commission is of the opinion that the members of this Conference should maintain a status quo pending the outcome of the Yugoslavian Grand Lodge meeting in March.

The members of the Commission recommend to the Conference R:W: David J. Morgan, D.G.M. of Nevada, to be the new member from the western United States to replace the Chairman whose term has expired. Brother Morgan's address is 1475 Coronet Drive, Reno, Nevada 89509.

Your Commission again expresses our appreciation to M:W: Bro. Donald Robey, Past Grand Master of Virginia, for his continuing efforts in keeping current the recognition chart of the Grand Lodges of the United States.

The opportunity to served on this Commission is a rare privilege and rewarding learning experience. The good counsel, knowledge, experience, and dedication of our esteemed Secretary-Treasurer, R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr., Past Grand Master of Texas, is truly invaluable. It is my honor to introduce him to present the Treasurer's Report.

TREASURER'S REPORT
DALLAS, TEXAS
February 23, 1993

TO THE CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS
OF MASONS OF NORTH AMERICA

This report is an accounting of the funds of the Commission on Information for the year just past, ending at December 31, 1992. Since January 1, 1992, 58 Grand Lodges have contributed \$3,015.00.

Balance from Report dated February 18, 1992 \$ 8,879.65

Receipts from Grand Lodges between
January 1, 1992 and December 31, 1992:

Alabama	\$100.00
Alaska	15.00
American-Canadian, Germany	15.00
Arizona	15.00
California	100.00
Canada	
Alberta	5.00
British Columbia	15.00
Manitoba	15.00
New Brunswick	15.00
Ontario	100.00
Saskatchewan	15.00
China	60.00
Colorado	50.00
Delaware	15.00
District of Columbia	15.00
Florida	100.00
Georgia	100.00
Hawaii	25.00
Idaho	15.00
Illinois	100.00
Indiana	100.00
Iowa	50.00
Japan	25.00
Kansas	50.00
Kentucky	100.00
Louisiana	50.00

Maine	50.00
Maryland	50.00
Massachusetts	100.00
Mexico	15.00
Michigan	100.00
Mississippi	50.00
Missouri	100.00
Montana	15.00
Nebraska	50.00
Nevada	25.00
New Jersey	50.00
New Mexico	15.00
New York	100.00
North Carolina	100.00
North Dakota	15.00
Ohio	100.00
Oklahoma	50.00
Pennsylvania	100.00
Puerto Rico	15.00
Rhode Island	15.00
South Carolina	100.00
South Dakota	15.00
Tennessee	100.00
Texas	100.00
Utah	15.00
Vermont	15.00
Virginia	\$100.00
Washington, State of	50.00
West Virginia	50.00
Wisconsin	50.00
Wyoming	15.00
Total Contributions	<u>\$3,015.00</u>

Expenses between January 1, 1992 and December 31, 1992:

Bank Charge	\$ 19.95
Dallas Lodge No. 760	
(Purchase of mailing labels)	19.99
Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies	518.63
Postage for mailing expense -	342.63
Printing of Commission Report -	176.00
Robert L. Dillard, Jr.	1,279.81
Conference Expense (2/21-2/24)	
The Dudley Press	480.00
(Typesetting 40th Annual Commission Report)	
Envelopes	25.00
(for Mailing Report))	
Preparation and printing of 4 sets of address labels	200.00
Secretarial Expense	1,500.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$4,043.38</u>

Balance as of December 31, 1992 \$ 7,851.27

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M.
Secretary-Treasurer

This concludes the 40th Annual Report of the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl L. Wunder, P.G.M., Chairman
L. Ray Chamberlin, P.G.M., Vice-Chairman
William A. Gallmeister, P.G.M.
G. Ray Marsh, P.G.M.
Harald R.K. Weiland, P.G.M.
Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M.
Secretary-Treasurer

ORGANIZATION OF COMMISSION FOR 1993

At a meeting of the Commission on February 23, 1993, the following organization was voted for the ensuing year:

Chairman

M:W: L. Ray Chamberlin,
Past Grand Master of Iowa

Vice-Chairman

M:W: William A. Gallmeister
Past Grand Master of Indiana

Secretary-Treasurer

R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr.
Past Grand Master of Texas

**NAMES, ADDRESSES AND YEAR OF RETIREMENT
OF COMMISSION MEMBERS
INSTALLED FEBRUARY 23, 1993**

- 1994 - M:W: L. Ray Chamberlin, Chairman
Past Grand Master, Iowa
1540 68th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50311
- 1995 - M:W: William A. Gallmeister, Vice-Chairman
Past Grand Master, Indiana
8301 Larch Lane
Evansville, Indiana 47710
- 1996 - M:W: G. Ray Marsh,
Past Grand Master, South Carolina
P.O. Box 566
Anderson, South Carolina 29622
- 1997 - M:W: Leopold L. Otway,
Past Grand Master, New Jersey
RD #4
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
- 1998 - M:W: Harald R.K. Weiland,
Past Grand Master, Nova Scotia, Canada
P.O. Box 91
New Germany, Nova Scotia, Canada - B0R 1E0
- 1999 - R:W: David J. Morgan,
Deputy Grand Master, Nevada
1475 Coronet Drive
Reno, Nevada, 89509
- R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr.,
Past Grand Master, Texas
P.O. Box 1850
Dallas, Texas 75221
Secretary-Treasurer









