

1994
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
***COMMISSION ON INFORMATION
FOR RECOGNITION***
of the
**CONFERENCE OF
THE GRAND MASTERS OF
MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA**



A.D. 1994 / A.L. 5994

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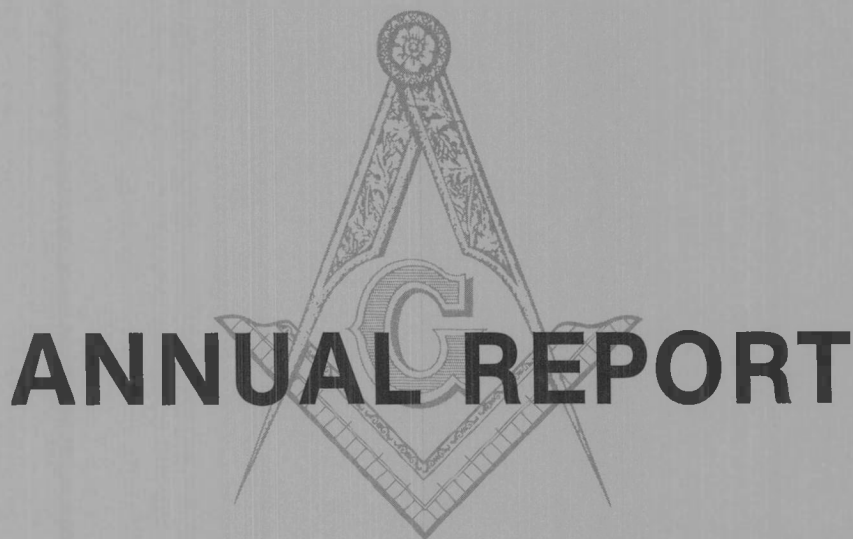
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COMMISSION ON INFORMATION
FOR RECOGNITION
of the
CONFERENCE OF
THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA



given at
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA
February 22, 1994



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.



Front Row (left to right): L. Ray Chamberlin, Robert L. Dillard, Jr., William A. Gallmeister
Back Row (left to right): Harald R.K. Weiland, Leopold L. Otway, G. Ray Marsh, David J. Morgan

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON INFORMATION FOR RECOGNITION

February 22, 1994

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

Most Worshipful Brother Chairman:

Most Worshipful and Right Worshipful Brethren:

It is my honor and privilege as Chairman of this Commission to present to you the 42nd Annual Report of the Commission on Information for Recognition.

I am pleased to present the other members of this Commission in the order of service:

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

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

M:W: Leopold L. Otway, P.G.M., New Jersey

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

M:W: David J. Morgan, G.M., Nevada

I am Ray Chamberlin, P.G.M., Grand Lodge of Iowa, Chairman.

Since a large number of new delegates are at the Conference each year, I will take this occasion to acquaint you with the purpose of this Commission and the standards for recognition that were established at its origin in 1952. The Commission serves only in an advisory capacity to this Conference, and its function is to investigate and report on all matters pertaining to a jurisdiction's qualifications for recognition by members of this Conference. Our report is therefore to be used by member Grand Lodges of this Conference to act upon as they deem proper.

The established standards for recognition that must be met to receive a favorable recommendation by this Commission are:

1. Legitimacy of origin
2. Exclusive territorial jurisdiction except where shared by agreement.
3. Adherence to the ancient landmarks; specifically an unalterable and continuing belief in God, the Volume of the Sacred Law as an indispensable part of the furniture of the lodge, and the prohibition of the discussion of religion and politics.

The deliberations of this Commission during the past year involved several Grand Lodge Jurisdictions, and are summarized as follows:

BULGARIA

The Commission reported last year that the discredited former Grand Master of Yugoslavia had attempted to form a Grand Lodge in Bulgaria which action the Commission considered irregular. The Commission has received no information that a regular Grand Lodge has been organized in Bulgaria and the Commission believes that no organization claiming to be a Grand Lodge should be recognized.

GREECE

The National Grand Lodge of Greece has again sought recognition from the Conference through this Commission as it had done in 1987 and in 1992.

The Grand Lodge of Greece is the oldest Masonic power in Greece, having existed since 1868. It is recognized by all the Grand Lodges represented in this Conference. The Commission reaffirms its 1987 and 1992 position that the Grand Lodge of Greece is regular and entitled to continued recognition.

In September, 1993, the Grand Lodge of England granted recognition to the National Grand Lodge of Greece. This Commission is of the opinion that The National Grand Lodge of Greece does not at this time meet all the standards of the Commission for Recognition.

ITALY

Freemasonry in Italy has through the years been in turmoil. This past year has been particularly turbulent with the establishment of a new Grand Lodge, the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy. This Commission throughout the year received and reviewed numerous communications, written and verbal, from both the Grand Orient of Italy and the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy.

In June, 1993, The United Grand Lodge of England granted recognition to the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy.

Even though England has recognized this new Grand Lodge, this Commission sees no reason to withdraw recognition of the Grand Orient of Italy. The Commission has some concern that the granting of recognition to the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy may have been a bit hasty. The Commission is of the opinion that the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy does not, at this time, satisfy the conditions of regularity.

RUSSIA

In September, 1993, the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) consecrated its second constituent Lodge in Russia in the City of St. Petersburg. Subsequently the GLNF consecrated two other lodges.

Looking to the future the name "National Grand Lodge of Russia" has been registered with the Ministry of Justice in Moscow.

The GLNF would like to have the assistance of one or more Grand Lodges in the United States to carry out the work of establishing Freemasonry in Russia. The GLNF has said that the Lodges need regular "visits by experienced Masons to attend meetings for instruction and to ensure regularity". These Masons would need to speak Russian. The GLNF would like to form what it calls a "joint venture" with United States Grand Lodges which would be willing to not only assist in finding the experienced Masons in Russia but also provide some financial assistance to the Lodges and the members in carrying on Masonic work.

The Commission has heard from one Mason from Texas who is working in Moscow who has been visiting Harmonie Lodge and helping the Lodge and its members. We would hope that other Masons would help the Lodges in Russia.

The Grand Lodge of Alaska is exploring the possibility of establishing Lodges in Eastern Russia as a result of trips made by Grand Master John H. Grainger to Magadan in Eastern Russia. The Russian Relations Committee of the Grand Lodge of Alaska is making plans for a tour to Eastern Russia in 1994. Correspondence has been exchanged between Grand Master Grainger and Grand Master Charboniaud of the GLNF on the Masonic situation in Russia plus the Grand Lodge of Alaska would also like help from other Grand Lodges in the United States and Canada.

Additional Information:

The four Lodges are:

1. Harmonie Lodge No. 698, Moscow, which meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month at 6:30 p.m.
2. Lotos Lodge No. 802, Varonej, which meets on the 2nd and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.
3. Gamaioun No. 801, St. Petersburg, which meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.
4. Nouvelle Astree No. 803, Moscow, which does not yet have a fixed date for its meetings.

SENEGAL

Last year the Commission reported that the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) had consecrated the Grande Loge Du Senegal in January, 1993. Because of the fact that this Grand Lodge was not consecrated until January, 1993, the Commission did not express an opinion about its regularity.

Since January, 1993, this Grand Lodge under the leadership of its Grand Master Armand Agbogba, has made excellent progress increasing its membership by 20% from the leaders of Senegal.

It is the opinion of the Commission that the Grande Loge Due Senegal is regular, meeting all the standards of the Commission, and is entitled to recognition.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Commission in its report to this Conference in 1991 gave a brief history of Freemasonry in Yugoslavia including the reconstituting of the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia on June 26, 1990 in Belgrade by the United Grand Lodges of Germany. The first Grand Master was Zoran D. Nenezic.

Because of the sponsorship by the United Grand Lodges of Germany and other Masonic information, the Commission expressed the opinion that the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia was regular and entitled to recognition. Fifteen Grand Lodges in the United States recognized this Grand Lodge.

Grand Master Zoran Nenizic was suspended from office on January 30, 1993 and on March 14, 1993 was expelled from Freemasonry by the annual assembly of the Grand Lodge based on charges that he violated the Constitution and laws of Grand Lodge. A new Grand Master, M:W: Dragan Tanasic, was elected. The Grand Lodge decided to change its name to the Regular Grand Lodge "Yugoslavia" (Regularnu Velike Loze "Jugoslavija") and the new name was registered with the Department of Justice in Belgrade on June 1, 1993. (The Commission notes that while former Yugoslav republics - Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia have assumed new names, two other Yugoslav republics, Serbia and Montenegro declared themselves to be the State of Yugoslavia.)

The address of M:W: Drahan Tanasic is:

Takovska No. 9/111
11000 Belgrade

The new address of the Grand Lodge is:

M:W: Slobodan Perovic
Grand Secretary
MAJKE-JEVROSIME 8
11000 Belgrade
Yugoslavia
Telephone: (011) 340-066
Fax: (011) 333-021

Under date of November 14, 1993 the United Grand Lodges of Germany has notified all Grand Lodges in fraternal relations with it that it continues to support the Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia.

In spite of the war, the now "Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia" in the opinion of the Commission is regular and entitled to recognition.

This Commission sincerely thanks M:W: Bro. Donald M. Robey, P.G.M. Grand Lodge of Virginia, and member of the A. Douglas Smith Lodge of Research in Virginia who has so graciously performed the arduous task of maintaining a computerized chart indicating the Grand Lodges throughout the world that are recognized by the Grand Lodges of the United States and Canada. I would encourage each Grand Jurisdiction to provide the Masonic Service Association with any changes in recognition to be certain that the forthcoming updated chart is current and correct. These charts are available from the Masonic Service Association for a nominal cost. Brother Donald, we thank you for your countless hours of research and your devotion to Masonry.

I would be remiss in completing this report if I did not express my most sincere appreciation to R:W: Brother Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Texas who serves as Secretary-Treasurer of this Commission. He has served this Commission admirably for the past 27 years. His continuing devotion to the work of this Commission, his unceasing energy and the vast personal accumulation of resource knowledge and material concerning Grand Lodges have proven invaluable to this Commission and certainly to Masonry in general. Through the years, he has given of his time to meet with various individuals and delegations from many jurisdictions around the world. Brother Bob, I would ask you to stand and receive the thanks of this Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America for many, many years of untiring service to this most valuable and useful Commission.

TREASURER'S REPORT
DALLAS, TEXAS
February 22, 1994

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, 1993. Since January 1, 1993, 59 Grand Lodges have contributed \$3,045.00.

Balance from Report dated February 23, 1993 \$ 7,851.27

Receipts from Grand Lodges between
January 1, 1993 and December 31, 1993:

Alabama	\$100.00
Alaska	15.00
American-Canadian, Germany	15.00
Arizona	15.00
Arkansas	50.00
California	100.00
Canada	
Alberta	15.00
British Columbia	15.00
Manitoba	15.00
New Brunswick	15.00
Nova Scotia	15.00
Ontario	100.00
Prince Edward Island	15.00
Saskatchewan	15.00
Colorado	50.00
Connecticut	50.00
Delaware	15.00
District of Columbia	15.00
Florida	100.00
Georgia	100.00
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 (York Grand Lodge)	15.00
Michigan	100.00
Minnesota	50.00
Mississippi	50.00
Missouri	100.00
Montana	15.00
Nebraska	50.00
Nevada	25.00
New Hampshire	15.00
New Jersey	50.00
New Mexico	15.00
New York	100.00
North Carolina	100.00
North Dakota	15.00
Ohio	100.00
Pennsylvania	100.00
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>\$3,045.00</u>

Expenses between January 1, 1993 and December 31, 1993:

Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies	421.92
(Postage for mailing expense)- 267.92)	
(Printing of Commission Report - 120.00)	
(Printing of Commission	
Stationery and Envelopes - 34.00)	
Dudley Press	480.00
(Typesetting 1992 Report)	
Robert L. Dillard, Jr.	541.12
(Expenses for attending Grand Masters Conference)	
LeMay Photography	19.33
(Picture for 1992 Commission Report)	
Lost Check	15.00
Miscellaneous Expense (R.L. Dillard, Jr.	35.36
Secretarial Expense	<u>1,500.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$3,012.73</u>

Balance as of December 31, 1993

\$ 7,883.54

Respectfully submitted,

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

This concludes the 42nd Annual Report of this Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

L. Ray Chamberlin, P.G.M., Chairman
William A. Gallmeister, P.G.M.
Vice Chairman
G. Ray Marsh, P.G.M.
Leopold L. Otway, P.G.M.
Harald R.K. Weiland, P.G.M.
David J. Morgan, G.M.
Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M.
Secretary-Treasurer

ORGANIZATION OF COMMISSION FOR 1994

At a meeting of the Commission on February 22, 1994, the following organization was voted for the ensuing year:

Chairman

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

Vice-Chairman

M:W: G. Ray Marsh
Past Grand Master of South Carolina

Secretary-Treasurer

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

**NAMES, ADDRESSES AND YEAR OF RETIREMENT
OF COMMISSION MEMBERS
INSTALLED FEBRUARY 22, 1994**

- 1995 - M:W: William A. Gallmeister, Chairman
Past Grand Master, Indiana
8301 Larch Lane
Evansville, Indiana 47710
- 1996 - M:W: G. Ray Marsh, Vice-Chairman
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 - M:W: David J. Morgan,
M:W: Grand Master, Nevada
1475 Coronet Drive
Reno, Nevada, 89509
- 2000 - R:W: Dale C. Edwards
Senior Grand Warden, Michigan
20235 Woodbend Drive
Northville, Michigan 48167
- R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr.,
Past Grand Master, Texas
P.O. Box 1850
Dallas, Texas 75221
Secretary-Treasurer

