

1999
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
COMMISSION ON INFORMATION
FOR RECOGNITION
of the
CONFERENCE OF
THE GRAND MASTERS OF
MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA



A.D. 1999 / A.L. 5999

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A.D. 2022 / A.L. 6022

PREFACE

The Commission on Information for Recognition was organized in 1951 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., Post Office Box 1850, Dallas, Texas 75221-1850. Telephone Number 214-748-9196, Fax Number 214-748-5155, E-Mail rld@dallasscottishrite.org.



Left to Right: Robert J. McKibbon • Dale C. Edwards • Ross Van Ness Bayer • David J. Morgan •
John L. Palmer • Robert L. Dillard, Jr. • Neil M. Smalley

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON INFORMATION FOR RECOGNITION

February 23, 1999

TO THE CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF MASONS IN
NORTH AMERICA:

MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER CHAIRMAN:

MOST WORSHIPFUL AND RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BRETHREN:

It has been and is my honor to serve on this most important committee of the Conference for the last six years. It is my privilege to introduce to you the other members of this Commission:

M.: W.: Dale C. Edwards, Vice-Chairman and P.G.M. of
Michigan,

M.: W.: Neil M. Smalley, P.G.M. of Ohio,

M.: W.: John L. Palmer, P.G.M. of Tennessee,

M.: W.: Ross Van Ness Bayer, Grand Master of New Jersey,

R.: W.: Robert J. McKibbon, Deputy Grand Master of
Canada in the Province of Ontario,

R.: W.: Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M. of Texas and
Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission and

I am M.: W.: David J. Morgan, P.G.M. of Nevada.

In 1952 this Conference established the Commission on Information for Recognition for the purpose of gathering, studying and then passing on to the members of this Conference any data or information, pertinent to the recognition and legitimacy of any Grand Lodge. Since the delegates to this conference change each year, we think it is useful for your guidance to repeat the Standards of Recognition laid down.

They are:

1. Legitimacy of Origin.
2. Exclusive Territorial Jurisdiction, except by mutual consent and/or treaty.
3. Adherence to the Ancient Landmarks – specifically, a 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 politics and religion.

These are the guidelines by which this Commission determines if a Grand Lodge is regular and therefore worthy of recognition.

When the Commission has come to a decision, it advises the Conference of that decision. This Commission in no way tries to influence any Grand Lodge on what its individual action should be. This Commission serves in an advisory capacity only, by providing information for the use of the Grand Lodges in determining proper recognition.

The Commission considered several Jurisdictions and our report is as follows:

GUINEA (GUINEENE)

Guinea is a French-speaking West African country that was formerly a French colony. It borders on the Atlantic Ocean and is between Senegal and the Ivory Coast. The Grande Loge du Sénégal and the Grande Loge Nationale Française (GLNF) consecrated a new Grand Lodge on April 18, 1998 in Conakry, the capital of the Republic of Guinea.

The title of this new Grand Lodge is Grande Loge Nationale Guinéenne. Before that date the Grand Loge du Sénégal had constituted four Lodges in Guinea. The new Grand Lodge meets the "Legitimacy of Origin" Standard of the Commission because it was "formed by at least three" duly constituted Lodges and also was consecrated by two recognized Grand Lodges, Sénégal and France. It has adopted a Constitution and Regulations which meet the other Standards of the Commission, "Territorial Sovereignty" and "Ancient Landmarks".

The Commission considers the Grande Loge Nationale Guinéenne to be regular and entitled to recognition. The Grand Master is M.:W.: Abdoul Kabèlè Camara. The Grand Secretary is R.:W.: N'Fansou Diaby.

The address of the Grand Lodge is

B.P. 130, Conakry
Republic of Guinea, AFRICA

MALI

The Commission has been advised that the Grand Lodge of the Ivory Coast and The Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) will consecrate a new Grand Lodge in the western African country of Mali, a former French colony. The ceremony is scheduled to take place in Bamako, the capital of Mali, on March 13, 1999.

PERU

In December 1998, many Grand Lodges of this Conference received a letter signed by "R.: W.: Brother Francisco Pegarari G" as Grand Secretary, a.i. (ad interim?) of the Grand Lodge of Peru and "R.: W.: Luis Masalias E.", Curator-Administrator of the Grand Lodge of Peru, in which it was stated that because of certain alleged "abuses and offenses" of the immediate Past Grand Master and the current Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Peru, a lawsuit was filed in the civil courts of Peru to remove the Grand Master and have a Curator-Administrator appointed for the Grand Lodge. According to the letter the Court "accepted the complaints and appointed under applicable law a provisional Curator-Administrator" for the administration of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee has not had time to clarify the situation in Peru and would suggest no action be taken with regard to this Grand Lodge at this time.

PORTUGAL

The Grand Loja Regular de Portugal was consecrated on June 19, 1991, by the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) and was formed from constituent Lodges of the district Grand Lodge (FLNF) in Portugal. The Commission reported in 1991 that at that time "the Regular Grand Lodge of Portugal is regular and entitled to recognition as such". Many members of the Conference subsequently granted recognition to the Grande Loja Regular de Portugal.

In 1996 certain events occurred which created a schism in Portugal. There are differing interpretations of these events.

One group characterized the events as an illegal seizure of authority and property of the Grand Lodge. In response to these events and to conform to civil law as well as provide continuity, this group modified its name on December 23, 1996 to:

**GRANDE LOJA LEGAL DE PORTUGAL/GLRP
GRANDE LOJA REGULAR DE PORTUGAL**

GLNF subsequently issued a replacement charter to this group.

The other group characterized the events as an impeachment of the Grand Master. This group has physical possession of the original charter issued by the GLNF and is using the name Grande Loja Regular de Portugal.

The Commission heard from both groups and other interested parties. We have listened, reviewed and understood the material presented in both written and oral communications. The Commission considers that the dispute hinges on the **standard of legitimacy of origin.**

We conclude that the

**GRANDE LOJA LEGAL DE PORTUGAL/GLRP
GRANDE LOJA REGULAR DE PORTUGAL**

meets the standards of the Commission, is regular and is entitled to recognition.

The Commission further concludes that the Grande Loja Regular de Portugal is irregular and is not entitled to recognition.

The report of this Commission and previous Commissions have reached identical conclusions. In view of the name confusion, we suggest that each Grand Jurisdiction in North America clarify its recognition of Portugal.

The Grand Master of

**Grande Loja Legal de Portugal /GLRP
Grande Loja Regular de Portugal**

is Luis Nandin de Carvalho. His address is

Rua Tomás Ribeiro, n. 45-7
1050 Lisboa, PORTUGAL

Telephone: (003511) 355 20 70
Fax: (003511)-354 85 40
Residence: (003511) 468 90 26
E-Mail: dosdin@mail.telepac.pt
Website: www.glrp.org

We have been very fortunate for the last thrity-two years to have had the services of R.: W.: Robert L. Dillard, Jr., to serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of this Commission. Brother Dillard's knowledge, experience, personal contacts and history in the area of recognition make the task of this Commission much easier. It adds to the continued confidence in the Commission's ability to do it's job fairly. His leadership and presence are appreciated by each member of the Commission.

I would now like to present R.: W.: Robert L. Dillard, Jr. to give the report of the Secretary- Treasurer:

TREASURER'S REPORT DALLAS, TEXAS

February 21, 1999

**TO: THE CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF
MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA**

This report is an accounting of the funds of the Commission on Information for the year just past, ending December 31, 1998. Since January 1, 1998, fifty-six Grand Lodges have contributed \$2,870.00.

BALANCE FROM REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 21, 1998
\$ 6,323.91

**Receipts from Grand Lodges received between
January 1, 1998 and December 31, 1998:**

Alabama	\$	50.00
Alaska		15.00
Arizona		15.00
Arkansas		50.00
California		100.00
Canada – Alberta		15.00
Canada – British Columbia		15.00
Canada – Manitoba		15.00
Canada – New Brunswick		15.00
Canada – Nova Scotia		15.00
Canada – Saskatchewan		15.00
Colorado		50.00
Connecticut		50.00
Delaware		15.00
District of Columbia		15.00
Florida		100.00
Georgia		100.00
Germany		15.00
Idaho		15.00
Illinois		100.00
Iowa		50.00
Japan		100.00
Kansas		50.00
Kentucky		100.00
Louisiana		50.00
Maine		50.00
Massachusetts		100.00
Mexico		30.00
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
Ohio		100.00
Oregon		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	50.00
West Virginia	50.00
Wisconsin	50.00
Wyoming	15.00

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 2,870.00
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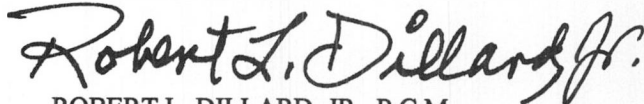
Expenses between January 1, 1998 and December 31, 1998:

Secretarial Expense	\$ 750.00
Travel Expense	1,267.27
Supplies (Stationery)	107.00
Printing and postage expense for 1998 Report	465.21

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,589.48
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BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1998	\$ 6,604.43
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Respectfully submitted,



ROBERT L. DILLARD, JR., P.G.M.
Secretary/Treasurer

Thank you, Right Worshipful Brother Dillard. Brethren,

This concludes the 46th Annual Report by this Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Morgan, P.G.M. – Chairman

Dale C. Edwards, P.G.M. –

Vice-Chairman

Neil M. Smalley, P.G.M.

John L. Palmer, P.G.M.

Ross Van Ness Bayer, G.M.

Robert J. McKibbon, D.G.M.

Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M. –

Secretary/Treasurer

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The Conference elected R.:W.: Aaron W. Harvey, Deputy Grand Master of Oregon as the new member of the Commission.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION FOR 1999

At a meeting of the Commission on February 21, 1999, the following organization was voted for the ensuing year:

CHAIRMAN

M.: W.: Dale C. Edwards
Past Grand Master of Michigan

VICE-CHAIRMAN

M.: W.: Neil M. Smalley
Past Grand Master of Ohio

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,
1999**

- 2000 — **M.:W.: Dale C. Edwards, Chairman
Past Grand Master – Michigan
20235 Woodbend Drive
Northville, MI 48167-3007**
- 2001 — **M.:W.: Neil M. Smalley
Past Grand Master – Ohio
3400 Wilmington Pike
Kettering, OH 45429-4026**
- 2002 — **M.:W.: John L. Palmer
Past Grand Master – Tennessee
1113 Oak Creek Drive
Nolensville, TN 37135**
- 2003 — **M.:W.: Ross Van Ness Bayer
Grand Master – New Jersey
2 Pardoe Road
Princeton, NJ 08540**
- 2004 — **R.:W.: Robert J. McKibbin
Deputy Grand Master – Ontario, Canada
1200 Kaladar Drive
London, Ontario N5V 2R5**
- 2005 — **R.:W.: Aaron W. Harvey
Deputy Grand Master – Oregon
3824 N.E. Skidmore Street
Portland, OR 97211**

