

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.



GRAND SECRETARY'S
OFFICE

FREEMASONS' HALL,
GREAT QUEEN STREET,
LONDON, W.C.2

July, 1945

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

The Board of General Purposes desires me to communicate with you as some of your members may be serving abroad in His Majesty's Forces.

Within the British Empire there are either recognised Sovereign Jurisdiction or Lodges working under the English, Irish or Scottish Constitutions.

You will be aware that in Countries which have been in enemy occupation Masonic meetings of any kind were forbidden. It has come to the knowledge of the Board that Lodges in some of these Countries are commencing to work again and it is very probable that some of our Brethren may be misled into association with Lodges with which the Grand Lodge of England is not in fraternal relationship.

It is not possible, owing to rapidly changing conditions, to give precise information with regard to every Foreign Country, but the following brief notes will be a general guide. Where any doubt exists enquiries should be directed personally to this office, even though this may cause delay, before Masonic associations are made.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—There is one recognised Jurisdiction in each State.

SCANDINAVIA (DENMARK, NORWAY AND SWEDEN).—Recognised Grand Lodge in each Country.

HOLLAND (NETHERLANDS).—Recognised.

BELGIUM.—Not recognised.

FRANCE.—The only recognised Grand Lodge is *The Grand Loge Nationale, Indépendante et Régulière.*

ITALY.—Not recognised.

NORTH AFRICA.—Not recognised.

EGYPT.—Lodges under the English District Grand Lodge. There is a National Grand Lodge of Egypt which is not recognised.

MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE.—Care should be taken, but there are English Lodges in Baghdad, Basra, Jerusalem, Sarafand, Cyprus, Malta and Zante.

FINLAND.—The position is not yet clear.

GREECE.—The position is not yet clear.

ROUMANIA.—The position is not yet clear.

JUGOSLAVIA.—The position is not yet clear.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.—The position is not yet clear.

The Board requests your Master to communicate with those of your members who are affected, pointing out the danger of any association with so-called Freemasons while abroad. Irregular associations may involve a Brother in disciplinary action and may compromise Grand Lodge itself.

It is desired also that your members generally be made acquainted with this matter, as information has been received which indicates that Brethren are not sufficiently instructed on questions appertaining to the welfare of the Craft of which it is essential that they should be aware.

Attention is drawn to the paragraph in the Board's report to the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge in June dealing with the position of members of His Majesty's Forces who may have become initiated in irregular Lodges.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

Surrey A. White

Grand Secretary.