

On April 15, 1962, I issued an Edict regarding the threat of communism in this country, setting forth that there shall be no visitations allowed in any of our lodges in this jurisdiction by anyone connected with the Grand Jurisdiction of Cuba.

GRAND LODGE OF
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF MONTANA
EDICT.

WHEREAS, the menace of Communism is spreading throughout the world at an alarming rate, the threat of Communism inside our own land is becoming more prevalent every day, and

WHEREAS, we have political leaders of both major political parties, Masons as well as non-Masons, who refuse or fail to recognize these threats even after repeated warnings from men like our great Brother, J. Edgar Hoover, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and

WHEREAS, the Masonic fraternity has always been a strong supporter of the tenets and beliefs as outlined in our Declaration of Independence and affirmed in our Constitution with its Bill of Rights, and

WHEREAS, the threat of Communist infiltration is ever lurking outside our ranks, and Totalitarianism and Communism are incompatible with Free Masonry and everything that is represented by Free Masonry, and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has declared Communists as agents of a foreign power (USSR) and must register as such, and this act, after ten years, has been declared constitutional by the United States Supreme Court, and

WHEREAS, the threat by Communism to Masonry has been investigated by the Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. of Florida, and this investigation has shown that the situation in Cuba is such that liberties and freedoms have been denied our brother Masons in Cuba, and the Temple of the Grand Lodge of Cuba has been seized and confiscated by the present governing regime in Cuba, and

WHEREAS, any Masonic activity tolerated by a Communist regime would be for some sinister purpose to benefit Communism while degrading or destroying Masonry and its high principles;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. R. P. REINEMER, GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN MONTANA, IN ORDER TO PROTECT AND SAFEGUARD FREE MASONRY AND OUR MASONIC HERITAGE IN THE GRAND JURISDICTION OF MONTANA FROM THE THREAT OF COMMUNISM OF ANY COMMUNIST INFILTRATION, DO NOW ISSUE THIS EDICT AND HEREBY DIRECT:

THAT the Grand Lodge of Montana declares membership in the Communist Party or any Communist Front Organization, as listed by the House Un-American Activities Committee, the Senate Internal Security Committee or the Department of Justice as being un-Masonic, and any Mason in this Jurisdiction will be immediately expelled, after trial, and denied all Masonic privileges.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED AND DIRECTED: That the Grand Lodge of Montana joins and supports the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Florida and does not recognize any Masonic and fraternal ties with the Grand Jurisdiction of Cuba, except with respect to acts and directives issued and approved by Dr. Juan Jose Tarajano, Grand Master of Masons in Cuba (in exile);

THAT, until further notice, no lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction of Montana, nor any of its Masters, Wardens and Brethren, recognize or admit any Brother claiming Masonic affiliations through a lodge of Cuba, except and unless such Brother present and produce a card bearing the Great Seal of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, as well as the signature of Dr. Juan Jose Tarajano, Grand Master of Masons of Cuba in Exile, duly approving such Brother, and which said card shall be dated on or after the 24th day of February, 1961; or unless said Brother bears a card issued by Caribbean Naval Lodge, located at Guantanamo Naval Base, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Cuba, and which bears the imprint of the Great Seal of The Grand Lodge of Cuba and the signature of Eduardo R. Lopez-Bobadilla, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Cuba in Exile; and in addition to the above requirements the applicant for visitation shall also be subject to a full, complete and thorough examination in accordance with Section 44, Article IX, Code of Statutes of the Grand Lodge of Montana.

THAT THIS EDICT shall be read at the next regular meeting of all subordinate Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction after receipt hereof.

THAT the Grand Secretary shall make such distribution of this EDICT to the Masonic World as shall be appropriate.

THIS EDICT, made and issued, shall be effective from this, the 15th day of April, A. D. 1962.



Grand Master of Masons of Montana
J. R. P. REINEMER,

Grand Secretary.