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# La Masonería en el mundo – Israel (2)

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# **Grand Lodge of the State of Israel**

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After the British Authorities left in mid May 1948, there were 5 lodges under SC and about 20 under The Grand National Lodge of Palestine. This GL was not recognized by most of the Masonic world. It was consecrated in 1932 by The GLN d'Egypte itself not recognized because of interalia connections with GOF.

UGLE wouldn't consecrate a GL for lodges in the new State of Israel, and certainly no 'regular' GL would have done so for a not-recognized GL. So, the only possible way of creating a union of all lodges in Israel was for the 'Scottish' lodges to apply to their GLS and get them consecrate a new GL of the State of Israel. GLS refused to deal with the NGL of Palestine (which now changed its name to NGL of Israel (NOT State of Israel, as the correct present form). By agreement between the 'Scottish' and the non-recognized GL, the solution was for GLS to first consecrate a GL of the State of Israel "at the request of their 5 lodges". This was followed immediately by installation of a GM and appointment of his Grand Officers. Immediately after that there was a short break in order to allow all the 'irregular' brethren of the NGL to enter and then ALL WMs of ALL the lodges - both the Scottish and the others - surrendered their old Charges and received new ones from the newly installed GM. The preparations were by mutual agreement between delegates of the 'Scottish' lodges and of the irregular NGL. So much so that there were 2 G.Secretaries, 2 G.Treasurers and the GM of the NGL was nominated as the first IPGM of the new GL which was obviously recognized by Scotland.

As for many jurisdictions in the USA during that time period considered that their were no "irregular" Masons, as the Masons of the GL of Israel and those of the GL of Scotland were considered in Amity prior to the Erection on Oct 20, 1953.

Rabbi and Grand Chaplain, Abraham J. Feldman, D.D., back on March 3, 1953 wrote a report to Irving D. Goldwyn on the progress he was making in presenting the Grand Lodge of Israel's petition for recognition to the Foreign Relations Committee of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. In this letter he states in part:

"I might say, that the matter of the Israeli Grand Lodge's receiving its original charter from the Grand Lodge of Egypt which is no longer recognized by the Grand Lodges in the United States and elsewhere, came up in our discussions here. The argument which I used to counteract that and which was accepted, ran on some such line as this:

When a couple is legally married and then are divorced for whatever reasons, their children are legitimate regardless of whether the parents continue their married state. One of the parents may turn out to have been a scoundrel, or the marriage may even have taken place under misrepresentation, but, any children born of such marriage which was legal at the time of its performance, have no blemish. Similarly in the case of the Grand Lodge of Egypt. At the time when the Grand Lodge of Egypt issued its original charter to the Grand Lodge of Israel, the former was recognized by the Grand Lodges in the United States. If, as happened, the Grand Lodge of Egypt lost its recognition, those lodges which received their charters from the Grand Lodge of Egypt, are still legitimate because they were issued and received legally and in good faith.

I know that this argument which I used carried considerable weight in the, consideration of the Connecticut Grand Lodge."

This line of logic is then used by brethren across the nation in their pleadings to their Grand Lodges.