

KS

7-136

Reproduced at the National Archives

Custom House, New York, N.Y.

March 5th, 1918.

FROM: Navy Export Office
TO: Aide for Information
SUBJECT: The Inner Council

1. Enclosed herewith I hand you two letters addressed to Mr. William C. Wallace, 78 West 82nd Street, New York, signed by The Inner Council, an organization enrolling Americans presumably for work in connection with the Department of Justice in bringing about the detection and punishment of alien enemies.

2. The form of these letters is such that investigation might bring out interesting matter.

3. There is also sent herewith a tag numbered 355 on one side and on the reverse marked No. 418 AA, Newark, New Jersey; all of which is sent you for your information and for such action as you determine is necessary.

OJG/JJB

PERSONAL.

Dear Brother:

The Inner Council of "For America" welcome you as a member. Our Society has already a large number of the most influential Americans enrolled and our one object is to work in conjunction with the Department of Justice to bring about the detection and punishment of alien enemies.

Let us warn you most solemnly not to make anyone a member who is barred by birth or descent from membership, no matter how well or favorably you may know him.

In making a new member, be sure to impress upon him the fact that you are putting him on his honor and that he will be held strictly accountable for his acts. It is as much your duty to report a member you are convinced is not true to his obligation as to report an outright alien enemy.

If at any time you desire information of any kind, communicate with postoffice box No. 416 and you will at once be informed. Always be discreet, consulting only those you know to be members of the Society. Make your every act and speech concerning the Society absolutely secret.

We have a splendid mission, a splendid duty to perform, and when the great war is over, we believe that every one of us will be proud that we were members of "For America." We hope that you have joined the Society with but one object in view, which is to protect the interests of our country at the risk of your life.

Our Society is governed by an Inner Council who have selected their own officers. Our transactions will all be in secret. Be sure to sign all your communications addressed to the Society, not by your name, but by your number.

Be untiring in your efforts in making new members. We should have a million within one year. I impress this upon each one.

Every male American Citizen eighteen years old or over is eligible, except as instructed in Paragraph 2.

Again we welcome you, and ask you to be not weary in well-doing.

THE INNER COUNCIL

Newark, N.J.

Dear Brother:

Will you not please allow us to impress upon you the seriousness of your duty as a member of "For America"?

You have been duly constituted one of the guardians of your Nation's welfare. Grave dangers surround us, and only the utmost vigilance on the part of loyal Americans can protect us from these dangers.

"For America" provides a systematic means by which our national interests can be safeguarded. It is therefore imperative that our membership be extended as widely and rapidly as possible.

We ask you, then, to let your loyalty and patriotism inspire you to unceasing activity in making new members, and to impress upon these new members the necessity of doing the same thing.

May we count on you, individually, to send us five new names, at least, within the next week?

Do this for God and Country, and "For America".

If you are not fully informed and qualified, write us, and we will supply you with the necessary information.

THE INNER COUNCIL