

1491M-February 1949



U. S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON 25

OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE

ADDRESS REPLY TO
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE

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IT:F:ER
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The Middle East Institute
c/o Philip H. Watts, Treasurer
1830 19th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

It is the opinion of this office, based upon the evidence presented, that you are exempt from Federal income tax under the provisions of section 101(6) of the Internal Revenue Code and corresponding provisions of prior revenue acts, as it is shown that you are organized and operated exclusively for educational, charitable and religious purposes.

Accordingly, you will not be required to file income tax returns unless you change the character of your organization, the purposes for which you were organized, or your method of operation. Any such changes should be reported immediately to the collector of internal revenue for your district in order that their effect upon your exempt status may be determined.

Furthermore, under substantially identical authority contained in sections 1426 and 1607 of the Code and/or corresponding provisions of the Social Security Act, the employment taxes imposed by such statutes are not applicable to remuneration for services performed in your employ so long as you meet the conditions prescribed above for retention of an exempt status for income tax purposes.

You will be required, however, to file annually, beginning with your current accounting period, an information return on Form 990 with the collector of internal revenue for your district so long as this exemption remains in effect. This form may be obtained from the collector and is required to be filed on or before the 15th day of the fifth month following the close of your annual accounting period.

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The Middle East Institute

Contributions made to you are deductible by the donors in arriving at their taxable net income in the manner and to the extent provided by section 23(o) and (q) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and corresponding provisions of prior revenue acts.

Bequests, legacies, devises or transfers, to or for your use are deductible in arriving at the value of the net estate of a decedent for estate tax purposes in the manner and to the extent provided by sections 812(d) and 861(a)(3) of the Code and/or corresponding provisions of prior revenue acts. Gifts of property to you are deductible in computing net gifts for gift tax purposes in the manner and to the extent provided in section 1004(a)(2)(B) and 1004(b)(2) and (3) of the Code and/or corresponding provisions of prior revenue acts.

The collector of internal revenue for your district is being advised of this action.

By direction of the Commissioner.

Very truly yours,


Deputy Commissioner.