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1440 that are going forward. I think your staff has kept us
1441 informed about it, and I hope you will continue to do that.
1442 And we will want to know the results of those meetings that
1443 you referred to beginning July 6.

1444 Do you have any idea what the total exposure here is for
1445 the United States Government?

1446 Mr. BURT. I think it is roughly \$1.6 billion.

1447 Mr. HAMILTON. 1.6?

1448 Mr. BURT. \$1.6 billion.

1449 Mr. HAMILTON. Now, the \$900 million is part of that \$1.6
1450 billion, is it?

1451 Mr. BURT. I believe so, yes.

1452 Mr. HAMILTON. Now, I want to bring up these resolutions
1453 relating to the Armenian community. As you know, we have
1454 pending in the Congress two resolutions. One is
1455 H.J.Res.247, which calls for the designation of April 24 as
1456 National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man; and
1457 the other is H.Res.171, which is a longer resolution that
1458 basically affirms the Armenian genocide.

1459 First, I want to know the position of the department on
1460 those two resolutions.

1461 Mr. BURT. We are opposed to the passage of both
1462 resolutions.

1463 Mr. HAMILTON. Can you tell us why, in each case?

1464 Mr. BURT. One aspect of the issue that causes deep

1465 concern to us is the problem of terrorism. Unfortunately,
1466 some Armenian extremists use the events of 1915 to justify
1467 terrorist attacks against Turkish diplomats and
1468 installations, and increasingly against innocent bystanders.
1469 Whether the drafters of the resolution believe it, or want
1470 this to be the case or not, we believe the passage of those
1471 resolutions would be viewed as a concession made in the face
1472 of this kind of terrorism; and we think it could encourage
1473 further activity.

1474 In fact, a Turkish diplomat was assassinated by a car bomb
1475 in Vienna last week, and an Armenian terrorist organization
1476 has claimed credit for the murder. An Austrian policeman is
1477 not expected to live, and other bystanders were injured by
1478 the blast.

1479 In addition, the Turkish Government views demands by
1480 Armenian groups for reparations and even territory ^{as} ~~as~~ some
1481 kind of recompense for the events of 1915 as threatening the
1482 integrity of the Turkish state, and they will resist
1483 acceding to such demands. Turkish sensitivities are
1484 already aroused over congressional action to link military
1485 assistance for Turkey to events on Cyprus.

1486 So I think we have to recognize that, again, whether it is
1487 in the minds of the supporters of these resolutions or not,
1488 that these resolutions will have adverse implications for
1489 our struggle against terrorism, and adverse implications for

1490 our relations with Turkey.

1491 Finally, the tragic events that took place in 1915 ^{are} ~~is~~ a
1492 matter of record, and we, ~~speaking for the Department of~~
1493 ~~State,~~ see no value in characterizing these events. Of
1494 course, I can't speak for the Congress but I can speak for
1495 the Department of State.

1496 Mr. HAMILTON. Your response suggests to me that you would
1497 oppose any resolution dealing with the Armenian issue and
1498 the events in 1915; is that correct?

1499 Mr. BURT. I don't think I could say any resolution,
1500 because it would depend, of course, on what it would say.

1501 Mr. HAMILTON. You have looked at these resolutions?

1502 Mr. BURT. Yes, we have looked at these resolutions.

1503 Mr. HAMILTON. You find them unsatisfactory?

1504 Mr. BURT. We have taken a consistent stand against them,
1505 on the grounds of terrorism and on the grounds of our
1506 relationship with Turkey.

1507 Mr. HAMILTON. Do you see any way in which H.R. 171 could
1508 be made acceptable to the administration by changes in
1509 wording? Have you analyzed it to that extent?

1510 Mr. BURT. Well, we have; and I have been in some
1511 discussions actually with supporters of these resolutions.
1512 And I think it would be difficult, to be quite candid with
1513 you, Mr. Chairman.

1514 Mr. HAMILTON. You recognize, of course, that the

1515 resolutions do not include anything about compensation to
1516 the victims?

1517 Mr. BURT. No, we recognize this. And we recognize, I
1518 think, that the supporters of these resolutions are well-
1519 meaning. Our concern is how these resolutions are going to
1520 be interpreted by other people who are not so well-meaning,
1521 who in fact are carrying out a murderous campaign of
1522 terrorism, and who could use such resolutions to argue that
1523 their campaigns are somehow paying off; that there is a
1524 heightened sensitivity and concern about the Armenian issue.

1525 Mr. HAMILTON. Of course, I think maybe you could argue it
1526 the other way, could you not?--that by not acting to some
1527 degree to recognize that, you are simply stonewalling the
1528 resolutions, and that will only encourage the terrorists
1529 even more?

1530 Mr. BURT. I don't think so. The people who are carrying
1531 out the terrorist attacks are not going to be impressed by
1532 congressional resolutions. They are dedicated people.

1533 Mr. HAMILTON. You recognize, I am sure, that the
1534 supporters of the resolution in the Congress, and many in
1535 the Armenian community, of course, are not terrorists?

1536 Mr. BURT. Well, ^{yes,} ~~no~~ I said--

1537 Mr. HAMILTON. And do not support terrorists?

1538 Mr. BURT. Absolutely. And I recognize this. I do think,
1539 though, everyone should bear in mind the way in which well-

1540 meaning efforts can be exploited and used by terrorists;
1541 that, coupled with the unusual and I would argue
1542 understandable sensitivity of the current Turkish Government
1543 to this issue.

1544 Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Secretary, I would like to submit a few
1545 questions to you in addition to the ones that I have asked.

1546 [The questions and answers follow:]

1547

1548 ***** COMMITTEE INSERT *****

Deukmejian Supports Genocide Resolutions

LOS ANGELES — The congressional resolutions regarding the Armenian Genocide last week received a big boost from two key political figures.

The Majority Leader of the House of Representatives, Congressman Jim Wright (D-Texas) on July, pledged his active support to the resolutions and California Governor George Deukmejian, earlier in the week, sent a letter to the authors of the resolutions offering his assistance.

Wright Support

Congressman Wright informed the Armenian National Committee that he not only is willing to schedule the resolutions for a vote, but he is prepared to ask other members of the House to vote for the resolutions.

Speaking at a luncheon meeting with the ANC on July 11 in Los Angeles, Wright said, "I will back these resolutions because they are right." He added that he could not understand how the United States Department of State could object to these kinds of humanitarian proposals.

An ANC spokesman said that they were very pleased with the outcome of the meeting. "The Majority Leader's support is very significant because he is one of the most influential and respected members in the House and respected representatives," stated the ANC spokesman.

Until now, Congressman Tony Coelho's (D-Calif.) resolution calling for the designation of April 24, 1985 as a National Day of Remembrance for victims of genocide had to be considered under the House unanimous consent rule. This meant that the resolutions could again be objected to and prevented

from being considered. However, the support from Wright will permit the resolution to be brought up under a different rule requiring a vote and prevent the House Republican leadership from objecting to the consideration of the resolution.

In addition to the commitment by Wright, the resolution last week received added support from Governor Deukmejian.

On July 10, the Governor's office reported that separate letters had been sent to Congressman Tony Coelho and Charles "Chip" Pashayan (R-Calif.), the authors of the two House resolutions, indicating the Governor's strong support. Deukmejian also permitted the authors of the resolutions to use his letter in any way they deemed appropriate.

The Governor's letter is expected to be especially helpful in getting the support of several California Republican congressmen who have not yet taken a position on the resolutions.

"It is our duty to call attention to the atrocities that occurred many years ago because if the humane people of this world don't remember, you can be sure the tyrants will — and history will go on repeating itself," the Governor's letter said.



W.R. PRUNI—P. PAPANICOLAOU

(L. to R.) Honoree Sen. Paul Tsongas (D-Mass.), AHI-PAC president Dean Lomis, and Sen. Joseph Biden (D-Del.) at dinner sponsored by AHI-PAC in Washington, DC.

Sen. Biden Reveals Reagan Plan Against Greece

WASHINGTON — The United States is encouraging the creation of a new "file" on Greece, linking that country with international terrorism and the anti-American positions of Andreas Papandreou.

This revelation was made by the Democratic Senator from Delaware, Joseph Biden, at a dinner sponsored by the Public Affairs Committee of the American-Hellenic Institute (AHI-PAC) in honor of Greek-American Senator Paul Tsongas.

Biden's remarks were particularly important because of his membership in the Senate committee which oversees American secret services. Nevertheless, the Senator from Delaware evaded giving any further information on the type of "file" and the actions planned by the United States against Greece.

Referring to American policy toward Greece, Mr. Biden condemned the Reagan Administration, saying that its policy forces Andreas Papandreou constantly to react to it (in defense of his country's interests), while at the same time creating problems for those who defend Greece and Cyprus in the Congress.

The Democratic Senator also revealed that he was "threatened" by the Reagan Administration for the amendment he offered to the military-aid bill for Turkey, and he stressed that "I'm saying all this so that you understand what we're facing from the Reagan Administration and how interested it is in arming Turkey." Speaking about the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, he said that "it was a difficult and ugly moment both for Cyprus and the United States," and having condemned Rauf Denkash's pseudo-state, he expressed the hope that justice would finally be achieved for the Cypriot people.

Mr. Biden dedicated the last part of his speech to Paul Tsongas, stressing the Massachusetts Senator's resolute character, and referring to his decision to retire from politics, preferring to spend his time with his family. Mr. Biden said that "few people would have had the courage to do that," and, in conclusion he spoke about the way that Senator Tsongas had initiated him into Greek and Cypriot issues, as one of the supreme defenders of the rights of Cyprus and Greece in Congress.

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"It is our duty to call attention to the atrocities that occurred many years ago because if the humane people of this world don't remember, you can be sure the tyrants will — and history will go on repeating itself," the Governor's letter said.

U.S. Opposes Genocide Resolutions

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The United States Department of State on June 25, made public its opposition to Congressional resolutions on the Armenian Genocide and refrained from referring to the virtual annihilation of the Armenian people as a genocide.

The State Department position was made public by the Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Canadian Affairs Richard Burt during testimony in front of the House

Sub-Committee on Europe and the Middle East.

One of the reasons cited for the opposition was that the State Department "sees no value in characterizing the events of 1915." In his testimony, the Assistant Secretary referred to the Armenian Genocide three times and each time he called the genocide "the events of 1915."

Another State Department reason for objecting to the resolution is

that they would have "adverse implications on U.S. relations with Turkey." Although Burt did not explain the reasons for such a conclusion, he said, "the Turkish government views demands by Armenian groups for reparations and even territory to some kind of recompense for the events of 1915 as threatening the integrity of the Turkish state."

Congressman Lee Hamilton,
(Continued on Page 11)

chairman of the Sub-committee on Europe and Middle East, who disagrees with the State Department's claims, reminded the Assistant Secretary that the resolutions "do not include anything about compensation to the victims."

A third reason given by Burt for the State Department's opposition was that passage of the resolutions would encourage terrorism. He stated that terrorist groups "could use such resolutions to argue that their campaigns are somehow paying off; that there is a heightened sensitivity and concern about the Armenian issue."

Yet, Burt seemed to contradict himself when Hamilton suggested to him that "stonewalling the resolution" and failing to act would "encourage the terrorists even more."

The Assistant Secretary replied, "the people who are carrying out the terrorist attacks are not going to be impressed by Congressional resolution. They are dedicated people."

Congressman Hamilton had invited the Assistant Secretary to testify because the administration had not submitted written comments on House Resolution 171. The request for written comments was made in July of 1983. It is customary for the House Committee to request written comments on the administration's position before taking action on assigned bills and resolutions.

The comments made by Burt referred to both Congressman Pashayan's H. Res. 171, which affirms U.S. policy on the Armenian Genocide, and Congressman Coelho's H.J. Res. 247, which designates April 24, 1985 as a National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man, as a National Day of Remembrance.

The draft of Pashayan's resolution is presently pending in the Sub-committee on Europe and the Middle East and could be acted on now that the administration has expressed its position.

This past April, State Department representatives attempted to convince Coelho to withdraw his resolution even though it had received the necessary number of co-sponsors to be brought for floor action. When Coelho refused, the State Department arranged to have the resolution blocked by the House Republican leadership and Congressman Siljander (R-Mich.).

Coelho will reintroduce his resolution to observe the 70th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide on April 24, 1985.



HONORING FRIENDS — Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro of New York and the Diocesan Legate Rt. Rev. Bishop Papken Varjabedian during a recent reception on Capital Hill honoring all legislators who supported the Armenian Genocide Resolutions. Ferraro is being considered a possible Vice Presidential candidate on the Democratic ticket.

LINAS KOJELIS S
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON, DC 20500

The California COURIER

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1610 N. Wilcox Avenue
L.A., Ca. 90028 (213) 464-8337

How Reagan Lost Armenian Votes

SACRAMENTO — Governor George Deukmejian's disagreement with the White House position on the Armenian Genocide was picked up by the California Magazine (August issue), carrying the headline, "How Reagan Los The Armenian Vote." This split was first reported by The California Courier on May 17.

President Reagan's refusal to back legislation commemorating the massacre of 1.5 million Armenians by the Turks during World War I may have passed unnoticed elsewhere, but it cost him more than half his one massive backing among California Armenians, according to Serge Samoniantz of the Armenian National Committee.

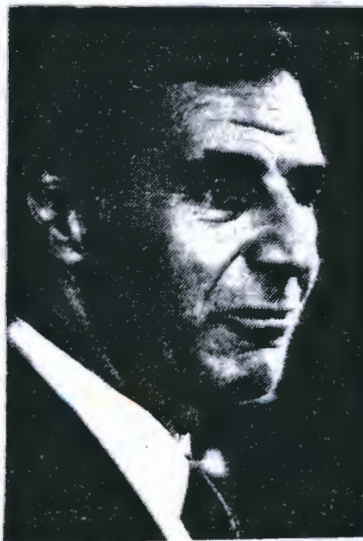
It didn't work to blame the State Department's fear of offending Turkey. "Most of our people don't make such distinctions," says Vatche Semerdjian of the conservative Armenian Democratic Liberal Organization, which places Reagan's slip at 60 to 70 percent.

California's other leading Republican, however, came out of the affair looking significantly better. Last May, having proclaimed April 24 a state Day of Remembrance for Armenian genocide victims, Governor Deukmejian made public his "unequivocal disagreement" with the President.

While few doubted Deukme-

jian's sincerity, Samoniantz, for one, sees more than emotion in the act. "I believe he wanted to separate himself from the President on this issue in order not to antagonize his financial and political supporters."

Others see it as a sign of higher ambitions. "My guess is that Duke will go to Washington four years from now," says Kosti Shirvanian, a Deukmejian supporter. "If he does a good job here, he'll certainly qualify as a presidential or vice presidential candidate." —E.Y.



SPLIT ALLEGIANCE — Governor George Deukmejian's reported split with the Reagan administration's position on the Armenian Genocide was picked up by the American media.

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PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN RPT DLY MGM

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

TO HONORABLE RONALD W. REAGAN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE EASTERN PRELACY OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA AS IT CONVENES IN PROVIDENCE, RI, MAY 13-15, 1987 CONVEYS ITS WARMEST GREETINGS AND WISHES FOR YOUR CONTINUED GOOD HEALTH AND SUCCESS IN THIS YEAR OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION.

THE ARMENIAN PEOPLE, VICTIMS OF THE FIRST GENOCIDE OF THE 20TH

CENTURY, LAUD YOUR EFFORTS TO WORLD PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS, WITH THE HOPE THAT THROUGH YOUR LEADERSHIP, SUCH ATROCITIES WILL NOT BEFALL ANY NATION AGAIN.

MAY GOD GRANT YOU WISDOM AND THE STRENGTH TO EXECUTE YOUR DUTIES DURING THIS TURBULENT TIME.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS,

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MESROB ASHJIAN, PRELATE, AND NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

138 EAST 39 ST

NEW YORK NY 10016

2010 EST

Armenian Interns. -

Defense & Foreign Policy.

About 30 interns

Middle Eastern Affairs -



Armenian Assembly of America
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Aims and Accomplishments



A Brief Review

In 1971, John Hanessian, Jr., and Haikaz Grigorian were members of the faculty at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. From time to time they met for lunch to discuss their common concerns for the Armenian-American community. During these meetings they considered the possibility of forming a new Armenian organization in which leaders from various Armenian groups would participate for the benefit of the community as a whole. Their idea was new and exciting: an organization for *all* Armenians, based in the nation's capital, to represent and promote Armenian interests.

Wishing to share their idea with other individuals, the two men traveled to Boston to meet with two attorneys, Robert A. Kaloosdian and Haig Der Manuelian, having agreed beforehand that if this meeting did not go well they would drop the idea. The four men discussed the merits and practicality of creating yet another Armenian organization,

which they conceived as an "assembly" of Armenian organizations. Ultimately the four decided that the benefits of such an assembly would far outweigh the risks. Buoyed with optimism, they sought to enlist others. Among the first to join them were Richard Hovannissian and Lionel Galstaun, well-known and highly respected community leaders, who endorsed the concept enthusiastically.

Of immediate concern to the fledgling organization was funding. Two benefactors came forward who were to have a lasting impact on the new Assembly: Stephen P. Mugar and Hirair Hovnanian. Mugar, the original owner of the Boston chain of Star Markets, was the first to offer financial support. The assembly concept appealed to his own sense of the need for intercommunity cooperation and for Armenian participation in the democratic processes of the United States. Mugar was to become known affectionately as the Assembly's



R. Hovannisian

P. Galstian

S. Mugar

M. Hovnanian

"godfather." Hovnanian, a New Jersey real estate developer, also gave support. He felt strongly that the new organization would unify the Armenian-American community, guarantee the participation of Armenians in government, and, most importantly, encourage Armenian youth to retain their identity and serve the Armenian people. Hovnanian's contributions helped to make possible the first gathering of Armenian-American leaders at Airlie House in Warrenton, Virginia. This conclave endorsed the Armenian Assembly and gave it specific objectives and a community mandate. Shortly after, the national office in Washington was opened.

In the years that followed, the Assembly faced many challenges. The tragic death of John Hanesian in an airplane crash in 1974 severely tested its still fragile structure. Without his strong leadership, the future of the organization seemed uncertain, but then—and many times

in the decade ahead—the Assembly concept transcended any individual and overcame all setbacks.

The future of the Assembly was assured in 1984 when Hovnanian and the Mugar estate launched the Endowment Fund with contributions of \$1 million each. The Assembly's projects and its role as a professional Washington institution are continually expanding as additional funds are received.

The Armenian Assembly consciously engages all segments of the Armenian community. It competes with no other organization, rivals no group, and is a friend and supporter to all. It is non-sectarian and non-partisan in both the Armenian and American contexts.

The Assembly claims no exclusivity in dealing with issues, persons, or institutions. It welcomes diversity and urges other groups to participate in the American political process.

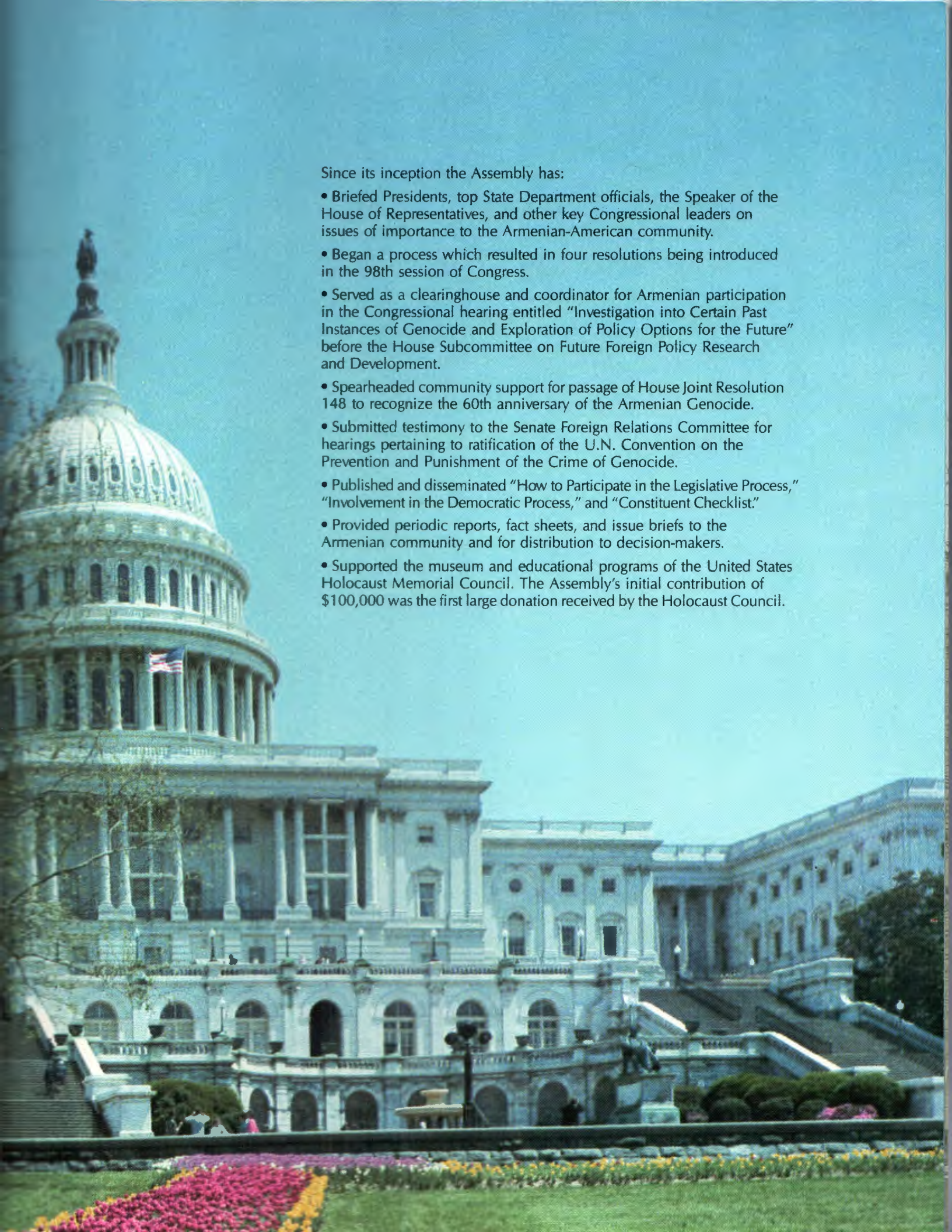
Governmental Affairs

The Armenian Assembly of America encourages involvement in the democratic process.

The Armenian Assembly promotes participation in government at the local, state and national levels and attempts to inform the Armenian public on issues of community concern.

The Assembly serves as liaison with elected and appointed officials, federal agencies, and other groups engaged in political decision-making and seeks to heighten their awareness of Armenian-American issues.





Since its inception the Assembly has:

- Briefed Presidents, top State Department officials, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and other key Congressional leaders on issues of importance to the Armenian-American community.
- Began a process which resulted in four resolutions being introduced in the 98th session of Congress.
- Served as a clearinghouse and coordinator for Armenian participation in the Congressional hearing entitled "Investigation into Certain Past Instances of Genocide and Exploration of Policy Options for the Future" before the House Subcommittee on Future Foreign Policy Research and Development.
- Spearheaded community support for passage of House Joint Resolution 148 to recognize the 60th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.
- Submitted testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for hearings pertaining to ratification of the U.N. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.
- Published and disseminated "How to Participate in the Legislative Process," "Involvement in the Democratic Process," and "Constituent Checklist."
- Provided periodic reports, fact sheets, and issue briefs to the Armenian community and for distribution to decision-makers.
- Supported the museum and educational programs of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. The Assembly's initial contribution of \$100,000 was the first large donation received by the Holocaust Council.

The Armenian Assembly of America promotes public understanding and awareness of Armenian issues.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Armenian Assembly of America

Vol. 12, No. 1

Vol. 12, No. 1

THE NEXT STEP IN CONGRESS

Special Congress
American

...the Armenian
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with an objection in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Approval of S. Res. 247, which was introduced by Senator Carl Levin (D-MI), Passed by Senators Carl Levin and over 30 other Senators. (RCA) - Thousands victory for Americans all over the world.

In the House, 212 Members of Congress sponsored H.R. 247, a measure which would have created a "National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man," by designating April 24th of last year as a day to honor all victims of genocide, especially the 12 million Armenians, genocide victims of the Turkish Criminal

JOURNAL

Washington, D.C.

Winter, 1989

WHAT IS TO BE DONE? THE PROFESSORS AND THE ARMENIAN COMMUNITY

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JOURNAL

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next Step in Congress
is To Be Donor
Profession and the American
community
side and Politics: A New
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from the Chairman
and General
in a Manuscript
Review, Forward the
document and Pro
General
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in Law



The Assembly conveys positive, accurate information about Armenian life, history, and culture to the public at large. The Assembly has:

- Published a quarterly *Journal* focusing on issues of interest and concern to Armenian-Americans.
- Met with editors and reporters of major newspapers.
- Appeared on television programs to discuss Armenian topics.
- Provided background information and spokespersons for the broadcast and print media.
- Monitored the media nationwide.
- Responded to misleading and inaccurate news coverage.
- Secured a legal opinion on the Fairness Doctrine and television coverage of the Armenian Genocide.
- Met with the President at the White House to discuss Armenian concerns.
- Contributed to the *National Geographic's* article "The Proud Armenians."



Student Services

The Armenian Assembly of America sponsors Armenian-American youth for professional internships in Washington, D.C., each summer.

The Armenian Assembly sponsors Armenian-American college students for summer internships. Interns have gained valuable professional experience working in Congressional offices on Capitol Hill and in such diverse organizations as ABC-TV News, Cable News Network, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the U.S. State Department, the Pentagon, the National Organization for Women, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Reserve, the Department of Justice, the National Institutes of Health, the Organization of American States, and many others. As a direct result of the Summer Intern Program, a number of interns have been offered permanent positions in Washington.

The Summer Intern Program began in 1975 with four

interns assigned to the office of Speaker of the House Thomas "Tip" O'Neill. The number has grown to over 40 students each year. Nearly 300 young people have completed the program to date.

In 1982 the Capitol Ideas visitation series for the first time brought the interns into the offices of prominent Washington figures. As part of Capitol Ideas, the interns have met with Senators, news anchorpersons, State Department correspondents, and other Washington decisionmakers.

The Summer Intern Program is a catalyst for young Armenians to become involved in the democratic process. At the same time, it provides an opportunity for each intern to reaffirm his/her Armenian identity.



The Armenian Assembly of America builds networks with Armenian student clubs nationwide.

Since 1981 the Assembly has offered an extensive range of services to the growing number of Armenian clubs at colleges and universities across the country through the formation of the Federation of Armenian Student Clubs of America (FASCA). Currently the Armenian Assembly networks with more than 60 clubs at colleges and universities nationwide.

FASCA provides financial and technical assistance to further the objectives of each club. Services include materials-on-loan, library development, a newsletter, and a toll-free hotline.

The Assembly has encouraged and supported:

- Joint commemorations with Jewish organizations on

campuses. FASCA provides films, posters, and help in acquiring speakers.

- Curriculum monitoring efforts. FASCA offers guidelines to clubs concerned with accurate representation of Armenian history in university courses.
- Regional meetings of Armenian club presidents.
- Library development. FASCA gives matching library funds to encourage student clubs to purchase books on Armenian topics.



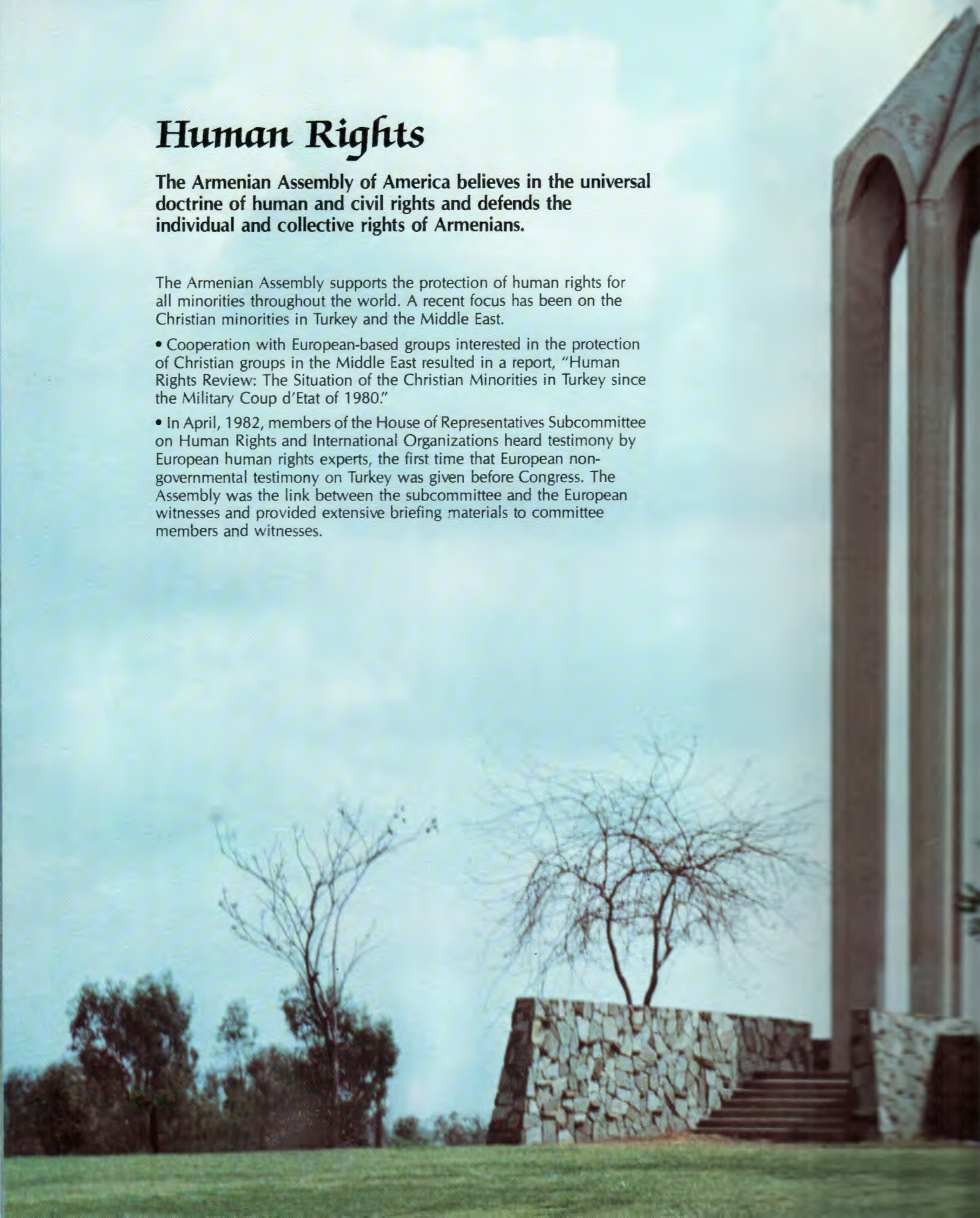
Human Rights

The Armenian Assembly of America believes in the universal doctrine of human and civil rights and defends the individual and collective rights of Armenians.

The Armenian Assembly supports the protection of human rights for all minorities throughout the world. A recent focus has been on the Christian minorities in Turkey and the Middle East.

- Cooperation with European-based groups interested in the protection of Christian groups in the Middle East resulted in a report, "Human Rights Review: The Situation of the Christian Minorities in Turkey since the Military Coup d'Etat of 1980."

- In April, 1982, members of the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Human Rights and International Organizations heard testimony by European human rights experts, the first time that European non-governmental testimony on Turkey was given before Congress. The Assembly was the link between the subcommittee and the European witnesses and provided extensive briefing materials to committee members and witnesses.



A photograph of the Armenian Martyrs Memorial Monument in Montebello, CA. The monument features a tall, slender, light-colored column with a pointed top, partially visible on the left. In the foreground, there is a low, dark stone wall with a large, dark, bowl-shaped structure on top. Several trees are scattered around the base of the monument, and a grassy field is in the foreground. The sky is blue with some clouds.

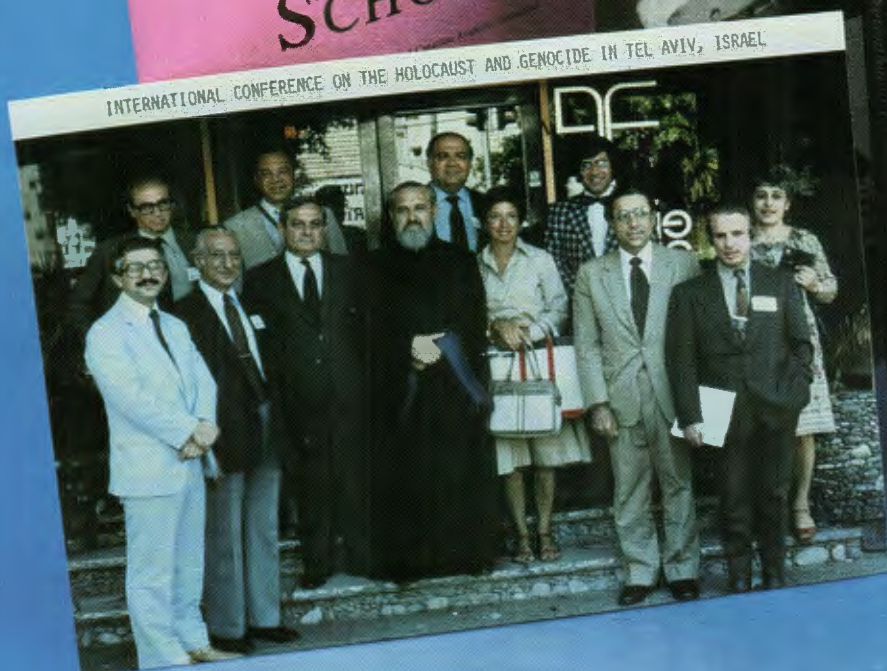
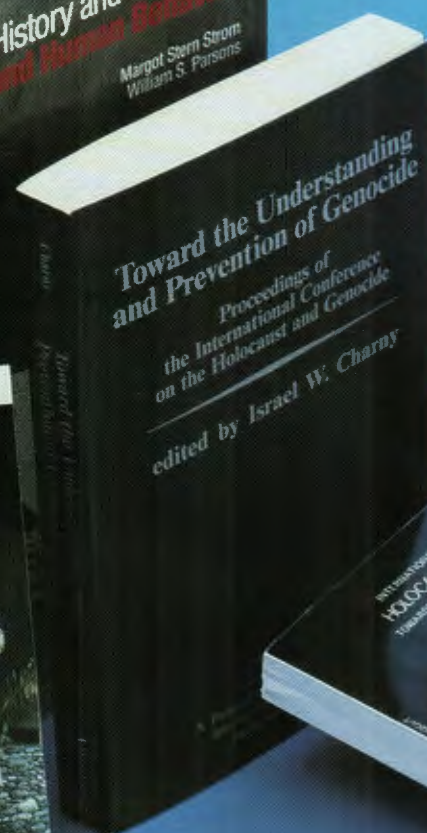
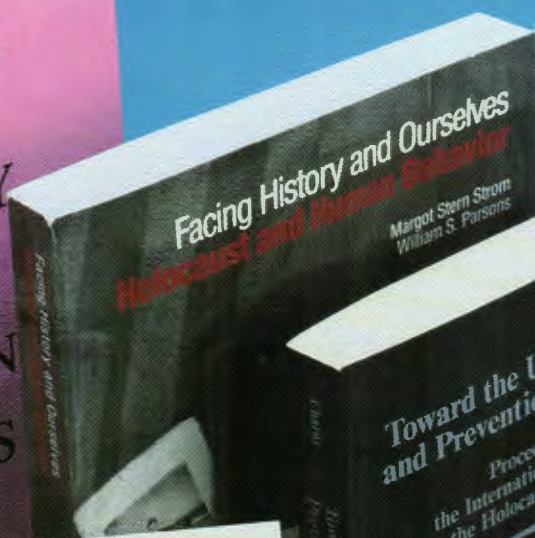
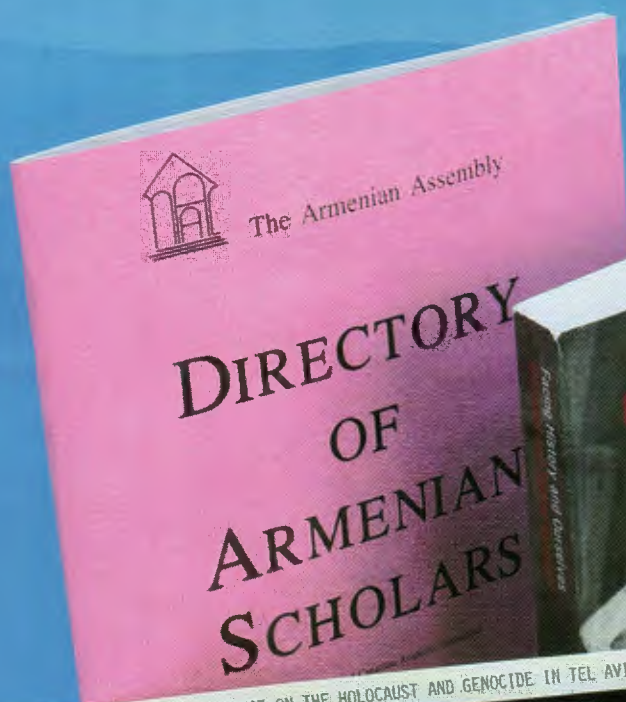
- In 1978, 58 leaders of the Armenian-American community met with Ambassadors Andrew Young and James Fulton Leonard at the United Nations to express concern for the safety of the Armenian community in Lebanon. The meeting resulted in an official request by the U.S. for protection of Armenians in Lebanon.

Currently the Assembly monitors the publications and activities of human rights organizations worldwide. The information is shared with the press and key organizations and individuals. The Assembly monitors and provides information to Helsinki Watch, Human Rights Internet, the Council on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Amnesty International, the Lawyers Committee for International Human Rights, and various European church and human rights organizations.

Armenian Martyrs Memorial Monument, Montebello, CA, photo by J. Demirdjian

Academic Affairs

The Armenian Assembly of America encourages academic research and publications.



The Armenian Assembly relies on scholars in Armenian studies to help carry out its educational, public affairs, and governmental affairs programs. The Assembly likewise supports scholars through grants, conferences, networking, and publications.

The Assembly has:

- Sponsored a group of Armenian scholars to participate in the International Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide in Tel Aviv, Israel.
- Supported the *Facing History and Ourselves* project in Brookline, Massachusetts, an exemplary teacher training program on the Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide.
- Cosponsored symposiums on "Ethnicity and Assimilation" and on "Changing Perceptions of the Armenian Genocide" at Columbia University.
- Cosponsored a symposium on the psychological effects of the Armenian Genocide on survivors and their families.
- Enrolled as a founding sponsor of the Internet on Holocaust and Genocide, an international network of scholars and professionals involved in genocide studies.
- Assisted the New York Department of Education in developing a teachers' manual on the Holocaust and Genocide.
- Advised the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith on revision of its Holocaust and Genocide curriculum.



Grants

The Armenian Assembly of America seeks grants for its own projects and on behalf of other organizations.



In 1980 the Assembly made a commitment to compete for grants on its own behalf and for other organizations. For the first time Armenian organizations could get assistance in preparing grant applications, communicating with federal agencies, and negotiating funding. The Assembly published a grants handbook which was sent to all major Armenian groups.

Grants received by or through the direct efforts of the Armenian Assembly include:

- \$1,750,000 from the Department of State, Agency for International Development, to aid Lebanon. Armenian Assembly representatives, as members of the American Supervisory Board, served as project director and co-project director for the AID grant. They traveled to Lebanon to bring together representatives from the Armenian General Benevolent Union, the Armenian Relief Society, and the Armenian Missionary Association of America to organize the aid program.
- \$500,000 from the Department of Education to support the Armenian Bilingual Education Program in Watertown, Massachusetts.
- \$300,000 from the U.S. Department for Health and Human Services to provide social services for Armenian refugees at the Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center in Los Angeles, and \$50,000 to provide services at the Armenian Relief Society's Social Service Center in Los Angeles.
- \$110,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to tape the oral histories of immigrant survivors of the Armenian Genocide. More than 400 such oral histories have been collected.
- \$108,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the Computer-Based Instruction for Armenian Language project at Stanford University.
- \$31,500 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop a computer-based system of Armenian typesetting at Stanford University.
- \$10,288 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to catalogue and transfer William Saroyan's literary effects from Paris to the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley.



Western Regional Office

The first regional office of the Armenian Assembly,
opened in Los Angeles in 1979.

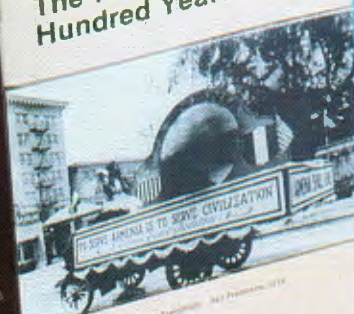


The Armenian Assembly
CALIFORNIA COUNCIL AND RESOURCE CENTER

THE ARMENIANS, PEOPLE of ARARAT

AN EXHIBIT OF ARMENIAN CULTURE AND HISTORY
April 9 to May 5, 1979
LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY - 630 WEST 5TH STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, 90071

The Armenian Community of California: The First One Hundred Years



A Photographic Exhibit
on the Occasion of the
California Armenian
Centennial

Sponsored by
The Armenian Assembly of America
The Armenian Film Foundation
The Armenian Studies Program
California State University

THE ARMENIAN CASE: A QUEST FOR LEGAL REMEDIES

March 1982 - 11, 1984
140 - 14th Ave.
Mission Center
University of San Francisco
San Francisco



Organized by
The Armenian Assembly
National Cultural Committee

FROM ARARAT TO THE GOLDEN An Armenian Odyssey

An Exhibit of Armenian History and
Culture
San Francisco Public Library, City
April - May, 1982

The Western regional office provides state and local coordination for projects undertaken in Washington, in addition to initiating its own programs. Since its inception it has:

- Invited leaders from all the Armenian organizations in California to attend a meeting convened by the Assembly at which more than 250 individuals were briefed on the status of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council and the State Department issue regarding its *Bulletin*.
- Mounted a photographic exhibit, "The Armenian Community of California: The First One Hundred Years," which opened in the State Capitol and traveled to libraries throughout California.
- Sponsored a conference on "The Armenian Case: A Quest for Legal Remedies."
- Published reports entitled "Armenian Students in Hollywood," "Armenian Language: A Contrastive Analysis," and "California Armenians."
- Helped develop and promote the California State Department of Education's *Handbook for Teaching Armenian-Speaking Students*, which was distributed to public schools in California.
- Sponsored "From Ararat to the Golden State: An Armenian Odyssey," an exhibit of Armenian history and culture, at the San Francisco Public Library and Civic Center.
- Cosponsored regional teacher workshops in Glendale and San Diego on the *Facing History and Ourselves* curriculum on the Holocaust and Armenian Genocide.
- Sponsored an exhibit entitled "Armenians: People of Ararat."
- Held a workshop entitled "Armenian Students in Public Schools" for teachers in the Los Angeles Unified School District.
- Sponsored conferences on "Armenian-American Participation in the American Democratic Process."



Armenian Assembly of America

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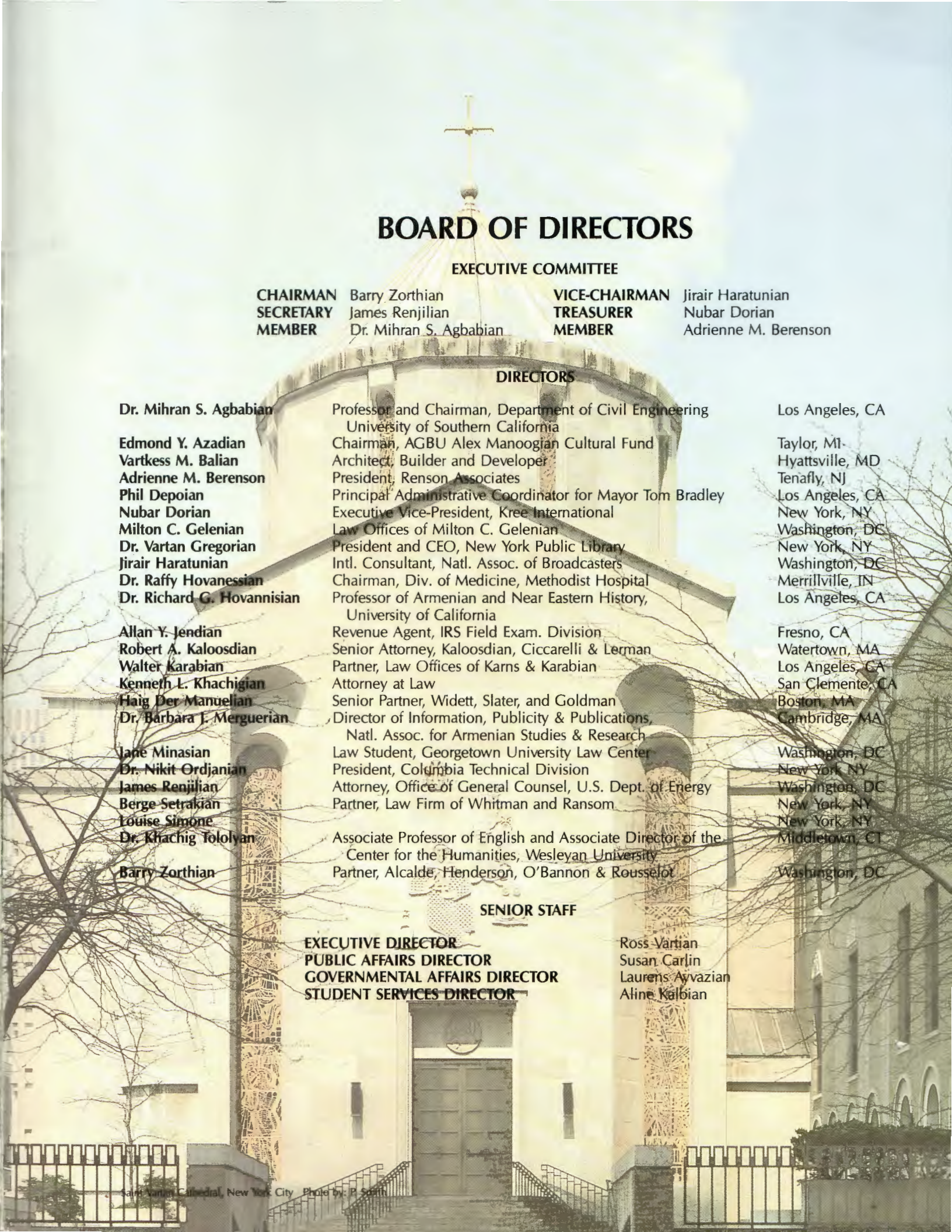
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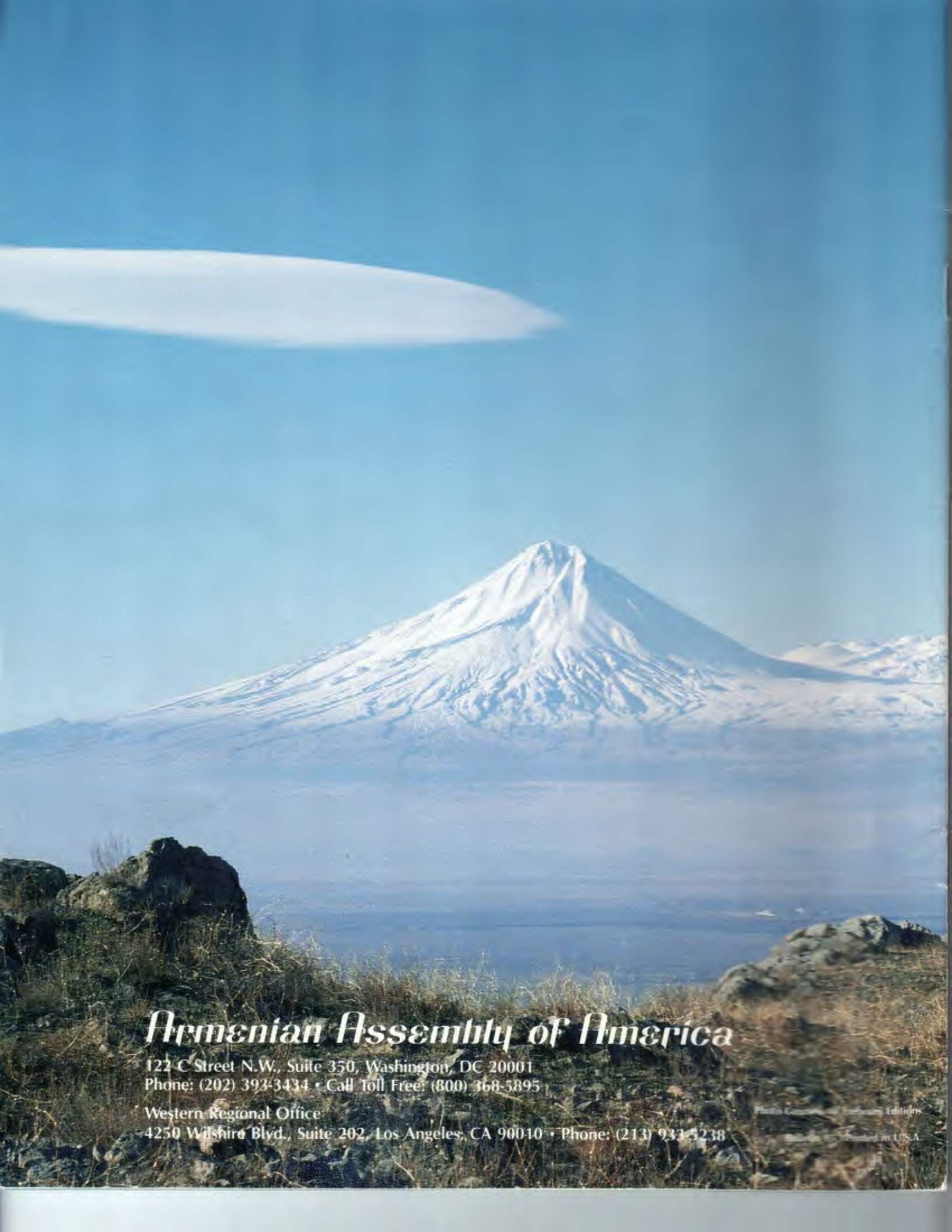
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