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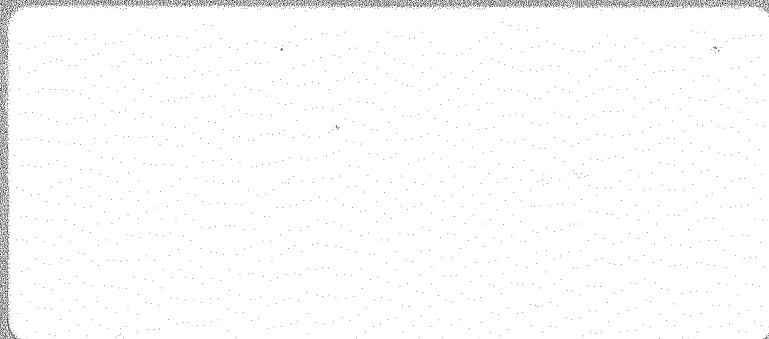
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE REMARKS
ON
THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Issue Brief

Department of State Remarks on the Armenian Genocide

1. The Armenian Genocide of 1915-23 wherein 1.5 million men, women, and children perished is a documented, accepted fact. While attempts at cover-up and denial have been the official policy of the Republic of Turkey since 1923, the United States has, heretofore, not supported Turkish claims. Recently, however, the Department of State issued the following unprecedented "Note" at the conclusion of an article entitled: "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" in the August, 1982, Department of State Bulletin:

"Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

2. Every Armenian-American organization has and will continue to object to this inexplicable distortion of fact. The documented history of the Armenian people and the proud record of United States intervention and humanitarian assistance on behalf of the Armenians cannot be altered or ignored.
3. In response to expressions of concern regarding the content of the article raised primarily by the Republic of Turkey, the Department issued the following disclaimer in the September issue of the Department of State Bulletin:

"The article, 'Armenian Terrorism: A Profile,' which appeared in the feature on terrorism in the August, 1982, issue of the Bulletin, does not necessarily reflect an official position of the Department of State, and the interpretive comments in the article are solely those of the author."

4. Recognizing that the September disclaimer could not be applied to the August "Note," numerous Armenian-American organizations contacted the White House, the Department of State and Congress seeking both a retraction of the Department's apparent denial of the Armenian Genocide and an affirmation of the facts. Over 30 Congressmen have written to the Department expressing support for the Armenian community's position.

5. Mr. Powell A. Moore, Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations, has responded to Congressional inquiries on behalf of the Department by stating, in part,

"I would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm that neither the article 'Armenian Terrorism: A Profile' nor the accompanying footnote represented an effort to present an official position of the Department of State."

6. Mr. John Hughes, Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs and Department Spokesman, responded to the Speaker of the House by stating, in part,

"that neither the August footnote nor the article represented an effort to present the official position of the Department of State. Publication of the article and the footnote represented no policy change by the Department."

7. Five Armenian-American leaders, responding to an invitation from the Department, met with Assistant Secretary John Hughes and Counselor Edward Derwinski on January 12, 1983, to review the matter. The delegation was advised that the August "Note" did not represent the Department's posi-

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tion. The delegation was not advised with regard to Department policy on the Armenian Genocide. Messrs. Hughes and Derwinski also indicated that the Department would be able to respond in a manner that would be acceptable to the Armenian-American community. As of March 28, 1983, the Department has not responded.

8. The Department's explanations and clarifications identified herein are unsatisfactory, contradictory and inconsistent with President Reagan's Proclamation 4838 which states, in part,

"Like the genocide of the Armenians before it, and the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it — and like too many other such persecutions of too many other peoples — the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten."

9. Regardless of immediate political interests, the Department of State must affirm the facts of the Armenian Genocide and in so doing defend the principle of the inviolability of history. To do otherwise would set a precedent for future client states who seek to expunge their historical records.

"I have read the Department of State Bulletin of August 1982 and I am deeply disturbed because the Department takes an official position that 'the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people.'"

"This sort of revisionism is an outrage when engaged in by historians; it is absolutely inexcusable when it comes from the Department of State of the greatest democracy in the world. Consequently, I am formally requesting the Department reconsider its position on the matter and retract its erroneous Note of August 1982."

—letter from the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. to
the Secretary of State George M. Schulz dated December 9, 1982

"I am pleased to learn that the note accompanying the article entitled 'Armenian Terrorism: A Profile' which appeared in the August 1982 issue of the Department of State Bulletin represents neither an effort to present the official position of the Department nor a change of policy."

"Given the contrary impression conveyed by the note and the grave concern expressed to the Department by many people I had hoped that your response would have included an unequivocal retraction of the note, as well as, a reaffirmation of the fact of the Armenian genocide. Nonetheless, I infer from the Department's clarification that there is no change in this Nation's recognition of the Armenian genocide as reaffirmed recently by President Reagan in Proclamation 4838."

"An explicit confirmation of my inference by the Department of State would be most helpful so that any remaining ambiguity regarding the position of the United States in this matter is eliminated."

—letter from the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. to
Assistant Secretary John Hughes dated February 8, 1983.

For further information and documentation, contact:

Armenian Assembly of America
1420 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (202) 332-3434

Fact Sheet

U.S. Recognition of The Armenian Genocide

During the second half of the nineteenth century, the Armenian population of the Ottoman (Turkish) Empire became the target of heightened persecution by the Ottoman government. These persecutions culminated in a three-decade period during which the Armenians were systematically uprooted from their homeland of 3,000 years and eliminated through massacres or exile.

The United States Archives are replete with material documenting the premeditated extermination of the Armenian people, as well as American interventions to prevent the full realization of Turkey's genocidal plan and humanitarian assistance for those who survived. The U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau, acting on instructions from Secretaries of State William Jennings Bryan and Robert Lansing, organized and led protests by all nations, among them Turkey's allies, over what Ambassador Morgenthau referred to as Turkey's program of "race extermination." The archives also demonstrate that the American people, through an organization known as Near East Relief chartered by an act of Congress, contributed some \$113 million between 1915 and 1930 to aid the Armenian Genocide survivors. In addition, 132,000 orphans became foster children of the American people and owe their lives to this effort.

U.S. Reaffirmation — A Partial Chronology

- July 16, 1915
Telegram from U.S. Ambassador Henry Morgenthau to the Secretary of State:
"Deportation of and excesses against peaceful Armenians is increasing and from harrowing reports of eye witnesses it appears that a campaign of race extermination is in progress under a pretext of reprisal against rebellion."
- May 13, 1920
Senate Resolution 359:
"...the testimony adduced at the hearings conducted by the subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations have clearly established the truth of the reported massacres and other atrocities from which the Armenian people have suffered."
- April 8, 1975
House Joint Resolution 148:
"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that April 24, 1975, is hereby designated as 'National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man,' and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day as a day of remembrance for all the victims of genocide, especially those of Armenian ancestry who succumbed to the genocide perpetrated in 1915, and in whose memory this date is commemorated by all Armenians and their friends throughout the world."
- May 11, 1976
Hearing, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on International Relations
Subcommittee on Future Foreign Policy Research and Development

Investigation Into Certain Past Instances of Genocide and Exploration of
Policy Options for the Future
Opening Statement by Chairman Lester Wolff:

"We have before us a panel of distinguished guests who will provide us with a wealth of information on the first genocidal tragedy of the 20th century, that which befell the Armenian people in the years 1910-20 when 1.5 million people were killed or driven from their homes and left to die. Our purpose in this is twofold. We shall examine this tragedy as part of the broader problem of genocide and also to determine whether the repercussions of the tragedy are still being felt today."

- May 16, 1978

Speech by former President Jimmy Carter at the White House:

"...it's generally not known in the world that in the years preceding 1916, there was a concerted effort made to eliminate all the Armenian people, probably one of the greatest tragedies that ever befell any group. And there weren't any Nuremberg trials."

- April 24, 1980

Speech by U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council Director Monroe Freedman:

"Today we recall in sorrow the million and one-half Armenians who were tortured, starved, and butchered to death in the First Genocide of the Twentieth Century."

- April 22, 1981

Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust
Proclamation 4838, by President Ronald Reagan:

"Like the genocide of the Armenians before it, and the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it — and like too many other such persecutions of too many other peoples — the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten."

- April 30, 1981

Days of Remembrance Commemoration, Capitol Rotunda
Speech by U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council Chairman Elie Wiesel:

"Before the planning of the final solution, Hitler asked, 'Who remembers the Armenians?' He was right. No one remembered them, as no one remembered the Jews. Rejected by everyone, they felt expelled from history."

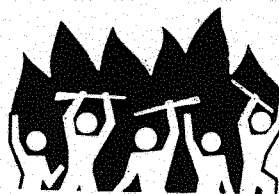
- March, 1983

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council booklet entitled Armenian Genocide Commemorative Fund

"The 1915-23 genocide of the Armenian citizens of the Ottoman Turkish Empire will have a place of prominence in the Holocaust Museum. Approval by the Holocaust Council was unanimous."

For further information and documentation, contact:

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September 24, 1981, Paris. Four Armenian terrorists seized the Turkish Consulate and threatened to kill more than 20 hostages. A Turkish security guard was killed and three others were wounded (one of the terrorists, a Turkish Vice Consul, and a French security guard). The terrorists, who claimed to be members of the Yeghia Keshishian Commando of ASALA, demanded that all Armenian political prisoners be released from Turkish jails within 12 hours. As the deadline passed and the terrorists realized that the Turkish Government would not negotiate, the terrorists decided to accept a French Government offer of political asylum. Once in custody, however, the French Government stated that their offer was a ploy and that the terrorists would be treated as criminals. During a news conference in Beirut following this incident, ASALA leaders stated that their commandos were willfully deceived and that the promise made by the French Government must be kept or "there is no doubt that there will be a confrontation between them and us." (As of this publication date, the political/criminal status of the terrorists remains undetermined.) This was the first incident of Armenian terrorists seizing a diplomatic mission.

(Gamma)

Armenian Terrorism: A Profile

by Andrew Corsun
Threat Analysis Group
Office of Security

Introduction

Since the advent of modern Armenian terrorism in 1975, the world has witnessed a terrorist campaign that has resulted in at least 170 attacks directed primarily against Turkish installations and diplomatic personnel outside of Turkey's borders.

Enraged over the alleged massacre of 1.5 million Armenians by Turkey during World War I, and the loss of their homeland, Armenians unlike Jews tried and failed as propagandists to focus the world's attention on their grievances.¹ By resorting to terrorism, Armenian extremists were able to accomplish in 7 years what legitimate Armenian organizations have been trying to do for almost 70 years—internationalize the Armenian cause.

Terrorism may not be able to ease the pain of past agonies, but it is an effective tactic in evoking international sympathy for a previously unknown (or forgotten) cause. How many people had heard of the Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) or their cause before they bombed the headquarters of the World Council of Churches in Beirut on January 20, 1975? The same can be said for the Justice Commandos of the Armenian Genocide (JCAG) who gained "prominence" on October 22, 1975, with the assassination of the Turkish Ambassador to Vienna, Dennis Tunaligil. Since then, Armenian extremists have waged a successful campaign against Turkish interests that in recent years has expanded to include Western targets as well.

The Seeds of Conflict

According to historians, Armenia is believed to be not only the oldest of the

civilized races of Western Asia (dating to pre-1200 B.C.), but eventually grew to become one of the strongest kingdoms in that region. Geographically, Armenia was straddling the crossroads of the world and thus became the victim of many invasions. With the fall of Constantinople in 1453, the Turks finally ruled all the lands that once belonged to Armenians and held them for 465 years.

Since we are interested in the cause-and-effect relationship history has played regarding the recent outbreak of Armenian terrorist activities against Turkish diplomats and establishments, we will jump ahead in time to the Ottoman Empire of the late 19th century.

With the rise of nationalism throughout Europe, the Armenian struggle for autonomy and modernization took on new vigor in the 1880s, and the Armenians began to form political organizations for self-protection and as a vehicle to voice their desire for a free Armenia. One such organization was the Dashnaksutiun (Armenian Revolutionary Federation) which was founded in 1890 in Tiflis, Georgia.

In a multiethnic state, such as the Ottoman Empire, nationalism was viewed by the Turks as a serious internal threat. The result was harsher repression by the Ottoman government which led to thousands of Armenian deaths in 1895. With the rise of the Young Turks in 1908, its policy of pan-Turanism led to even harsher measures in suppressing Armenian nationalism. On April 17 and 24, 1909, over 30,000 Armenians were massacred in Adana and other villages along the Cilician plains in order to suppress the national ambitions of the Armenian people.

With the advent of World War I, the stage was set for what was later alleged to be called the first "genocide" of the

20th century. Turkey entered the war on the side of Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire on October 31, 1914, and offered autonomy to the Armenians if they would foment dissension behind the Russian lines. Partly out of distrust of the Young Turks, and encouraged by the principle of self-determination, they refused.

Turkey viewed this attitude as treasonous, especially in light of the fact that it (Turkey) was suffering heavy military reversals. Minister of Interior Taalat Bey ordered "the elimination of the Armenian element, which had been trying for centuries to undermine the foundation of the state." By 1915 the Turks ordered a mass deportation of Armenians from Turkish Armenia to Syria and Iraq. It was later alleged that 1.5 million people (approximately 60% of the Turkish Armenian population) were killed or died on the journey.

With the conclusion of the war, the Western Powers established the Independent Republic of Armenia on May 28, 1918, which was later guaranteed by the treaty of Sevres, and signed on August 10, 1920, by Turkey, the Allied Powers, and Armenia. But due to the pressures exerted by the Turks and Communists, the new republic collapsed, and by December 2, 1920, Armenia was Sovietized and its territories to the west were awarded to Turkey.

The basis for their grievances, as perceived by the Armenians, is not only the restoration of their homeland but to seek justice for the alleged mass murders (1894-96, 1909, 1915) of more than 1.5 million people. It is these issues that have fostered the armed struggle by Armenian extremists against Turkish diplomats and establishments around the world.

During the diaspora of 1915, many Armenians fled to Lebanon which has long been regarded as a refuge for dispossessed minorities. Although the Armenian community (approximately 200,000) in Lebanon had flourished and played a vital role in Lebanese life, by the 1970s they became caught-up in the internecine fighting that had overtaken Lebanon. When the Phalangists (Catholic Christian rightists) decided to use the Armenian section of east Beirut, known as Bourj Hammoud, to launch their attacks against the adjacent Muslim section called Naba'a, a split

resulted within the Armenian community. Some Armenians felt that they had a duty to take up arms on behalf of their Christian brothers, while others, mainly left-wing Armenian youth through their close contact (via the universities and the proximity of their neighborhoods) with their Palestinian counterparts, realized they shared a similar situation—they had lost their land, had a large diaspora community, and the use of legal methods to bring their cause to world attention had failed. The left-wing Armenian youth began to form their own groups (e.g., ASALA) with the aid of the Palestinians, and links between the two were formed. Many of these youths also moved to the Palestinian section of west Beirut. With the political success that the Palestinians have achieved through terrorism, it is not surprising that these left-wing Armenian youths would choose the same path. The growing sympathy and support that these youths have gained within the worldwide Armenian community had forced the right-wing Armenians to set up their own group (JCAG), but for different goals and objectives.

Terrorist Activities

Terrorism is certainly not a new tactic for Armenian extremists. At the end of World War I, the Dashnag decided it would carry out its own executions of those Ottoman leaders they believed were responsible for the "genocide" of the Armenian people. As a result, a network called Nemesis was established to track down and execute those Ottoman leaders.

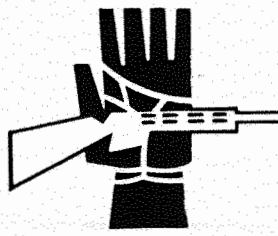
On March 15, 1921, the former Ottoman Minister of Interior Taalat Bey—who was living in Berlin under the pseudonym Ali Sayi Bey—was shot and killed at point-blank range after being under surveillance for 2 weeks by Soghomon Tehlirian. Others who met the same fate at the hands of Nemesis were the Ottoman Foreign Minister Said Halim, who was assassinated in Rome in December 1921, and Behaeddin Shakir and Djimal Azmi, two Ottoman officials who were killed a year later in Berlin. It is unknown what became of Nemesis following the incidents of the early 1920s. Yet one must wonder why Armenian extremists have waited over 60

years to carry out their armed struggle. Were they perhaps fulfilling the prophecy of Taalat who in 1915 said, "There will be no Armenian question for 50 years," or (a more plausible explanation) are the times such that terrorism has become an acceptable vehicle for protest?

Whatever the reason, since returning to the scene in 1975, Armenian terrorists have claimed responsibility for over 170 incidents which includes the assassination of 21 Turkish diplomats and/or family members, and 10 attempted assassinations of Turkish diplomats. Although the tactic of assassination has been used repeatedly, the majority of their operations have been bombings which are simple in construction and design. Unlike the Irish Republican Army [IRA], which favors remote-control devices, Armenian terrorists have been partial to a Czechoslovakian-manufactured plastic called Semtex-H. In the overwhelming majority of cases, this device is set at such an hour to cause property damage and not cost lives.

Operationally Armenian terrorists must be viewed as unsophisticated in comparison with other groups since they have never shown the inclination or ability to hit a hard target. The only exceptions were the seizure of the Turkish Consulate in Paris on September 24, 1981, and the attempted assassination of the Turkish Consul General in Rotterdam on July 21, 1982, both of which failed. In the seizure of the consulate, the four terrorists eventually surrendered without any of their demands being met. In Rotterdam the consul general, who was traveling to work in an armored car and escorted by two police vehicles, was attacked by four terrorists. The assailants opened fire with automatic weapons—which proved ineffective against the armored car—and as they attempted to flee the area, one of the attackers was shot and captured. Their bombings and assassinations required the minimum of logistical planning.

While no one can dispute their success, nevertheless, it is such spectacular operations as airport attacks, kidnappings, and assassinations of well-protected political officials that generate maximum publicity and impact which is so important to the terrorists *raison d'être*.



FEATURE

Terrorism

Of the 21 Turkish diplomats / family members slain between 1975-July 1982, 14 were killed while in their car which was stopped at a light, slowing before entering a busy intersection, or parked. And of the 10 attempted assassinations of Turkish diplomats, 8 took place while the diplomat was in his vehicle. These vehicle attacks were carried out by assassination teams armed primarily with 9mm automatic weapons. The teams varied in size from a lone gunman used in eight attacks to two assailants with a third member in a waiting car. With the exception of the July 21 attack in Rotterdam, the diplomatic vehicles that were involved in these attacks were not armored, and the only protective security (if any) was a driver/bodyguard.

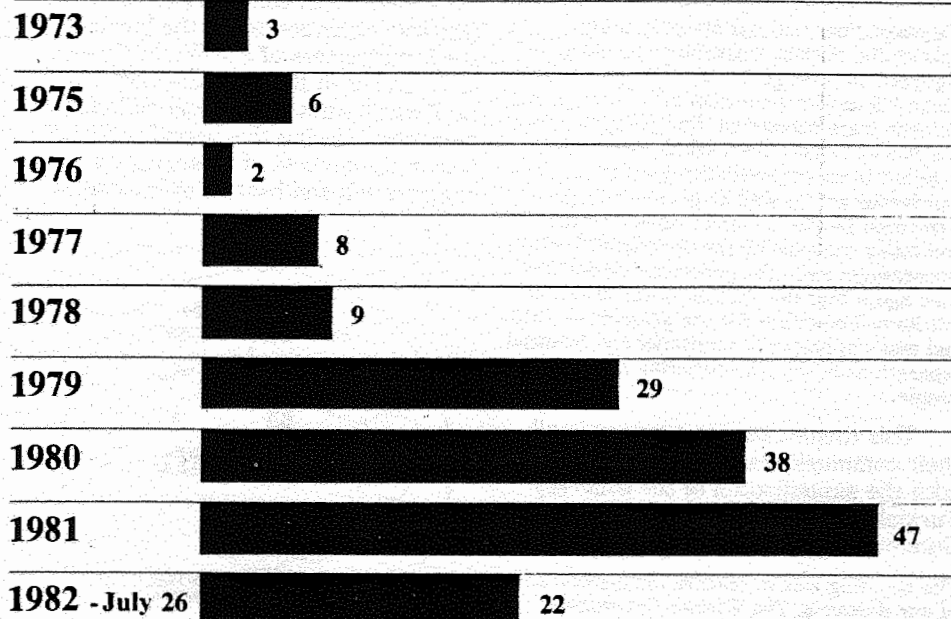
JCAG and ASALA

While Armenian extremists have carried attacks under 19 operational names, the main terrorists groups are the Justice Commandos of the Armenian Genocide (JCAG) and the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA).² On the surface these two groups appear to be united by a common goal. However, a closer look at their communiqués, and targeting, reveals that their methods and objectives are quite different.

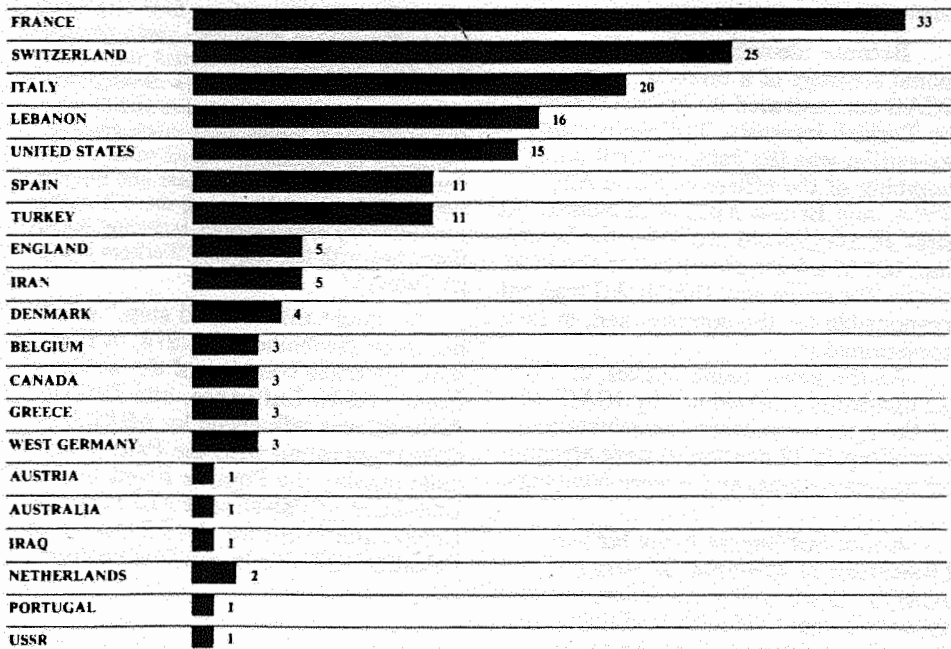
Justice Commandos of the Armenian Genocide. Unlike ASALA, which is Marxist oriented and adheres to the philosophy of Scientific Socialism, JCAG appears more closely aligned with the policies of the right-wing Dashnag party. The goals of the Dashnag are to reclaim their lost homeland, as specified in the treaty of Sevres, and to seek reparations and recognition of the crimes committed against their people by Turkey; and they seek a solution similar to Germany's admission of guilt and reparations to Israel after World War II. JCAG, in its communiqués, appears to strive for these same goals. Following the assassination of the Turkish Ambassadors to Vienna and Paris in October and December of 1975 respectively, JCAG, in a follow-up communiqué entitled "To all the Peoples and Governments" wrote:

Let the world realize that we will lay down our arms only when the Turkish Government officially denounces the genocide perpetrated

ARMENIAN TERRORISM: INCIDENTS, BY YEAR



AREAS OF OPERATIONS: NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, 1973 - JULY 26, 1982



by Turkey in 1915 against the Armenian people and agrees to negotiate with Armenian representatives in order to reinstate justice.

And following the bombings in New York City and Los Angeles on October 12, 1980, JCAG stated:

We make clear that our struggle today against the Turkish Government is not to be regarded as revenge for the 1915 genocide in which 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children were massacred. Our struggle today is directed to have the Turkish Government to admit to its responsibility for that murderous act, as well as to return to the Armenian people the lands taken forceably and today occupied by the imperialist Turkish Government since the genocide. We demand once again that the Turkish Government admit its responsibility for the genocide of 1915 and make appropriate territorial and financial reparations to the long-suffering Armenian people.

This theme remains constant in all their communiques to February 1982 with the assassination of the honorary Turkish Consul to Boston, Orhan Gunduz. In Paris JCAG said that:

The shooting was to reaffirm the permanence of our demands. The Turkish Government must recognize the responsibility of its predecessors in 1915 in the execution and genocide perpetrated against the Armenian people, and it must clearly condemn it. Secondly, the Turkish Government must recognize the right of the Armenian people to constitute a free and independent state of Armenian land which Turkey illegally occupies.

Because ideology affects the operational strategy of a terrorist group, JCAG concentrated its operation solely on Turkish interests. The one possible exception was the January 1980 triple bombing of the offices of Swiss Air, TWA, and British Airlines in Madrid. At first JCAG claimed credit for the bombing, but in a later phone call to the local press, the caller said that JCAG was not responsible for the bombing and, in fact, condemned it.

As the group name implies, of the 22 operations carried out by JCAG, 10 of the operations were assassinations (resulting in 12 deaths), 6 were attempted assassinations, and 6 were bombings.

Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia. Whereas JCAG's stance on the Armenian question appears compatible with traditional Armenian political beliefs, ASALA,

whose communiques are replete with Marxist-Leninist rhetoric, considers the Armenian question part of the international revolutionary movement, and they seek closer ties with Soviet Armenia.

For the first 4½ years of its existence, ASALA concentrated its attacks (the sole exception being the bombing of the headquarters of the World Council of Churches in Beirut in January 1975) on Turkish installations and diplomatic personnel. During this period, ASALA was in the process of enlarging its organization and base of operations in



preparation for entering its second and current phase.

Our second step was only possible due to the successful completion of our first step which had politicized the Armenian youth enough to gain their support in the second step. This second step contains four new developments: (1) heavy assault on imperialist and Zionist and reactionary forces; (2) a much greater frequency of attacks; (3) direct communication with the Armenian masses and international opinion; and (4) strong ties with other revolutionary organizations including operational ties with the Kurdish Workers Party [of Turkey].³

No doubt this "second step," which began on November 13, 1979, in Paris with the triple bombing of the airline offices of KLM, Lufthansa, and Turkish Airlines, was influenced by ASALA's close cooperation with the Palestinians, most notably the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). In a follow-up com-

munique to this attack, ASALA set the theme for future operations.

Let imperialism and its collaborators all over the world know that their institutions are targets for our heroes and will be destroyed. We will kill and destroy because that is the only language understood by imperialism.

While ASALA has done its share of assassinating Turkish officials (nine), nevertheless, half of their bombings are directed against Western targets. The group, operating under various ad hoc commando names, has taken it upon itself to carry out "military operations" against any country which attempts to jail or try one of its commandos. Examples of this can be seen with the arrest on October 3, 1980, in Geneva of two Armenian extremists—Suzy Mahseredjian and Alex Yenikomechian—who were arrested after a bomb they were making accidentally exploded in their hotel room. Until their eventual release on January 12, 1981, and February 9, 1981, respectively, ASALA—using the name October 3 Organization—in a 4-month period carried out 18 bombings against Swiss interests worldwide in an effort to force the Swiss to release their comrades. The two extremists received 18-month suspended sentences and were barred from Switzerland for 15 years.

On June 9, 1981, Mardiros Jamgotchian was caught in the act of assassinating a Turkish diplomat—Mehmet-Savas Yorguz—outside the Turkish Consulate in Geneva. From the time of his arrest on June 9 to his trial on December 19 (he was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment), ASALA, using the name June 9 Organization, perpetrated 15 bombings against Swiss targets worldwide. After Jamgotchian's trial, ASALA, again using the name Swiss Armenian Group 15, has, to date, carried out five bombings against Swiss targets.

Switzerland is not the only country that has been targeted by ASALA; Italy, France, and most recently Canada have been victims of ASALA's wrath. On May 31, 1982, three alleged ASALA members were arrested for attempting to bomb the Air Canada cargo building at Los Angeles International Airport. It is suspected that this bombing was in retaliation for the May 18 and 20 arrests



of four alleged ASALA members / sympathizers by the Toronto police for extortion.

It is interesting to note that JCAG has two alleged members in jail in the United States, and they have never launched any terrorist campaign against the United States. The two alleged members are Harout Sassounian, who was arrested and found guilty of the October 1980 firebombing of the home of the Turkish Consul to Los Angeles, Kemal Arikan, and Harout's brother Harry, who was arrested and charged as being one of the assailants in the assassination of Kemal Arikan on January 28, 1982. At this writing, he is awaiting trial.

No terrorist group is monotheistic, and neither are the Armenians. Both groups share a common bond, yet they are quite different when it comes to achieving their goals. This difference is also mentioned in their communiqués. Following the assassination of the Turkish Consul General by JCAG in Sydney, Australia, on December 17, 1980, a woman called the local Australian press to emphasize that her group had no connection with the so-called Armenian Secret Army (aka ASALA) and that the group's attacks were aimed at Turkish diplomats and Turkish institutions. On April 4, 1981, *Le Reveil*, Beirut's Rightist Christian daily, received a phone call from an alleged JCAG member who claimed that his group was not connected with ASALA and that JCAG's attacks are "reprisal measures for the injustice committed against the Armenians; our targets are the Turks, and Turkish institutions."

Even ASALA has made reference to this difference. Hagop Hagopian (the ASALA spokesman) in an interview for *Panorama* magazine said:

The Dashnag party is trying to imitate us [ASALA] in order to regain lost ground. The April 18, 1980, operation in Rome against the Turkish Ambassador to the Vatican was organized by the Dashnags who use the name of a revolutionary group, the Avenger Commandos of the Armenian Genocide.

As for international connections with other groups, it appears that only ASALA, through its relationship with the PFLP and the DFLP, has benefited from any training and logistical support

that the Palestinians can provide. When asked if Palestinians used to train Turkish terrorists in their camps, Mr. Abu Firas, the chief Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) representative in Turkey replied:

In our camps, we train them to be terrorists in their countries but to fight against Israel. For this reason, we cannot be held responsible for training them. Since Armenians are citizens of Lebanon, we also train them to fight for the liberation of Palestine.

Although there have been reports of links between Armenian terrorists and Greek Cypriots, Greeks, and even the Soviets, outside of the assistance that ASALA has received from the Palestinians, there is no proof that Armenian terrorists are plugged into any international terrorist network.

Conclusion

While Armenian terrorism has evoked a greater interest in and awareness of the Armenian question throughout the world, the chances of Armenians attaining their major objectives through terrorism are nebulous at best. This has been exemplified by the PLO, IRA, Croats, etc. A viable solution to the Armenian question will only come about through political means (e.g., United Nations, lobbyist groups, etc.) and / or compromise on both sides. Yet, until such a path is followed—if ever—the issues will be kept fresh in the public's mind through acts of terrorism.

Although ASALA is based in west Beirut and JCAG in east Beirut, on the surface it would appear that the recent Israeli invasion of Lebanon has not affected the operational capabilities of Armenian terrorists as witnessed by the July 20 and 24 bombings of two Paris cafes by the Orly Organization and the July 21 attempted assassination of the Turkish Consul General in Rotterdam by the Armenian Red Army.

Yet on closer examination, the bombings of the two cafes are the types of low-level operations that can be carried out by indigenous cells independent of instructions from Beirut. While an attempted assassination of an individual traveling in an armored car with a police escort requires detailed planning, the attack against the consul general appeared

hastily organized and very amateurish in its execution. One possible explanation for its failure was that Beirut was unable to provide the hit team with proper guidance and logistical coordination.

Although ASALA's attack on Ankara's airport on August 7, 1982, was the first airport attack by Armenian extremists, this suicide operation was designed to obtain maximum publicity and did not require elaborate planning or execution.

JCAG has emerged virtually unscathed from the invasion, and it is only a matter of time before ASALA can regroup in another country. France, with its large Armenian population and geostrategic location in Western Europe, has been mentioned as a possible base of operation for ASALA. Wherever they find a "home," what remains to be seen is the type of strategy and tactics they pursue once they are able to fully renew their operations.

NOTE

Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people. Armenian terrorists use this allegation to justify in part their continuing attacks on Turkish diplomats and installations.

¹The number of Armenians killed in 1915 is a central issue in the dispute between Armenians and Turkey. The Armenian community contends that those killed in 1915 were part of a genocide against Armenians orchestrated by the Turkish Government. Turkey on the other hand states that, at most, 200,000 Armenians died, and their deaths were not the result of a planned massacre but rather the tragedies of war in which many Turks also lost their lives. It is for this reason that Turkey refuses to acknowledge any guilt or make any sort of restitution / compensation to descendants or survivors, as Germany did for Israel after World War II.

²By operating under many different names, the terrorists hope to give the impression of the existence of numerous groups, implying a broader base of support within the worldwide Armenian community.

³The Kurds, who were pressed into military service under the Ottoman Empire, played an important role in the liquidation and massacre of Armenians through World War I. ■

13

**Department
of State**
bulletin

The Official Monthly Record of United States Foreign Policy / Volume 82 / Number 2066

September 1982

Lebanon / 1



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EDITOR'S NOTE

The article, "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile," which appeared in the feature on terrorism in the August 1982 issue of the *Bulletin*, does not necessarily reflect an official position of the Department of State, and the interpretive comments in the article are solely those of the author.

CONGRESS

16
As of March 1, 1983 -

Letters supporting the Assembly's request for a retraction of the Department of State's denial of the Armenian Genocide have been received from the following:

- 1) Congressman Joseph Addabbo (D-NY)
- 2) Congressman Glenn Anderson (D-CA)
- 3) Congressman Frank Annunzio (D-IL)
- 4) Congressman Les Aspin (D-WI)
- 5) Congressman Michael Barnes (D-MD)
- 6) Congressman Philip Burton (D-CA)
- 7) Congressman Tony Coelho (D-CA)
- 8) Congresswoman Bobbi Fiedler (R-CA)
- 9) Congressman James Florio (D-NJ)
- 10) Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA)
- 11) Congressman Bill Green (R-NY)
- 12) Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC)
- 13) Congressman James Howard (D-NJ)
- 14) Senator Carl Levin (D-MI)
- 15) Congressman Marty Martinez (D-CA)
- 16) Congressman Nicholas Mavroules (D-MA)
- 17) Congressman Robert Michel (R-IL)
- 18) Congressman John Moakley (D-MA)
- 19) Congressman Carlos Moorhead (R-CA)
- 20) Speaker Tip O'Neill (D-MA)
- 21) Congressman Chip Pashayan (R-CA)
- 22) Senator William Proxmire (D-WI)
- 23) Congressman Robert Roe (D-NJ)
- 24) Congressman Henry Waxman (D-CA)
- 25) Congressman Clement Zablocki (D-WI)

JOSEPH P. ADDABBO
7TH DIST., NEW YORK

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

17
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
DICK SEELMEYER

COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN, DEFENSE
TREASURY-POST OFFICE
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

COMMITTEE ON
SMALL BUSINESS

February 14, 1983

Honorable George P. Shultz
Secretary
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Shultz:

I would like to take this opportunity to add my name to the growing list of persons expressing their concern over the recent State Department report which apparently questions the authenticity of the Armenian genocide of 1915.

In the August edition of the Department of State Bulletin, an article on Armenian terrorism concludes with the footnote, "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people." Upon even a cursory examination, however, eyewitness accounts, official State Department documents, Congressional findings and contemporary administration affirmations clearly provide sufficient evidence of such a genocide.

While I recognize that the State Department cannot and should not condone the activities of Armenian terrorists, the fact of the Armenian genocide remains clear. To deny that this event took place does a great injustice to the 1.5 million who died, as well as to their survivors and descendants. To recognize a historical and documented tragedy does nothing to lessen the destruction, but as seekers of truth and justice, surely it is important that the record stand historically correct.

I would greatly appreciate your reviewing the State Department evaluation, and providing me with your comments. Thank you for your kind attention to this matter, and with best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH P. ADDABBO, M.C.

JPA:nmh

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 9, 1982

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO MY:
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☐ LONG BEACH OFFICE

COMMITTEES:
PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRANSPORTATION

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- MEMBER, AVIATION SUBCOMMITTEE
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MERCHANT MARINE AND
FISHERIES

- MEMBER, FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
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- MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL PORT CAUCUS
- MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL SHIPYARD COALITION
- MEMBER, PUBLIC SHIPYARD COALITION
- MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM CAUCUS
- MEMBER, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE TASK FORCE

The Honorable George Schultz
Secretary of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I was recently contacted by the Armenian Assembly of America, who are concerned about a statement made in the August, 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin. From this statement, it would appear that the Department of State does not recognize the fact that a genocide of the Armenian people did occur in 1915.

It is manifestly evident that these terrible events took place. Many sources, including State Department records, testify to the loss of life. Despite our desire for friendship with the Turkish government, we must not forget the sacrifice of the Armenians.

I hope that future issues of the State Department Bulletin will recognize that sacrifice, and that a retraction of the August statement appears in the next issue of the Bulletin.

Sincerely,

GLENN M. ANDERSON
Member of Congress

FRANK ANNUNZIO

11TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEES:

BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

CHAIRMAN, CONSUMER AFFAIRS
AND COINAGE
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SUPERVISION,
REGULATION AND INSURANCE

HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

SUBCOMMITTEES:

CHAIRMAN, ACCOUNTS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

November 24, 1982

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Mr. Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations
State Department
2201 C. Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20502

Dear Powell:

I am sure others have called your attention to the article entitled "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" which was carried in the August edition of the Department of State Bulletin.

This article in a footnote states, "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

As one who has over the years spoken out against the tragedy of the Turkish genocide of the Armenians in 1915 and as the Representative in Congress of thousands of Americans of Armenian descent who live in the 11th Illinois Congressional District, I find this State Department position totally unacceptable. It makes a mockery of the dedicated service of Ambassador Henry Morgenthau and other State Department officials who transmitted eye witness reports to the State Department on the massacre.

In the event the State Department has "lost" or "mislaid" the evidence in its own files of the Armenian genocide by the Turks, I am enclosing complete State Department Decimal File No. references, with dates, along with Xerox copies, in order that the appropriate officials in your Department may review this material to the end that an unambiguous retraction is printed in the next issue of the Department of State Bulletin.

I am outraged by the effort on the part of State Department officials to distort recorded and documented historical events, and I await hearing from you regarding the action the State Department takes to issue a total and unambiguous retraction.

Sincerely,

FRANK ANNUNZIO
Member of Congress

Enclosures

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December 7, 1982

The Honorable George Shultz
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20502

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I was startled, to say the least, when I saw the article on "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile," in the August issue of the Department of State Bulletin. A note on page 35 at the conclusion of the article states: "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

The Department's own files contain many, many pages of documentation to refute this statement. I will cite just one, the July 10, 1915, cable from Ambassador Henry Morgenthau Sr. in Constantinople to Secretary of State Robert Lansing. The cable said in part: "Persecution of Armenians assuming unprecedented proportions,...wholesale expulsions and deportations from one end of the Empire to the other accompanied by frequent instances of rape, pillage, and murder, turning into massacre.... These measures...are purely arbitrary and directed from Constantinople."

Furthermore the Bulletin's assertion is contradicted by the public statements of our last two Presidents. On May 16, 1978, President Carter said, "There was a concerted effort made to eliminate all the Armenian people." And on April 22, 1981, President Reagan memorialized "the genocide of the Armenians," thereby embracing the very term that the Department of State Bulletin seeks to refute with its statement that the record of the 1915 "events" is "ambiguous." Certainly Presidents Reagan and Carter did not find the record "ambiguous" nor deign to dismiss the genocide as a mere "event."

I think the record should be corrected. I would appreciate it if you would direct the Department of State Bulletin to publish a correction in the next issue.

Please see page 2....

It would be very useful if the Bulletin would also publish some of the Department's own documentation on the terror unleashed on the Armenian population during World War I. Certainly I think it is essential that the record be corrected and that history not be rewritten by the Department of State Bulletin.

Sincerely,

Les Aspin
Les Aspin
Member of Congress

LA:wms

22
MICHAEL D. BARNES
8TH DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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Congress of the United States
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Washington, D.C. 20515

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February 9, 1983

Honorable George P. Shultz
Secretary
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am very concerned about some statements that were made in an article featured in the August 1982 Department of State Bulletin entitled, "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile."

It appears from statements made in the article that the policy of our government is noncommittal on the Armenian Genocide, failing to acknowledge that this tragic massacre occurred. I have enclosed a copy of the article highlighting these statements. Numerous newspaper articles, government documents, and eyewitness accounts describe this horrible tragedy. As the President himself has said, "sixty five years ago one of the greatest tragedies in the annals of recorded history occurred when one and a half million innocent Armenian men, women and children were massacred in the shadow of Mt. Ararat." I hope that the State Department, will make the necessary retractions and publish an account which is more in keeping with the facts and the President's statement.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Barnes

MDB/lo

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23
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POLICY COMMITTEE
CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS
CHAIR, HOUSE DELEGATION
NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY

January 27, 1983

Honorable George P. Shultz
Secretary
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing in regard to an article entitled "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" which appeared in the August, 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin.

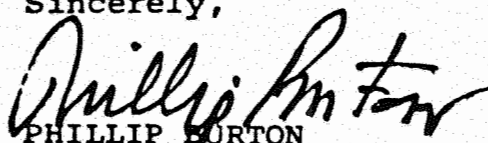
I am deeply disturbed about a note which appeared at the end of this article that states: "because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people".

This statement is clearly in conflict with the State Department's own historical records, eyewitness accounts of U.S. officials and the position of President Reagan. On April 22, 1981, President Reagan stated, "Like the genocide of the Armenians before it, the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it -- and like too many other such persecutions of too many other peoples -- the lessons of the Holocaust must not be forgotten."

I would like to know how the State Department determined that there is insufficient evidence that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people, when there is an abundance of evidence to the contrary.

I would appreciate your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


PHILLIP BURTON
Member of Congress

PB:mm/r

25
Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Bobbi Fiedler

December 3, 1982

Mr. Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations
Department of State
2201 C Street N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20502

Dear Mr. Moore:

I understand that a footnote in the August Department of State Bulletin contained this curious statement: "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people"

This is not only outrageously bad history, but it has also outraged the Armenian-American community, who have brought this matter to my attention.

I look forward to hearing from you that this statement does not represent official State Department policy.

Sincerely,

Bobbi Fiedler

BOBBI FIEDLER
Member of Congress

BF:doi

*I look forward to a retraction
by the State Department.*



JAMES J. FLORIO
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 8, 1982

26
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TOURISM SUBCOMMITTEE

HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE

INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

PUBLIC LANDS AND NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON AGING

HUMAN SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE

HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE
SUBCOMMITTEE

Honorable George P. Shultz
Secretary
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am disturbed over a recent Department of State report suggesting that United States policy no longer recognizes the Armenian Genocide.

The article entitled "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" which appeared in the August 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin contains a footnote which reads: "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people".

Based on this statement, is it now United States policy that the Armenian Genocide never occurred?

Such a policy would be in conflict with the State Department's own historical records, eyewitness accounts of U.S. officials, Congressional and international studies, and the positions of contemporary U.S. Administrations. As recently as April 22, 1981, President Reagan referred to the genocide of the Armenians when proclaiming national "days of remembrance" for the victims of the Holocaust.

I would appreciate a letter as soon as possible describing the Administration's evaluation of the events which transpired from 1894 to 1923 when nearly two million Armenian people perished and 500,000 were deported from their ancestral homeland.

Sincerely,

James J. Florio
Member of Congress

JJF/5

BARNEY FRANK
4TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
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March 2, 1983

Honorable George Shultz
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I am writing to you concerning the article entitled, "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" which appeared in the August 1982 issue of the Department of State Bulletin.

A note on page 35 of the article states: "Because the historical record of 1915 events in Asia minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

The persecution that faced the Armenian people during 1915 was an inhumane act that resulted in the death of 1.5 million men, women, and children. This massacre can not be forgotten, for if it is, the tragedy may repeat itself.

This human destruction must be acknowledged in a responsible manner, and that includes recognition on the part of the State Department.

BF/ns

BARNEY FRANK

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

January 28, 1983

The Honorable George P. Shultz
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am concerned about the Department's revision of history included in "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile," which appeared in the August 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin.

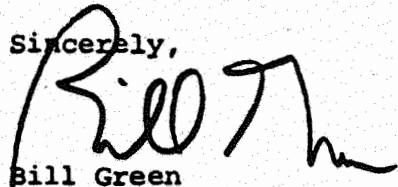
That article stated: "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

There is no ambiguity in the historical record -- including State Department documents, eyewitness accounts, and Congressional and other investigations -- which show that at least 1.5 million Armenians perished, and some 500,000 were deported from their homeland by the Ottoman government.

In its 1979 report to the President, the President's Commission on the Holocaust wrote: "Although we have no guarantees that those who remember will not repeat history, the failure to remember the past makes repetition more likely. Nothing more clearly illustrates this claim that Hitler's alleged response to those in his government who feared international opposition to genocide. 'Who remembers the Armenians?', he asked." In challenging the tragedy of the Armenians, the Department does a great disservice to those who died in 1915, and to truth.

I urge this matter be redressed by the Department, and look forward to your reply on it.

Sincerely,


Bill Green
Member of Congress

BG:lk

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 30, 1982

The Honorable George P. Schultz
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The recent statement on the Armenian Genocide which appeared in the August, 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin contains material which raises questions as to the Department's policy and its understanding of fact. The article entitled, "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" contains a footnote which reads: "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

I understand that the Department of State's own archives are replete with material documenting the Turkish genocide of the Armenians. Contemporary reaffirmations include Congressional hearings and statements by President Reagan and former President Carter. The history of the Armenian people and the record of United States intervention and humanitarian assistance on behalf of the Armenians is obvious and the statement in the Bulletin could be viewed as an attempt to alter or ignore this record. Do you believe that there is either ambiguity or doubt that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people?

I hope you will clarify for me the Department of State's position on the events concerning the Armenian people that took place from 1915 to 1923. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

JESSE HELMS:hcm

JAMES J. HOWARD
3D DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND TRANSPORTATION

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
MEMORIAL COMMISSION

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December 3, 1982

Honorable George Schultz
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

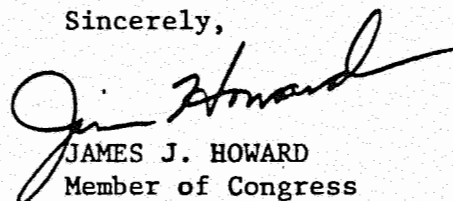
It has come to my attention that the U.S. Department of State has committed itself to a position on the Turkish genocide of Armenians that reflects at best very poor judgment. As is the case with any historical event of great significance, there exists from our perspective a number of ambiguities concerning numerical claims and specific circumstances. This applies even to Hitler's destruction of the European Jews. However, to deny for all practical purposes the existence of the genocide itself is a violation not only of common sense and of the historical record, it is a premeditated assault on the truth.

In refusing to endorse allegations against the Turkish government, the U.S. Department of State is implicitly accepting all of the specious denials of the latter party, and thus in effect negating the validity of any Armenian claims. Perhaps we should cast Solzhenitsyn's Gulag Archipelago and The Diary of Anne Frank in a waste basket alongside the volumes of evidence attesting to the Armenian genocide. After all, the Department had no official representatives at either Belsen-Bergen or the Siberian death camps to confirm the assertions of those who were merely witnesses.

In this case, the Department has gone beyond hypocrisy to the point of conscious deception. Enclosed is a series of telegrams which document the size, scope and nature of the Turkish atrocities. They are signed by one Henry J. Morgenthau, American Ambassador to Constantinople in 1915.

Turkey is an ally of the U.S., as is the Federal Republic of Germany. The entire truth of the Armenian genocide, as far as we can know it, may be an embarrassment to the Turkish government. However, an acknowledgement of guilt is the first step in at least living with this unforgivable crime, and it is not a move which should be impeded by the U.S. government. I call upon you Mr. Secretary to allow the truth to see the light of day.

Sincerely,


JAMES J. HOWARD
Member of Congress

JJH/ff
Enclosures

CARL LEVIN
MIR - CAN

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 21, 1983

The Honorable George P. Shultz
The Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It has come to my attention that the Department of State has denied an historical fact: that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people in 1915. In the August, 1982 edition of the Department of State publication The Bulletin, an article entitled, "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile," read, in part, "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

Mr. Secretary, "the historical record of the 1915 events" is not ambiguous. Further, the genocide of the Armenian people in Turkey in 1915 is not an "allegation." Documentation of the Armenian Genocide and the role of Turkey's Ottoman Empire in it is both exhaustive and overwhelming. The Department of State need look no further than its own archives to find such evidence. It troubles and angers me that I must write to remind the Department of State of the historical realities of the Armenian Genocide -- a well-documented and tragic event which has been aptly described as the first genocide of the 20th century.

A review of history will reveal that: from 1915-23, 1.5 million Armenians were massacred and 500,000 Armenians were exiled by the Turkish Government. In 1915, Henry Morgenthau, U.S. Ambassador to Turkey, organized and lead international protests, including allies of Turkey, over Turkey's program of genocide of the Armenian people; and in 1920 the Armenian Genocide was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in a resolution which read, in part, "The testimony adduced at the hearings by the sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations have clearly established the truth of the reported massacres and other atrocities from which the Armenian people have suffered."

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More recently, during a 1979 United Nations debate on the Armenian Genocide, the United States voted to include the Genocide in a report entitled Study of the Question of the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. On April 30, 1981, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council voted unanimously to include the Armenian Genocide in its planned memorial to victims of the Holocaust. President Carter said on May 16, 1978, ". . .there was a concerted effort made to eliminate all the Armenian people. . . ." In a proclamation honoring victims of the Holocaust, President Reagan said on April 22, 1981, "Like the genocide of the Armenians before it. . .the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten."

We must recognize such atrocities -- not deny them -- in order to prevent future tragedies from occurring. Only by recognizing these examples of man's inhumanity to man can we learn the lessons of the past. Accordingly, the Department of State should retract its statement with regard to the Armenian Genocide.

Sincerely,

Carl Levin

CL/ad

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5464

DISTRICT OFFICE:
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ROSEMead, CALIFORNIA 91770
(213) 287-1134
(213) 443-8585
(213) 722-7731

COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR

COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ
30TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515



December 7, 1982

Mr. George P. Shultz
Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 "C" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

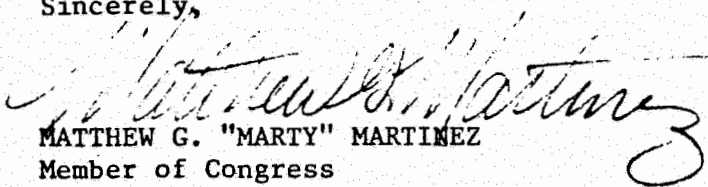
Dear Secretary Shultz:

I cannot understand why the Department of State (in the August edition of the Department of State Bulletin in an article entitled "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile") has apparently tried to reverse history and all of the documentation that has been provided for so many years concerning the Armenian genocide.

As you may know, the article in a footnote states, "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

I do not believe that it is necessary to document the numerous occasions on which United States' actions and statements have reaffirmed the Armenian genocide. Your assistance in seeing that a complete retraction of that unfortunate allegation in the Department of State Bulletin would be most appreciated by the entire Armenian-American community including a large number of my constituents, and by me.

Sincerely,


MATTHEW G. "MARTY" MARTINEZ
Member of Congress

MGM:rsr

NICHOLAS MAVROULES
6TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
SMALL BUSINESS

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1204 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 223-8880

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

34
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140 UNION STREET
LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS 01902
(617) 882-7108
TOLL FREE WITHIN
MASSACHUSETTS
(800) 272-6738

February 16, 1983

Honorable George P. Shultz
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

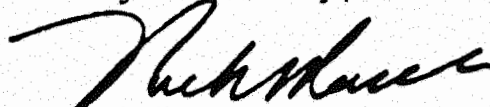
I want to bring to your attention my objections to an article "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" which appeared in the August 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin.

In this publication there is a statement which requires immediate clarification and correction. The statement in question reads: "because the historical record of 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people." This statement has succeeded only in confusing the horrible events of the genocide. The Department of State must correct this confusion and clarify U.S. policy regarding the Armenian genocide.

The historic evidence on the Armenian genocide is well documented. I wish to quote a letter to American Ambassador Hanry H. Morgenthau dated June 11, 1915 from consul Leslie Davis, and which may be found in the archives of the Department of State. Mr. Davis' records document that thousands of Armenians were forced from their homeland. When it appeared to the remaining women and children that the worst was over, it was announced on Tuesday, July 13, 1915, that "every Armenian without exception, must go. If it were simply a matter of being obliged to leave here and go somewhere else it would not be so bad, but everyone knows it is a case of going to one's death."

The Department of State Bulletin of August 1982 misinterprets the well documented events of the Armenian genocide. The record must be corrected.

Very sincerely,


Nicholas Mavroules
Member of Congress

NM/rd

Office of the Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

January 24, 1983

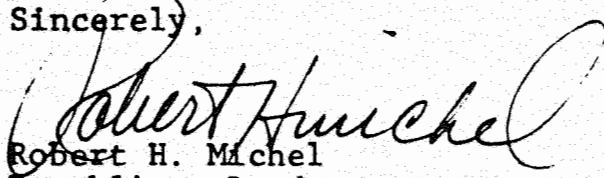
Honorable George Shultz
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have been informed by the Armenian Assembly of America that the Department of State, in its publication Department of State Bulletin, has suggested the genocide committed against the Armenian people in 1915 either did not take place or that the evidence is so "ambiguous" that the truth cannot be determined.

This puzzles me, since I once inserted into the Congressional Record material which appeared to me to document the genocide. I would very much appreciate hearing from you on this matter. Is the Department of State denying such acts took place or is there some problems of communication involved?

Sincerely,


Robert H. Michel
Republican Leader

RHM:mbg

JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY
9TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEE ON RULES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
RULES OF THE HOUSE

CHAIRMAN

DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND
POLICY COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

JOHN WEINFURTER 36
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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ROGER KINEAVY
DISTRICT MANAGER

1900C-JFK BUILDING
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203
(617) 223-5715

January 21, 1983

Honorable George P. Shultz
Secretary
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing you with regard to an article which appeared in the August 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin entitled, "Armenian Terrorism; A Profile".

I am most disturbed, in particular, by a footnote which reads: "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people".

Such a statement seems to be in direct contradiction with the State Department's own historical records. As you may recall, on July 10, 1915, the then Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau Sr. sent a cable to Secretary of State Robert Lansing stating, "of Armenians assuming unprecedented proportions... wholesale expulsions and deportations from one end of the Empire to the other accompanied by frequent instances of rape, pillage, and murder, turning massacre... These measures are purely arbitrary and directed from Constantinople".

In addition, both Presidents Carter and Reagan have recognized publicly the genocide that occurred against the Armenian people.

I urge that the record be corrected. Moreover, I believe it's essential that some of the documentation regarding the horror of the Armenian Holocaust be published in the Department of State Bulletin. We should never forget this dark chapter in world history.

Sincerely,

JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY
Member of Congress

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(213) 247-8445

Room 618
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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91101
(213) 792-6168

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 7, 1982

COMMITTEES:

JUDICIARY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MONOPOLIES AND
COMMERCIAL LAW

ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY CONSERVATION
AND POWER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS,
CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND FINANCE

Mr. Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations
State Department
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Powell:

I am writing in reference to an article which appeared in the August 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin entitled, "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile."

Specifically, I wish to draw attention to a statement which appeared as a note to the text of this article. This note states that "because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

It is perplexing that, after 67 years, the State Department would determine that there is insufficient evidence on which to base the recognition that in the years between 1915 and 1918 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children perished in what then-Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau termed a "campaign of race extermination" by the Ottoman government. The historical record is replete with eyewitness accounts, official State Department communiques, Congressional findings and contemporary reaffirmations of the Genocide including statements of President Ronald Reagan.

No statement assigning responsibility for the genocide of the Armenian people can detract or add to the horrible nature of the events themselves. To diminish, in any way, the events of 1915 is not only a great injustice in itself, but a great disservice to the memories of those 1.5 million who were killed and to their survivors and descendants. No act of human destruction can be redeemed if it is not recognized.

This is of grave concern to me and to the many Americans of Armenian descent who live in my Congressional District, many of whom are my close personal friends. I would hope that the Department of State would carefully reconsider this entire matter.

Sincerely,

CARLOS J. MOORHEAD
Member of Congress

CJM:mf



The Speaker's Rooms
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
December 9, 1982

The Honorable George P. Schultz
Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have read the Department of State Bulletin of August 1982 and I am deeply disturbed because the Department takes an official position that "the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people".^{1/}

In modern times, genocide is a crime that can be committed only through the instrumentalities of a national government or with the approval of a national government. Both President Reagan^{2/} and President Carter^{3/} have acknowledged that the genocide of Armenians took place and that it must not be forgotten. The United States Senate confirmed the Armenian genocide on May 31, 1920 in S.Res.359. On April 8, 1975 the United States House of Representatives confirmed it in H.R.J.148, which I cosponsored. And of course the genocide is well documented in the State Department's cable from United States diplomats in Ottoman Turkey. These cables and Ambassador Morgenthau's writings reflect no ambiguity regarding the responsibility of the Ottoman Government for the hideous fate of millions of Armenians.

1/ Corsun, Armenian Terrorism A Profile, Department of State Bulletin, at 35, (August, 1982).

2/ Reagan, Proclamation No. 4838 F.R.Doc. 81-12627 (1981).


3/ Carter, Remarks at the White House Reception Honoring Armenian Americans, May 16, 1978.

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The Honorable George P. Schultz
December 9, 1982
Page two

This sort of revisionism is an outrage when engaged in by historians; it is absolutely inexcusable when it comes from the Department of State of the greatest democracy in the world. Consequently, I am formally requesting the Department reconsider its position on the matter and retract its erroneous Note of August 1982.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
The Speaker

4/

CHARLES PASHAYAN, JR.
17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

129 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3341



COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR
AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL
SERVICE

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

December 27, 1982

Honorable George Schultz
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing in reference to an article entitled "Armenian Terrorism" that appeared in the August 1982 issue of the Department of State Bulletin.

The author of the article, in a note on page 35, states, "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people...."

This statement ignores information readily available in your Department's archives and the Proclamations of both President Ronald Reagan and former President Jimmy Carter. President Reagan, on April 22, 1981, stated, "Like the genocide of the Armenians before it, the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it--and like too many other such persecutions of too many other peoples--the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten." That remark is contained in Proclamation 4838. In "Remarks at the White House Reception on May 16, 1978", President Carter stated, "...in the years preceding 1916, there was a concerted effort to eliminate all the Armenian people, probably one of the greatest tragedies that ever befell any group...."

Further, on March 13 and 14, 1979, the United States, Austria, Cyprus, Australia, France, the World Council of Churches, and the International Federation of Human Rights, spoke out strongly in support of the reinsertion of Paragraph 30 of a "Study of the Question of the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of

41
Honorable George Schultz
January 7, 1983
Page Two

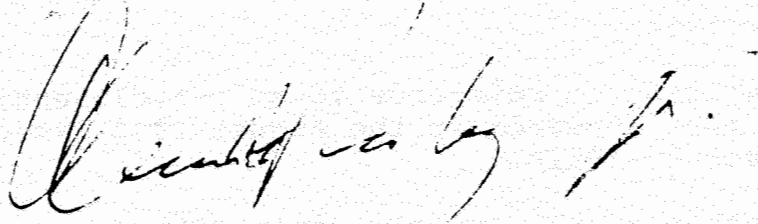
Genocide, a report prepared for the United Nations Subcommittee on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities."

Paragraph 30 states, "Passing to the modern era, one may note the existence of relatively full documentation dealing with the massacres of Armenians, which have been described as the 'first case of genocide in the twentieth century.'"

The statements of the Department of State Bulletin only confuse this nation's position regarding the genocide of the Armenian peoples, and is an inconsistency that must be eliminated.

In my mind the only ambiguity that exists is with the statement made in the August 1982 issue of the Department of State Bulletin. I should appreciate your attention to and cooperation on eliminating this ambiguity.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. V. ...", is written over a faint, circular embossed seal. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Member of Congress

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. PROXMIRE. Mr. President, the August 1982, issue of the Department of State Bulletin states that, "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people." It is clear that this statement is wrong on all counts. After protests from Members of Congress, the following issue of the Bulletin said that the views expressed in this article were not necessarily those of the Department. However, this response fails to state what the position of the Department, in fact, is on this issue.

For the official publication of the Department of State to raise doubts regarding the existence of this genocide—in the face of the overwhelming verifying evidence—is ridiculous.

Consider the Turkish persecution of the Armenians. In 1914, the Turks called a general mobilization of their army in preparation for World War I. In their call they included all able-bodied Armenians. However, beginning in February 1915, they segregated the Armenian troops into labor battalions. The Turks then disarmed, and ultimately worked the Armenians to death or massacred them. At the same time, the young Turk Government began to release murderers and other criminals from prison for the express purpose of annihilating the Armenians. As a result, the Turk slaughtered the entire Armenian population of some villages.

Nineteen hundred and fifteen marked the beginning of large scale deportations and massacres of the Armenians, reaching a peak with the Edict of Deportation of May 27, 1915. Under this proclamation, the Turks deported thousands of Armenians from throughout the Ottoman Empire. The Turks separated the men from each group and brutally murdered them, while forcing the women, children, and elderly to march across Asia Minor and Turkish Armenia to the Syrian desert. Most of the marchers, without food, water, or adequate shelter for long periods of time, died.

As a result of these government-led massacres and deportations, in the period from 1915 to 1923, 1,500,000 Armenians perished, and more than 500,000 were exiled.

This documentation is irrefutable. It is in no way an "ambiguous" record. Our own diplomats verified the horrible stories told by witnesses and survivors. The U.S. Ambassador to Turkey at the time, Henry Morgenthau, Sr., in a 1915 telegram to the Secretary of State called the treatment of the Armenians "a campaign of race extermination." He reiterated this allegation in his book, "Ambassador Morgenthau's Story," when he said that "(the Turkish authorities issued) a death warrant to a whole race * * * and, in their conversations with me, they made no particular attempt to conceal the fact." This is testimony from an American Ambassador, an agent of American diplomacy. It leaves no room for ambiguity.

President Reagan said, in a proclamation on April 22, 1981, that "the lessons of the (genocide of the Armenians) must never be forgotten." This is clearly true. The denial of the fact of the Armenian genocide is an affront to all who value human life, and detracts from the integrity of American diplomacy. This blunder must surely raise serious questions in the minds of our fellow nations about the strength of our commitment to human rights.

There are two steps needed to rectify this situation: The first is an unequivocal retraction of this State Department error. The second, crucial step is ratification of the Genocide Convention. Ratification will tell the world, once and for all, that the United States has a firm commitment, in word and in deed, to the preservation of humanity. It will show that the greatest democracy in the world will never cease to be the proud guardian of human rights. We must make it clear that we recognize any and all genocide, past and future, as what it is—an unconscionable crime against all of humanity. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in seeking ratification of this essential treaty.

ROBERT A. ROE
8TH DISTRICT NEW JERSEY

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TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN—WATER RESOURCES

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APPLICATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 3, 1982

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201-696-2077

Mr. Ross Vartian
Executive Director
Armenian Assembly of America
1420 "N" Street, N.W.
Suite 101
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Vartian:

Just a note to let you know that I have received your letter and accompanying literature pertaining to the State Department's refusal to endorse allegations that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people. Needless to say, I deeply share your concern in this matter.

By all means, I am looking into this situation, and will immediately be back in touch with you as soon as I have a report.

It is a pleasure to be of service.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Roe
Member of Congress

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3976

DISTRICT OFFICE:
8425 WEST 3D STREET
SUITE 400
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(213) 651-1040

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

HENRY A. WAXMAN
24TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

December 10, 1982

44
COMMITTEES:
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN
COMMERCE

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

BURT MARGOLIN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mr. Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations
State Department
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Mr. Moore:

I am writing to strongly protest a statement made in an article entitled "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" in the August issue of the Department of State Bulletin regarding the Turkish massacre of Armenians in 1915. A concluding footnote in this article states that "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people." This statement is completely incompatible with our government's previous posture on this issue.

State Department communiques from Ambassador Henry S. Morgenthau and other State Department officials during this point in history give straightforward, uniform eyewitness accounts of the Turkish massacre. There is absolutely no ambiguity in their reports that it was a "campaign of race extermination," a systematic plan to crush the Armenian race," and "without a doubt a carefully planned scheme to thoroughly extinguish the Armenian race."

As recent as April 22, 1981, President Reagan specifically referred to the genocide of the Armenian people in his proclamation honoring the anniversary of the liberation of those held in Nazi death camps during World War II. If any new evidence has emerged since this time, I would very much like to have the opportunity to review it. If there is none, however, the State Department's reassessment of the recorded events in 1915 is unwarranted and should be promptly and formally retracted.

With many thanks for your attention to my deep concern, I am

Sincerely,



HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress

HAW:pd

45
CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI, WIS., CHAIRMAN

DANTE B. FASCELL, FLA.
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JOHN J. BRADY, JR.
CHIEF OF STAFF

Congress of the United States

Committee on Foreign Affairs

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

February 10, 1983

Mr. Ross Vartian
Executive Director
Armenian Assembly of America
1420 N Street, N.W.
Suite 101
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Vartian:

This is in further reference to my letter to you of December 1 regarding the August 1982 State Department Bulletin on Armenian terrorism.

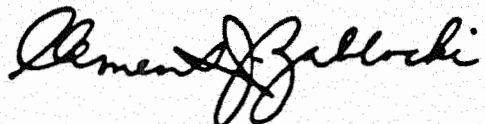
As you will note from the enclosed letter, the article in question was the subject of a January meeting between State Department officials and members of the Armenian-American community. It appears that this meeting succeeded in assuring the Armenian representatives that the views contained in this article were not meant as an expression of official U.S. policy.

I share your hope that such unfortunate misunderstandings will be avoided in the future through better communication between Armenian community leaders and our government officials.

Please be assured it was a pleasure to be of assistance in this matter.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Chairman

Enclosure

CJZ:cg

STATE DEPARTMENT

47
United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 4, 1983

Dear Mr. Howard:

The Secretary has asked me to reply to your recent letter regarding issues raised by the article "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile," which appeared in the August 1982 issue of the Department of State Bulletin.

Ed Derwinski, Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs John Hughes, and other Department officials met on January 12 with five individuals reflecting a broad cross-section of the Armenian-American community. At this frank, cordial, and mutually educational meeting, Mr. Hughes explained that, upon assuming his responsibilities as Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, he had looked into the circumstances surrounding the publication of the article on Armenian terrorism and its accompanying footnotes. The article, a part of a special section intended to convey the Department's serious concern over terrorism, whatever the group or justification invoked for violent actions, was published as an article of interest and not as an official statement of policy.

The following editor's note was published in the very next (September 1982) issue of the Bulletin:

The article, "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile," which appeared in the feature on terrorism in the August 1982 issue of the Bulletin, does not necessarily reflect an official position of the Department of State, and the interpretive comments in the article are solely those of the author.

I would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm that neither the article "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" nor the accompanying footnote represented an effort to present an official position of the Department of State.

The Honorable
James J. Howard,
House of Representatives.

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I appreciate your expression of concern and regret any misunderstanding that may have arisen from the publication of this informational article in our Bulletin, which is normally reserved for authoritative statements of policy. I hope this information is useful in clarifying this matter.

Sincerely,

Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations



49
United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

January 28, 1983

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Affairs Powell A. Moore promised in his January 7 letter to keep you abreast of developments on the issues raised by the August 1982 Department of State Bulletin article "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile." In this regard, I am writing to you on behalf of the Department of State.

Ed Derwinski, I and other Department officials participated on January 12 in a frank, cordial, and mutually educational meeting with five individuals reflecting a broad cross-section of the Armenian-American community. At this meeting, I explained that since assuming my position as Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs last summer, I had carefully investigated the circumstances surrounding the publication of the article on Armenian terrorism and its accompanying footnotes. The article was published as part of a special section on terrorism intended to convey the Department's serious concern over terrorism, whatever the group or the justification invoked for violent actions. The article on Armenian terrorism was published, not as an official statement of policy but as an article of interest. After its publication and receipt of inquiries, we published in the very next edition of the Bulletin (September) the editor's note which follows:

The article, "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile," which appeared in the feature on terrorism in the August 1982 issue of the Bulletin, does not necessarily reflect an official position of the Department of State, and the interpretive comments in the article are solely those of the author.

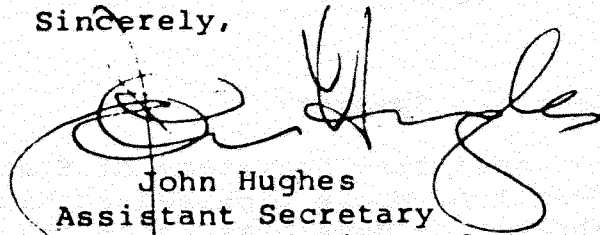
The Honorable
Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.,
Speaker,
House of Representatives.

50

The Armenian-Americans with whom we met raised no objection to the September editor's note in itself. Nonetheless, I want to confirm to you as we did to them that neither the August footnote nor the article represented an effort to present the official position of the Department of State. Publication of the article and the footnote represented no policy change by the Department.

I appreciate your directing our attention to this problem and giving us the opportunity to clarify the matter. I hope that you find the above explanation helpful.

Sincerely,



John Hughes
Assistant Secretary
for Public Affairs and
Department Spokesman

ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

1420 "N" STREET, N. W. • SUITE 101 • WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005 • (202) 332-3434

January 12, 1983

The Honorable George M. Schultz
Secretary of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We, the undersigned individuals, believing that our collective views are shared by the entire Armenian-American community, extend our appreciation for the opportunity to meet with Counselor Derwinski and Assistant Secretary Hughes to exchange views on the controversy created by the "Note" which appeared at the end of an article entitled "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" from the August 1982 issue of the Department of State Bulletin. We are encouraged by the explanations given to us by Department officials during our meeting, particularly their candid observations as to how the problem arose. We were specifically advised that the statement which reads, in part, "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people," does not represent Department policy.

Given this exchange of views, we are now convinced that the Department will respond affirmatively to our request for a retraction of the "Note" at the next appropriate opportunity. You can be assured of our continued cooperation with the Department in the resolution of this matter.

Sincerely,

Nubar Dorian

Hirair Hovnanian

Aram Kaloosdian

Set Momjian

Harry Sachaklian

52
United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 16, 1982

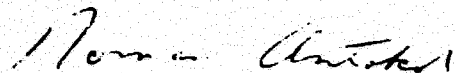
Dear Ms. Akgulian:

With reference to your letter of November 3, I am sorry that you found anything objectionable in my presentation. I should like to point out, however, that I was not referring to "the Armenian situation," but rather to the actions of a small, unrepresentative group which has engaged in terrorist tactics -- tactics to which you yourself are "totally opposed," according to your letter.

As to my reference to the "alleged" genocide, this is in fact the position taken by the Department of State. While many groups use the term genocide to describe the events of 1915-16, the Turkish Government avers that the term is not accurate. The United States Government takes no position on this issue. Whatever took place seventy years ago, you and I can agree on our opposition to terrorist tactics -- and it was to that point that I was speaking.

I appreciate that the term "alleged" offends you, but it is accurate in this case -- one side alleges that genocide took place, the other denies it. The important thing from the United States' point of view is that all terrorism be stopped, regardless of the specific historical circumstances which gave rise to it. On this I hope we can agree.

Sincerely,



Norman Antokol
Office for Combatting Terrorism

Ms. Rose Akgulian,
422 South Street,
Racine, Wisconsin 53402.

Proclamation 4838 of April 22, 1981

Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The Congress of the United States established the United States Holocaust Memorial Council to create a living memorial to the victims of the Nazi Holocaust. Its purpose: So mankind will never lose memory of that terrible moment in time when the awful spectre of death camps stained the history of our world.

When America and its allies liberated those haunting places of terror and sick destructiveness, the world came to a vivid and tragic understanding of the evil it faced in those years of the Second World War. Each of those names—Auschwitz, Buchenwald, Dachau, Treblinka and so many others—became synonymous with horror.

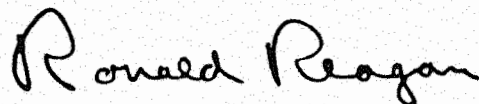
The millions of deaths, the gas chambers, the inhuman crematoria, and the thousands of people who somehow survived with lifetime scars are all now part of the conscience of history. Forever must we remember just how precious is civilization, how important is liberty, and how heroic is the human spirit.

Like the genocide of the Armenians before it, and the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it—and like too many other such persecutions of too many other peoples—the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten.

As part of its mandate, the Holocaust Memorial Council has been directed to designate annual Days of Remembrance as a national, civic commemoration of the Holocaust, and to encourage and sponsor appropriate observances throughout the United States. This year, the national Days of Remembrance will be observed on April 26 through May 3.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby ask the people of the United States to observe this solemn anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camps, with appropriate study, prayers and commemoration, as a tribute to the spirit of freedom and justice which Americans fought so hard and well to preserve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifth.



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The Speaker's Rooms
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 8, 1983

The Honorable John Hughes
Assistant Secretary for
Public Affairs and
Department Spokesman
United States Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Secretary Hughes:

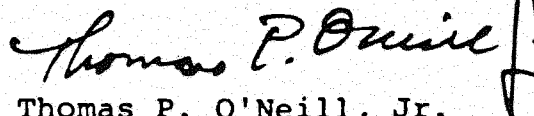
Thank you for your response to my letter of December 9
to Secretary Schultz.

I am pleased to learn that the note accompanying the
article entitled "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" which appeared
in the August 1982 issue of the Department of State Bulletin
represents neither an effort to present the official position
of the Department nor a change of policy.

Given the contrary impression conveyed by the note and the
grave concern expressed to the Department by many people I had
hoped that your response would have included an unequivocal re-
traction of the note, as well as, a reaffirmation of the fact of
the Armenian genocide. Nonetheless, I infer from the Department's
clarification that there is no change in this Nation's historic
recognition of the Armenian genocide as reaffirmed recently by
President Reagan in Proclamation 4838.

An explicit confirmation of my inference by the Department
of State would be most helpful so that any remaining ambiguity
regarding the position of the United States in this matter is
eliminated.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
The Speaker

JAMES J. HOWARD
20 DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND TRANSPORTATION

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
MEMORIAL COMMISSION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
February 25, 1983

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BELMAR, NEW JERSEY 07719
TELEPHONE: (201) 681-3321

25 EAST MAIN STREET
FREDHOLD, NEW JERSEY 07728
TELEPHONE: (201) 431-2830

Hon. Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Moore:

Thank you for your response to my letter of December 3, 1982, to Secretary Schultz. Although the Editor's note appearing in the September edition of the Department's Bulletin is a step in the right direction, it is far from adequate in either tone or substance. Merely asserting that the article in question "does not necessarily reflect an official position of the Department of State" fails, in light of the historical facts (including Ambassador Morgenthau's telegrams), to constitute an adequate clarification of the Department's position. Under the present circumstances, only an unqualified acknowledgement would be acceptable.

It must be remembered that while the fact of Turkish guilt has yet to be admitted, memories of this century's first genocide burn painfully in the hearts of Armenians throughout the world. Any American failure to fully recognize the copiously documented fact of the Armenian genocide represents a grievous and wholly inexcusable error on the part of the State Department. With the advent of Presidential Proclamation 4838, the Department's position also represents a glaring policy inconsistency.

The ambivalence of the State Department on this issue will not fade unnoticed into bureaucratic oblivion. As long as the legacy of this human tragedy lingers in the minds of Armenians, as long as the accuracy of the historical record remains a casualty of State Department policy, American honor will remain in question. I trust that you will soon contact me regarding a permanent resolution of this issue.

Sincerely,

JAMES J. HOWARD
Member of Congress

JJH:ff/r1

JAMES J. FLORIO
1ST DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

2102 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20615
(202) 225-8501

1 COLBY AVENUE, #16-17
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FIELD OFFICES:
WOODBURY, N.J.
CAMDEN, N.J.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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HUMAN SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE
HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE
SUBCOMMITTEE

February 23, 1983

Honorable Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations
United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Moore:

Thank you for your response to my letter of December 8 to Secretary Schultz.

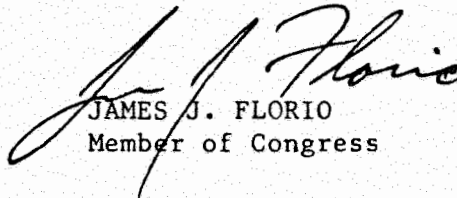
I appreciate learning that the footnote which appeared in the August 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin, concerning the Armenian genocide, did not represent an effort to present an official position of the Department of State.

However, your letter did not respond to my question of December 8 if the Department of State has made a change to our Nation's historic recognition of the Armenian genocide.

Again, I request a letter as soon as possible describing the Administration's evaluation of the events which transpired from 1894 to 1923 when nearly two million Armenian people perished and 500,000 were deported from their ancestral homeland.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,


JAMES J. FLORIO
Member of Congress

JJF:5:7

Enclosure: December 8, 1982 letter to Secretary of State Shultz
from Rep. Florio

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JOHN J. BRADY, JR.
CHIEF OF STAFF

Congress of the United States

Committee on Foreign Affairs

House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 28, 1983

Mr. Ross Vartian
Executive Director
Armenian Assembly of America
1420 N Street, N.W.
Suite 101
Washington, D.C. 20005


Dear Mr. Vartian:

Thank you for your letter of recent date in further reference to the article in the August, 1982 State Department Bulletin. I appreciate receiving a copy of Speaker O'Neill's letter to Secretary Hughes on this matter.

Please be assured of my willingness to cooperate with Speaker O'Neill in any way he may deem appropriate in seeking a clear reaffirmation of the fact of Armenian genocide.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


Chairman

CJZ:cg



TURKISH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

408 - 13th Street
Suite 532
Oakland, CA 94612

19 April 1983

Honorable George Deukmejian
Governor
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Deukmejian:

A press release, #340, dated March 29 1982, from Senator Roberti's office, urged all Californians to observe April 24 as a remembrance day for victims of genocide, particularly Armenians, and also urged that the State flag be lowered.

Of themselves, these statements are commendable in that they remind man of his relationship to his fellow man. However, when such resolutions as ACR 51 are based upon historical distortions, mis-information, and allegations, they can only be seen as ethnically divisive and politically motivated. It should be noted that disinterested Western Scholars have refuted claims by radical Armenian groups that there was a deliberately planned genocide against the Armenian people by the Ottoman government.

It is shameful and sad that California governmental institutions are being used to promote resolutions based upon claims which allegedly took place 70 years ago, in a foreign land far away from California. There are no claims of acts of violence against present day Armenians, yet today, Armenian terrorism against Turks continues to escalate worldwide.

This expanding Armenian terrorism must give you cause for concern, sir. You have presented yourself to California as a defender of law and order; yet elements of your ethnic community tarnish the Armenian name and seem to be beyond law, order and respect for fellow man.

We trust that you will, as a duly elected public official, promote the welfare of all constituents and not promote nor foster ethnic division by supporting a resolution (ACR 51), which is based upon allegations.

Governor Deukmejian

- Page 2 -

You are undoubtedly aware that "... because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the (U.S.) Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish (Ottoman) Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people. Armenian terrorists use this allegation to justify in part their continuing attacks on Turkish diplomats and installations." (State Department Bulletin, August 1982)

Respectfully,



Bonnie Joy Kaslan

cc: Members of California State Legislature

BJK/mh

MR. GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN
5366 E. BROADWAY
LONG BEACH, CA 90803

THE ARMENIAN OBSERVER

VOL. XIII, No. 23, WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1983

(ISSN 0044-894X)

6646 Hollywood Blvd., LA, CA 90028 - Tel. (213) 467-6767

Some 800 Fresnans Observe Armenian Martyrs Day

FRESNO — Government officials, an internationally known scholar, and more than 800 local Armenians gathered at the William Saroyan Theater Sunday, April 24, to recall the genocide the world has chosen largely to forget.

Congressman Charles "Chip" Pashayan, Congressman Richard Lehman, N.A. "Chad" Chaderjian, a member of Governor George Deukmejian's cabinet, and Fresno Mayor Daniel Whitehurst each offered a personal message on the significance of the 1915 Armenian genocide. The podium was then turned over to the afternoon's main

speaker, Professor Vahagn Dadian, who placed the massacre of 1.5 million Armenians in an historical context.

An illustrated overview of the Armenian tragedy and six musical selections by the Fresno Hamazkayin Choral Group added another dimension to the observance. The martyrs day program was organized by the April 24 Committee of the United Armenian Commemorative Committee.

Sunday's commemoration marked a critical innovation for the Fresno Armenian community. This year, community lead-

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Alex Manoogian Keynote Speaker at St. Peter Church 25th Anniversary

VAN NUYS — The 25th anniversary of St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church will be celebrated at a series of special events May 15 in the church, 17231 Sherman Way, Van Nuys.

Archbishop Vatche Hovsepian, primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church, will officiate at Divine Liturgy at 10 a.m. and deliver the sermon.

He also will preside at the banquet at 12:30 p.m. at St. Peter Karagozian Hall on the church grounds. He will be assisted by the Rev. Shahe Semerdjian, pastor of St. Peter Church.

The Khachadourian Choir, under the direction of Deacon Stepan Gozumyan, will participate in the Divine Liturgy.

The keynote speaker at the banquet will be Alex Manoogian, life president of the Armenian General Benevolent Union, a worldwide philanthropic organization.

Entertainment will feature vocalist Chakoh Kazanjian, accompanied by Arpine Pehlivanian. The St. Peter AGBU Day School's dance ensemble will perform traditional Armenian dances.

For reservations, call the church office, at 344-4860.

Tony Coelho Criticizes State Department for Not Reaffirming the Armenian Genocide

WASHINGTON — Rep. Tony Coelho, D-Merced, criticized the State Department on Monday April 25 for not stating a "clear and unequivocal" position on the widespread killings of Armenians earlier this century.

Coelho said the department's retraction of its August 1982 note was a "step in the right direction but did not go nearly far enough in clearing up the controversy."

He called for the department to reaffirm its belief that the genocide actually occurred. "Only by so doing can the State Department's position and official policy of our government be clear and this controversy be resolved," he said.

In an August publication, the department published a note calling into question whether 1.5 million Armenians were killed at the hands of the Turkish-Ottoman government during the years 1915-21, as charged by historians.

After protests from Armenians, the department retracted the statement in a letter to Rep. Charles "Chip" Pashayan, R-Fresno, and said its position on the genocide issue was unchanged.

But Coelho said the department should go further and reaffirm that the genocide actually occurred.

State Department to Correct Footnote

NOTE: The following letter by Lawrence Eagleburger, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, addressed to Congressman Charles "Chip" Pashayan, was read by Pashayan Thursday, April 21, 1983, on the Floor of the House of Representatives as part of ceremonies recognizing Armenian Martyrs Day.

I especially respect the prominent leadership role you exercise in the Armenian-American community and am consequently pleased to write to you on the controversial subject of the August 1982 Department of State Bulletin article on Armenian terrorism.

May I reemphasize to you that neither the article, its accompanying note, nor footnotes were intended as statements of policy of the United States. Nor did they represent any change in U.S. policy. Policy statements which are a part of the public record remain there and speak for themselves.

As you can understand, the Administration remains deeply concerned over the concerted efforts of some terrorist groups to invoke the tragic events of 1915 as a pretext for terrorism against Turkish diplomats and private and public activities of Turkey and Turks around the world. The United States Government condemns most strongly all such acts of terror.

We sincerely desire to end this unfortunate controversy over the Bulletin article. To that end, the Department of State plans to publish the following editor's note in the next issue of the Department of State Bulletin.

The article "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile," which appeared in the August 1982 issue of the Bulletin, its accompanying note and footnotes were not intended as statements of policy of the United States. Nor did they represent any change in U.S. policy.

I hope that the above clarification will alleviate any concerns you may have.

Lawrence S. Eagleburger
Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

AGBU National Convention in Hye Gear in Detroit

By MIHRAN KUPELIAN

DETROIT — Unlike General Motors, the Detroit Armenian Community Assembly is moving at a terrific speed for the forthcoming 69th National Convention of AGBU Central Committee of America; the new product may be rated as the top of the line that this motor city can produce. Thanks to the Armenian ingenuity, the Japanese competition is no problem!

Given the enthusiasm, conviviality, and the warm hospitality of the Detroit Armenian community, one can be certain that the 69th AGBU National Convention will be both unforgettable and enjoyable. Plans are being made for a four-day series of cultural, social and sports activi-

ties (June 23-26) to be topped off with a grand banquet, which will possibly glitter with the presence of Governor George Deukmejian of the great state of California.

This AGBU 69th Convention should also be the largest ever, since in addition to the regular conventioners, some 400 athletes are taking part in the 2nd AGBU Athletic Games, and some 200 AGBU school alumni will gather in Southfield, Michigan.

The variety of programs, to run separately and concurrently, are designed to entertain and please all age groups. In order to implement these programs, Mr. Arthur Apkarian, General Chairman of the convention, has mobilized a great force of seasoned

volunteers: Harout Sanjian, Margaret Mutaflan, George Laktzian, Mihran Kupelian, Gary and Mar-iam Zamanigian, John and Alice

Please Turn to Page 9

Turkey's Generals Pass Law Allowing Political Parties

ISTANBUL — Turkey's military government lifted a three-year ban on political activity and endorsed a law allowing new political parties to emerge.

According to an article in the Wall Street Journal, a communique from President Kenan Evren and the four other generals who make up the ruling National Security Council, "citizens will be able to join

political parties of their choice and engage in political activity."

The generals had outlawed political parties when they seized control of the country in September 1980.

The communique, however, said some restrictions will be continued. It said former party leaders, barred from politics for

Please Turn to Page 12

Per Capita Income in California Up

WASHINGTON — Alaska topped the nation in per capita income again in 1982, with its residents averaging \$15,200 a year compared to \$11,056 for Americans in general, according to government statistics.

Residents of Connecticut were second just as they were in 1981. Mississippians were last again among the 50 states with an average income of \$7,792. The national economy was mired in recession for most of 1982. The previous year started with a booming economy but conditions deteriorated into recession by midyear.

Among the big gainers in 1982 were Alaska, Vermont, New York, South Dakota and New Jersey, which recorded increases of 7.2% to 10.6%. The states with the smallest percentage gains were Iowa, Nebraska, Nevada, Wyoming and Michigan, where increases ranged from 0.5% to 2.7%.

Per capita income in California was up 4.8% to \$12,543.

The American Near East Relief and the Armenian Orphans

AN EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNT
By Shahnazar Keotahian

Continued from last week

On Sunday the boys were taken to St. Mary's (Sourp Asdouadzadzin) Cathedral, towering like a fortress, in the heart of the city: later, when a new government came to power, this routine was discontinued by the school Board because the orphans, as usual, had to cross the Saray Square on their way to church and back and it would attract the attention of our persecutors, who now, due "change of times" wouldn't bear to see so many survivors passing before their eyes. . .!

There also was a separate elementary school-orphanage for girls on the campus of former Armenian National Hospital. Another Home for grown-ups and young women for various tasks, such as rug-weaving, sewing, knitting and home-economics: the aged were cared for in a nearby location.

The American Missionary Hospital, not far from the orphanages, with its outpatient clinic and pharmacy, served the needs of the orphans and the Armenian community: from time to time Turks also were admitted. Dr. Kegham Hekimian was the head of the Hospital; helping him were American and Armenian nurses. The N.E.R. Office, with Director Christopher Thurber, was located on the same compound.

I especially remember Miss Ethel Thompson, a tall, blue-eyed American nurse, who, like a compassionate mother, used to bathe the little orphans, many of them suffering from various diseases and treat their wounds. Once in a while she gathered the big boys to teach them how to edge a bed-sheet. . .!

There were Miss Mary Graffam, the former Director, who died on duty and was buried on Collegegrounds: Ernest Partridge, the onetime President of Teachers' College and his wife: Miss Nina Rice, from Clairmont, California, Superintendent of the girls' Orphanage, an angelic figure, all fluent in Armenian and former missionaries of Sivas: William Hawkes, Director-Teacher of Boys' Orphanage, Raymond Custer, in charge of transportation and distribution of supplies, whose three-wheeled motorcycle was something very curious for us, as for the first time we were seeing such a vehicle. . .!

Director Thurber, a competent, energetic and unselfish person, who later, while serving as General Managing Director in Istanbul, devoted himself to the afflicted Armenian as well as Greek refugees, many suffering from typhoid fever until he himself was infected and yet was luckily saved to continue his highly important mission.

These Americans and later those, whom I came to know in Greece, served our orphans as well as thousands of Greek and Armenian refugees wholeheartedly: their friendly and positive attitude toward the teachers and employees proved to be fine specimen, I would say, ambassadors of good-will of the American people: in fact, like many other orphans and refugees, I recognized in their persons America at its best. . .! What a wonderful and priceless service to any country that one may be proud to render!

The orphanages in Sivas had also a group of dedicated Armenian teachers; men and women. I want to mention Nishan Begian, the Superintendent of orphanages, educated in Switzerland and his wife, Varsenig, the sister of martyred Prof. Garabed Soghigian of Harpoot: Katchadoor Khanzadian, Levon Bodosian now in Mexico, Hagop Ke-vorkian, Merger Alexanian, a graduate from Berberian School, and few others: also Nishan Nourian and Nishan Mouradian of "Aramian" and Ashkhen Kapikian, niece of Garabed Kapikian, now Mrs. Avakian of New York, the kindergarten teacher in "Aramian". I have to mention also Aghavni Sourplousian, the Principal of Girls Orphanage, now Mrs. Setrag Shahan living in Pasadena and Makrouhie Bodosian, in charge of grown-up girls' center, the wife of Levon Bodosian.

Director Thurber also helped save many Armenian youngmen who were to be conscripted by the

Turkish army, by paying a part or sometimes the total, of their Bedel (ransom) an amount of 300 liras! In later years he personally encouraged and helped me and many other boys in our endeavors to get a college education.

So far so marvelous: however, it was destined that the tide would again turn. . . the dark clouds would once more cover the bright sky. . . the date is 1922, September. . .

Turkey, now headed by Moustafa Kemal Pasha, through the assistance of some Christian-European countries, emerged victorious by his final strike of the Greek army at Smyrna. . . Soon Armenian and Greek exiles from central Anatolia began to arrive in Sivas by the hundreds: among them were the Very Rev. Ardavazt Vartabed Surmeian, later Primate of Aleppo and of Paris, and Metropolitan Bishop Prokopios, both prelates of their respective communities of Konia Area. The Near East Relief extended its helping hands to these unfortunate refugees also: the two Prelates enjoyed the warm hospitality of Director Miss Graffam at the N.E.R. H.Q. for a whole month till they left for their destination of exile in Erzroum (Garin).

As a sequel of the Lausanne Treaty, and in terms of its provisions, the Greeks in the interior of Turkey would be transferred to Greece, and the Turkish minority of Thrace and Macedonia, (Greece) to Turkey. Accordingly, the Near East Relief also decided to transport its orphanages in Sivas as well as those of Harpoot, Marsovan, and other towns, to Greece Palestine, Syria and Lebanon. The Armenian orphanages in Istanbul were transported to Greece.

The transportation of Sivas orphanages took place during the late months of 1922. The N.E.R. hired covered horse wagons (Yayli); each caravan consisted of 10-12 wagons and each wagon housed 7-8 orphans headed by a teacher responsible for the group. The Americans and the Armenian staff conducted the evacuation, as far as I can remember as an eye-witness, in the most safe and effective way possible: at every station, lodging accommodations were made and a hot meal served. The Vali assigned mounted gendarmes for each caravan to ensure the safe journey of the orphans and the personnel. I was in the first caravan: it took us eleven days to reach Samsoun, a port on the Black Sea, while today the same journey could be made in 10 to 12 hours: thence by ships the orphans were transported to Istanbul and from there to Greece.

Director Thurber had friendly relations with the authorities in Sivas and that helped a lot, I believe, to complete the evacuation as planned, without any difficulty and incidents. Mr. Thurber even used to wear Turkish cap (Papak) to please the Turks. . . It was informed that an agreement had already been signed between the newly established Ankara Government and the N.E.R. regarding the general functioning of the latter in Turkey and the evacuation of the orphans and the refugees.

The Istanbul Armenian orphans, numbering 3000, settled in the Island of Corfu (Kerkyra) were I again became a teacher to a group of Sivas orphans mostly older than myself. The Fort, the former military H.Q., as well as a huge warehouse in the center of the city and the beautiful Achilleon, several miles away, the former summer Palace of Emperor Wilhelm II, were used as orphanage-schools. The teachers, most of them Armenians, were mostly prominent intellectuals from Istanbul, who had thought it wise to accompany to orphans. The group included: Theotig, the famous author of Almanacs, Arshag Alboyajian, Hovannes Asbed (Onnig Chifte-Saraf), Kevork Garvarentz, Levon Tutunjian, Nishan Beshigtashlian, Prof. Sarkis Khatchadourian, Armenag Der Hagopian and many others.

The Director of the orphanages was Henry Kneeland, a kind, loving young man, always a pipe in his mouth.

(To be concluded next week -2)

Readers' Forum

COMMUNICATIONS - COMMUNICATIONS

Editor's Note: There are many Armenians and non-Armenians who read newspapers and whenever they see errors published, they write letters to the editors and offer a correction. In recent weeks, many similar cases occurred and today we present two of them.

Zaven Khanjian of Glendale wrote a letter to the editors of USA Today concerning a brief report in the March 10, 1983 issue of that newspaper "Yugoslavia: Turkish diplomat ambushed."

Khanjian's letter in part states: "Your alleged claim, that the massacres of the Armenians in 1915 is alleged, was not only frustrating for every reader who has the slightest knowledge of Mid-Eastern history but is humiliating for American Armenians, every one of whom bears the ugly scar of having lost loved ones during the darkest years of 1915-1922 in modern human history at the hands of the Turkish Government. Would you ever dare address a crippled or amputated Vietnam veteran with the statement of "alleged Vietnam War?" Would you ever describe the Jewish Holocaust as alleged?"

The World Editor of USA Today wrote to Khanjian on March 28, and we quote in part: "In looking over the material on which you have commented, I must say I think your points are well-taken. Certainly, as you point out, the killing of Armenians in 1915 was not "alleged" but entirely documented - and now is a matter of historical record. The only question seems to be whether the Turks were entirely res-

ponsible or shared the guilt along with Czarist troops then in the region. It was because of that issue that we described the event as "alleged," but I agree we might have come up with another qualifying term - one that did not indicate any doubt as to whether the event occurred.

I greatly appreciate your calling our attention to these points. If you have any other criticism, I would be very grateful if you could let me know."

The following letter was sent to the Los Angeles Times regarding a cartoon published in the Tuesday, April 26 issue.

"I describe as humiliating, distasteful, and a "cheap-shot" Paul Conrad's cartoon of Governor George Deukmejian addressing the memorial service for the survivors and relatives of the 1915 Armenian massacre by the Turks. He shows a child pulling the Governor's leg asking not to be forgotten.

When Mr. Conrad attends a funeral service for someone wantonly murdered, after the eulogy is given, does he confront the eulogist and surviving family and remind them also not to forget the crippled children? Is our grief a sham?

To put it another way, "would you trust this cartoonist to be your conscience?"

On this most sacred day of memorial for the over 1.5 million men, woman and children who were raped, butchered, starved and murdered must our sorrow be mocked?

H. Kenneth Norian
Beverly Hills, CA

ARMENIAN OBSERVER

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Armenian Memory, Turkish Amnesia

NOTE: The following article appeared in the New York Times (April 23, 1983), written by Karl E. Meyer, in his "The Editorial Notebook" column.

The saddest date on the Armenian calendar is April 24, when a scattered people remembers a catastrophe most of us have forgotten. It happened in 1915, when a large and thriving Armenian community in Turkey became the object of the century's first official genocide.

It was a gruesome campaign, resulting in the death or deportation of perhaps 1.5 million of 2.3 million Turkish Armenians. Yet the perpetrators faced no judicial inquiry, no ministers resigned in disgrace and subsequent Turkish Governments have declined even to acknowledge what happened.

This amnesia in no way justifies a minuscule group of Armenian terrorists, who in a decade have killed 26 Turkish diplomats. But it surely justifies using the memorial day, as less vengeful Armenians ask with increasing urgency, to call for an accounting of a dark and unpunished crime.

A stateless people, Armenians were vulnerably located on both sides of the Eastern Front when World War I pitted Germany and the Ottoman Empire against Czarist Russia, Britain and France. Islamic Turkey looked on Christian Armenians as collectively suspect—even, according to one theorist, an "alien impurity."

"Alas, those who were innocent today might be guilty tomorrow," explained Turkey's interior Minister, who ordered the deportation of entire communities and condoned plunder and murder by Turkish troops, beginning in April 1915.

The killings appalled German diplomats, who had no motive for exaggeration. Their dismay was shared by the American envoy, Henry Morgenthau Sr., who fed eyewitness accounts to foreign journalists. The weight of the evidence makes credible an Ottoman document, dated Sept. 16, 1915, asserting that the regime's purpose was "to destroy completely all the Armenians living in Turkey."

As shocking as what happened was what didn't. Much of the world protested, but with little effect and with numbed incredulity. An account of a ferocious killing on the shores of Lake Van prompted this meditation in *The New Republic*: "Humanity refuses to think that a civilized nation was even fractionally responsible for such desolation."

In that refusal, Franz Werfel foresaw other horrors. His powerful novel, "The Forty Days of Musa Dagh," describes a meeting between Turkey's Defense Minister, Enver Pasha, and a German pastor. Suppose Germany had enemies in his midst, said Enver, "shall we say, Poles or Social Democrats or Jews. . . . Would you consider it so cruel if, for the sake of victory, all dangerous elements in the population were simply herded together and sent packing into distant, uninhabited territory? . . . There can be no peace between human beings and plague germs."

Werfel, a Czech-German Jew, was writing in 1933. He later fled Germany, and died in America in 1945, when what began in Anatolia had produced Auschwitz.

Karl Meyer

Remarks By Michael Minasian

The following speech was delivered by Michael Minasian, President, Armenian Monument Council, Inc., at the Armenian Martyrs' Day Commemoration, April 24, 1983, in Montebello.

"But still we stand; We did not fall;
Unextinguished, we stand tall;
When bells are sounding,
We'll be responding
With the last full measure of our soul."

These are the words of the last verse of the song you have just heard. (SARDARABAD)

Reverend clergy, governor Deukmejian, mayor Bradley, mayor Ramos, distinguished members of the United States Congress, members of the California legislature, county and city officials, friends, surviving witnesses of the horrendous first genocide of the twentieth century, and children of a once martyred race—my fellow Americans.

On behalf of the Armenian monument council, I bring you greetings.

Indeed, it is an honor and a momentous occasion for me to preside over this year's annual commemoration, presented under the auspices of the three major Armenian national political parties, who, for close to a century, have struggled and served the Armenian nation with dedication, dignity and high purpose. The parties are here to-

day to renew their pledge, to lead the Armenian people, as Moses led his people several thousand years ago, to our own promised land, under the shadow of eternal mount Ararat.

But this time, unlike Moses and his people, we must cross many oceans and continents to reach our destination.

Through the gracious and courageous backing of the city of Montebello, the leadership and the people, this monument was built and unveiled fifteen years ago as a rallying point for all Armenians and other peoples who have fallen victim to crimes against humanity.

This edifice is more than a memorial. The eight pillars are the symbol of our unity of purpose, strength and determination. The monument stands for our past sacrifices and present commitment to never betray our ideals of humanity and justice and our willingness to make any and all sacrifices should it become necessary.

The dome is the symbol of our soaring spirit, purity of our aspirations, and faith in our eternal existence. The base of the monument is broad, strong and firm, so that we as a people stand firmly on our past. And no power on this earth can move us from this attachment, we shall never forsake our past, nor shall we concede our ancestral

Please Turn to Page 10

A Conversation With AAIC Board Chairman Paul Mnoian

At the Hilton Hotel this Friday night, Paul Mnoian, chairman of the board of AAIC, along with Dr. Garbis Der Yeghayan, AAIC dean, will declare Mrs. Alice Deukmejian, the mother of the Governor of California, "Armenian Mother of the Year." Mr. Mnoian, a founding member of the American Armenian International College in the city of La Verne, is also a staunch supporter of Governor Deukmejian, and is a firm believer of the strength of the family unit.

Mnoian is the owner of the Nuway Landfill Co. During WW II he served as a design engineer for Lockheed Aircraft, where, among other contributions, he designed the ejection seat for the P-38 Lockheed lightning.

QUESTION: When did you join the AAIC family?

MNOIAN: I joined the AAIC family about two years before the idea of buying the former Nazarene College was in discussion. Dr. Sarafian had called me, and we used to meet in his offices at Pasadena City College. In fact I had met Dr. Sarafian about 42 years ago when I was on the football team of the Pasadena Jr. College. We went to play against the University of La Verne, and Dr. Sarafian was on that team.

QUESTION: You have been with AAIC since its inception; what changes, if any, have you seen?

MNOIAN: I think originally when we were putting it all together, there were many individuals who had their own idea of what the College should be, how it should be run, and whether one political party or another should be the dominant party. Today, the dust has finally settled, and AAIC is neutral—as a college should be. The present Board of trustees agree with



Gov. and Mrs. George Deukmejian with Paul Mnoian

this principle; that's why the college is moving forward.

QUESTION: What are your thoughts about the May 6 Dinner where Gov. Deukmejian will be awarded a Doctor of Laws degree from ULV, and Mrs. Alice Deukmejian will be declared "The Armenian Mother of the Year"?

MNOIAN: I'm very proud that AAIC and the Deukmejians are coming together this Friday. Not only will we be honoring two very worthy people, who represent the best of the Armenian Character, but also, we will be raising funds with which we will purchase a one-acre property in the City of La Verne, on which we will build a 2-story College building. At this moment, AAIC functions in classrooms and dorms located in various sections of the city of La Verne. The new building will put under one roof classrooms, labs, offices, and a library. Once this one-acre property is acquired, our longtime supporters will help us finance the building. Before the end of 1983, we'll have the first money to start the building. Let me also add, that I think the election of George Deukmejian as Governor of California is the greatest thing that could have happened to the Armenian community here. It shows to the world that Armenians are a hardworking, peaceful, family-loving and reasonable people. But I think its too much

of a luxury to claim Governor Deukmejian as our own; he belongs to all the people of California. He is the kind of man you want to have as your neighbor, as your policeman, your priest, and of course your Governor. He is bound to be the greatest governor this State has ever had. And his image will rub off on all the individual activities of the Armenians. This county was built on the kind of thinking that said "move forward." If you want a new home or building, you have to tear the old one down and build a new one. I believe our Governor recognizes all the possibilities, and is doing his all to augment and speedup the process to begin building again.

QUESTION: What were your reasons for joining AAIC?

MNOIAN: My father and mother were devout Christians. About 20 times a day, they used to thank the Lord for being alive, and for being in a country where they could work and worship and raise a family without worrying about persecution, robbery and daily threats. In a simple way they were very thankful. And for their memory, and the memory of all my ancestors who lost their lives during the persecutions, I have and will do anything legitimate to help the Armenian Cause. I consider it my obligation. I also consider it a great honor to support AAIC in any shape or form that I can.

Interview conducted by Leon Fermanian

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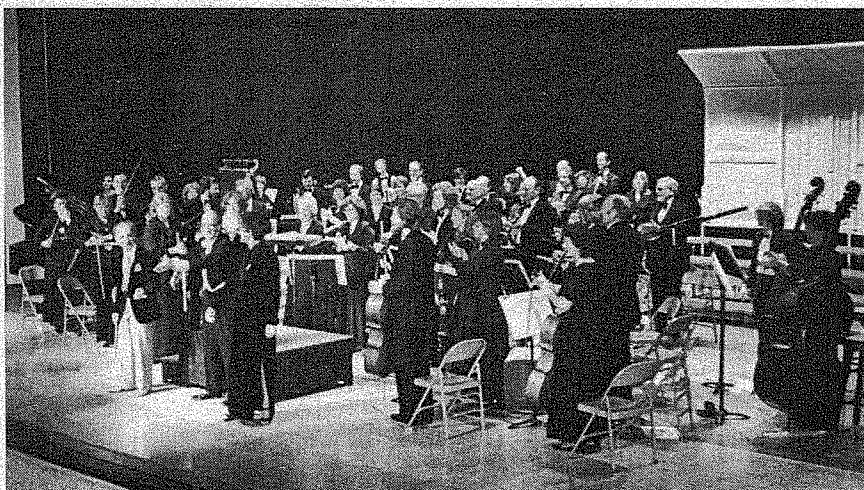
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The Sierra Philharmonic and the composer, Albert Darakjian, far left, with the conductor

The Armenian Symphonic Dances by Albert Darakjian

By RICHARD ANSHUTZ
Music Director and Conductor
Sierra Philharmonic
Nevada City — Grass Valley, California

(Some reflections on the work by the conductor of its premiere performance)

A conductor always looks forward to doing a work which he has never conducted before with a certain amount of expectancy and of hope and discovery intermingled with many other thoughts regarding the technical execution required for the work and a consideration of the orchestral forces at hand. But when a conductor approaches a work that no other conductor has ever before conducted, that no other orchestra has ever played anywhere else before — well, then it takes on whole new dimensions. Such was our situation when a few months ago our community orchestra was approached to do a recording of the Armenian Symphonic Dances of Albert Darakjian.

The work, a suite of six movements, is another happy collaboration of Darakjian (who resides in the Los Angeles suburb of Encino) and Anita Sleeman, a composer-arranger who was then residing in Grass Valley, some fifty miles northeast of Sacramento. I have to admit it was due more to our proximity that we were the ones asked to make a recording more so than any great reputation the orchestra had gained in its four years of existence. Nonetheless, the orchestra accepted the invitation and the challenge. And that it truly was, for it had been orchestrated with the idea of its being performed by a highly competent and full-sized major orchestra. When I first saw the score and its maze of ever-changing meters, the many textural changes, the complex rhythms, etc., I thought possibly I had been given a score of The Rite of Spring by mistake and wondering if we could ever hope to wend our way through many intricacies.

Whether by being undaunted, blissfully oblivious, or just what, we began work. And it was work. But at the same time there was this marvelous feeling that was experienced by all that this was music truly expressing and expressive of human soul and heart which touched, moved, and motivated us all. The rehearsals were times of joyful discovery of music which was so infectious and ingratiating that it was, at times, more than we could nearly stand not to want to get up and dance all over the place ourselves!

Turkish Paper Angered by the Book "Ararat"

ISTANBUL — In its March 13 issue, *Hurriyet*, the Turkish daily newspaper published in Istanbul, has published an article criticizing the recent book of D.M. Thomas "Ararat".

The article sent from Dublin by the newspaper's correspondent, states that the author

considers Mount Ararat as the Holy Mountain of the Armenians and talks about the 1915 Genocide. Although somehow the journalist makes a point what the book is about, his complaint is that the book is not based on facts. While mentioning Mount Ararat, the news-

When the evening came for the recording session, we added to our numbers a few more professional musicians who could not attend earlier rehearsals. We, therefore, had a run-through rehearsal of each movement before making a take. These musicians, too, were so caught up by the work that they have expressed desires to have their respective home orchestras perform the composition.

This captivating charm is evident in all of its six parts: "Echoes of Ararat", "Wedding Celebration" (a particular favorite of mine which calls for a trumpet solo of great elan), "Faith Journey to America", "Images of My Country", "Dance Anahis", and the concluding "Armenian Dance".

Albert Darakjian has captured the quintessential folk elements of his ancestral homeland in an undeniable fashion, true to its spirit in all respects; and Anita Sleeman has crafted the arrangement and orchestration in a masterful fashion ever cognizant of the folk element and the compositional necessities required to achieve a thoughtful, balanced score of color, texture, and all those other things expected and desired in a work of great beauty, accessibility, and merit. The work contains many beautiful solo passages for clarinet as well as for bassoon, oboe, horn, flute, cello, harp and piano.

We consider ourselves the fortunate ones to have made not only the first recording for the composer to hear, but also to have later premiered the work in two performances attended by Mr. Darakjian and his family, with Mrs. Sleeman as a performing member in the orchestra's percussion section. It was only after its initial performance when Mr. Darakjian stepped forward to come on stage to accept the audience's ovation that the orchestra members and I first saw him. To see this most gentle man I immediately sensed his own great humility so tellingly indicated by his request that the program should include a quotation from Psalm 98:IV: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise."

We look forward to playing the work again. Even more we expect this composition will gain an ever-widening audience with performances given by orchestras of major status—which it so justifiably deserves, leading eventually to its being commercially recorded. Even so, we will continue to have the great happiness and pride in knowing that "we did it first."

paper indicates the name of the mountain with its Turkish name "Aghreh" (heavy) in parenthesis.

The Turkish newspaper, with a circulation of 900,000, is the largest in Turkey. It is politically independent, appeals to middle income and lower income groups.

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A cavity is a hole in a tooth caused by decay which is produced by the combination of plaque and acid. It

doesn't take a few days for trouble to develop. Tooth decay can start in less than 15 minutes after eating. All that is needed are three ingredients: a tooth, bacteria (in dental plaque) and sugar. When the bacteria and sugar meet, acid is formed. When the acid and tooth meet, the acid starts etching a hole in the tooth.

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ARMENIAN MARTYRS DAY Commemoration participants in Fresno, from left, Allan Y. Jendian, N.A. "Chad" Chaderjian, Secretary of Youth and Adult Correctional Agency, Fresno Mayor Daniel Whitehurst, Congressman Charles "Chip" Pashayan, Prof. Vahakn Dadrian, Supervisor Deran Koligian, Councilwoman Karen Humphrey, and Garo Istanboulian.

More Than 800 Attend Observance in Fresno

Continued from Page 1

ers were confronted with an article in a U.S. State Department publication which questioned the historical facts of the genocide. In response, they arranged a commemorative activity to provide both a forum for the analysis of the genocide and an expression of Armenian solidarity. And before the afternoon was over, Congressman Pashayan brought news that the State Department has already heard the collective voice of American Armenians.

Allan Y. Jendian opened the program by calling on survivors of the genocide to stand for a moment of recognition. Mayor Whitehurst then merged the lessons of the genocide in a thought for all mankind.

"We must remain vigilant in support of human dignity, in support of human rights, and in support of the human spirit. The triumph of the human spirit over the worst kind of inhumanity is a very hopeful sign," he said.

Next, Chad Chaderjian relayed personal greetings and an official proclamation from Governor Deukmejian's office. He was followed by Congressman Pashayan, who quickly focused the audience's attention on the State Department controversy.

"Too often we put the State Department on some sort of pe-

destal. In fact, the State Department is often times an enormous blundering bureaucracy like so many others in Washington," Pashayan said in evaluating the Department's most recent blunder.

"So long as this member of Congress is a member, Turkey shall not rewrite history," he assured the gathering.

Also from the nation's capital, Congressman Lehman condemned efforts to twist the past. "To try to sweep genocide under the rug, to try to ignore the lessons of the atrocities, and to try to forget it happened is to invite genocide to happen again," he said.

Ultimately, though, it was Prof. Dadrian who gave the horrors of the genocide their fullest meaning. Dadrian, a sociologist at the State University of New York and a leading figure in the study of victimology, reviewed in both English and Armenian the historical antecedents of Turkey's final solution to the Armenian question.

First, he pointed out, massacre had long been an instrument of domestic policy in the Ottoman empire. Moreover, the vulnerability of the unarmed Armenian community presented few obstacles to Turkish brutality. Finally, the injection of a new political philosophy - Pan-Turkism - refocused the atten-

tion of Turkey's leaders on the Armenian plateau and, in the end, demanded the extermination of the Armenian people.

"We have been crucified but we have been denied redemption," Dadrian said after comparing the aftermath of the Armenian genocide and the Jewish Holocaust.

The reality of Dadrian's subject was then brought to life in a slide presentation narrated by Martha Saraydarian. The Hamazkayin Choral Group provided a musical interlude prior to Garo Istanboulian's closing remarks.

Istanboulian, a representative of the Armenian National Committee and co-chairman of the April 24 Committee, later assessed the impact of the commemorative observance.

"The unity of the Fresno Armenian community was expressed here today at the William Saroyan Theater. I was very pleased to see so many Armenians from so many segments of our community join us in promoting the Armenian cause. I can only hope this will lay a sound basis for future cooperation."

Aside from Sunday's commemoration, the April 24 Committee acted as the coordinating body for a wide range of activities during the month of April and received strong support from more than 30 Armenian groups throughout the San Joaquin Valley. Jendian, chairman of the UACC, attributes the broadened participation to the community-wide concern arising from the State Department's error.

"The recognition of the Armenian genocide is the overriding concern of the Armenian people today, and, as a consequence, we Armenians perceive any distortion of the genocide's facts as an offense against our heritage. Thus, we are very pleased to know that our Valley Congressmen, Chip Pashayan, Tony Coelho and Richard Lehman, are in close contact with the Armenian Assembly and are working hard to set the record straight," said Jendian, who also served as a co-chairman of the Committee.

Genocide Unites Armenians, Jews and American Indians at CSUF

FRESNO — Separated by history, culture and geography, Armenians, Jews and American Indians found that they share a common heritage of persecution April 25 during a panel discussion on genocide at California State University, Fresno.

"A Look Back: Genocide and the Armenian, Jewish and American Indian Experiences" was the topic which brought together Professor Vahakn Dadrian, Dr. Joseph Melamed, rabbi, and Frank Lee for an unprecedented dialogue on mass suffering. And before the afternoon was over, the trio had explored the past and present reality of genocide, with an eye toward the prevention of future crimes against humanity.

"I don't speak in terms of my genocide or your genocide," said Rabbi Melamed. "We must instead speak in terms of all mankind. Your genocide is my genocide."

With that, the panelists went to compare notes on the circumstances of the Armenian, Jewish and American Indian tragedies. Providing a scholarly context for the exchange was Prof. Dadrian, an internationally recognized figure in the field of victimology. Dadrian focused primarily on the Armenian experience before moving on to briefly examine the Jewish Holocaust and the annihilation of the American Indians from an academic perspective.

Lee, a member of the Mono Tribe, also included historical background in his presentation, but, at the same time, he spoke of genocide from the standpoint of a present-day victim.

"You might say I came from a concentration camp today, because that's what Indian reservations were intended to be," said Lee, the business manager of the Cold Springs Rancheria. He explained how relations between American Indians and the United States have been shaped by 381 broken treaties and government control of American Indian lands.

"If the world was silent for one genocide, it will be silent for the second genocide, and the fourth, and the sixth, and the tenth, and so on," he warned.

Melamed portrayed genocide as an international problem demanding an international solution. His recommendation was the formation of an international commission on genocide.

"When I talk about Hitler's genocide for instance, I don't always talk about 6 million Jews. I say 11 million innocent people. It was human blood. I don't differentiate."

In fact, Dadrian has devoted much of his scholarship precisely to the task of identifying distinctive characteristics among history's examples of genocide. In the Armenian case, he views the 1915 massacres as the culmination of many centuries of Turkish brutality.

"Genocide was a logical outcome of episodic massacres which were part of the traditional Ottoman method of dealing with the Armenians," said Dadrian, a sociologist at the State University of New York.

Dadrian detailed the Turkish process of extermination, mentioning some of the findings of his personal research, but he also lamented the paucity of objective scholarship on the subject. Dadrian pointed to the wealth of academic work documenting the Holocaust, most of it by Jewish scholars, and then noted how the Armenian response to the 1915 massacres pales in comparison. The future, however, holds reason for hope.

The panel discussion was sponsored by the CSUF Armenian Students Organization and the Armenian Studies Program. Dr. Joel Best, chairman of the Sociology Department, served as moderator.

Melamed offered no remedy for the pain of dispossessed peoples, but he called upon his audience to at least understand the potential for human barbarity and world indifference.

Yetttem St. Mary Annual Luncheon

YETTEM — The St. Mary Armenian Church of Yetttem is sponsoring its Annual Lulu Ke-bob Luncheon, Thursday, May 12 at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Visalia. Service will begin at 11:00 thru 2:30 p.m., with tickets available at the door for a \$5.00 donation, with dining on premises or food to-go. In addition there will be a food sale of Yalanchi, Bourma and

Crescent Cookies.

A very large committee headed by George Tamouzian and Sam Kutumian have been working diligently the past months to make this another successful event. As in the previous years approximately 700 patrons have been served with a larger crowd expected this year.

The Parish Council Chairman is Sark Yahnian.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This newspaper welcomes communications from its readers — letters, articles, opinions, etc. — provided they are of public and community interest. Its columns are open to different views within the proper bounds of free discussion. All communication should be signed by the sender, however, in special cases, names could be withheld from letters, if requested. — Ed.



Congressman Charles "Chip" Pashayan, right, and Allan Y. Jendian, after reviewing the State Department's retraction of its earlier statement on the Armenian Genocide.

Attorney Hrachia Setrakian of Beirut Visits US and Lectures on Mid-East Crisis

Attorney Hrachia Setrakian of Beirut, Lebanon, a prominent leader of the Armenian-Lebanese community, has arrived in the United States on an extended visit. Mr. Setrakian, a bureau member of the AGBU Lebanon District Committee, will avail himself of the opportunity to review with his counterparts in the Armenian-American national community topics of mutual interest and concern in terms of short and long range plans and projects for the two communities. Accompanying him are Mr. Setrak Kasarjian, Vice Chairman of the District Committee, and the group's Executive Secretary, Mr. Sarkis Minassian.

A law graduate of the French University, Mr. Setrakian has not made his most noteworthy contributions in the legal profession, but rather has distinguished himself through his involvement in Lebanese and Armenian community affairs. Upon his graduation from university, he was appointed to the Lebanese Supreme Court. He has twice been a candidate for the Lebanese Parliament and maintains a close working relationship with prominent Lebanese political and civic leaders. Mr. Setrakian was one of the founders of the Boy Scout Movement in Lebanon, and served as one of its earliest Commissioners. He has held high office in the AGBU Armenian Youth Organization, and was a founder of the Union of Armenian University Graduates. In the 1940's, he was among the founders of the Tekeyan Cultural Association and is the official title holder at the Vahan Tekeyan School. Currently, he is one of the outstanding leaders of the world-wide ADL organization and is an important functionary in its upper hierarchical structure.

Providing an overview of the situation in Lebanon, attorney Setrakian said that during the last eight years of crisis which have overtaken Lebanon, the Armenian community, as well as the other communities in the country, have striven to maintain themselves within the tremendous economic havoc. Although the situation has stabilized somewhat, there are numerous problems facing the Lebanese people. The civil, armed strife has taken a heavy toll in terms of human life. However, it is noteworthy that not one Armenian institution, be it a school, a church, a charitable organization, news publication, ceased its operation during the long struggle. The community continually worked towards normalization of conditions within their own sphere and within the larger framework of Lebanese community life while maintaining a position of positive neutrality. This prudent policy of neutrality guided by the Armenian political organizations kept human losses to a bare minimum. This fact exhibits beyond any doubt the viability of these organizations and demonstrates their ability to be indispensable vehicles of leadership in difficult times. Lebanon provides the best and most vivid example of the

positive role of stewardship played by Armenian political organizations, especially countering the criticisms heard in recent times on the value of their existence and leadership potential.

On the topic of relations between the Diaspora and Armenia Mr. Setrakian emphasized that these ties are confined to the domains of culture, fine arts, education, sports and the humanities. "Armenia", he said "represents to us an abundant source of cultural richness from where we can derive our strength for survival as a nation on alien territories. Our ties with Armenia are spiritual". Alluding to reciprocal visits to Armenia by private individuals and teacher or student groups, and similar visits by Armenian artists, performers, writers and scholars, he stressed that these contacts enhance the awareness of Armenian ethnic pride and make these feelings deeper and more viable. In Armenia today, there exists the only distinguished Center of Armenian Studies from where our teachers and scholars of Armenian language, history and literature will come.

Mr. Setrakian responded to a question regarding the division in the Armenian Church as follows: "If sectarian interests and political manipulations are not served as a pattern of behaviour (or policy of conduct), then the divisive status of the Church does not serve the interests of any Armenian faction". He stressed that the continued division among the churches of the Diaspora was indeed a tragedy and allowed that our community dynamism and strength would be multiplied tenfold if there was church unity under the unequivocal supremacy of the Holy See of Etchmiadzin. Mr. Setrakian underlined the fact that the ADL had extended its support to the Cilician See of Antelias for several decades so long as the supremacy of Holy Etchmiadzin was not challenged. He felt that the interests of the Armenian Diaspora would best be served if the Cilician See of Antelias is strengthened further without breaking its traditional ties with Etchmiadzin and without denying its overall supremacy.

Discussing the major factors that contribute to the vitality of Armenian-American community life, attorney Setrakian highlighted the role played by the various organizations in the community, the church, press, political and cultural organizations, and youth groups. Elaborating on this subject, Mr. Setrakian explained that the strength of Armenian-American community life is also based on a close inter-relationship between the Armenians of the United States and the community in Lebanon, which despite recent adversities is still in an excellent position to provide activities, teachers, editors, etc. That the United States is a major economic power in the world, and the Armenian community in it an established and affluent one, the other communities in the Diaspora look to it for financial assistance and support.

— Edward Babayan, Jr.

St. Vartan's Cathedral to Celebrate 15th Anniversary

NEW YORK — It was a joyous day in May 15 years ago when Armenians in the United States rejoiced as St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral was consecrated in New York City.

On Sunday, May 1, Armenians will again gather to celebrate the 15th anniversary of that momentous occasion. The St. Vartan Guild is sponsoring this commemoration, under the chairmanship of Anahid Bojikian, and invites all Armenians to participate.

The Anniversary banquet will follow Divine Liturgy, and will begin at 1 p.m. in Haik and Alice Kavookjian Auditorium, 630 Second Ave. His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, will offer the

Invocation.

Guest speaker for the day will be Robert Tembeckjian, deputy administrator of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct. Mr. Tembeckjian, an attorney and the Chairman of the active Diocesan Programs Committee, is also a potential candidate for a seat in the New York State House of Representa-

tives in 1984.

The Mesrob Mashdotz Junior Chorale/Dance Group, made up of Armenian school students from several of the metropolitan parishes, will give a performance under the direction of Kris Kalafayan.

Donation for the banquet and program is \$10.

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Stephanie Edwards to Speak at UACC 'Mothers' Day Fiesta'

LOS ANGELES — Junior Women of the United Armenian Congregational Church have announced that the guest speaker for their 21st annual Mothers Day Luncheon will be T.V. Personality Stephanie Edwards. The luncheon will be held in the church social hall, 3480 Cahuenga Blvd., Hollywood, on Saturday, May 7 at 12 noon.

According to Jr. Women President Mona Asorian, "The traditional purpose of this luncheon is to honor our mothers and grandmothers while providing a day of spiritual uplift, fellowship, and entertainment for all who attend. We have selected 'Mother's Day Fiesta' as our theme and plans are underway to carry out this festive theme in menu, music, and decorations."

Asien Surmeian, in charge of decorations, is conducting workshops and Cindy Kaloostian, program chairman, and her committee are working on the program which will include the naming of "Mother of the Year."

The featured speaker, Miss Edwards, is known primarily for her work as newscaster, interviewer, and talk-show host, but has also done summer stock and



live theater. Her past appearances include co-hosting "Rally Story's A.M.," "A.M. America" and the Rose Parade. She is currently seen moderating PBS programs and Lucky Market commercials.

Luncheon tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12, and may be ordered by calling Ticket Chairman Dan Narwitz (213) 786-4446. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Congressman Geraldine Ferraro Visits Antelias

BEIRUT. — On Tuesday afternoon, 29th of March, Congressman Geraldine Ferraro from New York area, accompanied by the political advisor of U.S. Embassy in Beirut and by her own assistant, paid a visit to Antelias where he was received by His Holiness Catholicos Karekin II.

Present were the Armenian deputies in the Lebanese Parliament namely Mr. Khatchik Babikian (former Minister of Justice), Mr. Souren Khanamirian and Dr. Melkon Eblighatian.

Mrs. Ferraro expressed her genuine interest in the situation of Lebanon and the Armenian community there in. She spoke very highly of the Armenian people among whom she counted personal friends in New York area.

His Holiness Karekin II deeply appreciated the concern ex-

pressed so eloquently. He explained the present day situation of the Armenian community. He said: "This is a time in Lebanese history when people look to the U.S. support in remaking the unity of the nation and reestablishing full control of the country by the Lebanese legal authorities. The sovereignty of the country should not be shaken by concrete life. We hope that America will do its utmost to assist Lebanon in recreating its unity by firmly holding to the central government authority. He said that the Armenian people as in the past also today firmly stand by the Lebanese government, the President and the Army. The Armenian presence in Lebanon is a constructive, creative element of fundamental importance, he concluded.

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Photographic Exhibit Adds to CSUF Benefit Performance, May 12

FRESNO — Two powerful visual statemnets await those planning to attend the CSUF Armenian Alumni Association's benefit performance of "Cabaret" Thursday, May 12, at the CSUF John Wright Theatre.

Not only will theater-goers experience the excitement, glamour and decadence of Berlin in 1929, but prior to the curtain, they will view a unique photographic exhibit assembled by Hanna S. Barsam.

Barsam's photography has won him numerous awards in past years. The exhibition to be displayed at CSUF is entitled "From Raymond Road to Rodeo Drive" and juxtaposes scenes from the soft brown foothills of Madera County beside the glitter and opulence of Beverly Hills. Barsam will also present a number of landscapes from the Yosemite Valley. In support of

the Armenian Alumni Association, Barsam has donated a photograph for a raffle.

The exhibit/reception will begin at 7 p.m., with the curtain scheduled to go up at 8:15 p.m.

The Tony-Award winning musical production of "Cabaret" offers a vivid glimpse into Germany on the verge of Nazism. Georgie Tapps, whose audiences have included American presidents and Queen Elizabeth II, will star in the leading role. The play is directed by Edward F. Emanuel.

Proceeds from the upcoming benefit performance will allow the AAA to promote Armenian studies at CSUF and expand its service to Armenian alumni. Tickets for "Cabaret" are priced at \$8 and can be purchased from Richard Kassabian (224-6939 after 6 p.m.). Seating is reserved.

AGBU Santa Monica/Pacific Palisades Chapter Holds Spring Luncheon

LOS ANGELES — "Spring Luncheon, 1983" sponsored by the Santa Monica - Palisades Chapter of the Armenian General Benevolent Union on April 26 in West Los Angeles was an event which brought together members and friends from many parts of the community.

Guest Speaker Dr. Pepronia Merjanian's topic, "Love and Laughter", gave her audience much to take home. "The inability to love," she said, "is really the fear of being loved." Her comments on the subject continued, "Both love and laughter have elements of joy and pain, agony and ecstasy." A lasting impression was left by her suggestion that one who makes use of God-given talents grows in self acceptance and directly, then, in the ability to love others.

Dr. Merjanian's Ph.D. in Psychology provides background to her work as West Coast Director of the Armenian Missionary Association and her private practice in individual and group counselling. Her Joy of Teaching

was the Lead Best Seller of 1967.

Program Chairman Zabelle Kafesjian and Art Chairman Yulia Ketenjian were gratified by the generous participation of all who attended.

Guest speaker at the May 18 meeting of the Chapter will be Deron Petoyan, B.A. in Philosophy, B.A. in Humanities, and recent traveler through the interior of Turkey.

Armenian Week in Oakland

OAKLAND — Oakland Unified School Districts designated the week of April 18 for Ethnic Studies in which Armenians, directed by Fr. Levon Apelian, pastor of St. Vartan Armenian Church, took active part.

The activities which consisted of Armenian cultural and social programs, were organized by Ms. Creasie Jordan of the Multicultural Education TSA. The participants were from the communities of St. Vartan in Oakland and St. John in San Francisco.

The events of the week included a film presentation of Armenian family life by Mrs. Rose Kaskavaldjian and ethnic food demonstration by Mrs. Elise Kazanjian. Piedmont Elementary School hosted Emerson 5th and 6th Graders for an Armenian Assembly sponsored by St. Vartan Armenian Apostolic Church, headed by Mrs. Lucy Bengie and Ms. Sylvia Gozurian. St. Gregory Armenian Language School of San Francisco visited Martin Luther King Jr. School. The visit included the introduction of the Armenian Alphabet and rendition of Armenian songs by the school children.

April 19 was scheduled for Armenian history and culture, which was presented by Mrs. Alice Ramian. One hundred High School students and teachers from Castlemont, McClymonds and Oakland Tech. attended the lecture, which was followed immediately by a question and answer period. The cultural program was enhanced by a

slide presentation of Armenia taken by Michael Boloyan upon his visit to Armenia with ACY-OA St. Vartan. The program offered such a learning experience to all present that it prompted the Oakland Unified School District to send a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Ramian which reads as follows: "The office of Multicultural Education would like to express its warm appreciation for your sharing the Ar-

menian culture with our students and teachers during Armenian American Week. Our students received a vital and rewarding cultural awareness and educational experience from your excellent presentation."

The activities of the week received Media coverage in the Newsletter "Insite" of the Oakland Public Schools April 1983 issue.



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St. Mary's Armenian School Commemorates April 24

GLENDAL — Each April, Armenians worldwide participate in a variety of activities to commemorate the 1½ million Martyrs brutally killed by the Turks in the infamous 1915 Massacre. None of these events was so moving as the Tree Planting Ceremony on Friday morning, April 15, 1983 at St. Mary's Armenian School in Glendale.

Scores of Armenian schoolchildren, their parents and grandparents, community and church members, teachers and most significantly a handful of now-elderly survivors of the Genocide, gathered on the school campus at 4444 Lowell Ave. that morning to witness an event of great importance to them all. Seven trees, marking the 7 years of St. Mary's School's existence, were planted in the forecourt of the campus. Each tree was named for a particular vicinity of Armenia eradicated during the 1915 massacre. Several generations of Armenians participated in planting each tree. Other representative groups planted the remaining 6 trees. Among them were a group of Armenian teachers, three American-Armenian teachers, two toddlers, with the help of their mothers, school affiliated organizations, Board of Trustees' members, parents, etc. But the most touching moment came when 4 elderly survivors stepped forward to place a tree in the soil, and then each repeated "Thank you" several times, quietly, as they returned to view the rest of the ceremony. As Mr. Ghazarian, school principal, briefly spoke, he asked that these survivors and others, as well as all interested Armenians, return for this Tree Planting Ceremony each year henceforth.

The keynote speaker, Mr. Levon Kasparian, explained the meaning of the ceremony and briefly recounted the history which brought all of them to this time and place. The audience reacted enthusiastically and emotionally to the rousing renditions of "Sardarabad" and "Aprilyan Kaylerk", traditional Armenian songs, presented by the school choir under the direction of Mr. Hovik Gasparian. The meaning of the tree planting was reinforced by the presentation by the 9th grade class, under the direction of Mr. Khachig Araradian, of a poem signifying the trees as symbols of the heritage, ancestry and future hope of the Armenian people.

The closing prayer by Rev. Anoushavan Artinian of St. Mary's Church in Glendale, solidified the morning's events.

WALK-A-THON

In addition to the Tree Planting Ceremony, St. Mary's School held a Walk-a-Thon on Saturday, April 16, 1983. Students, teachers and community members walked 10 miles from the Lowell campus to St. Mary's Church in Glendale to commemorate the Martyrs and raise money for the school by soliciting sponsors for each mile walked. The walkers raised over \$3500 this year while increasing the awareness of others of the Genocide and the heritage and existence of Armenians.



Junior High School Students participated in the 2nd annual school organized Armenian Composition Contest sponsored by the Armenian Cultural Association Hamazkayin Glendale Chapter. First, Second and Third prizes will be rewarded to students whose compositions best reflect the Armenian Cause and related topics.

Classroom lessons, during Armenian, English and History courses often revolved around the significance and events of April Commemoration Month. In several classes, survivors visited and told their stories of the massacre, answering questions put forth by the children. The 4th

grade class visited the Senior Citizens at Ararat Home in Eagle Rock and presented the play "Katch Nazar" to them. These, and other activities throughout April, direct the focus of these schoolchildren and their parents on the determination among true Armenians to carry forth the Armenian Cause. Because there are relatively few survivors of the Massacre alive today and they are elderly, it becomes increasingly important to do everything possible to raise the consciousness and awareness of all Armenians, everywhere regarding their history, culture, language, religion and above all their just cause for which all must work. And so, at St. Mary's Armenian School in Glendale, the trees will grow straight and tall, an everlasting, living monument to all of what being Armenian represents.

—Arax Miller

Western Diocese Summer Camp Accepts Applications for Counselors

The Western Diocese Summer Camp Committee is in the process of accepting applications from individuals wishing to serve as counselors and counselors-in-training (CIT) for the 1983 Armenian Church Summer Camp. The camp will be held on two consecutive weeks, July 24 to July 30 and July 31 to August 6. The site of the 1983 camp will again be the Baptist Camp Sugar Pine located 8 miles above Oakhurst, California. This year campers from ages 9 - 17 will be accepted for either or both weeks.

Counselors-in-training (CIT) serve as assistants to the cabin counselor and also in a trainee position for cabin counselor in future years. CIT's must be at least 17 years old as of the week of camp.

Counselors will be in charge of a cabin of 8 campers, and is the most important position at the camp.

The camp committee is also seeking applicants to serve as staff members. Needed will be individuals with particular expertise in such areas as arts and crafts, sports, and campfire activities. Staff applicants must be at least 21 years old, and preferably with previous camp experience.

Applications may be obtained from any parish church of the Western Diocese or by calling Howard Emirhanian at (213) 355-7033 or Steven Adams at (209) 251-0277. Fees for one week are CIT - \$70.00, Staff - \$55.00, and counselor - \$40.00. All fees include a camp picture and camp T-shirt. Application deadline is May 31, 1983. The Summer Camp Committee serves as the selection committee and will notify accepted individuals by June 18 of their selection.

Mardigian Institute to Hold Training Program for School Teachers

NEW YORK — The 1983 Mardigian Summer Religious Institute, a week-long training program for Church School teachers of the Armenian Diocese, will be held from July 7-12, in New York City.

Hosted by the Armenian Diocese and also by the nearby Hotel Tudor, the Institute offers a week of learning, fellowship and training. The entire project is made possible through the generous support of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mardigian of Detroit, who will once again underwrite the costs this year.

"Bringing the World Alive" is the 1983 theme for the Institute, which includes workshops, presentations and intensive study on a variety of topics. This year's sessions will deal with the

following issues: the right and wrong way to recruit teachers, to run a faculty meeting, to do an assembly program, to plan the school year, religion and the adolescent; vestments and vessels; Armenian Church history; arts and crafts workshops; Bible study and theater games.

Most of the sessions are held at the Diocese or in the Cathedral. However, there will also be a two-day retreat at the St. Nersess Seminary's peaceful grounds in New Rochelle, New York.

Applications are now being accepted. Those interested may obtain information from their local pastor or Church School superintendent, or write to the Dept. of Religious Education (DRE), 630 Second Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

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Topouzian to Star in 'Aida' in Ontario, Saturday

ONTARIO — The West End Opera opens its 16th season with Verdi's "Aida" starring dramatic baritone Hagop Topouzian in the role as Amonasro, on Saturday, May 7, at 8 p.m., Gardiner Spring Auditorium, 1245 North Euclid Ave., Ontario, California.

Topouzian, perennial favorite of West End audiences will mark his 14th annual season with the West End Opera Company and his second reappearance in the production as Amonasro which he successfully scored. Critic Harve Edwards of the Progress Bulletin, Pomona, wrote: "Hagop Topouzian a veteran of WEO performances, in masterful make-up, played the role Amonasro, the Ethiopian King, to the hilt, his dramatic ability complementing that of his vocal." Critic Marge Gross of



Hagop Topouzian

the Daily News wrote: "Amonasro, Aida's father, was superbly sung and enchaned by one of the West End favorites, Ha-

gop Topouzian."

The singer has developed an enviable reputation as a leading Southern California baritone since coming to the USA in 1965. A native of Istanbul, Turkey, and recognized as Turkey's foremost tenor who sang with the Istanbul Opera for 10 years, he is probably one of the very few singers to have sung both tenor and baritone leads in opera on the professional stage. Recently, Topouzian was heard by Armenian audiences as featured soloist for the 30th career jubilee of conductor Ara Manash and earlier this month as featured soloist with the Evangelical Choir of Pasadena.

Ticket information for West End production may be made by calling (213) 660-9633 or (714) 981-3311.

Justice Richard Amerian to Attend Appellate Judges' Seminar

LOS ANGELES — Justice Richard Amerian of the California Court of Appeal is returning to school. Justice Amerian has been invited to attend the prestigious 1983 Appellate Judges Seminar. This seminar is conducted by the Institute of Judicial Administration and held annually on the campus of New York University School of law.

Enrollment is limited to twenty justices from across the nation. Three of the participants in the past are now members of the United States Supreme Court—Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, Justice Harry A.

Blackmun and Justice John Paul Stevens.

The curriculum includes such topics as fair trial and free press, judicial office administration, computers and technology in court, the appellate function in the adversary system and an analysis of the decisional process.

"I am looking forward to this opportunity to sharpen my skills," Justice Amerian noted upon learning of his selection. "The classroom work is intensive and I am sure the two-week experience will be most worthwhile."

AGBU National Convention in Hye Gear

Continued from Page 1

Semizian, Alice Haig, Rose Hanesian, Harry Zartarian, Nora Mazloumian, Loussadzine Kazanjian, Edward Korkoian, Queenie Sarkisian, Elo Kazazian, Cynthia Apkarian, Berjouni Sanjian, Hagop Asadurian, Norman and Solange Messelian Richard and Paulette Apkarian.

The four-day convention, beginning with the Hospitality Night on June 23, 1983, will take place at the luxurious Michigan Inn, and the nearby outstanding Armenian Cultural Center. I am sure the delegates and visitors will be delighted to see this sumptuous Armenian community complex, which incorporates the striking architectural monument of St. John's popularly known to odars as "the beautiful golden dome church" the attractive Cultural Hall with its permanent gallery of precious Armenian art effects, the expanded modern Alex Manoogian School, and the adjacent Recreation Center, recently built. All in all, a vibrating Armenian Community Center, a cultural oasis, in the heart of Southfield. Something every Armenian can be proud of.

Other Points of Interest

Other than the Armenian Community Center, Metropolitan Detroit has much more to

offer to the visitor such as the gigantic Renaissance Center on the riverfront and the nearby statue of the immortal Gomidas Vartabed, the Mayor's residence called the Alex Manoogian Mansion, the artistic Armenian Room, located in the Alex Manoogian Hall of Wayne State University.

Of course there is a lot more to Detroit than just the Armenian points of interest. The world-famous Ford Museum, the pulsating Greek Town, and the quaint shopping street of Windsor (Canada) across the river, are all of great attraction to tourists. And if you are a lover of nature and flowers then you must enjoy the parks of Windsor, particularly the jetting Peace Fountain, and the Rose emporium—two of my favorite retreats. Add to these easily reached attractions the Great Lakes, the greatest fresh water Reservoirs on this planet, and you are in a great vacation land.

With all the Armenian power in Detroit, headed by two great industrialists—the AGBU Life President, the legendary Mr. Alex Manoogian, and the American AGBU President—the dynamic Mr. Edward Mardigian, this 69th AGBU Convention is bound to be so enjoyable, exuberant and inspiring, that the

pleasant taste and memories will linger with you for years to come.

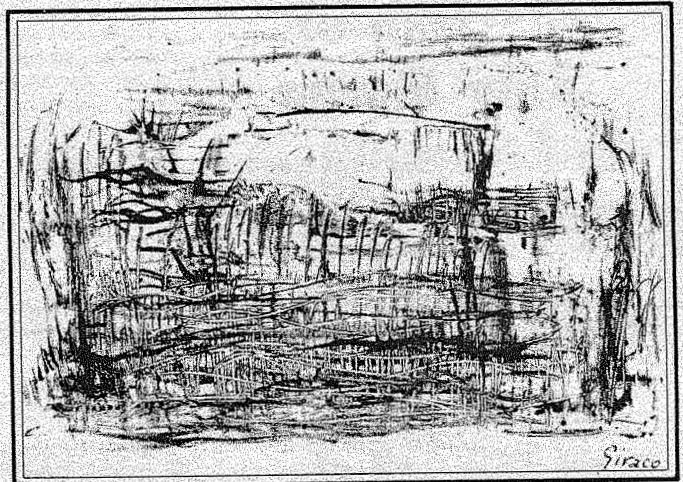
So, I say, fellow Armenians hrametzek, Yegek!

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Remarks By Michael Minasian

Continued from page 3

we ever betray our history.

Although we are a people of small numbers, let no one misjudge our determination and resolve. Those who attempted a "final solution" of Armenians through genocide, who are presently conspiring to silence us through diplomatic and political pressure—and even abducting and murdering outspoken Armenian leaders—should know better. Even another attempt at genocide would not succeed, nor could it weaken our resolve, because spilled innocent blood cannot rest. We shall not rest nor be silenced.

The genocide of sixty-eight years ago is still continuing in different forms. The perpetrator of this great crime against humanity, to this day, does not acknowledge its guilt and responsibility for its crime of the century. On the contrary, this perpetrator has unleashed a massive campaign of gutless propaganda to rewrite history and to depict the victim as the criminal. And this is not all: now it is a stated policy of the Turkish government to dispatch goon squads to silence all those who have the decency and the courage to speak the truth.

To add insult to injury, our own state department, with its infamous note, has come to show its cowardice and stupidity, (I was going to say "ignorance", but that would not be true, for the State Department is well informed.)

Yes, cowardice and stupidity for not standing up to a two-bit dictatorship which depends on our continued handout, for not saying.

"Hey, you may have our friendship, but you

may not corrupt our soul."

Yes, certainly we have the right to expect that minimal decency and courage from our own government.

It is a shameless farce when the Turkish ambassador to the U.S. is permitted to interfere with, and write instructions and protests to the members of the U.S. Congress and even the state legislators. Such an act in any other country would make the Turkish ambassador a persona non grata. Why is he still here in the United States. This situation is not acceptable, and I think that you, our elected officials, should make this point clear to the State Department.

The anger we feel is not an anger of frustration or despair. Quite to the contrary, we have a well laid out plan to defeat Turkey at its own game. No, we are not going to send armies to the battlefield nor desperate young people to commit violence against Turkish diplomats, who, by the way, are themselves victims of deliberate baiting by the Turkish government. Rather, we are going to hit them where it hurts the most: their obnoxious pride.

It behooves all of us to know that Turkey is nothing more than a glorified beggar in the disguise of an "Ally".

To the Turkish government I would like to say this, "We shall defeat you in Washington. And this time you will not bite the hand that feeds you. This time you will get on your knees and kiss that hand."

Bible College Holds Banquet

PASADENA — The first Annual Dinner Banquet of the Armenian Bible College with 275 participants was held at the Christian Center of the Armenian Brotherhood Church, Pasadena, on Saturday, April 16, 1983, from 7:30 to 10:00 P.M.

The Women's Auxiliary Committee, under the leadership of Christina Baltayan, Lucy Sarkissian and Ovsanna Kuyumjian, had meticulously decorated the dinner table and wholeheartedly prepared delicious Armenian dishes.

The program was enriched by the skillful performance of vocal soloists Mrs. Esther Kumjian and Mr. Mardiros Baroutjian, and instrumentalists Mrs. Sara Afsharian, Mr. Wagih Girgis and Mr. Krikor Kojian.

The keynote speaker was the Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, the minister of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Greater Detroit. The honored guest delivered his inspiring message with a clear explanation of the meaning and significance of the name of the College.

At the conclusion of the program, Mr. Hovhannes Sarkissian and Dr. Yeghia Babikian presented the mission of the College and the financial need to implement it. The audience responded fervently and generously, in a warm Christian atmosphere.

Bozgianat Mesrobian

PICO RIVERA — Mesrobian Armenian School of Pico Rivera in coordination with Tom Bozgian is opening its final Armenian dance party to the public on Wednesday, May 4, 1983, beginning at 7:30 p.m. there will be no charge, but all asked to bring some type of Armenian food. The evening will include dance exhibits, excellent food, Armenian and Greek dance requests with a large crowd expected. Call Goharig Gabriel at 723-3780 for full information.

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Positions are open for Secretary-Bookkeeper and elementary teachers at the Armenian Evangelical Schools of California, Inc. Qualified individuals may send application/resume to Mr. Hagop Loussarian, 3480 Cahuenga Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90068. Deadline is May 15, 1983.

Misc.

LOOKING for Alex Krikorian who had a restaurant in Los Angeles in the 1940s. He has served in the US Navy World War II on USS Heywood L.P. Edwards D-663. There will be a reunion for those who served on that destroyer. Please call George Philibosian (305) 392-5851.

LOST AND FOUND

A Panasonic small pocket tape recorder was lost last Sunday at the Martyrs Monument in Montebello near the Press Conference table. Call 467-6767 for a reward.

ATASCA to Hold Dinner/Lecture

LOS ANGELES — "Dinner at the Top," an informal dinner-lecture is sponsored by the Association of Teachers in Armenian Schools of California (ATASCA) on Friday May 6, 1983, at the Rooftop Restaurant in the Brentwood Holiday Inn, 170 N Church Lane (where Sunset Blvd. crosses the San Diego 405 Freeway).

After dinner guest speaker Dr. Bob Burns of the Department of Education at La Verne University will discuss "Handling Teacher Stress".

All teachers, principals, school staff members, and their respective spouses are invited to attend. Cocktails are at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 per person and reservations may be made by calling 705-1418.

Photos submitted for publication in this newspaper are charged \$10.00 per picture, to cover cost of printing.

All pictures are not necessarily printed. Photos should be black and white.

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- * Oriental rug and carpet cleaning. Sherman Oaks \$ 15,000
- * Restaurant in busy location. Good Income \$ 39,000
- * Armenian grocery/deli, near Armenian school \$ 40,000
- * Camera and Gift Shop in busy location. Good buy. \$ 49,000
- * Auto repair in Glendale with app. 10,000 sq ft area \$ 69,000
- * Art and Gift shop in busy Glendale Galleria \$130,000
- * Beautiful cafeteria type restaurant \$245,000
- * Medical offices & German deli bldg on Hollywood \$495,000
- * Prime commercial corner in Hollywood. Clothing manufacturing business also available \$590,000

HOMES

- * 3br family house, 2 1/2 baths, in Hollywood \$145,000
- * 3br, 2 1/2 baths, den, north of Los Feliz. Best buy \$265,000
- * 5br, 4baths + spa, on Hillhurst, in Hollywood \$549,000
- * 5br, 4 1/2 baths, pool, jacuzzi, Los Feliz Estates \$525,000
- * 3br, 3 baths, pool and view, Los Feliz Estates \$550,000
- * 4br + maid's room, 4 1/2 baths, family room, library, pool, jacuzzi, Los Feliz Estates \$980,000

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- * 2 units, 1-2br, 1-1br, in Glendale \$157,000
- * 3 units, 3 br house, 2-1br units, in Glendale \$169,000
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- * 5 units in Van Nuys, Good condition/location \$215,000
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A Visit to Turkish Armenia

GLENDALÉ — On April 20th, the Glendale Branch of Hamaskayin sponsored a lecture-slide presentation by Mr. Armen Hovannisian at St. Mary's Church in Glendale. Armen Hovannisian, along with his brother and several other Armenians took a trip to the Armenian provinces located in present day Turkey last summer.

Apparently the Turkish government feared the propaganda value of the many photographs that were taken for historic and cultural value by the Hovannisians and others on the trip. Upon leaving the country, the entire tour group was bodily searched and submitted to degrading acts by the Turkish authorities. All of the photographs that were taken for their cultural and historical value were confiscated. Despite the loss of this material, other slides were shown did escape confiscation by the Turkish authorities.

The color slides depicted the Armenian provinces as they exist today. Having seen these pictures, rolling hills, and rugged mountains described in our literature. One can begin to taste the feelings that have passed down to us through this part of our heritage. These images as Mr. Hovannisian clearly stated are in direct contrast to the unbelievable suffering that was inflicted upon our people in 1915 in those same towns and rivers.

One can only conclude that the expression "one picture is worth a thousand words" has great significance for the Turkish Government. They must feel concerned and guilty to have made such an issue over a few photographs at the airport.

The community is fortunate to have Armen Hovannisian take the time away from his busy academic schedule to present his visit to the Armenian Provinces in Turkey. Those who have seen this presentation have become better informed of our homeland.

— Richard C. Diradourian

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What's Happening

LOS ANGELES AREA

MAY 7 — Saturday, Spring Sensation Dance with live Armenian music by "Oasis," mezza and cash bar, from 8 p.m. till? at St. James Armenian Church, 4950 W. Slauson Ave., Los Angeles. Sponsored by Armenian Young, Married and Singles group at St. James. Tickets are \$5.00 for members, \$7.00 non-members. For information, call Aris, 763-4837; Greg, 289-9781 or Mary at 714-757-1743.

MAY 7 — Saturday, sponsored by United Armenian Congregational Church Junior Women: Mother's Day Luncheon entitled "Mothers Day Fiesta," in Paul Avazian Hall, 3480 Cahuenga Blvd., Hollywood. Donation \$10 adults, \$5.00 for children under 12. Call Dave Narwitz (213) 786-4446. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

MAY 7 — Saturday, Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church Fellowship presents Mother's Day Luncheon at 12 noon in the Solarium and Social Hall of the church, 9516 Downey Ave. Downey. Donation \$8.00 adults; \$4.00 children (10 and under). Call Roxie Kradjian 935-9929; Queenie Kazarian 935-3585.

MAY 13 — Friday, Tekeyan Cultural Association, Los Angeles chapter, presents Giraco 83, an exhibition of paintings by Giraco, through May 19, at the AGBU Gallery, 589 N. Larchmont Blvd., Los Angeles. Reception: Friday, May 13 - 8:30 p.m.

MAY 14 — Saturday, Armenian Cultural Foundation, Torrance chapter, presents a Benefit Dinner Dance for the South Bay Armenian Community Center, at the Sheraton plaza La Reina Hotel, 6101 W. Century Blvd., LA (near LA Airport). Cocktails 7 p.m., dinner 8 p.m. Donation \$37.50/person. No tickets will be sold at the door, reservations required, call 378-6903, 375-6115.

MAY 14 — Saturday, 12:00 Noon — "Hampartsum" Presented by St. Sarkis Chuech Ladies' Society, 700 So. La Verne Ave., East Los Angeles. Fortune telling, Program: scenes from opera "Anoush". Buffet luncheon. Donation \$5.00. More info contact Chairlady Alice Ohanesian: 728-3600.

MAY 14 — Saturday, Zeytoun Compatriotic Union Dinner Dance, featuring singer Harout Pamboukian, at Avedisian Hall, 5300 White Oak, Encino. Donation \$20. Call Avedis 797-2195, Vahak 244-7494, Salpi 467-8346.

MAY 15 — Sunday, AYP 50th Anniversary Art Exhibition, at Avedisian Hall of Ferrahian High School, 5300 White Oak Ave, Encino. 1 p.m. Wine and cheese reception.

MAY 15 — Sunday, 25th Anniversary of the establishment of St. Peter parish. Divine Liturgy at 10 a.m. Abp. Vatche Hovsepian, Primate, guest celebrant. Banquet at 12:30, at Karagozian Hall of the church. AGBU President Alex Manoogian of Detroit, guest speaker. Donation \$50.00.

MAY 22 — Sunday, Armenian Professional Society's 3rd Open Invitational Tennis/Backgammon Tournament for its Annual Scholarship Fund. Court and Gardens of George and Flora Dunaian, Pasadena. Trophies to winners. Entry fees: \$20/person; \$30/married couple; \$15 teenagers, 16-19; \$10/spectator. For entry forms write to APS Tournament, 215 Marieners View Lane, La Canada. CA 91011. All entries and fees must be in by May 8, 1983.

MAY 22 — Sunday, Armenian Allied Arts Association presents 43rd Annual Arts Exhibit and Awards Banquet, Ambassador Hotel 3400 Wilshire Blvd., LA. Art Exhibit at 2 p.m. (Admission free). Soc. hr. 5p.m., dinner 6 p.m. Donation \$25.00. Call Vicky Bedrosian 793-9274; Carleen Mugerdechian 888-9596; or Leon Partamian 937-2871.

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MAY 27 - 28 — Friday and Saturday, AGBU NY/NJ chapter's Ardashad Theater Company presents the hilarious comedy "A Flea in Her Ear." Details to follow. Call 467-AGBU.

JUNE 10 — Friday, AGBU Melkonian Educational Institute California Alumni Fourth Annual Dinner-Dance at Karapetian Hall, 1614 N. Alexandria Ave., Hollywood. at 7:30 p.m. Donation \$25.00 Call 668-1397; 956-6341, 894-8561. Members and friends invited.

JUNE 24 — Friday, Western Diocese of the Armenian Church is sponsoring 50th Anniversary Banquet honoring the Very Rev. Dirayr Dervishian Dz. V., Fifty Years Service in the Priesthood, St. James John Gogian Hall, 4950 W. Slauson Ave., LA. 7 p.m. Reservations/donation \$25.00, call parish office or committee members.

ORANGE COUNTY

JUNE 4 — Saturday, Orange County Triple X Fraternity Presents the 4th Annual Armenian Spring Dance — Featuring Kay Hagopian and the "Hye Class" Orchestra from Fresno. Free continuous Mezza. St. John's Greek Church, 405 No. Dale, Anaheim, between Lincoln and Crescent. Advance tickets Adults \$9.00 and Students under 18 \$5.00. At the Door \$10.00 and \$5.00. For tickets call Pat (714) 534-5351 or Haig (714) 630-3828. time 8:30 p.m. till ???

PALM SPRINGS

MAY 1 — Sunday, The Desert Hye Volunteer Committee will hold an Annual Family Fun Picnic at Demuth Park, Palm Springs. Activities to begin at 12 noon. For more info call (619) 346-4542 or (619) 340-3853.

FOWLER

JUNE 19 — Sunday, St. Gregory Church Annual Parsih Picnic on the grounds of California Home for the Aged, Fresno. Featuring Richard Hagopian Band. Watch for more details.

VISALIA

MAY 21 — Saturday, AGBU 67th Annual Western District Conference, hosted by the AGBU Tulare County Chapter, at the Holiday Inn, 9000 W. Airport Drive, Visalia, California.

YETTEM

MAY 22 — Sunday, St. Mary's Armenian Church to hold its Annual Mr. and Mrs. Club Picnic and Reunion, from 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., on the church grounds. There will be tavloo and dance contests, as well as lots of delicious shish kebab. The music by Hye-Class Band. For location details and dance contest contact George Ekizian at (209) 897-7614.

FRESNO

MAY 12 — Thursday, Special benefit performance of "Come to the Cabaret". CSUF Theater production for the CSUF Armenian Alumni Association. Reception to feature art of naturalist photographer Hannah Barsam. Reception at 7 p.m. Curtain goes up at 8:15 p.m. CSUF John Wright Theater. Tickets \$8.00. Call Richard Kassabian 224-6939, after 6 p.m. for reservations.

JUNE 3 — Friday, St. Paul Armenian Church Annual Food Festival Details will follow.

SAN FRANCISCO

MAY 21 — Saturday, Calvary Circle's annual Mayfest Lunch. 12:30 p.m. at Brotherhood Masonic Lodge, Brotherhood way. Adult donation, \$10.

MAY 29 — Sunday, AGBU NY/NJ chapter's Ardashad Theater Company presents the hilarious comedy "A Flea in Her Ear." Details to follow. Call AGBU office for info.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

JUNE 23 — 26 — AGBU 69th Annual National Convention, Michigan Inn Hotel, Southfield, with Sanoutz Meeting, Grand Dinner Dance and coinciding with the 2nd AGBU North American Athletic Games.



Homenetmen Leads League

LOS ANGELES — Despite its first loss this season, Homenetmen continues to lead the Greater Los Angeles Soccer League championship games with 30 points. Homenetmen lost to Corinthians 2-3, a team 6th in the general standing. Homenetmen kept the lead also because the second position Inter-America also lost this weekend — to Los Angeles, again a team holding middle positions in the standing.

Ararat kept advancing in its division, but over all still far behind the leaders. Ararat beat San Pedro Croats 1-0.

Because of rains and other problems, a new schedule is out for the games. Some encounters will be held during the week at nights.

Thursday, May 5, three games will be held.

NORTHERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	GF	GA	POINS
Homenetmen	12	1	6	40	7	30
Inter-America	10	3	8	57	26	28
Corinthians	8	7	4	33	33	20
Alitalia	7	4	5	32	22	19
Conejo Aztecs	6	10	3	25	41	15
San Pedro Croats	3	13	5	22	47	11

SOUTHERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	GF	GA	POINS
Atletico Latino	9	3	7	25	15	25
Ararat	11	6	2	37	23	23
Maccabee	8	4	4	28	16	20
Los Angeles	9	8	1	38	23	19
San Gabriel	6	10	4	26	35	16
California Gauchos	0	21	1	10	81	1

The Armenian teams will play Sunday, May 8. At Birmingham High School, at 3 p.m., Ararat will meet Alitalia, and Homenetmen will face perennial rival Maccabee at 3 p.m. in Daniels Field, in San Pedro.

May 12, Thursday: Daniels Field, 8:15 p.m., Homenetmen will tangle with Conejo Aztecs, and at North Hollywood High, at 7:30 p.m., Ararat will meet Los Angeles.

Saturday, May 13, Ararat plays San Gabriel at 2 p.m. at Daniels Field.

May 15, Sunday, at Daniels Field, Homenetmen and Ararat meet at 3 p.m., thus ending the second round of the games.

The league play-offs will start Sunday, May 22.

As of last Sunday, the general standing is as follows: —

St. Vartan Places Second

OAKLAND — The Bay Area OYAA Basketball League ended for St. Vartan's adult "Gold" team had won an impressive victory over the very strong Ascension Greek Church No.1 team earlier this season by a 16 point margin, Ascension had another chance to take over 2nd place, but league rules dictate that they had to win by 17 points to do so. St. Vartan lost the second encounter by one point, 69 to 68, but assured them second place in the final standings. The "Gold" team advances into the OYAA League post-season tournament against the champions of the Division "B" league, whose games will be concluded next weekend. The final Division "A" standings are:

1. Holy Trinity No.1 (S.F.)
2. St. Vartan "Gold" (Oakland)
3. Ascension No.1 (Oakland)
4. Annunciation No.1 (S.F.)
5. St. Gregory (S.F.)
6. Santa Clara

St. Vartan's powerful junior adult team won its last league game by trouncing Nativity of Marin County 87 to 56. In another crucial contest, the Annunciation No.2 team upset the league leader Ascension No.2

team boosting the St. Vartan "Blue" team into 1st place in Division B competition. Ascension No.2 and Annunciation No.2 have one game remaining. A win by each team will boost them into a tie with St. Vartan's "Blue" team for 1st.

In the St. Vartan "Blue" team victory over Nativity, Greg Babayans again led his team in scoring with 28 points. Mike Dakessian scored 18, Fred Tabsharani 17 and Alex Hairabedian 16. St. Vartan led 34 to 21 at half time.

Aram Kardzair Honored

SAN FRANCISCO — Aram Kardzair of USF, a top collegiate soccer goalkeeper, was honored with the Olympia Award, at a luncheon May 2, at the Olympic Club.

The award recognizes the achievement and contribution of athletes in the 31 Olympic Sports.

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Turkey

Continued from Page 1
a decade under the current constitution, won't be permitted to make statements about Turkey's political past, present or future. The ban affects 150 politicians from the four disbanded major parties and several leftist splinter groups, including two former premiers, Bulent Ecevit and Suleyman Demirel. The communique also forbids criticism of the actions and decisions of the ruling generals or of speeches by President Evren.

The political-parties law approved by the council is to be backed by an election law being debated in the Consultative Assembly, a military-appointed body. Elections for the 400-member National Assembly are tentatively scheduled for October.

The ironic situation is that the parties law bans marxist, fascist and theocratic groups. Members of the judiciary, military personnel, university professors, civil servants and students aren't allowed to become party members, nor are convicted felons.

Moreover, trade unions, co-operatives and professional organizations are banned from giving financial or political support to the new parties, and state treasury is prohibited.

One wonders what's left

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