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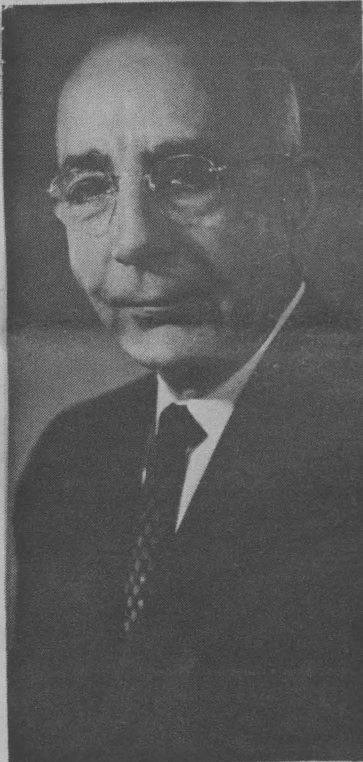
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## Leon Peters To Receive 'Citizen Of Year' Award

FRESNO — Leon Peters, a former State President of the Armenian American Citizens League, will be honored as the Citizen of the Year at the League's 43rd annual State Convention April 3 in the Fresno Hilton Hotel.

Aaron Goorigian, convention chairman and a former State President, said "the league is proud to be able to honor its first State President, Leon Peters. He has not only been a leader in our affairs, but he has been a community and state leader, also."

The annual convention will start with the Open House April 2 in the AACL Building at the California Armenian Home. The evening event will feature the music of Richard Hagopian



LEON PETERS

## Guild Dinner To Benefit Home

FRESNO — Tickets are still available for the Ani Guild's 14th annual Champagne Dinner March 13 in the Sheraton Inn.

Mrs. Pete Parnagian, chairman of the dinner-dance, said that tickets, priced at \$65 per person, may be reserved by calling Mrs. Jack Kazanjian at 229-0345.

Assisting Mrs. Parnagian are Mrs. Charles Missakian, co-chairman; Mrs. Ronald Cloud, decorations; Mrs. Edward Karahadian, invitations; Mrs. Harry Goorabian, fund raising; Mrs. Martin Mazman, publicity; Mrs. Kazanjian, reservations; and Mrs. Sam Parnagian, menu.

The theme of the 1976 dinner-dance appropriately is the Bicentennial. The Frank Wells Orchestra will provide music for dancing.

All proceeds will go to the California Armenian Home for the Aged in Fresno.

An Open House and Tea will be held at the California Armenian Home Sunday afternoon, March 14. Mrs. Krikor Bedrosian is the chairman of the Open House.



MRS. PETE PARNAGIAN  
... Ani Chairman

and his orchestra.

Goorigian said the business sessions are scheduled for Saturday morning and afternoon and that the annual dinner-dance will follow in the evening at the Hilton.

Assisting Goorigian with the planning are Jack Kazanjian, who will also be the emcee of the Saturday evening program; Joe Dishian, president of the Fresno chapter, and Pete Hagopian, past president of the Fresno chapter.

Entertainment and dancing are also on the program for the April 3rd dinner. The Fresno chapter will sponsor the April 4 (Sunday morning) breakfast at the AACL Building.

State President Kasper "Bob" Babigian of San Fernando will preside at the convention. Delegates are expected from the chapters in Los Angeles, San Fernando, Montebello, San Francisco and Fresno.

Other state officers are Seda Bedrosian of Sepulveda, state vice president; Nubar Tashjian of Oakland and Pete Hagopian of Fresno, regional vice presidents; Zabelle Demirjian of Los Angeles, recording secretary.

(Continued on page 12)

## Fresno To Host AGBU Convention

FRESNO — M. Haigentz, the executive director of AGBU International, will speak at the 60th annual Convention of the Armenian General Benevolent Union, Western District, March 19 and 20 at the AGBU Center, 1720 Fulton Street in Fresno.

A Fellowship Night is scheduled for Friday, March 19. A two-session meeting will be held during the day with luncheon at noon on Saturday, March 20. And the 60th annual Convention Banquet will be held at 7 PM in the AGBU Center.

# The California COURIER

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Phone 264-9330

## 2,700 At Pasadena Auditorium For 'Armenian Case' Premiere

By Dr. Art Margosian, Editor  
PASADENA — More than 2,700 persons came to the Pasadena Civic Auditorium Feb. 22, and they were conquered by the moving documentary by Dr. J. Michael Hagopian, "The Armenian Case."

Sponsored by the United Armenian Commemorative Committee in conjunction with the Armenian Revolutionary Federation and the Armenian Democratic League, the World Premiere of the timely and factual film was a tremendous success in all respects.

First, the Armenian-American community now has a film — based on facts, historical data — to take the true story of

the 1915 Turkish Genocide of the Armenian people to people in this country and in other English speaking countries.

Second, the remarkably large turnout — which filled all but a few hundred seats in the huge auditorium — was responsive to the film and the speeches by several community leaders preceding the showing.

Third, the joint effort of the Armenian Democratic League and the Armenian Revolutionary Federation, working in concert with the United Armenian commemorative Committee, paid off in dividends, rich dividends evidenced by the large turnout and the tremendous, ear-shattering applause which interrupted

the showing of the film and the speeches.

And fourth, the film attracted a large proportion of young men and women under age 21 — a major first in the Western United States.

The large audience sat patiently through the brief but relevant remarks by Leo Garapedian, chairman of the commemorative committee; talks by George Mandossian of the ADL and Hagop Manjikian of the ARF, and the keynote address by Dr. Richard Hovanessian, professor of Armenian and Near Eastern History at UCLA.

Speaking to Anne Avakian-Bishop, Los Angeles area author-journalist after the premiere, Joyce Altoon, a school teacher, asked, "Why has it taken 60 years to document the shocking events? Where did these photographs of the brutal killing, rapes and hangings come from? Every one should see this film, certainly one of the most important in world history."

Amazed At Inhumanity

Young Aram Philibosian said he was amazed that such inhumanity could have been allowed by the civilized countries of the world. "I wept tears of frustration," he said. "What wonderful people Armenian forefathers were! To think that Mike Connors' (narrator of the documentary) own grandparents were killed in Kharpert? What can we in America do to make amends — to

(Continued on page 8)

## AGBU-St. Peter Day School Opens Doors

VAN NUYS — Nineteen students enrolled in kindergarten and first grade of the first Armenian Day School in the Western District of the AGBU Feb. 2 as a result of efforts by AGBU, Western District and the St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church of Van Nuys.

The St. Peter-AGBU Armenian School, located on the Church grounds, held formal dedication and ribbon cutting ceremonies Feb. 1 after church services when the Rt. Rev. Bishop Vatche Hovsepian, Primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church, pointed out the importance of Armenian Day Schools in the United States and commended the joint efforts of the Church and the AGBU.

Jack Simsarian, chairman of the school board, made the opening remarks and emceed the dedication program after the short religious service.

Parish Council Chairman Albert Shahbazian's welcoming remarks were followed by Parish Priest Rev. Shahe Semerdjian's comments, expressing his joy on the occasion.

Bishop Hovsepian praised the St. Peter community for responding to the need of an Armenian Day School in the Western District, and Parsegh Kartalian, executive secretary of the AGBU, Western District, lauded the St. Peter-AGBU cooperation and promised the full support of the AGBU.

He then read two congratulatory telegrams sent by AGBU

(Continued on page 12)



RIGHTFULLY PLEASED — "The Armenian Case" producer-director, Dr. J. Michael Hagopian, left, goes over final plans for the World Premiere with Leo Garapedian, United Armenian Commemorative Committee chairman. COURIER PHOTO

Dr Dennis R Papazian 8-9  
522 21st Street N W  
Washington, D C 20006

**ALL THE NEWS  
WORTH  
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**THE ARMENIAN  
REPORTER**  
New York's Independent Armenian Newsweekly  
America's Leading Armenian Newspaper

**ALL THE NEWS  
ABOUT  
ARMENIANS**

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1976

Mailing address: P. O. Box 488, Flushing, N.Y. 113  
Telephone: (212)445-288

*see attached*



FEB 24 1976

## D. R. Papazian Attends Reception Hosted by President

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Dr. Dennis R. Papazian, presently on leave of absence from The University of Michigan - Dearborn, represented the Armenian Assembly at a White House inauguration and reception, hosted by the President, for Michael Kobalinsky, newly appointed head of the Small Business Administration, on Thursday, February 12, 1976, in the afternoon. President Ford personally welcomed the guests and spoke of his appreciation for the great contributions made by Americans of various ethnic backgrounds.

Mr. Kobalinsky, of Polish origin, praised the President for his understanding of the important role of ethnic Americans in building American industry and enriching American culture. He praised the

President for his concrete efforts in bringing into the Administration many Americans of various national origins.

The President, Mr. Kobalinsky and Mr. Justice Stewart of the Supreme Court, greeted those present in a reception line in the beautiful Red Room.

The invitation to the inaugural was extended through the good offices of Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, newly appointed Special Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs on the recommendation of Mr. Vartkes Yeghiayan, Special Assistant to the Director of ACTION.

### TRANSLATED IN TO JAPANESE

YEREVAN, Armenia - The monograph by a member of the Armenian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Sergei Hampartzoumian, called, "The Theory of Anisotrope Plates," was published in Japanese by a publishing house in Japan.

The monograph is about the scientist's theory of strength, elasticity and vibration of plates made of new building materials. According to Soviet and foreign experts, Hampartzoumian's work is important because it has practical application.

Prof. Hampartzoumian, who is 54 years old, is one of the leading experts on mechanics in Soviet Armenia.

Leone was elected rapporteur. Number 16 on the agenda of 21 items, is the Report of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on its 28th session which took place last year in Geneva. It was during this session that once again several experts spoke on the retention of paragraph 30 of the study on genocide, prepared by a special rapporteur from Rwanda.

The Commission on Human Rights is composed of 32 countries including Turkey.

role in maintaining order. The

## Detroiters Raise Money for Lebanon Armenians

SOUTHFIELD, Mich. - More than \$30,000 was raised at a private reception held at the residence of Mr. Edward Mardiagian, President of the AGBU of America on February 11 for the benefit of a major fund raising campaign to help the Armenian people of Lebanon.



MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT. Mr. & Mrs. George Mardikian of San Francisco were among guests who were invited to attend a reception in honor of President Gerald Ford during his recent visit to the Area. During the meeting with the President, the noted San Francisco restaurateur introduced to President Mr. Arch Monson, the National President of the Boy Scouts of America. Both the President and Mr. Mardikian are Eagle Scouts, the highest rank in Scouting. Watching the President shake hands with his wife, Mrs. Naz Mardikian, is husband George Mardikian.

page 1, also in 4 other Armenian-American newspapers. J.P.

ALL THE NEWS  
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# THE ARMENIAN REPORTER

New York's Independent Armenian Newsweekly  
America's Leading Armenian Newspaper

ALL THE NEWS  
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VOL. IX, NO. 18

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Mailing address: P. O. Box 488, Flushing, N.Y. 11355  
Telephone: (212)445-2882

## Turkey Threatens to Sever Diplomatic Relations with Lebanon over the Assassination of Diplomat

BEIRUT, Lebanon - In a strongly worded statement given to the Lebanese Government by the Embassy of Turkey here, the Turkish Government has protested the assassination of the first secretary of the Turkish Embassy last week. The Turks threaten to sever their diplomatic relations with Lebanon unless Lebanese authorities apprehend the culprits of this political crime.

The so-called Armenian Secret Army claimed responsibility for this murder soon after it was committed last Tuesday on Hamra Street in the Rab Beirut section of the city. The incident was followed by an attempt to assassinate Mr. Demirel, the

Ambassador of Turkey in Beirut, as he was driving to the American University Hospital of Beirut to claim the body of the assassinated diplomat, Oktan Chiriz.

Although Lebanese authorities are vigorously pursuing their

efforts to find clues leading to the eventual apprehension of the culprit or culprits, there is little hope that under the present conditions in which the country finds itself, the assassin can be found.

### Mayor to Proclaim Feb. 27 "St. Vartan's Day" in N. Y. C.

NEW YORK, N.Y. - Mayor Abraham Beame will proclaim Thursday, February 27, as St. Vartan's Day in the City of New York during a special reception set for 10:45 a.m. at City Hall.

During this reception the Mayor will personally read the Proclamation of the City of New York which pays tribute to General Vartan Mamigonian for his valiant effort on behalf of religious freedom for the Armenian people.

A select group of community leaders will witness the issuance of the Proclamation.

## Gourgen Yanikian Agrees to Meet with Turkish Officials

LOS ANGELES, Calif. - Two high ranking Turkish Government officials, who arrived here in mid-January to "deal with Gourgen Yanikian case" upon their request have been granted an audience with the Armenian defendant.

This meeting which will be held in the next couple of days, will be attended by two lawyers representing Mr. Yanikian, who is presently serving a life sentence at San Luis Obispo prison in California for the killing of two Turkish Consulate officials in San Francisco, and two members of the Gourgen Yanikian Defense Committee. It is agreed by all sides that the ensuing conversations be taped in their entirety. Three Turkish correspondents and cameramen, who are in Los Angeles area to cover the anticipated re-trial, have been given permission by the attorneys to take photographs and cover the conversations for the Turkish news media.

The Turkish officials have twice talked with the head of the prison ward, in order to arrange a meeting to discuss matters relating to the defendant's case. Mr. Yanikian told prison officials that such

a meeting would be possible only with the consent and in the presence of his lawyers and representatives of Yanikian Defense Committee.

The Yanikian Defense Committee, headed by Levon Yergat of California, has asked the judicial authorities in California to reopen the case, and has hired a team of lawyers to review the case and defend Mr. Yanikian.

A day after the request was conditionally turned down by Mr. Yanikian, on Thursday, February 19th, the Turkish officials communicated their request to Atty. Oumman and Mark. The lawyers informed the Turks that they

have no objection, but such a meeting would have to be taped in its entirety. The Turks agreed to the counsels' request.

Mr. Yergat, representing the Yanikian Defense Committee in an exclusive interview stated that his committee will consider withdrawing the application to reopen the Yanikian case, provided that the Turkish Government formally recognizes the Armenian Genocide and meets other Armenian demands, territorial and otherwise, stemming from the first genocide of modern times perpetrated by the Turks on Armenians.

## No Surprises Expected from the Communist Party Congress

NEW YORK, N.Y. - As the 25th Congress of the Soviet Union's ruling Communist Party begins its ten-day deliberations, western analysts have all agreed that it will not produce any surprising results.

It is evident that the troika of Brezhnev, Kosygin, and Podgorny, will continue to rule

the country without any significant change. What has not been reported and not noticed at the surface, are some radical changes that have taken place in various republics on the eve of the Congress. Major leadership changes have taken place in the political apparatus in Georgia and Azerbaijan.

Continued on page 16

## Armenians Comprise Heavy Proportion of Emigrants

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Among Soviet citizens who leave the Soviet Union and come to the United States, Armenians and Jews account for more than 90 percent, according to statistics compiled and released by the United States Department of State in Washington.

The figures show that direct immigration from the Soviet Union to the United States rose from 758 in 1973 to 1,079 in 1974, and to 1,162 in 1975. Of the total admitted in 1975, 585 were Jews and 455 were Armenians. The figures released do not include those Armenians from the Soviet Union who managed to leave the country and then spend a few weeks in a European country and then, after becoming eligible for the status of refugees, were admitted to the United States. The Department of State has not compiled any figures on persons from Soviet Armenia who enter the United States as refugees. The figures compiled are for those who can legally qualify to enter the United States as

immediate relatives of citizens of the United States.

In the past, Armenians from the Soviet Union who had no immediate relatives in the United States when allowed to leave the country, arrived in Beirut, Lebanon, where after a residence of a few months, were allowed to come to the United States as refugees. However, due to the opposition of Armenian political parties which viewed the departure of a large number of Armenians from Armenia as contrary to the best interests of the Armenian people, the Lebanese Government ceased issuing visitors' visas to Armenians from Soviet Armenia who were leaving the country permanently. Presently, with the approval of the American Embassy in Moscow, these Armenians from Soviet Armenia, upon receiving permission from Soviet authorities to leave the country permanently, are brought to Rome, Italy, and are placed in a number

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## Rivalry Between Egypt, Iraq Syria May Re-ignite Religious Strife in War-torn Lebanon

FLUSHING, N.Y. - Although there have been no reports of major violence in Lebanon in general, observers in the Lebanese capital maintain guarded optimism towards the future of that country and now focus their attention on the rivalry between Syria, on the one side, and Iraq and Egypt on the other. They view this situation as one that may re-ignite the flames of religious strife.

According to reports coming from the Middle East, both Egypt and Iraq have not concealed their dissatisfaction with the major influential role that Syria has secured in the Lebanese struggle. Sources both in Iraq and Egypt feel that through clever manipulation and maneuvers, Syria, led by its foreign minister, was not only able to bring the fighting to an end, but also managed to gain a strong foothold in the country, which, according to one Jewish source, paved the way for the eventual "Syrianization" of Lebanon.

If these fears materialize and if Syria is allowed to play a major role in the internal politics of the small country of Lebanon, it is expected that the Syrian type of socialism may soon be introduced and thus bring to an end the *laissez faire* concept of business.

The Armenians of Lebanon continue to maintain their neutrality and yet are carried away by a wave of pessimism that has forced a large number of them to emigrate. A number of Armenians, mainly middle class merchants, are reported to be in the process of liquidating their businesses and preparing to leave the

country.

Although Armenian schools have re-opened, there is a marked decline in enrollment. This is attributed to the caution maintained by families who do not want their children exposed to possible dangers while going to school, and then to the financial strain that families have endured during the last 10 months. Most of the families with children are literally penniless and cannot pay for their tuition, as Armenian schools operate on a small tuition basis.

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## Chicago Area Armenians Raise \$20,000 for Lebanon Relief Fund

FLUSHING, N.Y. - At a special gathering held at the home of Dr. & Mrs. R. Hovanessian of Munster, Ind. on February 13, a select group of 25 guests raised a total of \$20,000 towards the AGBU's and the Diocese's joint drive to raise funds for the destitute Armenians of Lebanon.

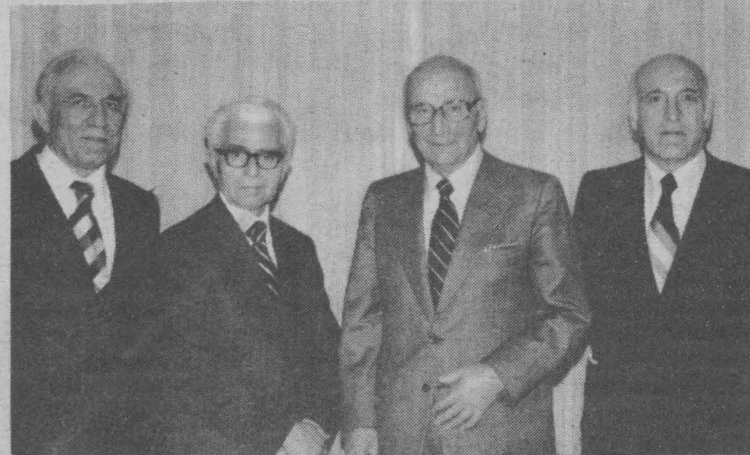
The invitees responded to the appeal made by Mr. Haig Pedian, Chairman of the Chicago area Fund-Raising Committee, and also listened to an eyewitness account of the situation in Lebanon presented by Dr. Dickran Varjabedian and his brother, Sissak Varjabedian, both of Lebanon.

The gathering followed another meeting held last week in Detroit at the home of Mr. Edward Mardigian, President of the

AGBU of America. As reported earlier, \$32,000 was raised at this meeting which was attended by Mr. Vahe Vahian and Dr. Dickran Varjabedian, AGBU emissaries from Lebanon. Already over \$95,000 has been raised in the Detroit area for Lebanese relief.

Another meeting will be held this Sunday at the Michigan Inn in Southfield, Mich., for the purpose of raising additional funds from among the Detroit area Armenians. The Detroit area drive will

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AGBU EMISSARIES. Mr. Alex Manoogian, President of AGBU's Board of Directors (2nd from right) is seen flanked by the AGBU emissaries from Lebanon at the recent gathering at the Home of Edward Mardigian, L. to r.: Mr. Missak Varjabedian, Mr. Vahe Vahian, Mr. Manoogian, and Dr. Dickran Varjabedian.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 27, 1976

Dear Dr. Papazian:

I greatly appreciate your taking the time to send me information about Armenia and the Armenian American community. Given your rather extensive knowledge of Ukrainian history, the very least I can do is to read Michael Arlen's Passage to Ararat. It should be a fine beginning.

Our meeting was most enjoyable and I look forward to more in the future.

Warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,



Myron B. Kuropas (Dr.)  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Ethnic Affairs

Dr. Dennis R. Papazian  
Co-Chairman  
The Armenian Assembly  
522 Twenty-First Street, NW  
Suite 120  
Washington, D. C. 20006

March 27, 1976

Dear Ed:

Thank you for your March 23 letter, on behalf of Dr. James H. Tashjian, asking that consideration be given to proclaiming the week of April 18 as "Armenian-American Week," during which time the Armenian Bicentennial exhibition for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will be held.

Your interest in taking special notice of the contributions of Armenian-Americans to our national life is understood and appreciated. Except in unusual circumstances, though, it is not customary for the President to issue a proclamation setting aside a particular period for special observance unless authorized and requested to do so by the Congress. Should the Congress take such action with respect to an "Armenian-American Week," the matter would of course receive most careful consideration.

I will be pleased to ask that consideration be given to having a special Presidential message sent to mark the observance of this special Bicentennial event.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Max L. Friedersdorf  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Edward J. Derwinski  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

bcc: w/incoming to Milt Mitler - for further action  
bcc: w/incoming to Judy Johnston - FYI  
bcc: w/incoming to Bill Baroody - FYI

MLF:JEB:VO:jlc



EDWARD J. DERWINSKI

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Washington, D.C. 20515

March 23, 1976

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Hon. Max Friedersdorf  
Assistant to the President  
The White House Office  
Washington, D. C. 20500

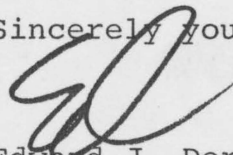
Dear Max:

I enclose the letter I received from Dr. James H. Tashjian in which he requests, on behalf of Armenian-Americans, that the President issue a Proclamation designating the week of April 18th as "Armenian-American Week".

In addition to recognizing the contributions made by Armenian-Americans, I believe that such a Proclamation should be considered from a practical political standpoint. Since you must keep in mind the fact that the Armenians are one of the many ethnic groups unhappy with Secretary Kissinger. It is a necessary step to strengthening support for the President among the entire ethnic community.

Therefore, consistent with your procedures, I hope that serious consideration will be given this request, and if at all possible such a Proclamation issued.

Sincerely yours,



Edward J. Derwinski, M. C.

EJD/ab

Enc

MAR 4 1976

# the ARMENIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED MARCH 1, 1934

EDITORIAL OFFICES:

212 STUART STREET, BOSTON, MASS. 02116 • TEL. 542-3650

March 1, 1976

The Honorable Edward Derwinski  
United States Representative from Illinois  
House of Representatives Office Building  
Washington, District of Columbia.

Dear Eddie:

As you perhaps know, I recently, with a good deal of reluctance — took on the responsibility of chairing the Armenian Bicentennial effort in this Commonwealth under commission of the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission. The thing has become well nigh a full time enterprise. There is a history of the Armenian experience with the Commonwealth to be written -- fresh research material-- and a major traveling exhibition to be planned and mounted and financed. The experience has been trying but it has led me to understand the many potentials inherent in this Bicentennial year.

I wonder if we might be able to have the President issue a Proclamation setting aside April 21-22-23-24 as "Armenian American Day" in the nation? Those will be the days when the Armenian Exhibition will be open at the State House here, and I am most anxious, for obvious reason, that that span of that week be indeed given the fullest recognition. We have the Governor here doing a proclamation, I understand the General Court will also pass a Resolution, and Mayor White himself will somewhat act.

But I am most eager for President Ford to do something, for something he must do to recoup, if nothing else, the damage the Ford-Kissinger policy in re Turkey has done among the Armenian American (and other) citizenry. This is the political aspect of it. The more important facet is that such a Proclamation would be only right, in the light of the very real contributions of the Armenians to the United States. I would be glad to submit a sample resolution embodying some thoughts on what ought to be said.

At the same time, Ed, I wonder if Congress, both the House and the Senate, could do something in recognition of the days suggested above? Resolutions to this effect would I suppose do. I am honored to be able to ask you to lead this effort and will of course do all I can to assist you.

The Massachusetts Bicentennial effort I feel is the principal thrust of the Armenian effort and ought to be given recognition because it was <sup>this</sup> State that gave birth to the community nationwide.

I wonder if you might be able to find some time to let me hear your thoughts on the matter. A Presidential Proclamation and a Republican led-effort in Congress would be both political and quite properly apropos.

My very best respects.

Cordially,

*James H. Tashjian*  
Dr. James H. Tashjian



Dr. Myron D Kuropas 6-18  
The White House  
Washington, D.C 20500

ALL THE NEWS  
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# THE ARMENIAN REPORTER

New York's Independent Armenian Newsweekly  
America's Leading Armenian Newspaper

ALL THE NEWS  
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ARMENIANS

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Mailing address: P. O. Box 488, Flushing, N.Y. 11355  
Telephone: (212)445-2882

## Armenians in Lebanon Resume Community Life Despite Reservations About Future

NEW YORK, N.Y. Recent travellers from Lebanon arriving in the U.S.A. point out that the situation in that country is far from normal and that pockets of resistance continually threaten the uncertain peace and upset all efforts to form a new government.

In a transatlantic telephone conversation over the weekend, the *Armenian Reporter*, established that most Armenians feel a deep sense of insecurity and are apprehensive that if there is a new outbreak of fighting, as many observers anticipate it will within a few months, Armenians will not be spared.

Although normalcy reigns in Armenian areas of Beirut, most activities ceased in the capital city of Beirut early in the afternoon and people confine their activities to their immediate neighborhood. Armenians, specially those living in the western quarters of the city and in the Kantari area avoid unnecessary travel after 1:00 p.m. when central Beirut becomes totally deserted.

It is believed that the present tranquility in Lebanon is fragile; economic recovery is slow; and a strong feeling of insecurity is prevalent among the population. These feelings are also shared by members of the Armenian community who came through the 10-month civil strife with minimum losses. The general consensus among well-informed Armenians in the war-torn country is that the present calm is an extended cease-fire and when spring comes, fierce fighting will resume between the two major groups of antagonists in this once-prosperous Mediterranean country. As evidence, they point out the presence of over four divisions of P.L.A. (Palestine Liberation Army) forces in Lebanon, and the tolerance exhibited by the Government of Rashid Karami toward an outlawed gunman who is a deserter from the Lebanese army, Col. Khatib, who is openly challenging the Lebanese Government

with his 500 well-trained men and heavy equipment. The uncertainty in the Lebanese situation is further substantiated by the fact that no Government of reconciliation has been found yet and the old political leaders have returned to power.

A number of traditional political leaders in Lebanon who had looked to the Armenians for some help during the civil strife have once again warned their Christian fellow-citizens that a new outbreak of fighting is imminent. Large quantities of heavy weaponry are being unloaded and parachuted to different parts of the country. Many young fanatics are presently being trained in sabotage and urban guerrilla warfare in Arab, European, and communist countries.

Despite these negative signs and the lack of confidence in the future, Armenians have once again begun extensive community reorganization. For almost a month now, Armenian schools have been reopened, and according to reliable sources in Beirut, the enrollment has risen to about 80%. Armenian newspapers have resumed their publication and cultural life is showing signs of revival. However, enormous financial help is still needed to pull the community out of its moral and economic depression. The affluent Armenian community in the United States has been quite responsive to the multiple needs of their Lebanese brethren. Authoritative sources within Armenian circles in Lebanon now indicate that they have been getting considerable financial assistance from the Armenians of Iran who have been able to take advantage of the economic boom in that oil-rich country.

Some estimates put the overall financial need of the Armenians in Lebanon at up to \$5 million. However, a quick look at the funds raised for the destitute Armenians in Lebanon will reveal that hardly one tenth of this amount has been collected.



**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION.** Mrs. Alice Kavookjian proudly displaying the mayoral proclamation declaring Thursday, February 26th as "St. Vartan's Day" in the City of New York, the home of an estimated 50,000 Armenians. She is flanked by Mayor Abraham D. Beame, who presented the proclamation to Mr. Haik Kavookjian, right. The ceremony was witnessed by a select group of New York Armenians. Later in the day, Mr. Sam Azadian, a high official in the Highways Department of the City, read the mayoral proclamation during a special program held at St. Vartan's Armenian Cathedral (Story and additional photos on page 9).

Photo by MADO HAIRABEDIAN

## Ankara Blames Armenians for Assassination of Turkish Diplomat in Beirut-Probable Retaliation Considered

By Edward Babayan, Jr.

NEW YORK, N.Y. - The growing number of political assassinations perpetrated against Turkish officials in Europe and the Middle East has aroused mixed feelings in Turkey proper. A Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman recently admitted that his country had to face the agonizing fact that Armenians in the Diaspora are "acting" irresponsibly. This statement was not further elaborated. One grim reality is emerging - Armenians in Turkey once again will be subjected to tremendous pressure.

It is evident, however, that the Turks are not sitting idle while they count their victims. The Ankara Government was able to contain anti-Turkish publicity stemming from the killings of the ambassadors in late October last year, but with this most recent murder, they realize a trend has begun that must be halted, thus preventing the glare of world attention that would focus on past atrocities committed by the Turks.

Through careful analysis of the Turkish diplomatic patterns, one

detects persistence and a cunning instinct. But these are not the only two characteristics of Turkish diplomacy. In case both of these tactics fail, the Turks will resort to blackmail and violence, as their history readily shows.

In a desperate effort to halt the growing wave of anti-Turkish activities in the Diaspora, many observers of post World War I Turkish-Armenian relations admit that the Turks once again will hold the remaining Armenians in Turkey as hostage. The killing of the First Secretary of the Turkish Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, last month convinced the few remaining Turkish skeptics that Armenians were indeed responsible for this rash of political assassinations.

As in the past, the heavy pressure that is expected to be applied to Armenians living in modern Turkey will be paralleled by a diplomatic offensive in the Diaspora. On the local level, a tightened control over the Armenian community can be expected.

A number of Turkish journalists and resident businessmen both in Europe and North

America have been trying to start some kind of a dialogue with Armenians, as one of them put it, "to resolve some differences of the past in a friendly manner." This attempt has been received unenthusiastically by Armenians, although these Turks have doubled their efforts since the beginning of the year.

Another effort undertaken by official Turkey to prevent further attention to "past events" (Turks exhibit great sensitivity

Continued on page 12

## Violinist Receives Another Prize

NEW YORK, N.Y. - The noted violinist Ani Kavafian, was one of the four young American instrumentalists who have been awarded Avery Fisher prizes, recently established to give major performance opportunities to instrumentalists deserving of wider public recognition.

The recipient of each prize will have a debut appearance with the New York Philharmonic, \$1,000 in cash, and up to six performances with orchestras around the nation.



**A BICENTENNIAL PROJECT.** Shown at ground-breaking ceremonies for the Armenian Bicentennial Commemoration statue to be located near the Philadelphia Museum of Art are (l. to r.) John Samelian, chairman of the Sculpture Committee; the renowned sculptor Khoren Der Harootian; and M. George Mooradian, chairman of the Armenian Bicentennial Commemoration Committee, Inc. Full coverage of these ceremonies will appear in next week's issue of the paper.

MAR 31 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

DATE: 3-30-76

TO:        JOHN CALHOUN                           TED MARRS  
       F. DEBACA                                   PAM POWELL  
       JEFF EVES                                    JOHN SHLAES  
       VIRGINIA KNAUER                          WAYNE VALIS  
✓        MYRON KUROPAS                          JOHN VICKERMAN  
       PAT LINDH

FROM: WILLIAM J. BAROODY, JR.

       FOR YOUR INFORMATION  
✓        FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION  
       FOR YOUR COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS  
       OTHER:



# 1912 Tapestries Depicting Life In New York Found

By **FRED FERRETTI**

*Special to The New York Times*

RADNOR, Pa., May 6—In the two-story-high all-purpose room of the Armenian Sisters Academy here children line up for their school busses, dance and put on plays and generally take for granted the richly woven, historical tapestries on the walls around them depicting events in early New York City.

The tapestries, dominated by deep blues and pale ochres, were designed by the late American muralist Albert Herter under an \$850,000 commission from the Harriman family and completed in the artist's East 33d Street studio in Manhattan by a team of 60 imported French weavers in 1912.

For years they hung in the McAlpin Hotel



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# The California COURIER

VOL. XVIII, No. 45

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1976

Subscription: \$8.00

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 966, Fresno, California 93714

Phone 264-9330

## John Toomasian Speaks At Fresno AGBU Evening School Hantes-Dinner

FRESNO — More than 200 parents, grandparents, cousins and friends crowded into the Fresno AGBU Center to watch and hear their children, grandchildren and cousins at the second annual AGBU Armenian School Hantes and Dinner.

John Toomasian, president of the Fresno Unified School Board and a candidate for Fresno County Supervisor in District Three, challenged the parents and the young to continue being active in their communities.

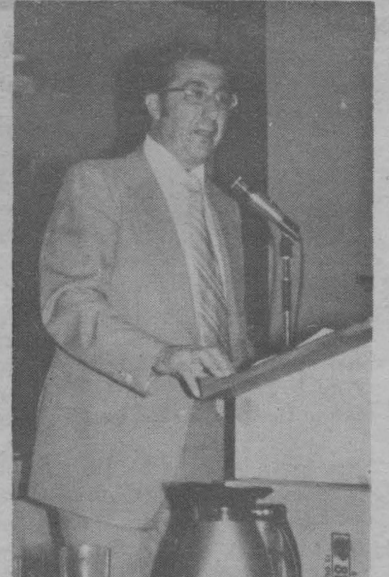
Toomasian, a history instructor at Fresno City College, talked of his youth, of the strictness of his parents, and of the values that they had passed on to him. And he stressed the need for a return to basic education, supporting an emphasis on the teaching of reading, writing and arithmetic.

After Toomasian's talk, Mrs. Berjouhi Ohanian introduced the classes and individual members of classes of the AGBU School. And what followed was approximately one-half hour of recitations by individuals and group, singing by individuals and groups, and dancing by the older girls.

The Very Rev. Father Mousheg Tashjian, pastor of the Hollywood Church, con-



JOHN TOOMASIAN  
... candidate for supervisor



CANDIDATE JOHN  
"self-discipline important"

gratulated the youngsters and their parents and complimented Toomasian for his meaningful remarks. Father Tashjian then sang a new Armenian song, which was well received.

Allan Y. Jendian, treasurer of the school's board of education, was the emcee, and George Keledjian, principal of the evening school, spoke briefly — taking time though to introduce his staff and

members of the board of education.

Teachers during the past year included Miss Zaroochi Der Mugrdechian, Ara Movsesian, Mrs. Mary American, Mrs. Ohanian, Mrs. Vera Eryisian, Jirair Jabaghourian, Mrs. Eunice Chamichian, and Miss Doris Kasparian, lecture class coordinator. Mrs. Pat Keledjian was coordinator of the cooking-class.

Members of the board of education include Hagie Kandarian, president; Gilbert Khachadourian, vice president; Jendian, treasurer; Mrs. Anoush Chamlian, secretary; and Richard Ashton, Dr. Morton (Hovanesian) Johnson and Keledjian. Mrs. Norma Der Mugrdechian is school secretary, and Mrs. Elaine Nahigian the refreshment coordinator.

## LA Ararat Home Picnic Aug. 22

LOS ANGELES—The annual Ararat Home Picnic will be held Sunday, Aug. 22, on the Home grounds, 3730 W. 27th Street, in Los Angeles.

Robert Shamlian, chairman of the Ararat Home Board of Trustees, said the picnic menu will feature traditional

shish kebab dinners as well as "other Armenian foods."

Besides entertainment and music, many prizes will also be offered during the day's festivities. Shamlian said the picnic is one of many activities held during the year in support of the Home and its residents.



South westerly view of the new Sanctuary, First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno.

## Fresno Presbyterians To Dedicate New Church

FRESNO — The Session and Congregation have set Sunday, June 13, for the dedication service of the sanctuary of the First Armenian Presbyterian Church on First Street.

The service will start at

### Slaying Perils Peace Effort

BEIRUT — The sister of Kamal Jumblatt, leader of the leftist-Moslem Alliance in the Lebanese civil war, was killed May 27 by an unidentified gunman in her apartment in the Christian-controlled sector of Beirut.

Although the murder of Linda Atrash, 55, was immediately denounced by the leaders of the Phlange, the conservative Christian militia that controls the area, it give rise to fears of growing violence here.

4 PM followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall. Rev. Vartkes Kassouni, pastor of the church, will preside at the dedication of the \$600,000 structure.

The sanctuary, the second of a three-phase building project, includes a pastor's study, a bride's room and a nursery area with windows so persons inside can view the service. The main sanctuary will seat 250 persons.

The inspiring church doors and windows all depict scenes of Armenian and church history. The interior gives a feeling of oneness to those sitting in the sanctuary.

Edward Avedisian, A.I.A., is the architect, and Jessen Company is the contractor. The third phase of the project will include a social hall. The first, the Christian education center, was completed in 1969.

## Ronald Reagan Raps Ford's Cyprus Policy

(Editor's Note: The following is a position paper issued by former Governor Ronald Reagan on Cyprus.)

\*\*\*

"The continuing tragedy in Cyprus is another example of the failure of the Kissinger-Ford foreign policy. Their policies regarding the confrontation of our two NATO allies, Greece and Turkey, over Cyprus did not generate enough initiative for compromise and understanding. Instead, there was conflict.

"There are old and deeply-rooted antagonisms between Greek and Turkish populations in many areas where they share borders. The independence

of Cyprus in 1960 created conditions of very difficult balance between these two populations on an island that is only 40 miles from Turkey and more than 300 miles from Greece. (Some 80% of the Cypriots are Greek; 20% Turkish.)

"Skillful outside mediation was required to prevent a war between Greece and Turkey over Cyprus in 1967. Forceful action embodied in the negotiation by US Presidential envoy Cyrus R. Vance at that time did serve to prevent armed conflict of the sort that did break out in 1974.

"in 1974 the United States

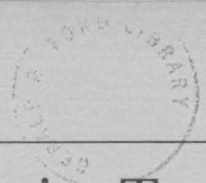
(Continued on page 2)



ARI ZAMBAK  
... a show stopper



PROGRAM OF SONGS — The Armenian III class, taught by Mrs. Berjouhi Ohanian, offered a number of Armenian songs. Left to right, Vartuhi Madanyan, Annabelle Sarkissian, Caroline Kuljian, Kathy Kuljian, Arlene Handjian, Sonya Kostan and Anne Zambak.



# Armenians Give Historic Tapestries To New York

By **FRED FERRETTI**

A collection of 21 tapestries depicting historic New York events, the work of the late American muralist, Albert Herter, are going to be given to New York by an Armenian school in Pennsylvania as a "Bicentennial thank you gift" at a banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria on November 28.

The Armenian Sisters Academy in Radnor, Pa., a suburb of Philadelphia, was given the tapestries by John Korenian, of California, who had collected them over a period of 20 years.





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The Armenian Sisters Academy in Radnor, Pa., a suburb of Philadelphia, was given the tapestries by John Korenian, of California, who had collected them over a period of 20 years.

The gift was disclosed in the New York Times in May. Since then, prominent Armenians from throughout the United States have





# The Armenian Assembly

522 TWENTY-FIRST STREET, N.W., SUITE 120 □ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 □ PHONE: (202) 833-1367

National  
Steering  
Committee

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Robert A. Kaloosdian (1977)  
Boston, MA

*Co-Chairman*

Dennis R. Papazian (1977)  
Detroit, MI

*Secretary*

Avedis K. Sanjian (1979)  
Los Angeles, CA

*Treasurer*

Harry A. Sachaklian (1977)  
Washington, DC

*Counselor*

Yervant Azadian (1977)  
Detroit, MI

*Counselor*

Haig Der Manuelian (1977)  
Boston, MA

Ralph L. Baker (1976)  
Oakland, CA

Lionel S. Galstaun (1976)  
New York, NY

Garo H. Garabedian (1976)  
Boston, MA

Hirair S. Hovnanian (1976)  
Deal, NJ

Vartkes M. Kassouni (1976)  
Fresno, CA

George K. Mandossian (1979)  
Pasadena, CA

Michael Minasian (1979)  
Montebello, CA

Hagop J. Nersoyan (1979)  
Dayton, OH

Percy W. Sarkisian (1979)  
Detroit, MI

March 10, 1976



Dr. Myron Kuropas,  
Special Assistant to the  
President for Ethnic Affairs  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

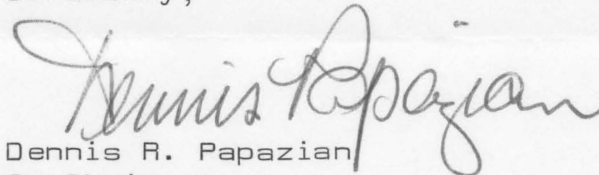
Dear Myron:

Hratch Aprahamian, Edward Boghosian and I want to thank you for inviting us to attend your special White House Ethnic Community Briefing of March 9.

We found both sessions, the morning domestic discussions and the afternoon State Department briefings, to be interesting and enlightening. The topics were well chosen.

Please thank the President for including the Armenians on the invitation list. We appreciate his interest.

Cordially,

  
Dennis R. Papazian  
Co-Chairman

cc: Robert A. Kaloosdian  
Co-Chairman  
Hratch Aprahamian  
Edward Boghosian

Enclosures

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

5889

ADMINISTRATIVELY  
CONFIDENTIAL

October 22, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR MYRON KUROPAS

FROM:

Jeanne W. Davis *mt*

SUBJECT:

*fr* Message for Armenian-Americans

With reference to your memorandum of October 22 to Mr. Clift of this staff, from the standpoint of foreign policy we would recommend against a message by the President to Armenian-Americans. However, should the President wish to send a message to Armenian-Americans, we believe it should parallel messages sent earlier this year. The proposed message attached to your memorandum would be inappropriate. In the event a decision is taken to send a message, we would appreciate the opportunity to clear the text.



ADMINISTRATIVELY  
CONFIDENTIAL

Determined to be an  
Administrative Marking

By \_\_\_\_\_ NARA, Date \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 22, 1976

FOR: Dennis Clift  
FROM: Myron Kuropas **KK**  
SUBJECT: Armenian Question

The attached message from Jimmy Carter is for your perusal and review.

The Armenians would like to have a similar statement and have provided a modest sample of what they would like.

Your guidance would be appreciated.



The statement received by telephone.

The text will be available by mail.



THE HISTORY OF THE ARMENIA EXTENDING OVER THREE THOUSAND YEARS IS ONE OF SURVIVAL AGAINST OVERWELMING ODDS, VICTORY OVER OPRESERS, AND TRAGIC HUMAN SUFFERINGS.

THE ARMENIAN PEOPLE HAVE CONSTANTLY DEMONSTRATED THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT AND DEDICATION TO THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM AS EXAMPLIFIED BY THE CREATION OF THE REPUBLIC, FOLOWING 1915 - 1917 BLOOD BATH.

AN ESTIMATED ONE AND HALF MILLION PERSONS WERE MURDERED DURING THE " FIRST GENOCIDE OF THE 20th. CENTUERY. "

EVENTHOUGH THE TRAGEDIES OF THE HISTORY HAS NOT BEEN CORRECTED, ARMENIANS CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THEIR CULTURE, AND STRONG DESIRE FOR FREEDOM.

TODAY A SMALL PORTION OF HISTORICAL ARMENIA HELD BY U S S R IS THE ARMENAIN SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLIC, WHILE ITS REMAINING TERRITORY IS PART OF <sup>the</sup> TURKEY.

I FULLY SYMPATHIZE WITH THE PLIGHT OF THE ARMENIAN PEOPLE, AND UNDERSTAND THEIR DESIRE TO BE FREE ONCE MORE .

MOREOVER I VIGOROUSLY SUPPORT RATIFICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL GENOCIDE TREATY. THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE WORLD TO RECOGNIZE THE USE OF GENOCIDE AS A NATIONAL POLICY BY ANY NATION IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY WHICH MUST BE CONDEMNED.

I ALSO RECOGNIZED THAT ARMENIANS HAVE MADE GREAT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTELLECTUAL- CULTURAL LIFE OF THE UNITED STATES, AND INDEED, IT HAS A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE WORLD CULTURE, THROUGHOUT THE CENTURIES. THAT THEY, AND THEIR NATIONS HISTORY, DESERVES MORE ATTENTION FROM OUR GOVERNMENT AND FROM ALL OUR CITIZENS ACROSS THE NATION.

AS THE LEADER OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, THE PARTY OF WOODROW WILSON,  
A MAN WHO SHOWED COMPASSION<sup>SS</sup> FOR ARMENIAN PEOPLE AT THE TIMES WHEN  
THEY WERE SUBJECTED TO EXTREME INJUSTICE.

I WILL INSURE THAT THE VOICE OF THE ARMENIAN PEOPLE WILL BE HEARD  
AND THAT SUCH IMPORTANT ISSUES AS ASSISTANCE TO ARMENIANS IN LEBANON  
ARE SYMPATHETICALLY CONSIDERED .

BUT TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVES I WILL NEED BOTH THEIR SUPPORT,  
AND GUIDENCE.

JIMMY CARTER



PROPOSED STATEMENT - PRESIDENT FORD



A Message to the Armenian People:

As a congressman from a state with a substantial Armenian-American population, I became familiar with these proud and industrious people and came to admire their contributions to the cultural, social, economic, and political life of my home state and of our nation.

It was, therefore, with understanding and a sense of close friendship with Americans of Armenian ancestry that in 1965 - on April 29 - I took the floor of the House to make the following statement on the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Genocide perpetrated against the Armenian people by the government of the Ottoman Turkish Empire:

"In taking special notice of the shocking events in 1915, we observe this anniversary with sorrow in recalling the massacres of Armenians and with pride in saluting those brave patriots who survived the attacks to fight on the side of freedom during World War I.

"The stouthearted Armenian people who escaped the terror, murder, and carnage set an example for the free world by their devotion to the cause of freedom and by their tremendous personal sacrifices.

"I join my colleagues in pausing to extend our deep sympathy to thousands of Americans whose Armenian fore-fathers fought for freedom with our war Allies and who have given so much of themselves to make this a better country, and a strong one."

When I made this statement saluting the survival of the Armenian people and taking note of the Armenian contributions to America, I was, of course, aware that Turkey was an ally of the United States, just as I am aware that today, despite some problems, there are defense and security considerations linking Turkey to the United States.

However, I firmly believe that no ally of the United States would expect this government or any of its agencies to deny or misrepresent historic realities simply because of that government's sensibilities regarding those events, any more than I would expect anyone else to avoid mention of our own past history of slavery or other topics that may be unpleasant to Americans.

I assure the Armenian-American community that I will never knowingly allow any agency of the United States government to initiate, participate in, or support in any way efforts by any foreign government to influence U.S. domestic affairs or alter statements intended for domestic use, no matter how much we may value that government's friendship. To do otherwise, especially in the case of the genocide of the Armenians, would be to appear to condone those acts, something we can not ever do. Indeed, all people must recognize that the toleration of Genocide and its acceptance as a "solution" to any problem leads only to its repeated use, just as the world's indifference to the Armenian

Genocide and its aftermath led Hitler to cite it as a precedent and justification for his own crimes. The use of Genocide as an instrument of national policy - by any nation at any time - is a crime against all humanity.

Specifically, if I am elected, I will ensure that proper structural adjustments are made in the State Department and channels of communication created to allow a more adequate exchange of information and concerns between this government and the dispersed Armenian nation throughout the world, whose friendship we must seek and cherish as we do that of any established nation.

Our foreign policy planners must consider the fact that the Genocide of the Armenians by the Turks in 1915 has very real and immediate contemporary implications that have already involved the United States and require serious consideration in the short-range future. The "Armenian Question" is very much alive throughout the world, and many thousands of Armenian-Americans are lending their active support to the pursuit of Armenian political and territorial demands. For our State Department to continue to ignore that fact would be simply unrealistic and counterproductive.

I promise the Armenian people throughout the world and my fellow Americans of Armenian ancestry that, if our government has been at all neglectful or insensitive regarding Armenian concerns and needs in recent years, we are entering a new era of open and frank communication of benefit to all of us.







## ARMENIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

212 STUART STREET, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02116 TEL. (617) 426-9842



TO: U. S. Department of State  
FROM: Armenian National Committee  
SUBJECT: Proposed Consumer Representation Plan of the Department  
of State  
REFERENCE: Federal Register, Wednesday, November 26, 1975, 55205-55209

### I. INTRODUCTION

As an organization representing the political, community, and social concerns of hundreds of thousands of Americans of Armenian heritage, we have the following comments to make on the above-cited Federal Register.

### II. GENERAL COMMENTS

There are a number of parts of the plan in which specific mention of legitimate ethnic interests and organizations should be made. These include "Consumer Correspondence and Complaints" (A.3.), "Public Interest Groups" (A.4.) under Information Input, as well as certain sections under Information Output (1. General, 4. Miscellaneous, and 5. Individual Requests) and particularly Recommendations A.4 and A.5. That is, it is essential that the State Department recognize and acknowledge that the "public interest groups" with which the Department deals legitimately and appropriately include, not only the "Canoe Cruisers Association," but established ethnic organizations - Armenian, Greek, Jewish, Italian, or whatever.

This recognition is particularly important in view of what has been unfortunately (and hopefully inaccurately) portrayed as a hostility to such interests (or perhaps worse, a highly selective receptiveness). We do not believe that this image is intended. The Consumer Representation Plan is an opportunity to correct that image by making specific mention of ethnic organizations and of the ethnic press and media and specifically provide means of access for this segment of the public.

The following examples, from our own experience, provide some support for our argument that the Department needs to give special attention to this highly sensitive area, which has not always been adequately handled in the past.

### III. THE STORY OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION # 148

The Congressional Quarterly, Page 760, April 12, 1975, reported the following:

"The House April 8 passed a joint resolution (H J Res 148) to designate April 24, 1975, as 'National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man,' commemorating the 60th anniversary of the 1915 massacre of Armenians by the Turks. The bill sponsored by Majority Leader Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., (D Mass.) and Henry Helstoski (D-N.J.), was passed by a 332-55 vote under suspension of the rules, a procedure that requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage. (Vote 70, p. 762)."

"H J Res 148 requested the President to issue a proclamation calling for observance of April 24 'as a day of remembrance for all victims of genocide, especially those of Armenian ancestry who succumbed to the genocide perpetrated in 1915 . . . .' A reference to Turkey was deleted from the bill at the request of the State Department, which contended it might interfere with current negotiations with that country."

In the same vein, the Washington Post of April 12, 1975, printed the following analysis by Bill Brojarsky of the Los Angeles Times News Service (extracted here for brevity):

"The resolution declared April 24 a 'Nation Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man.'

In these days of overwhelming inhumanity, the idea did not seem controversial.

But it took a State Department rewrite job and a long debate - consuming 7 1/2 pages in the Congressional Record - before the House passed the resolution, 332 to 55.

As first drafted, the resolution asked the President to declare the day of remembrance especially in memory of the hundreds of thousands of Armenians massacred by the Turks in 1915.

But when the State Department heard of the resolution, it asked O'Neill to strike out any reference to the Turks.

'We found the whole resolution to be undesirable in connection with our relationship to Turkey,' explained a department official. He noted that the Turks are already angry at the United States because Congress stopped arms sales to Ankara in anger over Turkey's invasion of Cyprus and its subsequent defeat of the Greek Cypriots.



'No one down here doubts the depth of feeling of our citizens of Armenian descent,' the State Department official said. But he said bringing the 1915 incident up again might further damage relations with Turkey, which is already wondering whether to order the United States to abandon key Turkish bases.

O'Neill struck out the name 'Turkey.'

The resolution now called for observance of 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.'

Rep. John Rousselot, a conservative California Republican, demanded an explanation when the resolution came up for a vote.

Turning to Rep. David Henderson (D-N.C.) who was managing the resolution for the absent O'Neill, he said, 'can the gentleman tell us why it was necessary to strike Turkey? I thought that is what this was all about. Who are we deceiving by striking Turkey?'

Henderson replied the State Department contended 'it could possibly interfere with delicate negotiations going on at this time.'

'I assume the gentleman means our State Department and not the Turkish State Department,' said Rousselot."

As Chairman of the Sub-Committee which had considered the resolution, Mr. Henderson was reported in the Congressional Record (H 2510, April 8, 1975) as saying the following:

"With the consent of the Speaker and the majority leader, the joint resolution was put on for consideration today. We have amended the resolution by striking two words in the resolution, which are 'in Turkey.' This amendment resulted from objections of the State Department set forth in a letter which was transmitted to us yesterday. This has been acceptable to the sponsor of the resolution and those Members who are most interested in designating April 24 a commemorative day as explained."

Congressmen O'Neill and Helstoski had apparently anticipated such a problem, as evidenced by the following excerpt from a letter co-signed by the two (dated February 21, 1975) and circulated to all Members of Congress:

"This resolution is particularly important in light of what transpired at the March 6, 1974, meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. During the consideration of the historical survey to be contained in a Report on Genocide being prepared by the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities, the Commission acquiesced to a request by the Turkish Representative to delete from the study the brief reference (paragraph 30) to the 1915 Armenian genocide.

We must not allow the 1915 atrocities to be relegated to oblivion because there is no Armenia in the United Nations to represent the Armenian people. There is ample historical evidence of the deliberate attempt to exterminate the Armenian Nation which cannot and should not be ignored."

Yet, despite the overwhelming evidence to which the honorable congressmen referred, the State Department had indeed put itself in the indefensible and probably uncomfortably embarrassing position of attempting to cover up or throw a cloud over a historic reality of significance to many Americans, simply in order to placate a foreign power.

#### IV. THE MC CLOSKEY AFFAIR

Although Secretary Kissinger, in a recent Detroit press conference, denied State Department pressure on this matter, the above quotes clearly indicate that such pressure existed. This pressure is typified by the letter to which Congressman Henderson referred. The text of that letter, dated April 7, 1975, and by Robert J. McCloskey, Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations, clearly stated State Department objection to a resolution memorializing over one and a half million victims of this century's first genocide and included the following particularly objectionable sentence:

"The Government and people of Turkey are extraordinarily sensitive to any action from abroad which can be construed as interference in Turkey's affairs or as official or quasi-official censure of acts which are alleged to have occurred in Turkey, even in the remote past, and would interpret adoption of H J Resolution 148 as evidence of hostility to Turkey by the Congress."

Thus, Mr. McCloskey went beyond simply pointing out Turkey's sensitivity to the truth about its past and by using the phrase, "acts which are alleged to have occurred . . .", attempts to cast doubt on a historic fact which is as real as the Genocide of the Jews two decades later, and, in fact, served as a precedent for that crime.

Gentlemen and Ladies, we are capable of understanding that certain actions such, as this resolution, may have international repercussions with which the State Department may be appropriately concerned. However, as American citizens and, therefore, as consumers (individually and as a so-called "special interest group"), we are concerned about where the line is drawn to insure that foreign interests do not interfere with AMERICAN rights, i.e., consumer rights. To point out a possible repercussion, in this case, may have been appropriate. To avoid the term genocide or even massacre (as State Department spokesmen always do) and, worse still, to engage in a cover-up (as Mr. McCloskey did) amounts to the sub-ordination of truth and, therefore, of our rights as consumers and taxpayers to some other perceived advantage. A consumer office must be constantly and vigilantly aware of these lines.

#### V. THE UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE

On May 5, 1975, the United Committee for the 60th Anniversary of the Genocide of the Armenians wrote to Secretary Kissinger objecting to Mr. McCloskey's letter. On May 27, 1975, Nelson C. Ledsy, Deputy Director of the Office of Southern European Affairs, wrote an entirely unsatisfactory response to the United Committee protest. The Ledsy letter, for instance fails to address at all the main objection, namely, McCloskey's reference to "acts alleged to have occurred." For this reason and because of the tone of the Ledsy letter, the United Committee later (September 17, 1975) wrote to Secretary Kissinger (following his visit to Auschwitz) and sought a more personal and satisfactory response, particularly to the issue of McCloskey's language and to certain other specific related questions. That letter remains not only unanswered, but unacknowledged, despite several reminders, including a telegram dated December 11, 1975, which has been confirmed (by Western Union) as being received at the State Department.

We are frankly at a loss to understand why correspondence from any American organization should be ignored in this manner. Clearly, the State Department is in need of much greater emphasis on the timely and sensitive processing of consumer complaints.

# THE ARMENIAN OBSERVER

Vol. VI, No. 12 WEDNESDAY, March 3, 1976,

6646 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, Ca 90028 - tel (213) 467-6767



On a recent visit of President Ford to San Francisco, both Mr. and Mrs. George Mardikian were invited to a reception as friends. Mr. Mardikian (second from right) asked President Ford to meet his "other President", Mr. Arch Monson, the National President of the Boy Scouts of America. This was a great meeting because all three gentlemen are Eagle Scouts, the highest rank in Scouting; and, all three are also wearers of the Silver Buffalo, Scouting's highest award. Mrs. Mardikian looks on, wearing her Nefertiti pin.

## Vahe Vahian Reports on Lebanon

*NOTE: Mr. Vahe Vahian, a prominent poet and educator, is currently visiting the United States and Canada upon the invitation of the AGBU Central Board of Directors. Mr. Vahian is touring the Armenian communities and is helping fund raising activities in those communities. He is an*

Armenians, the human losses have been comparatively small - about 200 killed and 300 wounded. The material losses, however, are enormous. Approximately \$200,000,000 were lost to robberies, fire, arson, and destruction of shops, factories, and houses.

*How many relief organizations currently are at work among the Armenians? What is the*

## Detroit Community Raises \$100,000 for Lebanese-Armenian Relief Fund

DETROIT - The AGBU and the Armenian Church of America have joined their efforts in the U.S.A. and Canada to provide relief assistance to the Lebanese Armenian community, which was a victim of the recent civil strife. Quotas for each city in the U.S.A. and Canada have been assigned, and Committees have been formed to meet those quotas.

Detroit is the first city to come forth with positive results. It was already in the news that Mr. Alex Manoogian, International President of the AGBU had donated \$50,000 and Mr. Edward Mardigian, General Chairman of the ad hoc fund raising committee had contrib-

uted \$10,000. The Detroit Committee was asked to match those contributions and meet a quota of \$120,000.

Under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Martin Apkarian, the Committee Chairman and Father Paren Avedekian, Co-chairman, the Committee has already lined up a number of fund raising affairs, and the prospects seem very promising.

The first affair in that series was a cocktail party which took place at Mr. and Mrs. Mardigian's lovely home in Birmingham, Michigan, on Wednesday, February 11. Attending were about 50 people.

After a warm hospitality, Mr. Martin Apkarian thanked everyone present for their attendance and appreciated their coming to the affair, being well aware that each couple had to contribute \$1,000 during that party. The prominent poet and educator, Mr. Vahé-Vahian, who was invited from Beirut to be the

guest speaker at these functions, made a moving appeal for support to the destitute Lebanese Armenians.

Present at the party were also Dr. Dicran Varjabedian and his brother, Sissak Varjabedian, who also made some remarks.

The host, Mr. Edward Mardigian, stated that the American Armenians had a privileged position by being among the contributors rather than the destitute, and he appealed to the audience to share the benefits that they had been enjoying in this great country with their overseas brethren.

Mr. Alex Manoogian, who is always well informed of the organizational, financial, educational, and social situation of the overseas Armenians, gave some facts and figures regarding the enormous needs of the Lebanese Armenians in the aftermath of the recent tragedy.

The audience was very res-

*Please Turn to Page 9*

## Dr. Dennis Papazian Visits with President Ford's Special Assistant



*Myron, Thank you for the  
invitation. sp.*

DENNIS R. PAPAZIAN, Ph. D.

**The Armenian Assembly**

522 Twenty-First Street, N.W., Suite 120

Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 833-1367

## Dr. Dennis Papazian Visits with President Ford's Special Assistant

Washington, D.C. — Special Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs, Dr. Myron Kuropas, invited Dr. Dennis R. Papazian, who along with Robert A. Kaloosdian is Co-Chairman of the Armenian Assembly, to a meeting at his office in the Executive Office Building of the White House on Tuesday, 24 February 1976.

Dr. Kuropas, who is of Ukrainian origin, explained that he was eager to learn more about the Armenians in America and their interests and aspiration. He told of the President's interest in ethnic Americans and expressed his own belief that people of various ethnic backgrounds were just coming to their own in making a contribution on a national scale to the American political system.

Dr. Papazian, who had written his doctoral dissertation on Nikolai Ivanovich Kostomarov, a famous Ukrainian nationalistic hero, showed a keen interest in Ukrainians in America. Kuropas explained his pleasure at the extensive knowledge which Dr.

Papazian had about the Ukraine, and expressed his own deep interest in learning more about the Armenians, and said he would accept from the Armenian Assembly a set of books

*Please Turn to Page 10*

### **'Armenian Case' Will be Shown Again, March 21**

LOS ANGELES - Due to an overwhelming response, "The Armenian Case" documentary film will be shown again Sunday, March 21, at 3 p.m. at Pasadena Civic Auditorium.

General admission will be \$5.00. Children under 12, \$2.00.

Narrated by TV Star Mike Connors, the film provides a sweep of Armenian history with a rare glimpse into the life of the Armenian community on the eve of the genocide.





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- 1) To foster and promote Armenian studies through scholarship, research, and publication;
- 2) To work for the establishment of endowed professorships, fellowships, scholarships, departments, and courses of instruction in Armenian studies at American colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher learning;
- 3) To solicit and administer funds and to cooperate with universities, foundations, and similar organizations for the advancement of Armenian studies and research; and
- 4) To sponsor and promote educational, cultural, and other activities and projects for the realization of the purposes and objectives of the Association.



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As the only nationwide organization dedicated to the advancement of Armenian studies and culture, NAASR has already achieved the following during its 20-year history through America's foremost institutions of higher learning and through a multi-faceted program in support of research, scholarship, and publications:

- Endowment of Permanent Chairs of Armenian Studies at Harvard University and University of California, Los Angeles.
- Funding of full-time Programs in Armenian Studies at Columbia University and University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
- Support of other programs and courses in Armenian Studies at numerous other institutions of higher education in the United States.
- Establishment of a permanent endowment Fund for the Advancement of Armenian Studies in support of academic programs, research, fellowships, scholarships, publications, libraries, conferences, exhibits, informational services, etc., with over \$55,000 disbursed to date for such projects and activities.
- Acquisition of permanent Headquarters Building with offices, library, book distribution center, and meeting facilities.
- Sponsorship of conferences and institutes on various aspects of Armenian Studies: Armenian Language (1964), Armenian History and Culture (Summer Institute, Harvard University, 1966), Armenian Studies in the U.S. (1969), Modern Armenian History (1970), Authority and Democracy in Armenian Society (1971), Armenian Studies and Instruction (1973), Armenian Studies in the 20th Century (1975).
- Establishment of exchange program for publications and other activities with Academy of Sciences in Yerevan.
- Organizing Armenian Heritage Tours to Historic and Modern Armenia (1967, 1969, 1974).
- Operation of Armenian Book Clearing House offering for sale over 250 publications in English on Armenian history, culture, and language and related subjects.
- Establishment of Armenian Reference and Research Library with over 3000 volumes and periodicals.
- Founding of Armenian Heritage Press for the publication of popular and scholarly works and translations and a *Journal of Armenian Studies*.

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- I wish to participate in local NAASR activities. Please let me know how I can help.

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A PROPOSAL TO HELP BRING STABILITY TO LEBANON BY  
GIVING AID TO THE ARMENIAN SCHOOL SYSTEM

The United States has a strong interest in maintaining stability in the Middle East. This statement is so true that it need not be elucidated further. The most imminent danger, however, to this stability at the present time is the communal and class warfare taking place in Lebanon. The danger inherent to the U.S. in this civil war, which has lasted nearly a year, is exacerbated by the ties which the various internal elements have with outside powers. This civil conflict, therefore, is fraught with the danger of growing into a larger conflict that might involve the United States and its allies.

It is in the best interest of the United States to restore peace and bring stability to Lebanon. This proposition is already well accepted by our government and much is already being done. The United States government, through various means and channels, is attempting to be a moderating and mediating force in the present civil struggle. The United States is also working with other governments in the area, seeking to bring the fighting to a speedy conclusion; and, it has plans for reconstruction, once the fighting has stopped and the political issues settled.

The pro-Western stance of Lebanon is vital to the best interest of the United States in the Middle East. The United States, accordingly, is not only interested in bringing peace to the area, but also in re-establishing the delicately balanced

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The pro-Western stance of Lebanon is vital to the best interest of the United States in the Middle East. The United States, accordingly, is not only interested in bringing peace to the area, but also in re-establishing the delicately balanced



infrastructure of Lebanese society which is essential if Lebanon is to return to the pro-American sphere.

The presence of the Armenian community in Lebanon is vital to the pro-Western orientation of that country.

First, the Armenian community represents a significant portion of the total Lebanese population. The total population of Lebanon is approximately 3,000,000, and the Armenians make up some 350,000 of that figure representing, therefore, some 11% of the total population. Since most of the Armenians are concentrated in the cities, they make up some 20% of the total population of Beirut.

Secondly, the Armenians make up a large portion of the pro-American commercial middle class. The Armenians are an important element in the Lebanese cities, even though many of them live in the villages and small towns of that country. The city dwellers are concentrated in the professions, commerce and manufacturing; and their well-being is closely tied to manufacturing, international commerce and tourism. These commercial functions, in order to be successful, depend on close relations with the West.

Thirdly, the Armenians have close personal and emotional ties to the United States. Almost every Armenian family in Lebanon has relatives in the U.S. Many of these ties reach back to common origins in the old homeland. But perhaps even more of them are related to recent immigration to the U.S. on the part of many young Lebanese-Armenians. Furthermore, most of the Armenians in



2

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related to recent immigration to the U.S. on the part of many

young Lebanese-Americans. Furthermore, most of the Armenians in



Lebanon, for various reasons, speak English. They read American newspapers and magazines, deal with American companies, and communicate with relatives in America. They have, over the years, developed a strong pro-American orientation.

Fourthly, the Armenians are a strong element working for peace and harmony in Lebanon. Traditionally, since the independence of Lebanon, the Armenians as a whole, and particularly their members in Parliament, have been a balancing force between the Christians and Muslims. As is well-known, the Armenian community has maintained an armed neutrality during the recent fighting. Their religious sympathies have been with the Christian element, but they understand very well that some political reforms must be brought about in order to satisfy the just grievances of the reform-minded Muslims. The Armenians have been active in proposing peace formulae for the reorganization of the government and reform of the electoral system. The neutrality of the Armenians has generally been respected by all factions.

The Armenian community in Lebanon is eager to remain in that country and to see it restored as a multi-confessional secular state with a pro-American orientation. They continue to have faith that peace and prosperity can be restored. Their willingness to stick it out may change as time progresses and no relief is obtained. It would be a tragedy of the first magnitude to have the complex infrastructure of Lebanon shattered by having the Armenian element leave. The policy of the United States government, therefore, should be to try and maintain the peaceful, neutral and constructive Armenian element in war-torn Lebanon.

3

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government, therefore, should be to try and maintain the peaceful,

neutral and constructive Armenian element in war-torn Lebanon.

One of the ways the United States government can encourage the Armenians to remain in Lebanon is to give them some much needed humanitarian aid and relief.

The Armenian community has suffered great deprivation during the civil strife. Even though the Armenians have remained neutral, in order to protect themselves they have concentrated their urban population in the Bourj Hamoud and Nor Hadjin sections of Beirut. A large number of them were forced to abandon their homes, apartments, schools, properities, community centers, businesses and other forms of public and private wealth which are located in districts other than the ones which they control. The professional class, obviously, cannot work in the offices and buildings which are located in the midst of the fighting; and the working class is totally without any means of sustenance. The financial loss, as can well be imagined, is tremendous.

The Armenians do not want to be singled out as the recipients of general aid. For the most part, the Armenians in Lebanon are citizens of that country and believe that any direct general aid to them denied to other segments of the population might be misconstrued by the other communities and lead to antagonisms and conflict. There is one way, however, that the Armenian community can be helped and encouraged without their incurring the wrath of the other communities.

The Armenians can be provided humanitarian relief through international charitable organizations and the aid can be directed toward specific activities such as education.



4

One of the ways the United States government can encourage

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directed toward specific activities such as education.





The Armenian community in Lebanon is in direct and frequent contact with three international charitable organizations with headquarters in the United States, namely 1) the Armenian General Benevolent Union [See Exhibit A], 2) The Armenian Missionary Association of America [See Exhibit B], and 3) The Armenian Relief Society [See Exhibit C]. These charitable organizations, with a long history of aid to people in Lebanon, and also throughout the world, can be depended upon to deliver the necessary funds to the proper recipients to be used for the purpose designated. In this case, we are recommending that funds be provided for the maintenance of the Armenian school system by providing salaries for the staffs, tuition for the students, and repairs for the buildings that still can be used.

The Armenian school system in Lebanon has 51 schools [See Exhibit D] with a total of over 15,000 students. The budget for these institutions is approximately \$5,500,000 per year or approximately \$366 per student. Since the economy of the country is entirely disrupted, the Armenian community in Lebanon cannot in any way meet this budget. It has made appeals, internationally, for aid. Since the Armenian-American community, which has over the years provided so much philanthropy for the Armenian community in Lebanon, is only able to raise some \$1,000,000 per year, there is a shortfall of approximately \$4.5 million or approximately \$375,000 per month.

Accordingly, the three Armenian-American international charitable organizations, represented in this instance by the Armenian Assembly, would like to apply for aid over the next six months at a rate of \$375,000 per month with a total of \$2,250,000 for the

5  
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In this case, we are recommending that funds be provided for the  
maintenance of the Armenian school system by providing salaries  
for the staffs, tuition for the students, and rentals for the  
buildings that still can be used.

The Armenian school system in Lebanon has 21 schools (See  
Exhibit D) with a total of over 12,000 students. The budget  
for these institutions is approximately \$2,500,000 per year or  
approximately \$235 per student. Since the economy of the country  
is entirely disrupted, the Armenian community in Lebanon cannot  
in any way meet this budget. It has made appeals, internationally,  
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is a shortfall of approximately \$4.5 million or approximately  
\$375,000 per month.

Accordingly, the three Armenian-American international chari-  
table organizations, represented in this instance by the Armenian  
Assembly, would like to apply for aid over the next six months  
at a rate of \$375,000 per month with a total of \$2,250,000 for the



six-month period. The Armenian Assembly, and the charitable organizations which it represents, is confident that a system can be set up which would satisfy all the concerns of the granting agencies in terms of technique of delivery and utilization of funds.

No program, especially one of this small magnitude, can guarantee the salvation of Lebanon; but it would seem that an investment of \$2,250,000 would be a worthwhile venture for the United States government if this money can help bring peace to the area or at least to help maintain a viable infrastructure for Lebanon, preserving its pro-American orientation. Timely aid would probably spare the United States a much larger investment of money and lives in the future. Certainly, the advantages to be gained as compared to the small sum of money involved would warrant an attempt.

The exhibits which follow give a brief background resume of the three international charitable organizations which could be used for distributing funds to the Armenian schools in Lebanon. A further exhibit gives a list of the schools, their location, and their student enrollments. The latest intelligence informs us that the schools in the Armenian controlled areas are in use and the many other schools in other parts of the country are used sporadically as circumstances permit.



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No program, especially one of this small magnitude, can guarantee the salvation of Lebanon; but it would seem that an investment of \$5,250,000 could be a worthwhile venture for the United States Government if this money can help bring peace to the area or at least to help maintain a viable infrastructure for Lebanon, preserving its pro-American orientation. Finally, aid would probably spare the United States a much larger investment of money and lives in the future. Certainly, the advantages to be gained as compared to the small sum of money involved would warrant an attempt.

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A Picture Book  
of Armenian Miniatures



BY ZABEL AND ROBERT DER BEDROSIAN

A Picture Book  
of Armenian Manuscripts

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
FREER GALLERY OF ART  
ORIENTAL STUDIES, NO. 6

# ARMENIAN MANUSCRIPTS

IN THE  
FREER GALLERY OF ART  
(WITH 108 PLATES)

BY  
SIRARPIE DER NERSESSIAN



(PUBLICATION 4516)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES  
AND RESEARCH, INC.  
1963  
WASHINGTON  
1963

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52.18 *Raising of Lazarus*  
From Four Gospels  
Armenian Manuscript, 13th century  
Freer Gallery of Art, Washington 25, D. C.

A Picture Book  
of Armenian Miniatures

BY ZABEL AND ROBERT DER BEDROSIAN



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES  
AND RESEARCH, INC.

1968

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## PREFACE

The illumination of manuscripts was one of the arts in which Armenians excelled. No one who has ever seen Armenian miniatures could forget the richness and brilliance of their coloring or the wealth of their ornamental motifs. But in addition to their artistic appeal, these miniatures tell us much about life in the times they were painted. What more brilliant suggestion, therefore, than to offer a picture book to Armenian children, where they can indulge their fancy and imagination, and at the same time learn a little about their cultural heritage.

Fortunately, these days children do not have to pound their own colors. Nor are they likely to have access to some of the ingredients used in older times — gum-arabic, vitriol, borax, alum and arsenic! But the prospective artist may be curious to hear how medieval painters set about their task. So here are some instructions taken from a painter's manual written several centuries ago.

"To paint parts of the body, take ochre, black and a little gypsum; knead together with egg-yolk and paint the face, hands and feet. Outline in purple the eyes, hands and feet. Mixing purple and white, highlight the shadows on the face. Paint delicately in black the eyes and eyebrows. Put in the white of the eyes, but use very little white; similarly the black of the pupil. Put in touches of red with a fine brush to the neck and face, around the eyes, and to the lips, neck, ears, hands and feet. Delicately add some green to the face, the two sides of the forehead and the mouth. Glaze the picture two or three times when it is finished."

The old ways have passed, but this coloring book will help recreate for children in a most enjoyable way some facets of medieval Armenian life. The drawings have been well selected to give a wide range of subjects, some difficult, some easy. But all will provide many hours of pleasurable activity, combining fun with profit.

Robert W. Thomson  
Harvard University