

ARMENIAN TERRORISM AND ITS IMPACT ON AMERICANS

For over a decade now, one ethnic minority in the United States, the Armenians, has been conducting against another ethnic minority, the Turks, a sustained campaign of vilification and terror in defiance of the guarantees of the American Constitution. As documented below, these deprivations of civil rights range from that of freedom of assembly to the right to life itself.

These blatant violations of American civil and criminal law are explained by the Armenians as justifiable in view of a grievance against events that allegedly took place 70 years ago in the Ottoman Empire. Now, the Armenians are seeking to lull the Congress of the United States into certifying as truth the historically unfounded charge of 'genocide' by passage of a seemingly harmless resolution commemorating these distorted events.

Passage by the U.S. Congress of resolutions which embrace the one-sided and false Armenian characterization of events of 70 years ago would:

- harm a guiltless ethnic minority by encouraging an intensification of Armenian hatred and their campaign of defamation against Turkish-Americans
- seriously distort history by labeling the events of 1915 as "genocide"
- subvert stated U.S. foreign policy goals while furthering the long-term Soviet goal of disrupting the Western Alliance

INTENSIFICATION OF ARMENIAN HATRED AGAINST TURKS LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES

In the eleven years since Armenian terrorists began their campaign against Turkey, Turkish-Americans have been victimized along with the Turkish diplomatic community. The same persons who cheer the introduction of resolutions like House Joint Resolution-37 have been party to a campaign of threats, intimidation and even to murder, either actively---by actual participation in these acts of terror---or passively---by their silence and therefore tacit approval. A partial list of the infringements of American civil and criminal law follows:

Violations of Constitutional Rights

CALIFORNIA

April 1976 Bomb explosion at Beverley Hills High School where a Turkish dance troupe was scheduled to perform

CALIFORNIA

- October 1977 Bombing of the home of Professor Stanford Shaw in Los Angeles. Professor Shaw authored the book History of the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey, Vol.I and II, which presented an analysis of the events of 1915 that contradicted the version propagated by Armenian propagandists.
- October 1980 Bombing of a travel agency owned by a Turkish-American in Hollywood
- June 1981 Bombing of Anaheim Convention Center before a performance by a Turkish folk dance troupe in Anaheim

MASSACHUSSETTS

- March 1982 Bombing of a business owned by the Honorary Consul General of Turkey in Boston
- May 1982 Assassination by Armenian terrorist of the Honorary Consul General of Turkey Orhan Gunduz in Boston. (He was a resident of the U.S. and owner of the business bombed in March.)

CALIFORNIA

- January thru February 1982 Demonstrations by Armenians against Professor Stanford Shaw at University of California at Los Angeles. Disruption of his lectures and threats against his life caused Professor Shaw to flee the University and go into hiding.
- April 1982 Physical attack on three journalists covering the arraignment of Hampig Sassounian, later convicted of the murder of the Turkish Consul General of Los Angeles. The journalists' cameras were forceably taken by Armenian extremists.

FLORIDA

- May 1982 Attempted murder by Armenian terrorists of a Turkish-American, the Honorary Consul General of Turkey in Tampa

Intimidation by Threats Leading to Deprivation of Right of Assembly

MASSACHUSSETTS

- 1969 thru 1979 Threats by Armenians to Turkish-Americans participating in the International Festival annually sponsored by the International Institute of Boston
- December 1971 Attempt by Armenian demonstrators to remove a Turkish-American booth at the Christmas Festival at Boston's City Hall

October 1972 Disruption by Armenians of the Boston Turkish-Americans' celebration of the anniversary of the founding of the Republic of Turkey

Fall 1974 Bomb threat interrupts the presentation of Dervish religious dance rituals at Harvard University

CALIFORNIA

April 1976 Bomb threat at Pasadena Auditorium before a performance by a Turkish folk dance troupe

MASSACHUSETTS

July 1976 Threats by Armenians prevent a Turkish folk dance troupe from performing at Boston's bicentennial celebration. Threat to the life of U.S. resident and Honorary Consul General of Turkey Orhan Gunduz. (He was assassinated by an Armenian terrorist in May of 1982.)

September 1980 Disruption of a performance by a Turkish folk dance troupe on the occasion of Boston's 350th anniversary celebration

CALIFORNIA

June 1981 Bomb threat at Disneyland, forcing cancelation of performance of a Turkish folk dance troupe

June 1981 Bomb threat in San Francisco, forcing cancelation of performance by Turkish dance troupe

TEXAS

October 1981 Disruption of a meeting of the Turkish-American Association of Houston

CALIFORNIA

November 1981 Bomb threat at the Music Center in Los Angeles, forcing the cancelation of a film presentation of the "Joys of Turkey," by Robin Williams. (2000 tickets were sold to the general public.)

November 1981 Cancelation of the film presentation of "Joys of Turkey" at the University of California at Berkeley because of a "stink bomb" detonation

GEORGIA

May 1983 Threats made to the Atlanta organizers of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations' Annual Convention, with attempts to disrupt the meetings and to intimidate delegates and attendees

MASSACHUSETTS

October 1983 Threats of violence causes partial closing of a Turkish art and cultural exhibition at Boston's Fogg Art Museum. The then-curator Dr. Walter Denny was threatened.

NEW YORK

April 1984 Threats to the Office of the Mayor of the City of New York following the declaration of Turkish-American Day. Protection for marchers in the Turkish-American Day Parade cost the city \$150,000 for 200-300 additional police.

CALIFORNIA

January 1985 Years of threats against Turkish-Americans in Los Angeles resulted in such intimidation that members of the Turkish-American community were afraid to monitor the sentencing of four Armenians terrorists convicted of transporting explosives from California to Boston, with the intention of bombing the office of the Honorary Consul General of Turkey in Philadelphia.

In most of the examples listed above, the attacks threatened not only the lives of Turkish-Americans, but also the American public at large. Because of this constant threat, EVERY GATHERING OF TURKISH-AMERICANS MUST HAVE SECURITY PERSONNEL PRESENT.

During all this time, there has been no expression of concern by the Armenian-American community. In fact, mainstream Armenian publications have continuously urged their readers to offer aid, comfort, and assistance to those convicted of terrorist attacks.

...In the Spring of 1984, self-avowed terrorist Hampig Sassounian was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment without possibility of parole for the 1982 murder of the Los Angeles Consul General Kemal Arikan. Nevertheless, in almost every edition of The Armenian Weekly, readers are urged to write him and to "Let him know he is not alone."

...In December 1984, the Armenian community of New Jersey held a political rally to support the "Lisbon Five." These terrorists had been convicted of the brutal murder of family members of a Turkish diplomat outside the Turkish Embassy in Lisbon, Portugal. The theme of the rally was "Respect to you." According to a report in The Armenian Reporter, "various segments of the program instilled within the audience the notion that there is no question of 'right' or 'wrong' in the Lisbon Five act. The question is WHY?"

ARMENIAN DISTORTIONS OF HISTORY

"THE SITUATION IN TURKEY WITH RESPECT TO THE TURKS, ARMENIANS, AND GREEKS ALIKE MEETS ALL THE TERMS OF THE CLASSIC DEFINITION OF TRAGEDY, THE TRAGEDY OF FATE....IT IS A TRAGEDY WITH ONLY VICTIMS, NOT HEROES, NO MATTER HOW HEROIC INDIVIDUALS MAY HAVE BEEN."

JOFN DEWEY, November, 1928

At the end of World War I, stories circulated all around the world about terrible massacres of Armenians by the Turks. The figures of the number of Armenians "massacred" varied so greatly that two distinguished journalists, Arthur Moss and Florence Gilliam, wrote in the June 13, 1923 issue of the American intellectual magazine The Nation:

"Everybody is familiar with the wave of misinformation, misinterpretation, and actual falsification which swept the Allied countries during the recent World War.... The consistent misinformation of the Western world with regard to Turkey has been of such long standing as to take its place among the inherent traditions and almost ineradicable beliefs of whole nations.

"The age old charge against the Turks is of course the Armenian massacres. A journalist not long since tabulated the reports of these massacres in recent years and showed that they totaled thirty-five million slain. As the whole Armenian population is known never to have exceeded three million, there is obviously a case of falsification somewhere. The Bryce reports have been proved to be without tangible evidence and to have been based entirely on hearsay....

"Those massacres which occur among the Armenians are most often the work of the Kurds, who are roving bands about as out-of-hand politically as the banditti who infest parts of Italy and Spain."

Their article was called "The Turkish Myth."

The exaggerated figures were spread not only by Armenian extremists, mostly from a base in France, but also by the British and French, who were seeking to dismember the crumbling Ottoman Empire and distribute its parts among themselves as colonies, mandates, protectorates, and "spheres of influence." Even American Ambassador Henry Morgenthau, Sr., who openly stated his bias against and hatred for Turks, listened only to rumors and made no personal investigations.

Far more accurate reports were made by Admiral Marc L. Bristol, the U.S. High Commissioner and first United States ambassador to the Republic of Turkey. On March 26, 1921, he wrote to Dr. James L. Barton, Secretary of the Foreign Department of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. In that letter, Admiral Bristol wrote:

"I see that reports are being freely circulated in the United States that the Turks massacred thousands of Armenians in the Caucasus. Such reports are repeated so many times it makes my blood boil. The Near East Relief have the reports from Yarrow and our own American people, which show absolutely that such Armenian reports are absolutely false.... In addition to the reports from our own American Relief workers that were in Kars and Alexandrople, and reports from such men as Yarrow, I have reports from my own Intelligence Officer and know that the Armenian reports are not true...."

"I believe that so long as we don't refute these false reports made by Armenians, or don't come out and state the true facts in regard to the Armenian question, we run the risk of being accused of being party to this information...."

"I believe in starting a campaign and placing the Armenian and Greek situation before our people in the United States squarely and fairly, telling both sides of the story.... Therefore, I beg you to use your influence in America to have our people in the United States fully informed regarding the Near Eastern question...."

"The charge made by the Armenians in their papers that our relief organization was using 80% of all the receipts for work with the Turks and Kurds, is, I am sure you will admit, in keeping with the accuracy of the statements that the Armenians are given to making."

Portions of Mr. Barton's reply of May 6, 1921 to Admiral Bristol are interesting, because Barton himself had been using the false reports that were circulating about the Armenians and had believed them himself. He wrote:

"With reference to the false reports that come through reporting massacres of the Armenians by the Turks, there is no one who can deprecate this more than I do. But there is a situation over here which is hard to describe. There is a brilliant young Armenian, a graduate of Yale University, by the name of Cardashian. He

is a lawyer, with an office down in Wall Street, I believe. He has organized a committee, so-called, which has never met and has never consulted with Mr. Gerard as Chairman. Cardashian is the whole thing. He has set up what he calls an Armenian publicity bureau or something of that kind, and has a letterhead printed. Gerard signs anything that Cardashian writes. He told me this himself one time.... We have had many a conference with Armenian leaders as to what can be done to stop this vicious propaganda carried on by Cardashian. He is constantly reporting atrocities which never occurred and giving endless misinformation with regard to the situation in Armenia and in Turkey...."

Further confirmation comes from another high-ranking U.S. Naval Officer, Rear Admiral Colby M. Chester, who, after his retirement from the Navy, went to Turkey to help in the development of the new Turkish Republic. He was a close friend of President Theodore Roosevelt and a recognized authority on world affairs. In 1922, he wrote an article which appeared in The New York Times Current History magazine under the title "Turkey Reinterpreted." A few quotations from that article are appropriate:

"What is the truth about Turkey? This question is asked daily. I went to Turkey to ascertain the actual conditions there, and I have been bombarded with such questions since my return....

"In the first place, the wrong impression of the Turks was spread because their religious belief is different from ours. That and that alone lay at the bottom of the prejudice of America (and much of Europe) against the Turk....

"In the east, the then wild nomadic tribes of the mountains, known as Kurds, did not show special kindness toward their inveterate foes, the Armenians... The Armenians were hated alike by Kurds, Christians Georgians and Moslem Azerbaijanians, because of their grasping propensities--their tendency to live by the sweat of their neighbors' brows....

"The Turk has been and is the most misrepresented person in the world. I know some of the falsehoods which have been and are being circulated in America. They amaze me.

"I know that what I say will be astonishing to most Americans. I myself should be astonished by such

things as I have read in newspapers published in America and Europe, and inspired--although the newspapers have not understood this--by the enemies of Turkey....

"The worst 'outrage' perpetrated by the Turks on the Armenians occurred in 1915. The wholesale deportations of that period were brought about by Turkish fear that the procedure of this alien population, if left to continue without interruption, would get the agitators into real trouble; the Turks wished no such episode, though, naturally, they disliked Armenian interference with Turkey's own affairs, political, religious, and domestic. So the Armenians were moved from the inhospitable regions where they were not welcome and could not actually prosper, to the most delightful and fertile part of Syria.

"It seems almost a pity to upset the good old myth of Turkish viciousness and terribleness, but in the interest of accuracy I find myself constrained to do so, although it makes me feel a bit like one who is compelled to tell a child that Jack the Giant Killer really found no monstrous men to slay."

From World War I on, even until today, the subject of the Armenian massacres has been controversial among scholars all over the world. Recently, most of them, except of course Armenian scholars, have reached the definite conclusion that the number of deaths in eastern Anatolia (Asia Minor) was extraordinarily large, claiming the lives of Armenians but also claiming greater numbers of Turkish lives. The causes were:

- starvation and disease--worse than anything since the Black Death
- civil war, in which Armenians, armed and encouraged by the Russians, tried to capture much of eastern Anatolia and annex the land to the territory that is now Soviet Armenia, while the Ottoman armies were engaged in World War I on the western fronts
- the Russo-Ottoman War and the Turkish War of Independence

By the end of the Ottoman Empire, 3.5 million Anatolian Muslims, Greeks, Armenians, Nestorians, Chaldeans, and others had died of these causes. Another 1.8 million had emigrated out of Anatolia.

American perceptions of the events of 1915 are colored by the successful propaganda efforts of the then-imperialist nations, Great Britain and France, and the still-imperialist Russia, on the one hand, and the well-meaning efforts of American and European missionaries, on the other.

The degree of the latter's success is probably best exemplified by the fact that most American children who grew up in the twenties knew that they must eat every scrap of food off their plates because of the "starving Armenians." There is little doubt that Armenians were starving, but so were Turks, Kurds, Greeks, Jews, and every other ethnic group in Asia Minor.

There was famine in the land.

But American sympathies lodged mainly with the Armenians and, to a lesser degree, the Greeks. They were Christians. The larger tragedy of Turkey was seldom discussed by the public until the great American philosopher, psychologist and educator John Dewey wrote his thoughtful essay, "The Turkish Tragedy" in the November 12, 1928 issue of The New Republic.

It was the most balanced account of the situation that had appeared in print until then. Some passages from his article follow:

"The situation in Turkey with respect to Turks, Armenians and Greeks alike meets all the terms of the classic definition of tragedy, the tragedy of fate....

"It is a tragedy with only victims, not heroes, no matter how heroic individuals may have been. There are villains, but they are muffled figures appearing upon the open stage only for fleeting glimpses. They are the Great Powers, among which it is surely not invidious to select Russia and Great Britain by name....

"...To one brought up, as most Americans have been, in the Gladstonian and foreign-missionary tradition, the condition [prosperous] of the Jews in Turkey is almost a mathematical demonstration that religious differences have had an influence in the tragedy of Turkey only as they were combined with aspirations for a political separation which every nation in the world would have treated as treasonable....

"Unfortunately the end is not yet, even with the completed exchange of populations, and the accompanying misery of peoples at least temporarily homeless, often unacquainted with the language of their home-kin, with thousands of orphans and beggared refugees, as numerous among the Turks as among the Armenians and Greeks, even if our Christian benevolence, still under the influence of foreign political propaganda, does not hear so much about or experience the same solicitude for Turkish woes....

"Few Americans who mourn, and justly, the miseries of the Armenians, are aware that till the rise of nationalistic ambitions, beginning with the seventies, the Armenians were the favored portion of the population of Turkey, or that in the Great War, they boasted of having raised an army of one hundred and fifty thousand men to fight a civil war, and that they burned at least a hundred Turkish villages and exterminated their population."

There was fighting between the army regulars and the Armenian rebel forces, but there was also intercommunal fighting during those dark days.

Armenians today have been led to believe that the Armenian lives lost in the villages of eastern Anatolia were the result of orders by a high official in the Sultan's court, Talat Pasha. Talat Pasha did, in fact, issue a Decree of Deportation in 1915, expelling Armenians from those sectors where the Civil War was taking place. The so-called "Talat Pasha telegram" ordering the extermination of Armenians, which was circulated first in France by an unknown Armenian, Aram Andonian, has been scientifically proven to be a forgery.

In his book Muslims and Minorities: The Population of Ottoman Anatolia at the End of the Empire, the demographic scholar Dr. Justin McCarthy, having studied documents of the Ottoman censuses and material in the archives of European countries and the U.S., came to these---and other---conclusions:

"The pattern of mortality in Anatolia was both geographic and ethnic. Those in the regions of Anatolia with a high proportion of Christian inhabitants were very likely to have died. This was true regardless of the religious or ethnic group of the inhabitant. While Christian-Muslim warfare was, with foreign invasion, at the root of the Anatolian mortality, it is an error to speak of Greek deaths, Muslim deaths, or Armenian deaths as if each somehow had a separate existence. To mention the sufferings of one group and avoid those of another gives a false picture of what was a human, not simply an ethnic, disaster.

"In the east, the areas of Muslim deaths and Armenian deaths were almost perfectly correlated. From all the evidence, the 'Six Vilayets' of the Armenian home-land were the area of the greatest number of Armenian deaths. Some 40% of the total Armenian population of Anatolia died, but the percentage must have been higher in the 'Six Vilayets.' In the same area, the Muslims suffered their worst mortality. In numbers, the Muslims lost many more persons than the Armenians; in percentage of total population, less. The great

mortality of both Muslims and Armenians does not fit into any theory that posits one group of murderers, another group murdered. Both Muslims and Christians were killers, both Muslims and Christians were killed."

The evidence is clear. The wide-spread mortality in Asia Minor during the period surrounding 1915 was due to lawless banditry, civil insurrection, famine, and pestilence. None of this fits the definition of a state-directed genocide that H. J. Res. 37 would mistakenly certify.

SUBVERTING STATED U.S. FOREIGN POLICY GOALS WHILE FURTHERING THE LONG-TERM SOVIET GOAL OF DISRUPTING THE WESTERN ALLIANCE

Despite all the proven falsehoods and misinformation that have been spread by Armenians to support their claim of "genocide," "The Turkish Myth" (as Moss and Gilliam so aptly called it) is being kept alive today--70 years after the Ottoman Deportation Act of 1915. The reasons for this become clear as we learn more about the international terrorism network, how it operates, and the people who are backing the terrorists.

One of the Armenian terrorist groups is called ASALA, the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia.

In her books The Terror Network and The Time of the Assassin, Claire Sterling, studying international terrorism connections, explains in detail the extent of Soviet attempts to destabilize Turkey in the 1970's and illustrates how the Soviets use proxies, such as ASALA, to serve their ulterior motives. Similarly, Paul Henze, in his book The Plot to Kill the Pope asserts:

"The viciousness of that approach leads me to believe that there has to be Soviet encouragement, if not instigation, behind (Armenian terrorism)."

During a news conference announcing the forthcoming study Terrorism: The Soviet Connection, which he co-authored with the former Director of the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research Ray S. Cline, Professor Jonah Alexander stated that he had seen evidence that the Soviets had planted whole families of Armenian emigres in Lebanon as early as the 1930's so that they might someday be used against Turkey.

The Wall Street Journal, in an article published in its August 9, 1983 issue, quoted the head of the bomb squad of the Los Angeles Police Department, Detective Arleigh McCree, as saying that his department's "investigations have developed a strong Russian connection (with the activities of Armenian terrorists in the city)."

A most concise account of ASALA'S ties with international terrorism appeared in The Washington Times of August 3, 1983, in an article by columnist Z. Michael Szaz, quoted here in part:

"The world is no longer deceived by the Armenian reference to the atrocities committed against them during their uprising to help the Tsarist troops who were fighting against the Ottoman Empire in 1915-16. For ASALA, this has always been only an excuse to organize ideologically yet unfirm elements into the 'world revolutionary armed mass struggle.'

"ASALA has been committed from the beginning to the Soviet Union and to a policy of opposing American interests everywhere. In their April 1979 press conference in West Beirut and in the article 'What the United States Means to Us' published in their own Armenia magazine in February, 1981, they praised the Soviet Union as the country which provided a homeland for the Armenians, and called the United States an imperialist power whose invincibility and motives are now openly questioned by American youth. They also call for the attachment of the six eastern provinces of Turkey, where Armenians formerly lived in a minority, to the Soviet Union.

"Logistical support for ASALA used to come from Dr. George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the most pro-communist and pro-Soviet group within the PLO. Now, with West Beirut gone, the ASALA seems to receive its logistical support from Syria, at least on the surface. There is little doubt that the real masters of the ASALA sit not in Damascus, but in Moscow. It is expected that the role of the ASALA will increase as the Soviet Union takes control, through Dr. Habash, of the PLO operation which will be increasingly radicalized through the successes of the anti-Arafat campaign."

The United States Under Secretary of Defense, Dr. Fred Ikle, in the testimony he gave to the U.S. Senate, referring to ASALA as a self-avowedly Marxist-Communist Armenian terrorist organization responsible for most of the assassinations of Turkish Diplomats and their family members, stated:

"...One of the most dangerous and most neglected of all terrorist movements, the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA), has formally announced that its strategy is to gain control of the eastern third of Turkey, to 'free' it, so-called, from the Turkish government, and to unite it with the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic. This is an area of

the world which is, of course, critically important for the eastern Mediterranean and the southern region of NATO. It is also critical for Egypt and Israel and the rest of the Middle East.

"It does not matter very much, whether the Armenian Secret Army is directly commanded by Moscow. It is an efficient and brutal executor of the murder of innocent civilians. It has intimidated governments allied with Turkey and law-biding Armenian communities as well... If it were to be successful in its aim, it would lead directly to the expansion of the Soviet Union. Perhaps more than any other terrorist movement it illustrates the irrelevance of some of the issues that have preoccupied the debate in the West on terrorism. Whether the Armenian terrorist movement is acting on its own, or under Moscow's direction, if it succeeds, it will come down to the same thing."

The escalation of the Armenian "genocide" propaganda and the accompanying outbreak of assassinations since the early 1970's are thus geared to undermining the U.S. policy of strategic alliances and, at the same time, to further the expansionist objectives of Soviet Imperialism.

CONCLUSION

Perhaps the greatest esteem in which this country is held throughout the world is its fundamental commitment to equal justice under the law. The keystone to that justice has always rested squarely on truth. Labeling the events of 1915 as "genocide" and incorporating that label into a congressional resolution would be a travesty of justice. It would place a congressional stamp of approval on Armenian terrorist acts domestically and internationally. It would bring comfort to the Soviet sponsors of terrorism.

The initiatives to pass resolutions similar to H.J.RES-37 during the last Congress have already been hailed by radical Armenians as the first signs of victory for their cause. Passage of such resolutions confirms to the Armenians that terrorist tactics do, in fact, breed success. For Americans of Turkish origin and their non-Turkish friends, spread throughout the country, it means only the unbridled release of heightened terror.

Passage of a resolution like H.J.RES-37 would have a disastrous impact on public opinion in Turkey. It could generate an unprecedented wave of anti-Americanism and would certainly shake the faith of Turkish leaders that their alliance with the U.S. is

based on mutual premises. After all, it was Stalin's claim for the same Turkish territory now demanded by the Armenian terrorists that led Turkey to join the Western Alliance at the end of World War II.

Support by the United States Congress of the Armenian aspirations for partitioning eastern Turkey and annexing that territory to the Soviet Union would, at the very least, make an absurdity of continued Turkish-American cooperation within the NATO framework. Likewise, it would make meaningless joint security cooperation between the two countries.

In short, along with harming Turkish-American citizens and distorting the history of the Near East during World War I, H.J.RES-37 and other such resolutions run the risk of damaging the strategic position of the United States in that area.

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Prepared by: Assembly of Turkish American Associations