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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Chief of Staff, White House Office of
Series: Sununu, John, Files
Subseries: Issues Files

OA/ID Number: 29135
Folder ID Number: 29135-007

Folder Title:
Armenian Joint Resolution (1990) [1]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	15	24	6	1

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

Doc. No. / Type	Subject/Title	Date	Restriction	Classification
01. Resolution	Alternative Congressional Resolution Re: Armenian Anniversary (1 pp.)	11/07/89	P-5	
02a. Memo	From Robert L. Hutchings to Brent Scowcroft Re: Armenian Proclamation (1 pp.)	11/6/89	(b)(1)	C
02b. Statement	Re: Armenia (1 pp.)	n.d.	(b)(1)	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Chief of Staff, White House Office of
Series: Sununu, John, Files
Subseries: Issues Files
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Armenian Joint Resolution (1990) [1]

Pinksheet Number: KO0614
OA/ID Number: 29135-007
Date Closed: 12/7/2004
FOIA/Sys Case #: 1998-0004-F[1]
Re-review Case #: 2005-0426-S
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990, is designated as "Armenian Martyrs' Day," commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the systematic destruction of the Armenian people in the period from 1915 to 1923. Congress calls on the people of the United States to join the millions of Armenian and other people around the world who commemorate every April 24th as the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, a day of remembrance of the one-and-one-half million Armenian people who were the victims of the Government of the Ottoman Empire of that period, prior to the establishment of the Republic of Turkey.

JOINT RESOLUTION

*Tragic &
Inhuman
Massacre*

RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990 is designated as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the ~~Genocide~~ of Armenians in 1915-23." The President is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to join the millions of Armenians around the world and others in the international community in a day of remembrance for the 1.5 million Armenian people who were victims during this tragic period, prior to the establishment of the current Republic of Turkey.

The Congress is deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period and of the strong conviction of the survivors, scholars and indeed our own representative at the time, that those events constituted a genocide.

The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during this period, prior to the establishment of the Republic of Turkey, by leading the international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate the tragedy and to aid the millions of victims, including those who died and those who survived.

In commemorating the Armenian and other victims of this tragic period, the Senate and House of Representatives also wish to emphasize that the United States is committed as friend and ally to respect and support the territorial integrity of the Republic of Turkey. The Congress calls upon the Republic of Turkey to open immediately to all legitimate scholars all the archives it possesses covering the period 1915-23.

This resolution also memorializes the three thousand year old history of the Armenian people which has been distinguished by their contributions to all fields of endeavor and their capacity to endure immeasurable adversity, along with their triumphs, and shall be commemorated by all Armenians and their friends throughout the world.

SCOWCROFT
ASAP

JOINT RESOLUTION

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990, is designated as "Armenian Martyr's Day," commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the systematic destruction and deportation of the Armenian people in the period from 1915 to 1923. Congress calls on the people of the United States to join the millions of Armenian and other people around the world who commemorate April 24 as the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, a day of remembrance for the one-and-one-half million Armenian people who were the victims of that period, prior to the establishment of the Republic of Turkey.

No

of Ottoman Empire

with #2 "side by side" with
R. of T. res.

TO
SCOWCROFT
ASAP

Concurrent
JOINT RESOLUTION

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with #2 "side by side" with
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*Tragic &
Inhumane
Massacre*



GEORGE BUSH

October 11, 1988

Mr. Hirair Hovnanian
1433 Hooper Avenue
Tom's River, New Jersey 08753

EXHIBIT 44
(2 pages)

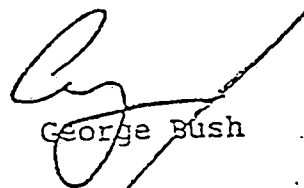
Dear Hirair:

Many thanks for your letter of September 20. We took your good advice and had Andrew Falkiewicz of the campaign staff work very closely with Barry Zorthian to pull together responses to the important questions contained in your letter and the questionnaire from the Armenian Assembly. Those answers are in your hands by now. I believe they make the playing field level and hope that they will be useful to your efforts, for which I give you my continued thanks.

The demands of the campaign are heavy, but I am very optimistic. With the support of wonderful people like you, I feel most confident about the future.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,



George Bush

May thanks.

GEORGE BUSH

June 30, 1988

The Honorable Charles Pashayan, Jr.
United States House of Representatives
129 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chip:

I am pleased to learn of your interest in the Genocide Convention Implementation Act and want you to know that I fully support a prompt favorable vote in congress this year on legislation to put the Genocide Convention into effect.

As you know, on April 25, 1988, the House by voice vote passed the Genocide Convention Implementation Act of 1988, H.R. 4243. In the Senate, the Judiciary Committee on May 9, 1988, reported the Proxmire Act, S. 1851, with a Senate floor vote to be scheduled soon.

It has been almost 40 years since the United States signed the Genocide Convention, on December 11, 1948, signifying its agreement with the Convention and its intention of ratifying it. In 1984 Ronald Reagan and I supported the Senate's approval of the Treaty. It is now appropriate to pass the necessary implementing legislation.

This country should go on record in saying "Never Again" to the dehumanizing crime of Genocide. More than that, we must actively oppose any attempt by any government at any place to destroy a people because of their race, religion, or culture. Our society and our government are founded on the moral values that this Convention seeks to protect: the dignity of every individual person and the sanctity of human life. Moreover, we should not allow the Soviets or others to excuse their own conduct by reference to the lack of our name on this convention.

Finally, we must consciously and conscientiously recognize the genocides of the past --- the enormous tragedies that have darkened this century and that haunt us still. We must not only commemorate the courage of the victims and of their survivors, but we must also remind ourselves that civilization cannot be taken for granted. It was a great American philosopher, George Santayana, who taught us that those who forget the past are condemned to relive it.

We must all be vigilant against this most heinous crime against humanity.

Sincerely,

 George Bush

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CONCURRENT

~~SENATE~~ RESOLUTION

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RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990 is designated as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Tragic Killing of Armenians in 1915-23," and the President is ~~authorized and~~ requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to join the millions of Armenians around the world in a day of remembrance for the Armenian people who were victims during this tragic period.

We are deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period and of their strong conviction that those events were a genocide. The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during this period, prior to the establishment of the government of Turkey, by leading the international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate the tragedy and to aid the millions of victims who survived.

of many

In commemorating the Armenian and other victims of this tragic period, the Senate and House of Representatives also wish to emphasize that the United States is ~~pledged~~ as friend and ally to ~~defend~~ the territorial integrity of the Republic of Turkey, and that the United States condemns any terrorist violence perpetrated against Turkey.

This resolution also memorializes the three thousand year old history of the Armenian people which has been distinguished by their contributions to all fields of endeavor and their capacity to endure immeasurable adversity, along with their triumph, and shall be commemorated by all Armenians and their friends throughout the world.

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and others in the international community, who believe these events constitute a genocide,

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The Congress calls upon the
Republic of Turkey to open immediately
to all legitimate scholars
all the archives it possesses
covering the period 1915-23.

ARMENIAN

JOINT RESOLUTION

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This Resolution also memorializes the three-thousand-year history of the Armenian people, the first people to adopt Christianity as a national religion, which history not only reflects distinction in all fields of human achievement but also the tragic suffering and triumphant rebirth of the Armenian people throughout the world.

JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01 OF 02

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TAGS: PREL, US, TU

SUBJECT: ARMENIAN GENOCIDE BILL

1. FEBRUARY 10 "MILLIYET" REPORTS (DATELINED WASHINGTON) WHITE HOUSE CHIEF OF STAFF SUNUNU HAS RESUMED NEGOTIATIONS WITH SENATOR DOLE OVER COMPROMISE LANGUAGE FOR THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE BILL. ACCORDING TO "MILLIYET," NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED DURING THE PAST WEEK IN CALIFORNIA AND INCLUDED A MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT BUSH AND GOVERNOR DEUKMEJIAN. QUOTING BOTH ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES, "MILLIYET" PREDICTS THE COMPROMISE BILL WILL COME TO THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19.

2. "MILLIYET," QUOTING THE SAME SOURCES, SUGGESTS THE COMPROMISE LANGUAGE WILL INVOLVE SOME VARIANT OF THE FOLLOWING TEXT:

DURING THE YEARS 1915-1923, ON THE TERRITORY OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, A NUMBER OF TRAGIC INCIDENTS OCCURED. IN THE COURSE OF THESE INCIDENTS, ACCORDING TO SOME PEOPLE, HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF ARMENIANS HAVE BEEN

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 02

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

14-Feb-1990 15:32 EDT

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Virginia A. Lampley

(LAMPLEY)

FROM:

E. Bret Coulson
(COULSON)

SUBJECT:

Armenian Resolutions

97th Congress (1981-83): No legislation

98th Congress (1983-85): SRes124 (died in cmte), HRes171 (died in cmte), HRes587 (died in cmte), SRes241 (reported from cmte)

99th Congress (1985-87): HJRes37 (died in cmte), SJRes101 (died in cmte), HRes142 (died in cmte), HJRes192 (suspension of rules defeated, unfinished business)

100th Congress (1987-89): SJRes43 (died in cmte), HJRes132 (rule defeated)

101st Congress (1989-1991): HJRes36 (in cmte), SJRes212 (reported from cmte), HJRes417 (in cmte)

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ronald Reagan

which has gone on in Lebanon for the past decade. The resulting death toll among both Muslim and Christian communities of the region was immense, but much more remains to be discovered before historians will be able to sort out precisely responsibility between warring and innocent, and to identify the causes for the events which resulted in the death or removal of large numbers of the eastern Anatolian population, Christian and Muslim alike.

The signers conclude:

By passing (this) resolution, Congress will be attempting to determine by legislation which side of a historical question is correct.

I share the anguish of the Armenian people. Countless numbers of them were clearly killed in a cruel and barbarous fashion during the period of time covered by this resolution. But there were also countless numbers of Muslims who were killed in a cruel and barbarous fashion as well. My opposition to this resolution in no way represents indifference on my part to the suffering of the Armenian people or their desire to achieve recognition of this tragic series of events. In the long history of man's inhumanity to man this is but one of many tragedies which we need to recall in order to sensitize ourselves and prevent further such episodes.

In addition to these troubling questions, in recent years over 50 Turkish diplomats have been murdered by Armenian terrorists. The terrorists have claimed revenge for the events of many years ago as the rationale for their actions. Passage of this resolution, even though it were not so intended, would be interpreted by these terrorists as vindication of and support for their heinous crimes. And it would be seen in Turkey as an expression of American insensitivity to continuing consequences of events which took place 70 years ago.

If we are going to adopt a resolution which could jeopardize our relations with an important ally, and thus put at risk vital American national security interests, we need to be absolutely convinced of the textual accuracy of that resolution. Even then there might be persuasive arguments against the resolution, but we would at least know that we had acted on the basis of an unambiguous historical truth and in response to a compelling moral imperative. But for us to adopt a resolution which is likely to have the counterproductive consequences of this one, after its textual accuracy has been challenged by many of the leading scholars in the nation, would be both reckless and wrong.

STEPHEN J. SOLARZ.

DOCUMENT LX

Source:
July 31, 1987, letter from the U.S.
Secretary of State, the Honorable George
P. Shultz to Congressman Frank Horton.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

July 31, 1987

Dear Mr. Horton:

Your letter concerning the Armenian genocide resolution recently passed by the European Parliament is very timely. It has particular relevance, as you know, to HR Resolution 132 and SJ Resolution 43, which are currently under consideration by the Congress.

As you correctly state, only a small minority of the parliamentarians took part in voting on this issue in the European Parliament (EP) last June. The resolution was supported by about 145 (28%) of the Parliament's 518 members although, since the final vote was on a show of hands, an exact count is not available. In all, about 150 members or less than one third of the total EP membership participated in the vote.

In addition to most of the French members and all of the Greek members, a majority of Communists, Socialists and Greens voted for the resolution. Some moderate socialists did not participate and others abstained. Of the remaining EP parliamentarians, we understand that three center-right political groups—comprising approximately one half of all EP members—refused to participate in either the debate or the vote on the grounds that the European Parliament should not make historical judgments.

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The European Parliament does not express the views of the 12 member governments of the Community, which includes 11 NATO members. The European Parliament is a directly elected body and therefore, reflects the diversity of political opinion in its member states.

The British government made this clear in a Foreign Office press briefing during the July 5-7 visit of Turkish Foreign Minister Halefoglu. The Foreign Office spokesman said that the UK Secretary of State had assured Minister Halefoglu that Her Majesty's Government (HMG) was not associated with the recent European Parliament Armenian Resolution. He pointed out that the European Parliament did not speak for EC member states and that the member states had no responsibility for the views expressed by the European Parliament, an independent elected body. He added that the European Parliament had passed resolutions in the past which were unwelcome to HMG.

I thank you for your letter and for your concern over this issue. In the hope that it may be of assistance to you, I enclose a statement of this Department's views on the Armenian Resolution currently before the Congress.

Sincerely yours,
George P. Shultz

DOCUMENT LXI

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

August 4, 1987

Source:
Letter of August 4, 1987, from the
Honorable George P. Shultz, U.S.
Secretary of State, to all members of the
U.S. House of Representatives.

I am writing to urge that you vote against H.J. Res. 132, the so-called "Armenian Resolution," when it comes before the House for a vote.

This Resolution, which deals with a tragic page in the history of the Ottoman Empire, will have a severely negative impact on our country's relations with a major ally and friend, modern-day Turkey. If passed, the Resolution would seriously damage the NATO Alliance. There are important American national security interests involved in our friendship with Turkey, whose government and people are offended by this Resolution. While I do not doubt the motives of the sponsors of this Resolution, I believe its passage will be used to justify the acts of Armenian terrorists who, since 1975, have murdered more than 45 Turkish diplomats. I am confident that we are all determined to defeat international terrorism.

Because I believe there are compelling national interest reasons for voting against H.J. Res. 132, I urge that you cast your vote against it.

Sincerely yours,
George P. Shultz

DOCUMENT: LXII

Department of State Press Statement
Turkey: Armenian Resolution August 3, 1987

Source:
August 3, 1987, U.S. Department of State
'Press Statement' entitled:
'Turkey:Armenian Resolution.'

The House Rules Committee August 3 reported out H.J. Res. 132, also known as the Armenian Resolution. The Administration is strongly opposed to this resolution.

Turkey is a major ally of the United States and a key member of NATO. Our country has major national security interests in this relationship. The resolution, which is seen in Turkey by voters and leaders as a gratuitous insult to Turkey, endangers those interests.

Nobody wishes to deny the suffering of the Armenians who resided in eastern Anatolia where the Christian and Moslem population suffered great deprivation and death during the First World War. However, there is a question whether the United States should legislate historical judgment of events in another nation when there is debate about the events among reputable scholars.

We are all associated in the fight against international terrorism, the Administration does not doubt the sincere motives of the sponsors of this resolution. However, we believe that Armenian terrorists who have been responsible for the murder of 45 Turkish diplomats since 1975 will use the resolution to justify their acts.

The Administration hopes that the House membership will take these important concerns into account and reject H.J. Res. 132.

DOCUMENT LXIII

Source:

August 3, 1987, letter from Ambassador Şükrü Elekdağ, Turkey's representative in Washington, D.C., to all members of the U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Congressman,

You will soon be asked to vote on HJ Res. 132 falsely characterizing the intercommunal warfare and accompanying human tragedy of the First World War in the Ottoman Empire's Eastern Anatolian region as a "genocide" against the Empire's Armenian citizens.

Statements by the President of the Turkish Republic, the Prime Minister and the leaders of all the political parties represented in the Turkish Parliament show clearly that the passage of this resolution by the United States Congress will inevitably and irreparably damage Turkish-American relations and cooperation.

These foreseeable reactions stem from the fact that the Turkish people as a whole and the Turkish body politic view the charge contained in the resolution as not only historically unfounded but also as a direct insult to and defamation of the Turkish people. The great majority of American scholars on Ottoman history challenge the "genocide" charge and have asked the Congress not to legislate faulty history.

Furthermore, Armenian terrorists claiming revenge for the misrepresented events of 73 years ago as a rationale for their heinous crimes, have murdered more than 70 innocent people around the world, including 40 Turkish diplomats.

Consequently, the Turkish public justifiably believes that the passage of this resolution will be interpreted by these terrorists not only as a legitimization and vindication of their crimes by the United States Congress, but also as an encouragement for continuing their murderous campaign.

As recent events have clearly demonstrated, this sort of resolution will inevitably fuel international terrorism against Turkey. The resolution's passage will be seen by Turks as a product of American insensitivity toward Turkish lives which are at risk because of Armenian terrorism. In addition to casting doubt on the credibility of the United States' commitment to combat international terrorism, this will also seriously alienate the Turkish nation from the United States.

Likewise, in view of territorial demands advanced by the Armenian terrorists and "mainstream" Armenian groups as well, the Turkish people will view the passage of this resolution as a vote for the dismemberment of the Turkish Republic, your strategically important NATO ally.

I am sure you must understand that no representative government will be able to mitigate or ignore the wave of public outrage the passage of this measure is certain to generate.

Contrary to the claims advanced by its proponents, HJ Res. 132 is not merely a symbolic gesture on behalf of a particular American ethnic group. It is in fact a measure with serious and long term foreign policy implications for the United States and the Western alliance.

Advocates of HJ Res. 132, advance the argument that the European Parliament recently acknowledged the veracity of Armenian allegations. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Only 68 members of the 518-member European Parliament supported the paragraph regarding Armenian allegations. Almost all of these were communist party members, extreme left wing socialists, Greens, and Greek Parliamentarians, all of whom are consistently hostile toward Turkey. Over two-thirds of the Parliamentarians boycotted the debate and the vote on the grounds that the European Parliament had no business discussing historically controversial cases or on passing historical judgments.

Already the Governments of Great Britain and West Germany have officially disassociated themselves from the actions of the European Parliament which, according to

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THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

August 12, 1988

Mr. Sakip Sabanci
P.K. 643 80095
Salipazan
Istanbul, Turkey

Dear Mr. Sabanci:

Thank you for your letter expressing your views regarding the deaths of Armenians during the last years of the Ottoman Empire.

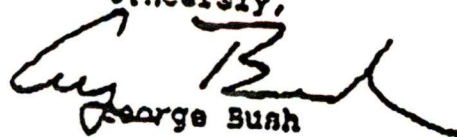
During the early part of this century, horrifying events occurred and many thousands of Armenians, Turks, Kurds, and others were killed. Many others died as a result of famine and epidemics. Neither the Turkish Government nor anyone alive now bears responsibility for what happened. In fact, there is considerable disagreement over the facts. Only scholarly research can bring to light the facts needed to resolve this tragedy.

For several years, I have been urging the Turkish Government to open their archives to let the dispassionate light of history fall on these long-age events. Our distinguished American Ambassador, Robert Strausz-Hupe, reports some progress along these lines. The problems involved in translating and collating these documents, written in an old form of the Turkish language, are daunting. Modern technology gives some hope, and I will continue to press this issue.

Turkey is a strong and important ally and any remarks I have made on this highly sensitive subject are intended not as a slight to Turkey or people of Turkish descent. Rather, they are an effort to recognize the anguish that the Armenians still feel. I believe that scholarly attention to these records is the best way to lay out clearly what happened in the early years of this century. Be assured that I will press for this result as long as I am in public office.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



George Bush

JUNE 1988

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Do you favor a congressional resolution that would designate a National Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923? Would you sign such a resolution if it was passed by the Congress and even in the face of strong opposition and threats from the Republic of Turkey?

Vice President George Bush

The United States must acknowledge the attempted genocide of the Armenian people in the last years of the Ottoman Empire, based on the testimony of survivors, scholars, and indeed our own representatives at the time, if we are to insure that such horrors are not repeated. The American people, our government, and certainly the Bush Administration will never allow political pressures to prevent our denunciation of crimes against humanity, and I would join Congress in commemorating the victims of that period. I recognize that the events of 1915 were not the responsibility of the present Republic of Turkey, and I am aware that the Republic of Turkey opposes the characterization of that period as genocide. As President, I will urge the leaders of Turkey to enter into a dialogue with representatives of the worldwide Armenian community in order to resolve their differences, just as I will support the continuation of military and economic assistance to Turkey within the framework of NATO.

Governor Michael Dukakis

For many years, I have personally participated in and led commemorations of the Armenian Genocide. Unless we forcefully condemn such outrages and constantly remember the mistakes of the past, we risk a recurrence of these horrors. As President, I would steadfastly resist all efforts, from any sources, to rewrite or deny history, and along with the Secretary of State whom I select, would support a congressional resolution to designate a National Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923.

2. According to Amnesty International, Helsinki Watch, and other human rights/ minority rights organizations, the Republic of Turkey still has a long way to go to improving its treatment of Armenians, Kurds, and other ethnic minorities. How would you approach urging Turkey to improve its human rights/ minority rights record? What role should the questions of human rights/ minority rights play in the formulation of U.S. foreign policy?

Vice President George Bush

The issues of human and minority rights are fundamental to our view of the world. We are true to our beliefs, and the national interest of the United States is best served, when we defend and promote freedom and the rights of man throughout the world. Bilateral and multilateral agreements must be observed by all nations, and I will use the power of the Presidency to address violations whenever and wherever they occur.

Governor Michael Dukakis

As President, I will be alert and responsive to human rights violations suffered by Armenians and other minorities in Turkey. These violations cannot, and must not, be ignored or compromised for reasons of political expediency. In fact, because there is no sovereign Armenian state to speak out for or defend Armenian rights or interests, it becomes even more crucial that governments such as ours be particularly alert to violations of Armenian rights. That means the State Department must actively raise the human rights violations in rank, open dialogue with the Republic of Turkey.



ARMENIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF AMERICA

1901 PENNSYLVANIA AVE., N.W. SUITE 503 • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 • TEL (202) 775-1918

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release
April 21, 1990

Contact: Seto Boyadjian
Tel: (202) 775-1918

BUSH STATEMENT ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Last night, while on a visit in Orlando, Florida, President George Bush issued a statement on the 75th anniversary of "the massacres" of Armenians and expressed his personal wish "to join with Armenians and all peoples in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for more than a million Armenian people who were victims." He then called "upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind."

Avoiding the word genocide, the President described it as "the terrible massacres suffered [by Armenians] in 1915-1923 at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire" and depicted those massacred as "the victims of this crime against humanity." However, he made clear reference to his campaign statement by saying that "my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured," thus indirectly reiterating his earlier recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

"The President's statement is a deeply-felt personal expression of sympathy addressed to the Armenian community worldwide on the day of remembrance for the victims of the Armenian Genocide," stated ANCA Executive Director Seto Boyadjian. "The President's sincere words come in defiance of Turkish pressures to prevent official observance by the U.S. government of the 75th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide," he said.

"While Armenian-Americans regret that the President could not make an explicit declaration in this regard by directly characterizing the genocidal nature of the 'terrible massacres' of 1915-1923, yet we recognize that he has in fact identified these massacres as a 'crime against humanity' by stating the magnitude of the crime and identifying the authors as the rulers of the Ottoman Empire, and by reiterating his position on the basis of his 1988 statement affirming his stand on the Armenian Genocide," added Boyadjian.

Along with the tragedy of the genocide, President Bush also mentioned the tragedy that befell upon Armenians by the earthquake of 1988 in Soviet Armenia. In this regard, Boyadjian stated, "Needless to say, Armenian-Americans remember with gratitude the President's personal involvement in support of the recovery efforts for the earthquake and appreciate his continuing commitment to the people of Soviet Armenia in their effort to

Page 2: "Bush Statement..." - Press Release 4/21/90

maintain the integrity and the economic stability of their homeland."

In his statement, President Bush also paid tribute to the "special, enduring relationship" which the United States has had with the Armenian people and said that the more than one-million Armenian-American community continues "to make significant contributions to the betterment of our country."

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Note to editors: Following is the text of the Statement by the President.

THE WHITE HOUSE

**Office of the Press Secretary
(Orlando, Florida)**

For Immediate Release

April 20, 1990

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Throughout this century, the United States has had a special, enduring relationship with the Armenian people.

Armenians around the world share with their friends in the United States a love of freedom, and as proud people they have a strong commitment to the preservation of their heritage and culture.

Their history, though marked by a number of tragedies, nonetheless reflects their faith and the strength and resilience of their tradition. Those tragedies include the Earthquake of 1988 and, most prominently, the terrible massacres suffered in 1915-1923 at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire.

The United States responded to the victims of this crime against humanity by leading international diplomatic and private relief efforts.

The Armenian-American community now numbers nearly one million people. Those who emigrated to the United States, and their descendants, continue to make significant contributions to the betterment of our country in many fields of endeavor.

On this seventy-fifth anniversary of the massacres, I wish to join with Armenians and all peoples in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for the more than a million Armenian people who were victims. I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind, and my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured.

ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

122 "C" STREET, N.W. • SUITE 350 • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • (202) 393-3434

 PRESS RELEASE ——— PRESS RELEASE ——— PRESS RELEASE ——— PRESS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

CONTACT: Carole Long

April 24, 1990

ASSEMBLY SAYS BUSH STATEMENT ON OCCASION OF APRIL 24 REJECTS TURKISH DENIAL CAMPAIGN

WASHINGTON — Hirair Hovnanian, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Armenian Assembly of America, says President George Bush's statement last Friday on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide was a "clear and welcome rejection of the Republic of Turkey's global campaign of denial."

In a letter to the President released today, Hovnanian asked that Bush urge Turkey to "seize this moment to put its denial efforts to rest."

"Just days ago, East Germany finally apologized to the Jewish people for the crimes committed by Hitler; and in Moscow, the Soviet Union acknowledged the Katyn Forest Massacres" Hovnanian noted. "Ankara can hardly do less. Turkey must come to terms with its past by recognizing the genocide committed by the Ottoman Empire against the Armenian people."

In his statement released after 7 p.m. on April 20, the President remarked that the history of the Armenian people has been marked by a number of tragedies. "most prominently the terrible massacres suffered in 1915 to 1923 at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire."

"On this 75th anniversary of the massacres, I wish to join with Armenians and all people in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for the more than one million Armenian people who were victims," Bush said in the statement. "I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind, and my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured."

Hovnanian pointed out in his letter to the President that the Assembly regretted that his statement "avoided a direct reference to the word genocide."

"Our views on that matter are well known and need no elaboration," Hovnanian said. "But we take heart that you affirmed comments you made during the election campaign in which you characterized the intentional destruction of the Armenian people as genocide." According to White House sources, the reference to June 1988 reflected statements the President made during the campaign on the Armenian Genocide.

When Bush was campaigning for the presidency in Fresno, California in May of 1988, he met with local reporters. In response to a

reporter's questions. Bush, who was then vice president, quickly answered that there was a genocide, and "It's a matter that the Turks have been unwilling to face up to." In October, 1988, Bush responded to a questionnaire submitted by the Assembly to both presidential candidates and he stated that "the United States must acknowledge the attempted genocide of the Armenian people in the last years of the Ottoman Empire, based on the testimony of survivors, scholars, and indeed our own representatives at the time, if we are to insure that such horrors are not repeated."

In his letter to the President, Hovnanian also praised the efforts of several prominent Republican leaders, who have been urging the White House to reaffirm the history of the Armenian Genocide.

"We are aware of the extreme pressures generated from Ankara on this matter," Hovnanian said. "We applaud Senator Dole's leadership in illuminating the facts of the Armenian Genocide during the Senate debate on S.J. Res. 212." Over the past several months, California Governor George Deukmejian and Rep. Chip Pashayan (R-CA) have also been urging the White House to take a public stand on the issue.

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ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

122 "C" STREET, N.W.

SUITE 330

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

(202) 393-3434

April 23, 1990

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

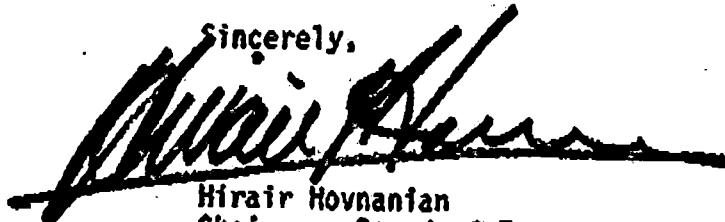
Your statement on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide serves as a clear and welcome rejection of the Republic of Turkey's global campaign of denial. By remembering this crime against humanity, you give meaning to your call for "all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind."

We regret, however, that your statement avoided a direct reference to the word genocide. Our views on that matter are well known and need no elaboration here. But we take heart that you affirmed comments you made during the election campaign in which you characterized the intentional destruction of the Armenian people as genocide. We welcome your statement that these represent "the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured."

We are aware of the extreme pressures generated from Ankara on this matter. We applaud Senator Dole's leadership in illuminating the facts of the Armenian Genocide during the Senate debate on SR 212, and your wish to join in observing April 24, 1990, "as a day of remembrance for the more than one million Armenian people who were victims."

We ask that you urge that Turkey seize this moment to put its denial efforts to rest. Just days ago, East Germany finally apologized to the Jewish people for the crimes committed by Hitler. And in Moscow, the Soviet Union acknowledged the Katyn Forest Massacres. Ankara can hardly do less. Turkey must come to terms with its past by recognizing the genocide committed by the Ottoman Empire against the Armenian people.

Sincerely,



Hiram Hovnanian
Chairman, Board of Trustees

HH:mg

The California COURIER

"The Newspaper For All Armenians" — Published Weekly Since 1958

P.O. BOX 5390, GLENDALE, CA 91221

VOL. XXXII, No. 41 THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1990

Telephone: (818) 409-0949

Pres. Bush Issues Unexpected Statement on Eve of April 24

WASHINGTON, D.C. - President George Bush issued a written statement last Friday marking the 75th anniversary of the "terrible massacres" suffered by Armenians in Turkey, 1915-1923, but avoided using the term "genocide." He did, however, characterize the killings as a "crime against humanity."

The President said he wished "to join with Armenians and all peoples in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for the more than a million Armenian people who were victims."

"I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind," Bush said, "and my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured."

In 1988, as a candidate for president, Bush referred to the killings as a genocide.

Despite this pledge, the Bush Administration opposed a Senate resolution earlier this year sponsored by Minority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas), which called

Continued on Page 15

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(April 20, 1990)

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Throughout this century, the United States has had a special, enduring relationship with the Armenian people.

Armenians around the world share with their friends in the United States a love of freedom, and as proud people they have a strong commitment to the preservation of their heritage and culture.

Their history, though marked by a number of tragedies, nonetheless reflects their faith and the strength and resilience of their tradition. Those tragedies include the Earthquake of 1988 and, most prominently, the terrible massacres suffered in 1915-1923 at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire.

The United States responded to the victims of this crime against humanity by leading international diplomatic and private relief efforts.

The Armenian-American community now numbers nearly one million people. Those who emigrated to the United States, and their descendants, continue to make significant contributions to the betterment of our country in many fields of endeavor.

On this seventy-fifth anniversary of the massacres, I wish to join with Armenians and all peoples in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for the more than a million Armenian people who were victims. I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind, and my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured.

Pres. Bush Issues Statement

Continued from Page 1

the killings a genocide.

Bush said that through their history, the Armenians have shown strength and resilience in the face of numerous tragedies.

"Throughout this century, the United States has had a special, enduring relationship with the Armenian people," Bush noted. "Armenians around the world share with their friends in the United States a love of freedom, and as a proud people, they have a strong commitment to the preservation of their heritage and culture."

Adding that "those tragedies include the earthquake of 1988 and, most prominently, the terrible massacres suffered in 1915-1923 at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire," the President recalled, "The United States responded to the victims of this crime against humanity by leading international diplomatic and private relief efforts."

Bush pointed out that the Armenian-American descendants of those who emigrated to the United States, "now number nearly one million people....," and "continue to make significant contributions to the betterment of our country in many fields of endeavor."

Seto Boyadjian, executive director of the Armenian National

Committee of America in Washington, called the presidential statement "a deeply-felt personal expression of sympathy addressed to the Armenian community..., indirectly reiterating his earlier recognition of the Armenian Genocide."

Boyadjian added, "The President's words come in defiance of Turkish pressures to prevent official observance by the U.S. government of the 75th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide."

THE ARMENIAN OBSERVER

VOL. XX, No. 23, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1990

(ISSN 0044-894X)

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

President Bush Calls it "Terrible Massacres"

ORLANDO — (AP) — President Bush paid respects last Friday to the more than 1 million Armenians killed in "terrible massacres" at the hands of the Turks from 1915 to 1923.

Bush, in a written statement issued during a visit here, said he joined with Armenians and others who will observe April 24 as a day of remembrance.

"I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind, and my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured," Bush said, thus indirectly reiterating his earlier recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

In 1988, as a candidate for president, Bush referred to the killings as a "genocide."

As president, he has refrained from using that term out of sensitivity toward Turkey, a NATO ally. The Bush administration opposed a Senate resolution

Please Turn to Page 5

The White House — Office of the Press Secretary, April 20, 1990
(Orlando, Florida)

Statement by the President

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On this seventy-fifth anniversary of the massacres, I wish to join with Armenians and all peoples in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for the more than a million Armenian people who were victims. I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind, and my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured.

"Terrible Massacres"

Continued from Page 1
sponsored by Minority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., which called the killings genocide.

Bush said that through their

history, the Armenians have shown strength and resilience in the face of numerous tragedies.

"Those tragedies include the earthquake of 1988 and, most

prominently, the terrible massacres suffered in 1915-1923 at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire," the president said.

Assembly Says Bush Statement on April 24 Rejects Turkish Denial Campaign

WASHINGTON — Hirair Hovnanian, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Armenian Assembly of America, says President George Bush's statement

last Friday on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide was a "clear and welcome rejection of the Republic of Turkey's global

campaign of denial."

In a letter to the President, released on April 24, Hovnanian asked that Bush urge Turkey to "seize this moment to put its denial efforts to rest."

"Just days ago, East Germany finally apologized to the Jewish people for the crimes committed by Hitler; and in Moscow, the Soviet Union acknowledged that Katyn Forest Massacres" Hovnanian noted. "Ankara can hardly do less. Turkey must come to terms with its past by recognizing the genocide committed by the Ottoman Empire against the Armenian people."

Hovnanian pointed out in his letter to the President, printed below, that the Assembly regretted that his statement "avoided a direct reference to the word genocide. Our views on that matter are well known and need no elaboration," Hovnanian added.

"But we take heart that you affirmed comments you made during the election campaign in which you characterized the intentional destruction of the Armenian people as genocide," Hovnanian said.

The letter also states: "We are aware of the extreme pressures generated from Ankara on this matter, and we applaud Senator Dole's leadership in illuminating the facts of the Armenian Genocide during the Senate debate on SJR 212."

Over the past several months, California Governor George Deukmejian and Rep. Charles Pashayan (R-CA) have also been urging the White House to take a public stand on the issue.

Meanwhile, the Turkish Foreign Ministry has contacted the White House several times to make sure that the President does not make any statement on April 24, 1990.

But, history recorded it differently.

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Your statement on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide serves as a clear and welcome rejection of the Republic of Turkey's global campaign of denial. By remembering this crime against humanity, you give meaning to your call for "all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind."

We regret, however, that your statement avoided a direct reference to the word genocide. Our views on that matter are well known and need no elaboration here. But we take heart that you affirmed comments you made during the election campaign in which you characterized the intentional destruction of the Armenian people as genocide. We welcome your statement that these represent "the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured."

We are aware of the extreme pressures generated from Ankara on this matter. We applaud Senator Dole's leadership in illuminating the facts of the Armenian Genocide during the Senate debate on SR 212, and your wish to join in observing April 24, 1990, "as a day of remembrance for the more than one million Armenian people who were victims."

We ask that you urge that Turkey seize this moment to put its denial efforts to rest. Just days ago, East Germany finally apologized to the Jewish people for the crimes committed by Hitler. And in Moscow, the Soviet Union acknowledged the Katyn Forest Massacres. Ankara can hardly do less. Turkey must come to terms with its past by recognizing the genocide committed by the Ottoman Empire against the Armenian people.

Hirair Hovnanian
Chairman, Board of Trustees



GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN
GOVERNOR

State of California

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO 95814

April 3, 1990

30798
Guidance

THE CHIEF OF STAFF
has seen

Governor John H. Sununu
The White House
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear John:

Attached is the proposed statement for the
75th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

In furtherance of our telephone
conversation, please think of our sensitivity as
the equivalent of the Jewish community to the
remarks or statement that the President will be
making in observance of the Jewish Holocaust.
Surely he would not consider calling the
holocaust anything but a genocide.

Many thanks for your genuine interest and
understanding.

Sincerely,

George Deukmejian

km
attachment

PROPOSED STATEMENT OF PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH
ON THE
SEVENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Throughout this century, the United States has had a special enduring relationship with the Armenian people.

Regrettably, the Armenian nation is not free and independent and the Armenian people do not live in their own country under a democratic form of government.

They have been subjected to domination by other nations and they experienced their greatest tragedy in 1915-1923 when they became the first victims of a genocide in this century at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire.

The United States responded by leading international diplomatic and private relief efforts to aid the victims of this crime against humanity.

The Armenian-American community now numbers nearly one million people. Those who emigrated to the United States and their descendants continue to make significant contributions to the betterment of our country in many fields of endeavor.

I wish to join with Armenians and all peoples in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for the 1.5 million Armenian people who were victims of the genocide and I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind.

LAW OFFICES

PARKER, MILLIKEN, CLARK, O'HARA & SAMUELIAN

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KARL M. SAMUELIAN

PARTNER

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(213) 683-6554



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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release
April 21, 1990

Contact: Seto Boyadjian
Tel: (202) 775-1918

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Avoiding the word genocide, the President described it as "the terrible massacres suffered [by Armenians] in 1915-1923 at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire" and depicted those massacred as "the victims of this crime against humanity." However, he made clear reference to his campaign statement by saying that "my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured," thus indirectly reiterating his earlier recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

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Page 2: "Bush Statement..." - Press Release 4/21/90

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(Orlando, Florida)**

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ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

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PRESS RELEASE ——— PRESS RELEASE ——— PRESS RELEASE ——— PRESS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE
April 24, 1990

CONTACT: Carole Long

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ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

122 "C" STREET, N.W. • SUITE 350 • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • (202) 393-3434

April 23, 1990

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

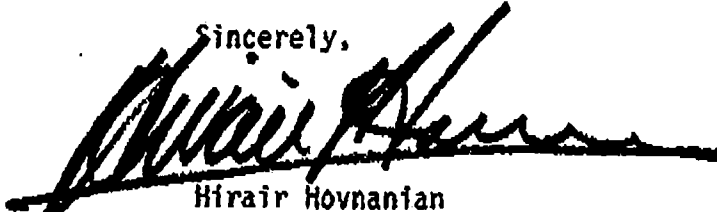
Your statement on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide serves as a clear and welcome rejection of the Republic of Turkey's global campaign of denial. By remembering this crime against humanity, you give meaning to your call for "all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind."

We regret, however, that your statement avoided a direct reference to the word genocide. Our views on that matter are well known and need no elaboration here. But we take heart that you affirmed comments you made during the election campaign in which you characterized the intentional destruction of the Armenian people as genocide. We welcome your statement that these represent "the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured."

We are aware of the extreme pressures generated from Ankara on this matter. We applaud Senator Dole's leadership in illuminating the facts of the Armenian Genocide during the Senate debate on SR 212, and your wish to join in observing April 24, 1990, "as a day of remembrance for the more than one million Armenian people who were victims."

We ask that you urge that Turkey seize this moment to put its denial efforts to rest. Just days ago, East Germany finally apologized to the Jewish people for the crimes committed by Hitler. And in Moscow, the Soviet Union acknowledged the Katyn Forest Massacres. Ankara can hardly do less. Turkey must come to terms with its past by recognizing the genocide committed by the Ottoman Empire against the Armenian people.

Sincerely,



Hirair Hovnanian
Chairman, Board of Trustees

HH:mg

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Orlando, Florida)

For Immediate Release

April 20, 1990

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Throughout this century, the United States has had a special, enduring relationship with the Armenian people.

Armenians around the world share with their friends in the United States a love of freedom, and as proud people they have a strong commitment to the preservation of their heritage and culture.

Their history, though marked by a number of tragedies, nonetheless reflects their faith and the strength and resilience of their tradition. Those tragedies include the Earthquake of 1988 and, most prominently, the terrible massacres suffered in 1915-1923 at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire.

The United States responded to the victims of this crime against humanity by leading international diplomatic and private relief efforts.

The Armenian-American community now numbers nearly one million people. Those who emigrated to the United States, and their descendants, continue to make significant contributions to the betterment of our country in many fields of endeavor.

On this seventy-fifth anniversary of the massacres, I wish to join with Armenians and all peoples in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for the more than a million Armenian people who were victims. I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind, and my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Orlando, Florida)

For Immediate Release

April 20, 1990

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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Orlando, Florida)

For Immediate Release

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#

file
DRAFT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 18, 1990

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Throughout this century, the United States has had a special, enduring relationship with the Armenian people.

Armenians around the world share with their friends in the United States a love of freedom, and as proud people they have a strong commitment to the preservation of their heritage and culture.

Their history, though marked by a number of tragedies, nonetheless reflects their faith and the strength and resilience of their tradition. Those tragedies include the Earthquake of 1988 and, most prominently, the terrible massacres suffered in 1915-1923 in the eastern part of the Ottoman Empire.

The United States responded to the victims of this crime against humanity by leading international diplomatic and private relief efforts.

The Armenian-American community now numbers nearly one million people. Those who emigrated to the United States, and their descendants, continue to make significant contributions to the betterment of our country in many fields of endeavor.

On this seventy-fifth anniversary of the massacres, I wish to join with Armenians and all peoples in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for the more than a million Armenian people who were victims. I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind, and my comments of June 1988 represent the depth of my feeling for the Armenian people and the sufferings they have endured.



GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN
GOVERNOR

State of California
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO 95814

April 3, 1990

Governor John H. Sununu
The White House
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear John:

Attached is the proposed statement for the
75th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

In furtherance of our telephone
conversation, please think of our sensitivity as
the equivalent of the Jewish community to the
remarks or statement that the President will be
making in observance of the Jewish Holocaust.
Surely he would not consider calling the
holocaust anything but a genocide.

Many thanks for your genuine interest and
understanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George Deukmejian".

George Deukmejian

km
attachment

PROPOSED STATEMENT OF PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH
ON THE
SEVENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Throughout this century, the United States has had a special enduring relationship with the Armenian people.

Regrettably, the Armenian nation is not free and independent and the Armenian people do not live in their own country under a democratic form of government.

They have been subjected to domination by other nations and they experienced their greatest tragedy in 1915-1923 when they became the first victims of a genocide in this century at the hands of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire.

The United States responded by leading international diplomatic and private relief efforts to aid the victims of this crime against humanity.

The Armenian-American community now numbers nearly one million people. Those who emigrated to the United States and their descendants continue to make significant contributions to the betterment of our country in many fields of endeavor.

I wish to join with Armenians and all peoples in observing April 24, 1990 as a day of remembrance for the 1.5 million Armenian people who were victims of the genocide and I call upon all peoples to work to prevent future acts of inhumanity against mankind.

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Bill Secrest

203 Cannon

Washington, DC 20515

FOR RELEASE: Immediately

DATE: January 11, 1990

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Congressman Chip Pashayan said today that he is highly critical of President Bush's continuing failure to push for official United States recognition of the 1915-1924 Armenian genocide.

"In 1988, the President campaigned and won in my district, with heavy support from the local Armenian-American community," Pashayan said. "He generated enthusiasm by recognizing the genocide as an historical fact--at an Armenian American dinner in Boston on October 10, 1987, and again in Fresno on May 17, 1988.

"After the election, he further stated that the United States must acknowledge this tragedy. More than a year has passed and no further word has come from the White House."

With the seventy-fifth anniversary of the genocide taking place next April 24, Pashayan said that President Bush must take swift action on this issue--not only to honor his campaign promise, but to allay further criticism.

"A resolution to commemorate this date has obtained the senate Judiciary Committee's approval and has now been placed on the calendar for a vote," Pashayan said. "President Bush's immediate expression of support for this measure is crucial. After getting this far, with considerable opposition, it cannot be allowed to fail.

"Senate opposition to the resolution has centered on whether 'genocide' is too strong a word to use. I hope President Bush disagrees with this conclusion. Anyone familiar with the facts knows the word is most appropriate."

Pashayan expressed hope that the President's apparent indecision was not prompted by fears of offending the current Turkish government.

"No reasonable person can deny that the Ottoman Turkish government commissioned the genocide," said Pashayan, "and the present-day government is not responsible, but has steadfastly refused to acknowledge this fact.

"Some claim that the United States's recognition of the genocide would jeopardize our military bases and intelligence-gathering facilities in Turkey. During the crisis in Cyprus, more than a decade ago, we had to cope with the same problem.

"The day came when we had to remove our troops and listening posts from Turkish soil. It was far from being a fatal blow to our national security. We were able to retain a military presence in other nearby countries, and shift our intelligence-gathering activities to make up for the losses.

"If we need to do this again to prove our point, then we must. With all its economic and governmental ills, Turkey needs our help more than we need theirs. They came to this conclusion after the civil war in Cyprus, eventually allowing our troops to return. If we are insistent on the genocide issue, I predict the same outcome."

Pashayan also said that Bush needs to clarify his stance on the genocide as a matter of purely personal integrity.

"I do not want to lose faith in the President and his agenda for our country," he said. "Nor do the millions of Americans who voted for him. However, if backtracking on this campaign promise should be the final outcome, then I would lose a great deal of faith in the Bush Administration, and I cannot but think that many people would agree with me."

###

December 20, 1989

JOINT RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that April 24, 1990, is designated as a "National Day of Remembrance" of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Armenian massacres and deportations in the Ottoman Empire that began in 1915 and continued for a number of years thereafter and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to join the millions of Armenians and their friends around the world in a day of remembrance for the one and a half million Armenians who lost their lives during this tragic period as a result of policies initiated and perpetrated by Ottoman authorities.

JOINT RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990 is designated as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Armenian Victims of the Tragedy of 1915-23," and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to join the millions of Armenians around the world in a day of remembrance for the Armenian people who were victims during this tragic period, prior to the establishment of the current Republic of Turkey.

The Congress is

~~We are~~ deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period, and ~~of~~ the strong conviction of ~~the survivors and some scholars~~ that those events shall be characterized as a genocide. The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during this period, by leading the international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate the tragedy and to aid the millions of victims, who survived.

the Congress acknowledges

In commemorating the Armenian and other victims of this tragic period, the Senate and House of Representatives also wish to affirm their pledge as friend and ally to ~~defend~~ the territorial integrity of the Republic of Turkey.

This resolution also memorializes the three thousand year old history of the Armenian people which has been distinguished by their contributions to all fields of endeavor and their capacity to endure immeasurable adversity, along with their triumphs, and shall be commemorated by all Armenians and their friends throughout the world.

many

*including
those who died
and those*

*respect, and assist Turkey
in resisting any attempts to
compromise,*

CHARLES PASHAYAN, JR.
17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
803 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3341



COMMITTEE ON
RULES
COMMITTEE ON
STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL
CONDUCT

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

December 14, 1989

Governor John Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Subject: Armenian Resolution

Dear John,

1. The Armenian Resolution drops both the national-day-of-recognition and the Presidential proclamation.

With but a stroke of the pen, the President could fulfill his campaign pledge.

2. It refers to the Armenian people's commemoration of 1990 as the 75th anniversary honoring the victims of the genocide, and not to the genocide directly.

3. The Armenian Assembly and perhaps other organizations would publically support the Turkish Resolution.

4. As per our phone call today, I shall call you on December 19.

*Best,
Clip*

FRESNO COUNTY HOME OFFICE
1708 EAST BULLARD AVE. SUITE 103
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93710
(209) 487-5800

KINGS COUNTY HOME OFFICE
804 NORTH IRWIN
HANFORD, CALIFORNIA 93230
(209) 882-2886

PLEASE REPLY TO:

TULARE COUNTY HOME OFFICE
881 WEST CENTER STREET
VISALIA, CALIFORNIA 93291
(209) 827-2700

PORTERVILLE HOME OFFICE
185 NORTH D STREET, SUITE 1
PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA 93257
(209) 782-1717

KERN COUNTY HOME OFFICE
201 HIGH STREET
DELANO, CALIFORNIA 93315
(805) 725-7271

JOINT RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the Senate and House of Representatives and the President of the United States of America join with the Armenian people in the United States and around the world in their commemoration of April 24, 1990, as the seventy-fifth anniversary honoring the victims of the Armenian Genocide during the period from 1915 to 1923, prior to the establishment of the current Republic of Turkey.

We are deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period. The United States responded by leading the international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate that tragedy and to aid the millions of people who survived.

In commemorating the one-and-one-half million victims of that tragedy, we also wish to memorialize the three-thousand-year history of the Armenian people, who have been distinguished by their contributions to all fields of endeavor and by their capacity to endure immeasurable adversity along with achieving their triumphs, and will be commemorated by all Armenian people and their friends throughout the world.

JOINT RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the Senate and House of Representatives and the President of the United States of America commemorate the twenty-second anniversary of the Truman Doctrine, and hereby reaffirm the pledge of the United States thereunder to defend the national integrity of the Republic of Turkey, a valued ally and friend of the United States.



BOB DOLE
UNITED STATES SENATE

THE CHIEF OF STAFF
has seen

November 20, 1989

Dear John:

I appreciate the efforts you and other White House staff have made to try to work out acceptable language on an Armenian genocide resolution. It is clear to me, though, that time is going to run out on us this Session before any final agreement on language can be reached.

Let's keep working over the adjournment period, to see what we can come up with.

Meanwhile, I do hope the President will issue some kind of message on the first anniversary of the Armenian earthquake, but will refrain in that message from trying to address the genocide issue. Language in such a message that the Armenian-American community might find unacceptable would probably not be helpful in finally achieving language we can all live with.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

The Honorable John H. Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House

PHOTOCOPY
MISC. HANDWRITING

JOINT RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990 is designated as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Armenian Victims of the Tragedy of 1915-23," and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to join the millions of Armenians around the world in a day of remembrance for the Armenian people who were victims during this tragic period, prior to the establishment of the current Republic of Turkey.

We are deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period and of the strong conviction of the survivors and some scholars that those events shall be characterized as a genocide. The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during this period, by leading the international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate the tragedy and to aid the millions of victims who survived.

In commemorating the Armenian and other victims of this tragic period, the Senate and House of Representatives also wish to affirm their pledge as friend and ally to defend the territorial integrity of the Republic of Turkey.

This resolution also memorializes the three thousand year old history of the Armenian people which has been distinguished by their contributions to all fields of endeavor and their capacity to endure immeasurable adversity, along with their triumphs, and shall be commemorated by all Armenians and their friends throughout the world.

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1:10. p.m.

DRAFT
11/14/89

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DRAFT
11/14/89

JOINT RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990 is designated as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Tragic Killing of Armenians in 1915-23," and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to join the millions of Armenians around the world in a day of remembrance for the Armenian people who were victims during this tragic period, prior to the establishment of the current Republic of Turkey.

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News
from
Congressman

CALIFORNIA'S 18TH DISTRICT

RICHARD LEHMAN

202-225-4540

Contact: Tim Egan
PR89087

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 3, 1989

LEHMAN WRITES PRESIDENT BUSH ON ARMENIAN GENOCIDE ISSUE

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Richard Lehman (D-Sanger) today released a copy of the following letter to President Bush:

I am writing to express my grave concern regarding your position on legislation relating to the Armenian Genocide.

In the early part of this century, from the years 1915 to 1923, a million and a half men, women and children were murdered in an attempted genocide of the Armenian people by the governments of the Ottoman Empire, before the establishment of the Republic of Turkey. Prior to 1982, the U.S. Congress passed several affirmative resolutions commemorating the genocide; the most recent one being in April of 1975.

The United States government today does not officially recognize this tragic event in history despite efforts by some Members of Congress to commemorate the Armenian Genocide. Your lack of support has been particularly disappointing, for a number of reasons.

In May of 1988, during the heat of the presidential campaign, you came to my district in Fresno, California and engaged in a roundtable discussion with reporters from some of the local newspapers. When asked whether you believed there was an attempted Armenian Genocide, you answered in the affirmative.

Responding to the question, you said that "it's a matter that the Turks have been unwilling to face up to." You went on, "You can never make up for the suffering that took place. But getting the facts out... It is sensitive...and there are some strategic considerations there." At the time, I questioned why you had remained silent for so many years while Armenian Genocide bills in Congress were defeated, largely due to administration opposition.

Later that year, you responded even more forcefully on this issue in a questionnaire from the Armenian Assembly of America. In the questionnaire, you gave your support to Congressional recognition of, in your words, "the attempted genocide of the Armenian people in the last years of the Ottoman Empire." Most importantly, you added, "I would join Congress in commemorating the victims of that period." Finally, Mr. President, you stated that the "Bush Administration will never allow political pressures to prevent denunciation of crimes against humanity."

That is what you said when you were a candidate for President seeking Armenian-American votes.

On October 17th, the Senate Judiciary Committee approved a bill for a day of remembrance of the 1.5 million Armenians slain between 1915 and 1923 in the days of the Ottoman Empire. The bill, introduced by Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole, has wide, bipartisan support. A nearly identical bill, which I cosponsored with several other Members, has been introduced in the House by

1319 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515-0518
202-225-4540

2115 Kern Street
Suite 210
Fresno, CA 93721-2682

Federal Building -- Suite 216
401 North San Joaquin Street
Stockton, CA 95202-2003

Albert N. Franciaco Bldg.
48 West Yaney Avenue
Sonora, CA 95370-4812

Majority Deputy Whip David Bonior.

Under heavy pressure from the government of Turkey, your Administration has suddenly reversed itself by announcing your intention to oppose the Senate bill. It appears by recent events that you are actively seeking to defeat the Armenian Genocide Resolution. Sources have indicated that you sent a letter on October 13, 1989 to Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole, informing him of your opposition to the resolution. In addition, various Senators have acknowledged both privately and during Senate debate that a number of people associated with the White House, particularly Brent Scowcroft, the National Security Advisor, are pressuring Senators to kill the resolution.

Moreover, it has been reported that U.S. Ambassador to Turkey, Morton Aramowitz, was recalled to the United States, presumably for State Department briefings, but reportedly to lobby against the resolutions. These actions raise concerns of a possible violation of 18 U.S.C. 1913. As you are well aware, this provision states:

"No part of the money appropriated by any enactment of Congress shall, in the absence of express authorization by Congress, be used directly or indirectly to pay for any personal service, advertisement, telegram, telephone, letter, printed or written matter, or other device, intended or designed to influence in any manner a Member of Congress, to favor or oppose, by vote or otherwise, any legislation or appropriation by Congress, whether before or after the introduction of any bill or resolution proposing such legislation or appropriation."

I hope that the administration will keep this provision in mind as it considers the Armenian Genocide issue.

Mr. President, I realize that you do not want to offend Turkey, which is a valuable ally and friend. It is not the intention of supporters of the Armenian Genocide Resolution to lay blame, seek reparations or otherwise embarrass the government of Turkey. We acknowledge the importance of our relationship and value their friendship.

The fact of the matter is, though, that the legislation carefully states that the genocide took place before the establishment of the Republic of Turkey. Also, regarding their concern about terrorism, terrorist acts are more likely to occur when the concerns of an oppressed group are not acknowledged and expressed openly. Finally, with reference to use of the word genocide, the word itself was invented to describe the Armenian massacre, before the Jewish or Cambodian genocides occurred. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council has stated that the Armenian Genocide should be included in the Holocaust Museum Memorial.

The real question that needs to be asked, however, is whether the Bush Administration is going to allow itself to be influenced on a basic moral issue by pressure from foreign governments.

Mr. President, your leadership is needed on this issue. I implore you to take your campaign promise to the Armenian community seriously. Should you choose to ignore your campaign promise it will be a slap in the face to the Armenian community in this country and throughout the world.

Please keep your word, Mr. President - support official recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

The Armenian nation is over three thousand years old and is distinguished by its contributions to all fields of human endeavor. The first to have adopted Christianity as a national religion, the Armenian people have also endured immeasurable adversity along with their triumphs. Their greatest tragedy occurred when hundreds of thousands of Armenians lost their lives during the period 1915-23, the anniversary of which the Armenian people will commemorate on April 24, 1990. I am deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period and of their strong conviction that those events ^{were a} should be characterized as a genocide. The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during that period by leading international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate this tragedy and to aid the victims who survived.

Is this anti Turk?

1.5 million.

Fifteen

The U.S. We acknowledge

along with refusal to recognize

JOINT RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990 is designated as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Genocide of the Armenian people in 1915-1923," and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to join the international community and the millions of Armenians around the world in a day of remembrance for the 1.5 million Armenian people who were victims during this tragic period of the Ottoman Empire and prior to the establishment of the Republic of Turkey.

We are deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period and of the strong conviction of the survivors, scholars and indeed our own representative at the time, that those events were a genocide. The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during this period by leading the international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate the tragedy and to aid the millions of victims who survived.

In commemorating the Armenian and other victims of this tragic period, the Senate and House of Representatives also wish to affirm that the United States is pledged as friend and ally to defend the territorial integrity of the Republic of Turkey.

This resolution also memorializes the three thousand year old history of the Armenian people which has been distinguished by their contributions to all fields of endeavor and their capacity to endure immeasurable adversity, along with their triumphs, and shall be commemorated by all Armenians and their friends throughout the world.

1500,000

The Armenian nation is over three thousand years old and is distinguished by its contributions to all fields of human endeavor. The first to have adopted Christianity as a national religion, the Armenian people have also endured immeasurable adversity along with their triumphs. Their greatest tragedy occurred when ~~hundreds of thousands~~ ^{a million-and-a-half} of Armenians lost their lives during the period 1915-23, ^{seventy-fifth} the anniversary of which the Armenian people will commemorate on April 24, 1990. I am deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period and of their strong conviction ^{*} that those events ~~should be~~ ^{were} characterized as a genocide. The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during that period by leading international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate this tragedy and to aid the victims who survived.

^{*}

along with Raphael Lemkin, author of the term.

The United States can't acknowledge of a genocide. The AP's characterization ~~is~~ ~~is~~

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WASHFAX RECEIPT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

B

S/S #

11-55

MESSAGE NO. 043458 CLASSIFICATION Limited Official Use No. Pages 1

FROM: JSRoy S/S 5301 7224
(Officer name) (Office symbol) (Extension) (Room number)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION Armenian Resolution Language

TO: (Agency)	DELIVER TO:	Extension	Room No.
NSC	Brent Scowcroft / <u>Gates</u>		
NSC	Phillip Hughes		
	<u>HUTCHINGS</u>		

FOR: CLEARANCE INFORMATION PER REQUEST COMMENT

REMARKS:

S/S Officer: [Signature]

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
01. Resolution	Alternative Congressional Resolution Re: Armenian Anniversary (1 pp.)	11/07/89	b5	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Chief of Staff, White House Office of
Series: Sununu, John, Files
Subseries: Issues Files
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Armenian Joint Resolution (1990) [1]

Open on Expiration of PRA
 (Document Follows)
 By JF (NLGB) on 5/12/05

Date Closed: 12/7/2004	OA/ID Number: 29135-007
FOIA/SYS Case #: 1998-0004-F[1]	Appeal Case #:
Re-review Case #: 2005-0426-S	Appeal Disposition:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	Disposition Date:
AR Case #:	MR Case #:
AR Disposition:	MR Disposition:
AR Disposition Date:	MR Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
 P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
 P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
 P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
 P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
 P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Removed as a personal record misfile.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

(b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
 (b)(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
 (b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
 (b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
 (b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
 (b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
 (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
 (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

ALTERNATIVE RESOLUTION

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990, is designated as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Tragic Loss of Life that Occurred to Armenians and Others during and after World War I." The President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe this date as a day of remembrance for those who suffered during this tragic period.

The Armenian people have a history over three thousand years old, distinguished by their contributions to all fields of human endeavor. They were among the first peoples to have adopted Christianity. The Armenians have also endured immeasurable adversity along with their triumphs. Their greatest tragedy occurred when hundreds of thousands of Armenians lost their lives during the period 1915-23, the anniversary of which the Armenian people will commemorate on April 24, 1990. *(We are deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period and of their strong conviction that those events should be characterized as a genocide. We are also aware that large numbers of Moslems of the region also lost their lives during this period, and that historians continue to dispute whether the term genocide accurately characterizes these events.)* The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during that period by leading international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate this tragedy and to aid the victims who survived.

In commemorating the Armenian and other victims of this tragic period, the Senate and House of Representatives also wish to emphasize that the United States is pledged as friend and ally to defend the territorial integrity of the Republic of Turkey and that the United States condemns any terrorist violence perpetrated against Turkey.

* The Department continues to oppose use of the word "genocide." The word will be unacceptable to the Turks no matter how qualified. Even when "genocide" is put in the mouths of others, they will perceive it as the word of the President. If "genocide" is retained, we strongly urge that the second sentence also be retained to provide balance in what is a legitimate historical dispute.

W2408; 11/07/89

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Joint Resolution

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990, is designated as a "National Day of Remembrance" of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Armenian ~~massacres~~ of 1915-23 in the Ottoman Empire and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe this date as a day of remembrance for the 1.5 million people of Armenian ancestry who during the period from 1915 to 1923 were victims of the policies perpetrated (efforts made by?) by Ottoman authorities to destroy the Armenian race, prior to the establishment of the Republic of Turkey and the Adoption in 1948 of the Convention on Genocide by the United Nations General Assembly, and in their memory this date is commemorated by all Armenians and their friends throughout the world.

101st CONGRESS
1st Session

S. J. RES. _____

Designating April 24, 1989, as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923".

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. DOLE

) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

JOINT RESOLUTION

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990, is designated as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923", and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe this date as a day of remembrance for the 1.5 million people of Armenian ancestry who were victims of the genocide perpetrated by the governments of the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, prior to the establishment of the Republic of Turkey, and in their memory this date is commemorated by all Armenians and their friends throughout the world.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

06-Nov-1989 09:07 EDT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Brent Scowcroft

(SCOWCROFT)

FROM:

Robert L. Hutchings *RZH*
(HUTCHINGS)

SUBJECT:

Armenian Proclamation

We have attached a replacement paragraph with the language you indicated. This formulation, while better than the existing draft, would nonetheless do considerable damage to our relations with Turkey. The Turks would judge, not unreasonably, that by referring to the Armenians' characterization of these events as a "genocide," the President had gone some distance toward legitimizing and implicitly endorsing that characterization.

*11/6/89
0957*

Brent --

I may draw your fire but the very mention of genocide could produce an explosion in Ankara, with dire consequences for our bilateral relationship, the DECA and most important CFE where the Turks could bring the negotiations to a halt.

RD Blackwill

DECLASSIFIED
PER NSC WAIVER, 1500 2021-02
By SS NARA, Date 11/29/23

CC: Robert D. Blackwill

The Armenian nation is over three thousand years old and is distinguished by its contributions to all fields of human endeavor. The first to have adopted Christianity as a national religion, the Armenian people have also endured immeasurable adversity along with their triumphs. Their greatest tragedy occurred when hundreds of thousands of Armenians lost their lives during the period 1915-23, the anniversary of which the Armenian people will commemorate on April 24, 1990. I am deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period and of their strong conviction that those events should be characterized as a genocide. The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during that period by leading international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate this tragedy and to aid the victims who survived.

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State of California
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN
GOVERNOR

TELEPHONE
(916) 445-2841

DATE: 11/9

TO: John H. Sununu

Chief of Staff

The White House

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (202) 456-2397

FROM: Governor George Deukmejian

NUMBER OF PAGES (Including Cover): 2

Please contact (Lorrie Ward) at (916) 445-2843
if all pages have not been received.

NOTE:

Declaration

JOINT RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That April 24, 1990, is designated as "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Tragic Killing of Armenians in 1915-23," and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to join the millions of Armenians around the world in a day of remembrance for the Armenian people who were victims during this tragic period.

We are deeply aware of the terrible suffering of the Armenian people during that period and of their strong conviction that those events shall be characterized as a genocide. The United States responded to the anguish of the Armenian people during this period, prior to the establishment of the government of Turkey, by leading the international diplomatic and missionary efforts to terminate the tragedy and to aid the millions of victims who survived.

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scholar, and indeed on our own representation at the time,

of the summer,

Republic

officers

Mark in 5 years! Please request Army of Turkey

DRAFT
3:20 pm

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