Clark University Clark Digital Commons

Fazil Bey

Private Materials (Archive 2)

4-29-2018

15 Captain Fazil Bey IV

Krikor Guerguerian

Follow this and additional works at: https://commons.clarku.edu/pd fazil bey

Recommended Citation

Guerguerian, Krikor, "15 Captain Fazil Bey IV" (2018). Fazil Bey. 5. https://commons.clarku.edu/pd_fazil_bey/5

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Private Materials (Archive 2) at Clark Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Fazil Bey by an authorized administrator of Clark Digital Commons. For more information, please contact mkrikonis@clarku.edu, jodolan@clarku.edu.

INDICTEMENTS

OF

CAPTAIN FAZIL BEY

The first Line is missing 123-129 km. 9/2/1920

8 Mars 335 tarihinde trade-i Seniyeye Hadirate Padigahiye ilzan eden Kararmane ile Miles

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST COURT-MARTIAL

established by an Imperial Edich of March 8, 1919 (issued by His Majesty The King

President of the Court -- brigadier general ESAD PASHA.

Members -- brigadier general IHSAN PASHA, brigadier general ISMAIL HAKKI PASHA, colonel SULEYMAN SHAKIR BEY.

TRIAL OF (THOSE RESPONSIBLE) FOR THE KHARPERT / HARPUT / MASSACRE

Those defendants tried in absentia are: DR. BAHAEDDIN SHAKIR gen. Headquarters BEY, a member of the Central Committee of the Ittihad ve Terakki Cemiyeti or Committee of Union and Progress / hereafter referred to as CUP--tr._7 (and) president of Teshkilati Mahsusa or Special Organization; NAZIM BEY of Resne, responsible secretary of the CUP in Mamouret-Ul-Azi= (Kharpert) (Not to be confused with Dr. Nazim).

Those defendants present are: HACI BALOSH ZADE MEHMED NURI BEY, former member of Parliament from Dersim; FERID BEY, former Director of Public Instruction in Mamouret-til-Aziz.

THE TEXT) OF THE VERDICT

According to the proceedings which took place, the demands, explanations and arguments of both sides were heard; all the documents and records pertaining to the trial, and their contents, were read in entirety and examined; and the events in question were delved into. The result of the indispensable deliberations was the following: Dr. Bahaeddin Shakir bey, one of the members of the Central Committee of the CUP, went from Constantinople to Trebizond, Erzerum and other regions as president of the Special Organization, released groups of criminals from jails and organized other villains as well. As the leader of organized bands of raiders, he had killings and infamous acts committed by sudden attack during the forced deportation of the Armenians in various places and at various times; killings, plunder of properties, crimes and infamous acts were committed. Furthermore, out of deception or ignorance or desire for personal gain, certain other persons and officials (*) joined him, and secret instructions were prepared and communicated, sometimes verbally and sometimes by means of coded written telegrams, and those acts were committed according to those instructions. The Armenians were exterminated and destroyed by those comprising the Special Organization.

The same Bahaeddin Shakir Bey, in Kharpert, sent a coded telegram to fugitive NAZIM Bey of Resne, responsible secretary of the CUP, "to be delivered to NAZIM in care of Sabit Bey, vali (governor-general--tr.) of Kharpert" dated April 21, 1915 (1331) and which reads verbatim as follows:

-- "IS THE ACCOUNT OF THE ARMENIANS DEPORTED FROM THERE BEING SETTLED? (Are they being exterminated?). INFORM OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THEIR KILLING AND EXTERMINATION; OTHERWISE, ARE THEY BEING REMOVED ONLY FROM THE CITY AND DEPORTED?"

In addition to that coded telegram communicated in the form written above, there is also the following, among the documents found in the dossier about the members of the Central Committee of the CUP.

^(*) The court does not wish to reveal the names of those officials.

The following is

THE CARAVAN OF WEALTHY PERSONS (Armenian) SENT FROM ERZERUM,

VIA KEGHI, HAS BEEN KILLED IN THE MOST SAVAGE MANNER, THROUGH

TORTURES (with the cooperation of raiders from Dersim) BY BANDS

OF RAIDERS ORGANIZED BY BAHAEDDIN SHAKIR BEY."

That is the content of the coded telegram sent (*).

The former <u>vali</u> of Kastemouni, RESHID PASHA, testified that he had received a coded telegram from the aforementioned Bahaeddin Shakir which ordered the exile of Armenians.

VEHIB PASHA (general) gave the following testimony:

"The murder and extermination of Armenians and the plunder and usurpation of their properties had been decided by the Central Committee of the CUP in the region of the 3rd Army Corps (**)."

"The supplier and leader of the man-killing butchers was Ba-haeddin Shakir."

The following telegram was sent, again from Erzerum, by Baha-eddin Shakir to SAB(O)UR SAMI BEY, <u>mutassarif</u> (governor) of Antalia (Adalia) (province.)

"THEY ARE BEING SENT TO MOSUL AND ZOR (Der-el-Zor) FROM ERZE-RUM, VAN, BITLIS, DIYARBEKIR, SIVAS, TREBIZOND AND VICINITY, ON THE CONDITION THAT NOT A SINGLE ARMENIAN BE LEFT. What are you doing about that in Antalia?"

^(*) The Turkish judges endeavor to place responsibility for crimes on fugitives so the criminal Turkish government and the villainous accomplice local government officials will be exonerated.

^(**) Erzerum being the center of the 3rd Army Corps (in 1915), the provinces of Erzerum, Trebizond, Van, Bitlis, Kharpert, Sivas and Dikranagerd were under that army's jurisdiction.

That coded-telegram communique is also before the court.

The details are written in the proceedings and records. All the testimonies, communiques and arguments heard confirm all those facts (*).

And it has been documented too that the same Bahaeddin Shakir is the chief criminal who took part in the execution of the aforementioned crimes, and the verdict of his guilt is given unanimously. Among the others accused is fugitive NAZIM bey of RESNE. The telegram sent to Nazim bey dated April 21, 1915 (1331) shows that he was in communication with Bahaeddin Shakir during the time of the deportations; according to the statements recorded, he was also in contact with Sabit bey, vali of Mamouret-tl-Aziz, and MIDHAT SHUKRU bey, secretary-general of the Central Committee. According to the testimonies given by witnesses, Nazim, learning that a search for him was being carried out, fled and today is a fugitive from the law.

According to the contents of other communiques pertaining to the trial, he, too, is the principal participant in the aforementioned crimes and, as far as both persons are concerned, according to the determination of the law, "there is no proof of their having played any role in joining the principal criminals or committing the aforementioned crimes," However, it is thought that he was in communication with Bahaeddin Shakir, as mentioned above, and, according to

^(*) The court is careful not to record the sites and dates of the crimes, and the number of victims.

the testimonies heard, he knowingly assisted the principal criminals in the work of preparing and simplifying matters for the aforementioned crimes, and he was a secondary accomplice as well. Under those circumstances, the minority voice, according to the law, prevails such that, by 2/3 majority, the verdict of his (Nazim's) guilt as accomplice has been reached.

Deliberations have been made concerning the determination of punishments to be given:

"The deeds of Bahaeddin Shakir, one of the aforementioned criminals, correspond to Article 181 of the penal code. And he is condemned to death according to Article 171. Nazim of Resne, in turn, by application of Paragraph 2 of Article 15 of the same penal code, is sentenced to 15 years of hard labor and, according to the disposition of the law, the properties of both are to be seized and disposed, and Nazim is also deprived of civil rights."

As far as the other accused, the former member of Parliament from Dersim, MEHMED NURI BEY, and FERID bey, former Director of Public Instruction in Kharpert (presently Director of Public Instruction in Konya), are concerned; ----

There is the matter of Mehmed Nuri Bey having carried out the exile, massacre and extermination of Armenians near the village of Holapig (?) in the vicinity of his farm and his having said in the presence of massacrer-gendarmes, "I will send you to 'the village of bones.' " Although the accusation of his having ordered the gendarmes to commit massacre has been heard before the Court-Martial, nevertheless, during the proceedings, according to the

testimony of plaintiff Mrs. MARKRID, this Mehmed Nuri bey went to the village of Holonek (?) and said, "You will be exiled and I will have barley planted in the places where you are now living"; it is said that he went to GARABED's house and affixed a paper containing the statement: "If anyone allows (keeps) any person in these places, let him come three months later and try to find them." It is further said that he then got on his horse and departed.

Contradictory statements were made as follows. Mrs. Markrid was in Istanbul during the period of deportation, and Caspar Movsesian, in turn, plundered many persons' monies, through Nuri bey, and affixed a signed paper on a red military paper on the door of Garabed's house. Mrs. Markrid is said to "have heard" only that Nuri bey lifted the shirts of certain women and performed indecent acts; after saying "I will plant barley" in that village, he departed on horseback and joined ready brigands. Nuri bey stated he had no knowledge whatsoever of such a paper being affixed. Under oath, the matter of the paper being affixed to the door of Garabed's house was also refuted (*).

It was also testified that (Armenians) have hid on Mehmed Nuri bey's farm and escaped exile, and Garabed, had been in Mehmed Nuri bey's house all along. It having been stated that NURI bey hadn't been seen taking plundered goods from his sister's husband, ASIM bey's house, the matter of Mehmed Nuri bey's taking money from

^{(*) 204,000} Armenians are subjected to forced deportation and genocide in the province of Kharpert and the Turkish court-martial concerns itself with that sort of trivia, instead of bringing to light and trying the gigantic crime and the major criminals, the authors of the crime.

the deportees isn't considered worthy of inquiry and, contrary to the government order that those protecting any (of the Armenians) subject to deportation would be subject to the death penalty, he has saved many of the people from the village of Holvenik (?) (*) by hiding them and, in the previous session, as a result of the appeals of more than 30 persons and particularly in accordance with the testimony of the American Mister Riggs (whose neutrality is undoubtable), the aforementioned Mehmed Nuri bey protected many an Armenian during the deportation and he too has confirmed that matter and saved his neck.

As far as MEHMED ALI, one of the witnesses heard, is concerned, his testimony was written in detail in the records of the trial; however, being opposed to that, after testifying before the Inquiry Committee, he has met with Mustafa Savfet bey and told him about his testimony and, giving his address, declared that he is prepared to change his testimony.

concerning the accused director of public instruction FERID bey, there is no proof of his having organized caravans of deportees during the deportation carried out by government order; having committed cruelties against the people; having massacred the Armenians of Sosvenik (*) in the vicinity of MEHMED NURI bey's farm, seized their properties and taken them to his sister's husband, ASIM bey's house (**), he is set free, being a "non-participant"

^(*) In the original text, the name of the village is spelled in many different ways: Holopik, Holvenik, Sovenik. On a large map, the name is written "Hoolpenik."

^(**) The jewels and valuable goods taken from the exiles, money etc. were turned over to the government, with a share given to the brigands and the CUP.

and "innocent" of these charges and there being no other reason for his arrest.

The court releases its verdict unanimously, with Bahaeddin Shakir and Nazim of Resne in absentia and in the presence of Mehmed Nuri and Ferid.

IHSAN

Signature of the judges

January 13, 1920 (1336) 21 Reb tll Akher 1338.

Though in agreement with this verdict, the following three judges are of the conviction that NAZIM OF RESNE as well, like Bahaeddin Shakir, is a principal participating criminal.

(Signature of judges)
SULEYMAN SHAKIR
ISMAIL HAKKI
ESAD

As is evident from the decision, the Turkish government has found only two persons —they, in turn, fugitives (in Berlin) and learned two accused present, "innocent" at that—responsible for the massacre of more than 150,000 Armenians (in the province of Kharpert) and 20,000 Armenian soldiers, the seizure and usurpation of individual and national properties.

Not a single reference to the bloodthirsty hyenas: the <u>vali</u> of Kharpert, Sagirzade (*) Sabit bey, <u>kaymakam</u> Asim bey, Mufti

^(*) The Sagirzades are known as the derebeys or feudal chiefs of Kemakh.

January 5, 1920, Shevket Bey, Attorney General at the Court Martial, prenounced his indictments against the responsible Secretaries and Delegates of the Union and Progress Party in the provinces of the Ottoman Empire:

"Following the inquiries and trials carried out...

/by the Court Martial K/, the responsible delegates of
Union and Progress Party in the provinces of the Ottoman

Empire...committed the following crimes: They served as

executive agents in the provinces...in 1915 in accordance
with the provisions of the Law of Deportations...they

formed bands in order to destroy the Armenians who were

transferred elsewhere and usurped their possessions...

"These delegates are accused to have collaborated with the criminals of the Committee and notably to have committed the crimes of deportations and massacres, pillages and rapes...Armenian women and children have been compelled to deportation...Certain women and children died on the way and others have been directly massacred and exterminated...

"All these oppressions and tyranies have been carried out upon the decision of Union and Progress Party, and this is a public truth established as clearly as two and two make four..."

ARMENOCIDE

İ N

HARPUT AND MALATIA

I N D I C T M E N T S

O F

CAPTAIN F .A Z I L B E Y

A MEMBER OF THE TURKISH COURT MARTIAL

AND A NOTABLE TURK OF MALATIA,

ANNOTATED AND PUBLISHED

BY 💋 KRIEGER

COPYRIGHT KRIEGER PUBLICATIONS

These mass acres were perpetrated

we are presenting to the academic community, for the first time, the text of a Turkish document concerning the deportation and genocide of the Armenian people in Turkey. In the province of Mamuret and Genocide of the Armenian people in Turkey. In the province of Mamuret and Genocide of the Armenian people in Turkey. In the facts of the province of Mamuret and Armenian people in Turkey. In the facts of the security of the facts can not be marshalled to give the full effect of their coarseness.

of the same

The murderers, as well as their victims, are only difthe only difference in these events is the
ferent from each others.

names of the murderers, as well as their victims.

upon

dered by the Turkish Government, and agreed by civil and military authorities, had been carried out, in general, mest in the same way and pocedure.

Starting by 1914

Bassins,

Massins,

Mits, and

i

The Turkish Government cleared (out all the Turkish prisons, and formed a special organization, called "Teski
The lâte Mahsusa, composed of more than ten thousand killers, &

who were condemned to several penal ties, serving sentences in prisons.

Ishkilât-i Mahsusa, gango were the the human instrument in the hands.

The compiler of the document, who is not an ordinary rather a notatic and man, but a member of the Turkish Court Martial in Malatia, has been able, with stroke of the pen, to show as they were, as they were all of the victims, crimes and the criminals in their whole cruelty.

Historians wan now can see what had been the reality of the first genocide of large-scale, and how the Turkish

Government and people had decided to resolve a problem by the

husters from the war.

by the extermination of a people who had lived in his own country for more than twenty-five xenturies.

G. Krieger 1966

toot note

Les Memoires de Mgr. Jean Naslian Evêgue de Trébisonde

Editeur Mgr. J. Nasliau, Bepoutts Imprimerie pekshitariste, Vienne, 1951 (2001)

Vol. I. p. 255,

19/8

XX

n'a pas pu recevoir du Captain fazil Bey de Malatia, lui se trouvant à Constantinople, avant l'armistice, un document portant la date du 30 Novembre 1918; cette date doit être le 12 D'étubre 1918, et Mgr. Naslian n'a pas pu remettre à cette date "à la S.D.N.V., qui n'inistait pas encore. Mgr Naslian fit un voyage en surope fin 1999, et c'en alors qu'il a pu remettre la liste à la S.D. N.) " Fazil Bey, membre de la Cour Martiale à Malatia, a donné une liste de 294 pusonnalités turques, respo (le nombre est de 569, dont 294 rour des personnalités, les autres ne l'étaut pas) responsables de l'execution des mesures jeunes turques contre les Arménieus. « Cette liste fut remire par moi à la S.D. N. avec une Note». X

liste for remire par moi à la S. D. N. avec une Notes, x

ON Nov. 1917 (This date is not correct, Msgr. Na stian food

mote de in Constantino ple could not receive at this date

the list of criminals from Fazil Bey of Malatia, which is

d document odated Nov. 30, 1918. It the date much be

December 12, 1918, and Msg. Naslian trav when 1949

traveling in lurope, had given the list to the

league of Nations) Fazil Bey, a member of the Court Nartial

at Malatia gave me a list of 294 Turkish personalities.

(the whole list to 569 criminals of them 569, only 294. N.).

A R M E N O C İ D E

Ì N

MAMURET-UL-AZİZ

A C C U S A T I O N S

DF BY

C A P T A I N F A Z I L B E Y

A NOTABLE MEMBER

OFTHE TTURKISH COURT

MARTÍAL OF MALATÍA

ANNOTATED AND PUBLISHED

By G. KRIEGER

COPYRIGHT G. KRIEGER PUBLICATIONS

Preface

We are presenting to the academic community, for the first time, the text of a long Turkish document concerning the deportation and massacre of the Armenian people in Turkey. The massacres were organized and perpetrated in the province of Mamuret-ul-Aziz.

The document in question is a kind of repetion of organized atrocities, murders, rapes, robberies, pillages and plunderings with excessive violence, with by 569 person aliter

The only difference in these events is the names of and tainings, the murderers, as well as their victims.

The massive deportations, massacres, decided upon and ordered by the Government of Young Turks of Union and Progress Party, and agreed upon by civil and military authorities in the capital as well as in the provinces, had been carried out in general in practically the same way and in the same procedure.

The Government cleared all the Turkish prisons, and formed starting by 1914 a special organization called mesh-kilatl Mahsusa, composed of more than ten thousand murderers, assasnis and all kinds of criminals, who were condemned to several penalties, serving sentences in prisons.

"The Teshkilati Mahsusa" gangs were the human instrument in the hands of the Turkish Government to carry out the secret plans and projects decided and prepared prior to the beginning of the War I.

The compiler of this document, who is not an ordinary man, but rather a notable from Malatia and a member of the Turkish Court Martial of the same town, has been able, with one stroke of the pen, to show the reality of facts, the victims, the crimes and the criminals as they were in all of their cruelty.

what/ large-scale/
Historians now can see/the reality of the/Armenocide
had been and how the Turkish Government and people had decided to resolve a problem by the annihilation of a people
which had lived in its own country for more than fourty
centuries.

1966.

Krieger

INTRODUCTION

we are giving the present Turkish document relating to the genocide of the Armenian people, as it is. In the original.

It is an original copy, dated November 30,1918.(1)

There can not be question of original properly so called,

because the author, Captain Fazil Bey, a notable of Malatia,

Turkey, and a member of the Turkish Court Martial in the same

town, had prepared himself many copies of the document, all

hand-written, each copy being original, and he sent them forth

to the highest authorities of the Turkish Government and the

representatives of concerned parties.

The Armenians were a party concerned in this matter.

The Armenian Communities have preserved their respective copies as well as the Turkish Ministries and the Senate. This document is conserved in the papers of the Turkish Court Mar
tering the authors a accomplices of masses, tial, One can find a copy, also, in the archives of the League of Nations.

The present original copy is a copy-book of 82 pages, written in small Osmanli letters.

We are giving not only a translation of the Turkish text in English, but also a photographic reproduction of each page separately in Arabic characters, as well as the Turkish text of the document in atin characters, or in modern Turkish.

On December 16, 1918, the Turkish Sultan Ahmet Vahideddin constituted, by an imperial decree, a special Court Martial, chadged to judge the Turkish Criminals involved in the genocide

magnification of the state of t

of the Armenian people. 1

This Court Martial, starting to operate February 6, 1919, had condemned almost all the members of the Cabinets, presided successively by Saxit Halim Pasa (1913-1917) and Ahmet Talât Pasa (Tehuany 2,1917 - October 6, 1918).

tuted an Extraordinary Court Martial to try the authors and accomplices of genocide. The Court was composed as follows:

President: Mehmet Hayret Paşa, Division General, retired.

Ali Nadir Paşa: Commander of Army Corps of Strouma, retired.

Kurt Mustafa Paşa: Commander of the 27th Division of Acting

Army.

Sevket Bey: Civil Member, Member of the Court of Appeal in Constantinople.

Artin Efendi Mostician, Member of the Court of Appeal in Constantinople.

Nihat Bey: Assistant Attorney General of the Supreme Court of Appeal.

Moses Zeki Efendi: Member of the Court of First İnstance in Pera.

Misak Efendi Makarian: Member of the Court of First Instance in Pera.

Nazıf Efendi: Member of the Court of First Instance in Pera.

Abdul Hami Efendi: Member of the Court of First Instance

in Constantinople.

(See: La Renaissance, No of December 23, 1918.)

The Turkish Minisers, responsible for the genecide of the Armenian people, have been sentenced to death: Ahmet Talât Paşa, Minister of the Interior, and Prime Minister; Enver Paşa, Minister of War and Commander-in-Chief of the Ottoman Armed Forces; Cemal Paşa, Minister of Marine and Commander in-Chief of the Fourth Ottoman Army in Syria and Mesopotamia.

The Sexh-Ul-Islam, or Moslim Grand Priest, Musa Kâzim Efendi, Minister of Religious Affarirs, has been condemned to death. 2

Senator Ahmet Riza Bey stated: "The scope of the 'National Bloc' is to defend the rights of the Nation. The first thing we have to do, to get up again in front of the eyes of Europe, is to we must punish the authors of the atrocities, the Members of the Central Committee of Union and Progress and his responsible delegates and the persons who had been guilty for abuses..."

(See Ren. No 81, Thursday March 6, 1919.)

2. "The Council of Ministers held a meeting yesterday in the Imperial Palace and deliberated on the political situation and questions of the interior. The council of the interior.

"The condemnations sertenced by the Court Martial against the Unionist; (Members of the Union and Progress Party) had been a metter of discussion and deliberation.

"Capital punishment pronounced against the former Seyh -Ulİslam, Musa Kâzim Efendi, has not been approved by imperial decree;

decision had been made, after long deliberations, to commute into
this punishment into reclusion." (See Ren. No 91, July 13, 1919.)

(1) Jive test and Tabrim - Velrayi No

Dr. Nazım Bey, former Minister of Education, Member of the Central Committee of Uniton and Progress Party, and Director of the "Teşkilâtı Mahmsusa", and Member of the Tri-Member Executive Commission for genocide, had been sentenced to death.

Dr. Behaeddin şakır Bey, Member of the Central Committee of the Union and Progress Party, former Minister of Cults, President of the "Teşkilâtı Mahsusa and Chairman of the Tri-Member Executive Commission for genocide, has been sentenced to death.

fifteen by years of hard labor.

The files of the records of the Turkish Court Martial had been published in part in Tekvim-1 Vekayi, official Journal of the Turkish Government.

well, during the prosecution of the Turkishx Court Martial authors and accomplices of the genocide of Armenian people before the Turkish Court Martial, the Armenians were represented as a party closely concerned, and, in this capacity, the Armenian Community had quite a right to have and keep in his possession copies of the documents and records of the Turkish Court Martial.

1 it is awazing the

[&]quot;The former Seyh, Ul-Islam Musa Kâzim Efendi, has been condemned by the Court Martial to 15 years of hard labor. The sentence of the Court submitted to the approbation of the Sultan Emperor, has been returned to the Council of Ministers." See Ren. No 193, Wednesday, July 16, 1919. To be sentenced to death, Musa Kazim Efendi had signed the Holy War Fetwa and the Fetwa Relifious/ of generale. And as/Chief, he approved in the Cabinet of Saxit Halim Paşa, the accree of generale.

time, concern only the criminals of the province of MamuretUl- Aziz, as known to Captain Fazil Bey, Member of the Turkish Court Martial of Malatta 1914-1918.

That is the reason why the author of this document is giving only the names of the authors and accomplices of Armenocide im within the boundaries of the area of Mamuret-Ul-Aziz,
in light of the fast considering that each governor and military commander, were authorized to order to kill and plunder, within the area depending of their jurisdiction, the Armenians living within the same boundaries, and the caravans of the Armenian deportees from the other provinces and crossing the territories of their jurisdiction.

The longest document we are publishing for the first

The convoys of deported Armenians coming from the provinces of Erzirum, Trebizond and Sivas, were directed to Der-ElZor in Mesopotamia, via Malatia.

seen the most of the criminals whom he indicting by the names and the crimes they committed; he knows them well, also, he knows their crimes and he heard them boasting, or he heard from those who were their complices, who had them well known and whe heard them bragging.

He knows km by their names the criminals who killed the Armenian Archbishops and Bishops and other notables.

name

Krieger.

Archbishop Zaven, Badriark'agan Housheres: Vaverakrer ev Vgayout'iunner (Cairo, 1947). / My Pa-

The Bureau in the triarchal Memoirs: Documents and Testimonies 7

Service of intellec the in hodication of volume, wither by that delivered "Fortunately, the papers and records dating from his an announcement period as patriarch had been transferred, upon his order, which reads from Constantinople to Marseilles and, from there, to the as follows: monastery at Jerusalem.

"Therefore, His Beatitude undertook to go to Jerusalem (from Bagdad) and take a look at them, "in 1938 in order to complete his memoir.

In his Preface, Partriarch Zaven writes:

"Shortly before the war, I undertook to write my memoirs for which, unfortunately, facilities were lacking to me in Bagdad, indispensable documents, in particular, which I was able to obtain in part on my visit to Jerusalem."

p.5

(Birshag) "The Information Bureau, thanks to its two proficient and intelligent workers, Messrs. Alboyajian and G. Nourian. furnished all the data demanded by the embassies and helped them.

"During the summer of 1938, I made a special trip to Jerusalem to look over the archives of the Information Bureau which had been sent to Bishop Krikoris Balakian in Manchester for safekeeping in November 1922 and, through the efforts of Patriarch Torkom, had been transferred subsequently to Jerusalem where they were being carefully kept.

"I was greatly surprised to see there a complete collection of documents and records of all the important events da-Transfer had been to 1 Manchester, 2) Marseills, 3) yerus alan ting from 1918-1922.

"Arshag Alboyajian's work in assembling and classifying them is of great value. Unfortunately, I was only able to remain there for a few days to utilize them in this work of mine.

"The bylaw(s) drawn up for the Information Bureau, which has have been ratified by the Political Assembly, state(s):
The Information Bureau has been constituted under the immediate control and responsibility of one of the members of the relative Committee of the Political Assembly.

"According to the bylaw(s), there would be centered 'all manner of old and new statistics pertaining to Armenian and the Armenian case...data concerning all the episodes and deportations; statistical descriptions of both mobile and immobile goods plundered, having belonged both to the nation and individuals; in particular, as complete as possible data and biographical details about the principal guilty Turks having participated in the crimes committed during the last cent 7 deportation(s); documents and testimonies gathered, concerning their culpability, and statistics about Islamized Armenians of both sexes and kidnapped orphans...'

"Data concerning various old and new national (Armenian) organizations, political parties, as well as independent unions and associations; statistical data pertaining to national and educational activity; lists describing the quality and quantity of national wealth; verbal and written statements by Europeans about our national case, as well as the character of Armenians etc.; concise notes concerning official and unofficial written accounts by Turks regarding Armenians...

(Armenians)

the centralization of data communicated about us to the Armenian or foreign press.

"Garabed Nourian, who had been chosen by the Patriarch and elected member of the Political Assembly, once having m been approved by the (Armenian) National Assembly on June 29, 1920, has presented a report about said Bureau, from which I extract the following several paragraphs which fully elucidate the role played by the Information Bureau.

- "G. Nourian lists the projects accomplished by the Bureau thus;
- "1. To present the conduct of the Turks vis-a-vis
 the Armenians; this being urgent, it has constituted the
 majority of the Bureau's concerns! business of activities.
 The High Commissaries, as well as the Republic and the (Armenian) National Delegation, with three hundred reports, have
 given information about all the attacks which are being carried out by Turks against Armenians, starting dating from
 the armistice; by means of 222 other reports, indispensable
 factual documents have been furnished concerning the authors
 of the deportation, whom the Turks wish to vindicate...!
- "2. Massacres and deportations; the Bureau is accumulating...all works the data on massacres and deportations, which have been verified and based on true evidence to the timonies. A book about the massacre of Kayseri and another about that of Diyarbekir...have already been published; a third and fine work on the Armenian clerical martyrs shall go to press shortly...
- "3. Statistics; ... the Bureau has undertaken the preparation of a compendium which shall describe the true state

of affairs of the dioceses of the Patriarchate; i.e., the number of churches, monasteries and schools; the quantity of national possessions properties and the population figure for each prelacy.

"4. Data about Armenia; the Bureau is accumulating...
all works inciting favorable interest in Karwing favorable
attention to Karmenian national propaganda. It has made
copies of and distributed the agricultural report on Armenia
...The Bureau is looking into the matter of publishing a
study on the mineral wealth of Armenian territory I land I...

"5. Accumulation of documents and library; the Bureau is accumulating and classifying...all the worthwhile documents pertaining to Armenian social and political life. Thus, more than six hundred reports, lists of statistics etc. published by Armenian associations or official organizations have been classified...The Bureau has a library consisting of works discussing Armenians. Added to these books are two rich collections belonging to Mr. Hrant Asadour and Mr. T'eotig, the preservation of whose contents has been entrusted to the Bureau. The two collections collectively comprise 7800 volumes."

pp.302-305.