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11 Notes - Genocide

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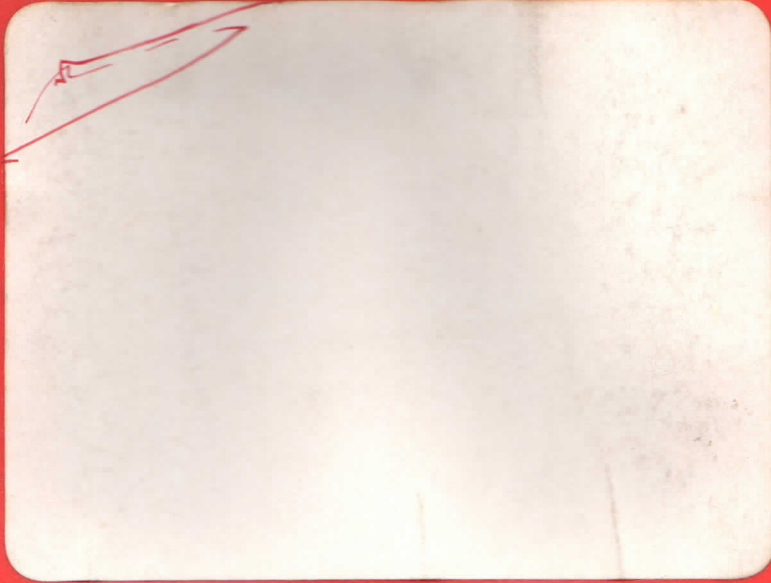
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GUARANTEED

HULLA-BALOO

NOTEBOOK

SUPER-TUFF • SPILL-PROOF • NON-FRAYING



1
Ապագոստոսի Կայսր

Ազնեայի 1772 ամի փրկելու միջոց յամեն 1860

հանգիստը կարևոր արդիւնութեամբ

և յամենուրեք ան միայն երևիլի իրաց

արդարաւորութեամբ Աւերիւն զարմացելի կ'ընդունան

Կ. Արշակ

Տպագրութեան արդարաւորութեամբ, և ընդ.

1871

Կգ 1-621, Քրիստոսի 433-621

Sept. 26, 1915

PROVISIONAL LAW

REGARDING THE GOODS, DEBTS AND CREDITS
OF THOSE PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN
TRANSPORTED ELSEWHERE

Article 1

The goods, debts and credits of particulars and moral persons who have been transported elsewhere, in conformity with the provisional law of May 14th-27, 1915, will be liquidated by the courts upon presentation of a statement of accounts drawn up for each person by a commission instituted for this task.

Article 2

The properties consisting of buildings (wakf icareteinli) and of wakf lands belonging to such persons as are referred to in Article 1, will be set down in the name of the ministry for pious foundations; the other buildings will be set down to the name of the Finance Ministry.

After the liquidation of the status of the owner proprietor, the remainder of the sum from the value of his property will be remitted to him which will be settled with him by one of these two ministries.

In all the lawsuits concerning buildings and all matters related to them, either due to contested ownership or other causes, the other party will be represented by employees of the Cadastre (administration for land assessment). Ownership may be established by evidence other than writs of property issued by the Ministry of Cadastres, on condition that it is not a question of an apocryphal statement.

If during these acts of transfer and the sales made by the above-mentioned persons, within the 15 days before their transport, it is established, following a lawsuit, that there exist simulation of excessive deceit, the act will be annulated.

Article 3

The ready moneys, moveable goods abandoned, credits and deposits of the persons above-cited, will be collected, retaken and demanded of the debtors by the presidents of the ad hoc commissions, who will, simultaneously, operate the sale of those abandoned goods which are not contested. The sums thus constituted will be left in deposit in the safe of the Finance Ministry set down in the name of the proprietors.

Article 3 4

A two month delay is granted to those who claim they have rights on the abandoned buildings or who say they are creditors of the transported persons, in order that they may have the time to address themselves personally or through an empowered party to the commission and have their claims inscribed. ~~Exidasyx~~ This delay is of four months for those persons who are living abroad. Besides, they must select a domicile in the city where the commission is staying to enable that the necessary communications be made to them. The lawsuits undertake after this delay will follow the rules of ordinary procedure and persons who have a warranted right from such lawsuits will not be able to lay claim to the goods liquidated in conformity with the present law.

Article 5

The commissions will find out the evidence of each debt and each credit they will accept and set down those that they will have found to be warranted and will send the creditors to the competent courts after having set down the contested lawsuits regarding abandoned goods. Moreover, the commission will draw up a balance sheet of the assets and liabilities of each person and will bring these balance sheets to the know-

ledge of interested parties by posting legalized copies of them at the places indicated why the originals of these balance sheets with relevant items will remitted to the attorney general.

The attorney general will forwards these documents to the arbitration court of the conscription wherein the debtor had his legal residence before his transport and will ask this court to register these documents. Creditors may submit their objections to these bills of right before competent courti and within wiwteen days of the notice being posted.

Up^on expiration of the delay, the court will examine the accounts in the presence of the attorney general and if objections have been submitted, it will urgently summon the person who has formulated them and the commission president or the person replacing him so that note be taken of the claim and the defence. Thereupon the court will effect the necessary modifications in the balance sheets in question and after registering them, will turn them over to the commissions in the form of court sentences to be effected in conformity with the dispositions of the following article:

Thése sentences are not susceptible to objections deferments, appeals or cessation.

Article VI

The task of paying the privileged and ordinary debts of the debtor, in conformity with court's final sentence, falls upon the liquidation commissions, and upon the executive courts when the commissions are not in session. If the total of the goods of the debtor are not enough for the integral payment of his ordinary and privileged debts, these are paid in proportion with the assets.

Article VII

Conservation seizures and executive seizures effected as regards the goods of displaced persons, either by the courts or the administrative offices of the State will be null and void and those who have effected these seizures will comply by the present law. Those who have lawsuits in process against displaced persons will be free to address themselves to the commissions or to allow the matter to run its normal course in conformity with the general dispositions. The last paragraph of article 4 is applicable to those who do not address themselves to the commissions. The lawsuits in process that are in favor of these persons will be pursued by the president of the commission or one appointed by him.

Article 8

The manner in which the commission will be instituted and the application of the different dispositions of the present law will be the object of a statute.

Article 9

The constructed buildings of the category of icareteinli wakfs as well as wakf lands and other buildings set down to the account of the Ministry of Wakfs and Finances, may be, in conformity with rules regarding the emigrants, be distributed to immigrants

Article 10

The Ministers of Wakfs, of the Interior, of Justice and of Finances are charged with the execution of the present law.

Article 11

The present law will be in force from the day of its promulgation.

September 26, 1915.

Signed: Sultan Mehmet Reşat,
Said Halim Paşa, Prime Minister,
Hâiri Bey, Minister of Evkaf,
Talaat Bey, " of Finances

See: "Hygagan khache lootun", Asadour Melcon, Manuscript
p. 72-75.

Turkish military and civil
authorities began to act without waiting
the decisions and verdict of the
Court Martial

" No 4/4580.

Decoded telegram
continuation of instructions
No 118 dated June 24, 1915.

I have the honor to bring to your knowledge as an
information that the government administratively
arrested 100 Armenians and exiled them to their
destination to Diarbekir via Sivas tonight.

June 25, 1915.

Acting Commander of the 15th Division: 1

1. The telegram is addressed to Halit Rejai, Ankara.
The exile under escort to Diarbekir was a conventional
secret understanding: the exiles should be killed on the
high way. Muammer Bey, Vali of Sivas, and Dr. Reshid Bey,
Vali of Diarbekir, were invested with Special power.

JAJ. No 4586.

2

Despite the instructions even the families of soldiers ~~are not~~ have not been excepted. ^{gravely} Even sick people are expelled without any pity compassion. The last days there were new convoys towards Mossoul and Der Zor. In spite of insurances [reiterated] of the S. Porte, the definitive goal of all these operations is the extermination of the Armenian Nation. "

"Although Talat Bey, whose attache I called ~~the~~ his attention ~~at~~ of Talat on this the situation, promised me to make arrangements, but I don't think that the orders of the central government may bring a substantial amelioration ~~for the~~ in the situation of the deported Armenians.

Hohenlohe

To His Excellency the Chancellor of the Empire
M. von Bethmann Hollwegg.

1
Col. Shahabbeddin informs
Army Commander Halil Rejai that
83 Armenians of Kayseri sentenced
to be exiled by the Court Martial,
have been deported via Nigde and
36 Armenian soldiers exiled via Sivas.

" No 154.

Decipher: Army Commander, Ankara.

I have the honor of informing you that 83 Armenians
of Kayseri, sentenced ^{to be exiled} by the Court Martial of the city,
have been deported tonight by order of the government,
via Nigde under escort to their destination, and
36 Armenian soldiers to Aleppo via Sivas.

June 28. 1915.

Acting Commander of the 15th Division:
Signed/ Shahabbeddin. 1

1- JAJ. No 457.

July 11/12, 1915
deputy

23

No. 39

Jemal Bey, Mutesarif of Yozgat
informs Atif Bey, Provisional Vali of Ankara
that according to ^{the} investigation he held,
the uprising of the Armenians was not serious
and that gendarmes created panic in order
to massacre and loot Armenians

Transliteration

English Translation

Ankara Vilâyeti

Decoded telegram of July

mektupcılığı adet Yozgat
mutasarrıflığına 11/12 Temmuz
331 tarihli ve 138 numaralı
şifre telgrafnamesi mahlulu.

11/12, 1915, dispatched by Jemal
Bey, Mutesarif of Yozgat, ~~to Ankara~~
to the Secretariat of Ankara,
No. 138.

Boğazlıyan Kaymakam vekâ-
letinden dün gece alınan tel-
grafnamede Mursidağ ve Kanlı-
canın Çiftliği ve Kaya-pınarı
kariyelerine firari Ermenilerin
bil hücum ikayi takribat ettik-
leri ve Bektaşlı kariyesi
ahalisinin berâ-i takife
gittikleri ihbar edilmesi
üzerine, ^cgendarma gönderilmiş
isede, mevcut kuvvet semti
muhalifede bulunan Kaymakamı
Kara mezdinde bulunan merkezce
icab-i iş'ar ve bu gece alınan

In a telegram received last
night, the Acting Kaymakam of Bo-
ghazlian, informed me that Armenian
fugitives attacked the population
of the villages of Moursadigh,
and Kanlıja Chiftlighi and Kaya-
pınar, where they committed devas-
tations. The villagers of Bektashi
pursued the Armenians. In addition,
the gendarmes ^{were} also sent there
All available forces were ^{gathered}
and accompanied the Kaymakam, who
is now in the vicinity. He himself
made the necessary arrangements.

telgrafnamede dahi bu babdaki şajiyatın biyaz ve esas olduğu izbar kılınmıştır.

Kuradan avdet eden Akdağmadenikaymakamından şimdi alınan telgrafnamede jandarma Takım Kumandanı tarafından iş'ar edilen muamelenin pek ziyade izam edilmiş bulunduğu ve kaza-i mezkürin Kaymakam vekiliyle jandarma takım Kumandanı taraflarından müşteriken alınıp bir suret-i 9 Temmuz 331 tarihli 131 numaralı telgrafname acizanem zirine derc olunan 9 Temmuz 331 telgrafnamede mevzui bahsolan Derekapladıcı tariyesi vakıasının kariye mezküre civarında dolıştığı görülen bir iki asker firarisine başka bir nam verilmekten ibaret bulunduğu bildirilmiştir.

Akdağmaden Kazası Şube riyasetine tayin olunup evveli gece buradan hareket eden Binbaşı Ahmet Bey tarafından

^{the} at headquarters. In a telegram received this evening, I was informed that all ^{the} this was rumor and had no validity.

The Kaymakam of Akdaghmaden, returning from the villages of this region, ^{has} just ~~now~~ advised me by telegram that the events previously reported were greatly exaggerated and the incident in question ^{This incident is contained in} in the collective telegram of Dere-Kapladigi, ~~of the~~ Commander of the Gendarmerie Detachment ^{dated} July 9, 1915, No 131, ^{copy} of which ^{a copy} has been sent to Your Excellency, attached to my telegram of the same date, is reduced to an erroneous qualification of one or two fugitives, prowling about the area of the Kaza disguised under another name. ^{assumed} This is the fact.

To your Excellency I submit attached hereto, a copy of the telegram received this evening from Major Ahmed Bey, appointed

bu akşam alınan telgrafname suret-i zire derc edildi. Ledil-istihzah ^c jandarma tabur kumandanı tarafından Terzili ve civarı kurada topladılarak Sivas vilâyetinin talabı üzerine Sivasa gönderdiği takımıyla arzutakdim kılınan evrak tahkikiyesinde beyan olunan 169 kişi sevkedildikten sonra, zikıymet eşyalarının alınıp beraber götürüldüğü köy boş bırakıldığından bazı mevcut emvalın ahali tarafından yağma edildiği söylemekte bulunduğu ve bunun tahkiki için bir memurun izam lâzım eden Binbaşı mümaileyh tarafından makina başında ifade kılınmıştır.

Tahkikatın kendisine havale edileceği bildirilmiş isede, meşguliyetinin müsait olmadığını ifade ediyor. Mâruzat-ı meşrutadan malum vilâyet pena-

Chief of the Region of the Kaba of Akdaghmaden, who left two nights ago to take up his ^{office} position. Major Ahmed Bey confirms the disturbance ^e to me by telephone, according to which 169 people, whose ^{are pending} (dossiers I send ¹ examination's), have been arrested in the village of Terzili and its environs by the Commander of ^{the} Gendarmerie, and held for questioning. These people were to be sent to Sivas at the request of the Vali of Sivas. When they started towards Sivas, they took their valuable possessions with them. ~~Because the vil-~~ ^B ~~lages became emptied~~ of their ~~Armenian inhabitants K~~, ^{as the villages were emptied and the} remaining villages were evacuated, ~~and~~ the remaining people pillaged their homes and shops.

He [Ahmed Bey K] ~~is~~ considers it necessary to send an official investigation ^{or} to determine whether there is any truth ^{in the} [to these reports K]. I charged him [Ahmed Bey

hileri buyurulacağı üzere, kaymakamlardan ahiren vaki olan işaret evvelce verilen malûmatı kısmen tekzib eylemekte bulunmuş, kazalardan veka-i mütehadise hakkında evvel ve ahir verilen malûmatım temami itimade şayan görülmekte ve Binbaşı Ahmet Beyin işarı dahi lâzım uttakkik ehemmiyeti haiz görülmektedir.

Dün gece tavisşlen arzettiğim mazeret sebebiyle merkezden infikakı cesaret edemediğim gibi livaca memurini mülkiyeden bu işi tahkik edebilecek olanlardan livanın memurinin inzibatıyesinden ma'adut olduğundan onların infikakleri muvafık değildir. Maden ve Boğazlıyan cihetlerine izam kılınan Jandarma tabur kumandanına hava-le-i tankikat edilmiş olsaydı, Binbaşı Ahmet Beyin ifade ve

with the task of instituting
~~to institute~~ this inquiry, but he responded that his responsibility would not permit him to carry out this task. As your Excellency has noticed from the preceding, recent communications from the kaymakams partially refute their previous informations.

Information given by various authorities of the Kazas regarding those incidents have no credence whatsoever. Major Ahmed Bey's declarations are substantial enough to verify this.

For these reasons I ~~had~~ had the honor to submit ^{documents} yesterday ~~evening~~, I have no courage to be absent from the center of the district, and I cannot entrust this task to the officials of the villages, because they cannot be absent from their offices and duties, being themselves security officials. If the investigation is entrusted to the Commander of the gendarmery brigade, who has been sent to Akdagmaden and

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iş'arınamevzu-i bahsolan hareket mümaileyhin mayetinde bulunan ⁵ jandarmalar tarafından vukua gelmiş olacağı cihetle tahkikat bittabi itimade şayan olamaz.

Binaenaleyh mevki Kumandanı ve yahut Akdağmadeni Şube Reisi Beylerin mesail mezküreyi tahkik için acilen mevakı-î mezküreyi müsaade buyurulması mâruzdur.

~~11/12~~ 11/12 Temmuz 331.

Mutasarrıf:

Cemâl.

Boghazlian, the result of the inquiry will be worth ^{believing} ~~to faith~~, because according to the information of Major Ahmed Bey, the ^{causal} ~~causator~~ ~~blamable~~ incidents could not be provoked by the gendarmes working under his order.

I ask ~~therefore~~ your Excellency ^{therefore} to designate an official and send him to hold an investigation concerning the incidents. This person may be the Commandant de Place or the Chief of Akdagmaden Section.

July 11/12, 1915. ^{24/25 July}

Mutesarif:

Jemal. 1)

1. JAJ No. h 597- h 598.

APPENDIX

1

THE CORRUPTION OF ARMENIAN OFFICIALS.

Report of Mr. Taylor to Her Majesty's [Victoria] Government with reference to the corruption of Armenian Officials in his (the Erzeroum) District.

(Extract)

Christians. - The different sects into which the Christians are divided in the Erzeroum Vilayet are: -

	Souls
Gregorian Armenians	287,700
Nestorians	110,000
Armenian Catholics	8,000
Orthodox Greeks	4,000
Protestants (Natives)	1,000
Total	411,000

2

Armenians:— The advice and ostentatious leaning towards Russia of the Armenian clergy in the district, headed by the Catholicos residing at Etchmiadzin in Russia, and his bishops in these parts, have naturally enough inclined the more ignorant members of their flocks—rich and poor—to adopt the same views; and considering also that a whole Christian house of ten souls in Russia pays only, for all taxes, 9 roubles (10.11s.) annually as againsts three times the sum here, if there has not been a general emigration, it is simply owing to the fact that disposable arable lands in Russian Armenia are scarce, while the reverse prevails in Turkey.

Everywhere throughout these districts I found the Armenians bitter in their complaints against

the Turkish Government, at the same time that they were unreserved in their praises of Russia, openly avowing their determination to emigrate. This bias is owing, as already stated, to the constant hostile teaching of their clergy; at the same time, ample cause for discontent, as has already been shown further back, is afforded by the really wretched system of Turkish provincial administration, the unequal imposition of taxes, scandalous method of levying them and the tithes, persistent denial or miscarriage of justice, and practical disavowal of the Christians' claim to be treated with the same consideration and respect as their equals among Moslems. But experience has taught me that which candour and strict impartiality compel me to state, that the subordinate officers of the local

Government are aided and abetted in ⁴ their disgraceful proceedings or encouraged in persistent indifference to crying wrongs, as well by ~~the~~ the criminal assistance as wilful apathy or silence of the Armenian Madjliss members, ostensibly elected by the suffrages of their co-religionists to guard their interests. Unfortunately, then, as the evil lies as much with the Christians as the Turks, under existing regulations there is no remedy for it, and there can be none till the local authorities really see for themselves that the Porte's orders are really carried out and to open the way for the introduction of a higher class of people for such employments. As it is, no men of wealth, influence, or character will accept a seat

in any one of the Councils; he will not waste time in attending of to official duties in a place where he has to put up with the contumely and impertinent insults of the Moslem members all which are patiently borne by the fawning and obsequious Christians whose living depends upon this appointment. And even were a man of character and ability to accept a nomination in the hands of his community, the Pasha with whom in fact, the fate of such elections lie, as he has the power of rejection, would always prefer a needy, pliant member to one whose riches and position would place him beyond the reach of the menaces or influence. The interests of the community are consequently entrusted to speculators accustomed to the

atmosphere of the Sarai in their capacity of revenue farmers or Seraffs, who in such position have, in addition to their own disgusting servility, all the chicanery and vices of the Turkish officials - acquired a dangerous influence either as the partners or the creditors of the chief provincial officers. Such an influence might be meritorious and useful if exercised in the interest of justice and duty, but it becomes a downright evil when practiced, as it always is, for their own benefit or that of their partners in corruption, and scarcely ever for their brethren. The claims of the poor are either neglected or betrayed, and those of the rich depend upon the amount of their presents or degree of their sycophancy. The Armenian clergy and

7

head m^en, on their part, purposely ignoring the
villanous conduct of their Medjliss members rep-
resenting the repeated failures of justice that inevitably resue
resenting, as due to the fanaticism or imberility
of a Government determined to ignore all just
claims, exaggerate actual facts; the more
readily to induce their dependents to adopt the
disloyal views they propagate. As they pursue such
intrigues, apparently unchecked and with the
Secret approval of Russian agents, wavering
members, formerly content with or resigned of
their lot, openly express disaffection and trai-
torous ideas. 1

1. ON Horseback Through Asia Minor, by
Captain Fred Barnaby, volume II, London, 1877,
p. 363-365.

1
Moslem Testimony

Faiz-el-Ghosein, former Kaymakam,

After leaving Urfa, we again saw throngs of women, exhausted by fatigue and misery, dying of hunger and thirst, and we saw the bodies of the dead lying by the roadside.

ON our arrival at a place near a village called Kara Jevren about six hours distant from Urfa, we stopped at a spring to breakfast and drink. I went a little apart, towards the source, and came upon a most appalling spectacle. A woman, partly unclothed, was lying prone, her chemise disordered and red with blood, with four bullet-wounds in her breast. I could not restrain myself, but wept bitterly. As I drew out a handkerchief to wipe away my tears, and looked round to see whether any of my companions had observed me, I saw a child not more than eight years old, lying on his face, his head cloven with an axe. This made my grief the more vehement, but my companions cut short my lamentations, for I heard the officer, Arif Efendi, calling to the priest Isaac and saying: "Come here at once," and I knew that he had seen something which had startled

1916 1 10 1912

him. I went towards him, and what did I behold? Three children lying in the water, in terror of their lives from the Kurds, who had stripped them of their clothes and tortured them in various ways, their mother near by, moaning with pain and hunger. She told me her story, saying that she was from Erzerum, and had been brought by the troops ~~by~~ to this place with many other women after a journey of many days. After they had been plundered of money and clothing, and the prettiest women had been picked out and handed over to the Kurds, they reached this place, where Kurdish men and women collected and robbed them of all the clothes that remained on them.

The sick woman told me that the dead woman refused to yield herself to outrage, so they killed her and she died nobly, chaste and pure from defilement; to induce her to yield they killed her son beside her, but she was firm to her resolve and died heart-broken.

1. Les Massacres en Arménie Turque, par Faiz-el. Chocain, traduit de l'Arabe par A. el. G. Imp. Domigian, Beyrouth Avril 15, 1965, p. 13-16
2. Armenian translation, by Krikor Basmajian, New Star Press, Cairo, 1960, p. 7-8
3. Martyred Armenia, by Faiz-el. Chocain, a Bedouin, C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd Ltd. 1918, 3d.

I ask you, O Moslems— is this to be counted as a crime? Think for a moment. What was the fault of these poor women? Was it in their being superior to the Turkish women in every respect? Even assuming that their men had ~~married~~ ~~such~~ merited such treatment, is it right that these women should be dealt with in a manner from which wild beasts would recoil? God has said in the Koran: "Do not load one with another's burthens," that is, let not one be punished for another.

What had these women done, and what had their infants done? Can the men of the Turkish Government bring forward even a feeble proof to justify their action and to convince the people of Islam, who hold that action for unlawful and reject it? No; they can find no word to say before a people whose usages are founded on justice, and their laws on wisdom and reason.

Is it right that these imposters,

who pretend to be the supports of Islam and the Khilâfat, the protectors of the Moslems, should transgress the command of God, transgress the Koran, the Traditions of the Prophet, and humanity? Truly, they have committed an act at which Islam is revolted, as well as Moslems, Christians, Jews, or idolators. As God lives, it is a shameful deed, the like of which has not been done by any people counting themselves as civilized.

1

Questionnaire
To Kemal Bey

Boğazlıyan kasa-
basiyle kariyelerinde
binbeşyüzden fazla
Ermeni katledilmiş
olduğunu ifadeniz
âtfen Boğazlıyan
Şube reisi Mustafa
Bey tarafından
Firka Kumandanlığına
bildirilmiş, kayseri
Firka Kumandanında
kolorduya bildir-
miş.

Mustafa Bey, Com-
mandant de place
of Boghazlian, repor-
ted to the Division
Commander, and the
Division Commander
reported to the Army
Command, that accor-
ding to your State-
ment, more than fif-
teen hundred Arme-
nians from the town
and villages of
Boghazlian were
massacred.

Boğazlıyan Sube
 Reisinin 18 Numaralı
 14 Temmuz 331
 tarihli, Şahabettin
 Beyin 17 Numaralı
 14 Temmuz 331 ta-
 rihli Şifreleri
 Mahlulu Okunsun.

Let both decoded
 telegrams dispa-
 tched by the Com-
 mandant de place
 No. 18, dated July
 14, 1915, and by
 Shahabeddin Bey,
 No. 17, dated July
 14, 1915, be read.

1- The question was asked to
 Tewfik Bey, Gendarmerie Com-
 Mander.

23 Temmuz 331
 tarihine kadar
 Boğazlıyan kasa-
 basıyla karayele-
 rinde senin üç-
 binaltıyüz atmış
 Ermeni katlettiymiş
 olduğunu Fırka
 Kumandanı Şa-
 habettin Beyin
 Kolorduya çekti-
 ği 287 Numaralı
 23 Temmuz 331
 tarihli Şifre Mah-
 lusunda muhar-
 rerdir.

Up to July 23,
 1915, you had three
 thousand six hundred
 sixty Armenians of
 the town of Boğaz-
 lian and surrounding
 villages massacred.

The coded telegram
 No. 287, dated July
 23, 1915, dispatched
 to the Army Com-
 mand by the Division
 Commander Şhabed-
 din Bey, ^{corrobo} ~~denons~~-
 crates this fact.

İşbu miktar
ancak 23 Tem-
muza kadar
Kafedilen^{olunan}
Ermenilerin
miktarıdır. 1

This number is
only the number of
those Armenians
killed before
July 23, 1915.

The telegram was read ^{at} ~~in~~ the session
VIII of the Court Martial, February 21, 1919

W 253
1- JAJ, No W 240
" W 324
" ~~W 239?~~

JAJ. No W 298
" W 272

The minister of war and at the same time Acting Commander-in-Chief of the Ottoman Armed Forces, provides more evidence than The State Policy, was of extermination of the Armenian race, was sanctioned by an Imperial Edict, signed by the Sultan as the decision was made in the Council of Ministers.

Transliteration

28 Şubat 331
Şifreli Telgraf Sureti.
Ahval-ı hazırda
dolayısıyla Ermeni
neslinin kâmilten
mahvı iradei
Saniyeye iktizam
etmiştir.

Translation

Copy of Telegram
February 28, 1915.
In view of the present
situation the complete
extermination of
the Armenian is sanc-
tioned by an Imperial
Edict.

Bunlar hakkında
şu suretle muamele
edilecektir;

1- Memalik-i
mahrusa-i Şahane
tabaası ve dahil
de bulunan bil-
ûmum Ermeni na-
mini taşıyan beş
yaşına kadar çoc-
uklarından maade
başı bozukların
şehiz haricine çı-
karılarak katil-
leri.

2- Orduyi Hu-
mayunlarda müs-
tahiden bilumum
Ermeni efradının
bir vukuata mey-

To this effect the
following operations
will be performed,

1- All Ottoman ci-
tizens over the age
of five, bearing the
name of Armenian,
and residing in the
country should be
driven out of the
towns and kil-
led.

2 - All Armenians
serving in the Imperial
Armies should be ^{separated} re-
moved from their di-
visions, without

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dan verilmiyerek,
kitallerından bit-
tefrik emsâl-i
temasında olma-
yarak gizli mahal-
lerde kurşuna di-
rilmesi.

3- Geduda bulan
Nan Ermeni zabı-
tanı dahi mensup
oldukları ordunun
karargahında
işare ahire değir
hapsedilecekdir.

Bu üç madde
ahkâminin her
ordu kumandan-
liklarına tarifi

creating any inci-
dent and driven
into isolated locali-
ties, away from pub-
lic eyes, and shot.

3- Armenian officers
in the Army are to
be imprisoned in
the barracks of
the regiments until
further notice

Forty-eight hours
after the communica-
tion of these orders,
an order will be

tebliğinden kırksekiz
saat sonra icrası
zımında ayrıca
tebliğ edileceğinden,
evvelce tedarekâtı
lâzımeden mada
biz muamele
yapılmayacaktır.

Başkumandan
Vekili ve Harbiye
Naziri:
ENVER. I

8
issued for exe-
cution. No other
operation shall be
undertaken except
those indispensable
for execution.

Acting Commander
in Chief and Mi-
nister of War:
ENVER.

1. La questione Armena nella politica
delle grandi potenze, Francesco
Sidari, Padova - Cedam - 1962,
Photographic reproduction, page 276.

AP- 232-233,

EP- 66-67

FP- 157-158

Collection of Documents

Court Martial urging the
Ministry of Internal Affairs
to send documents relative to
the investigation
held by Civil Inspector Nedim Bey
concerning the pillaging abuses
excluding the case of massacres.

Transliteration.

English Translation.

Numara 80.

No 80.

Tarih 4 Şubat 335.

Date: February 4, 1919.

Dahiliye Nezareti

To the
~~Decipher~~: Ministry of

Celilesine:

Internal Affairs:

Mülkiye müfettişlerinden

Civil Inspector Nedim Bey

Nedim Beyin Boğazlıyan Kaymakam
Kemal Bey hakkında 332 senesi
Mayısında icra etmiş olduğu
tahkikatın Emval-ı Metruke
sui istimalatına munhasır
tutulması hakkındaki emri
samiye binaen katl ve imha
hakkında tahkikatı resmiye
icra kılınmadığı Müfettişi
mümaileyh canibinden olan
14 Kanunuevvel 334 tarihli

has made an investigation May
1916 concerning the activity of
Kemal Bey, Kaymakam of Boghazliya
but the inquiry was limited by
order of Superiors only to ab-
uses committed in the area of
"Abandoned Goods". He ^{matter} had not
have the possibility to investigate
officially the cases of murders
and massacres, a fact that the
civil inspector had revealed

telgrafnamede dahi bu babdaki şajiyatın biyaz ve esas olduğu izbar kılınmıştır.

Kuradan avdet eden Akdağmaden kaymakamından şimdi alınan telgrafnamede Jandarma Takım Kumandanı tarafından iş'ar edilen muamelenin pek ziyade izam edilmiş bulunduğu ve kaza-i mezkürin Kaymakam vekiliyle Jandarma takım Kumandanı taraflarından müşteriken alınıp bir suret-i 9 Temmuz 331 tarihli 131 numaralı telgrafname-attachment July 9, 1915, No 131, copy of which has been sent to Your Excellency, attached to my telegram of the same date, is reduced to an erroneous qualification of one or two fugitives, prowling about the area of the Kaza disguised under another name. This is the fact.

Akdağmaden Kazası Şube riyasetine tayin olunup evveli gece buradan hareket eden Binbaşı Ahmet Bey tarafından

The at headquarters. In a telegram received this evening, I was informed that all this was rumor and had no validity.

The Kaymakam of Akdaghmaden, returning from the villages of this region, just now advised me by telegram that the events previously reported were greatly exaggerated and the incident in question, in the collective telegram of Dere-Kapladigi, of the Commander of the Gendarmerie De-

of which has been sent to Your Excellency, attached to my telegram of the same date, is reduced to an erroneous qualification of one or two fugitives, prowling about the area of the Kaza disguised under another name. This is the fact.

To your Excellency I submit attached hereto, a copy of the telegram received this evening from Major Ahmed Bey, appointed

bu akşam alınan telgrafname suret-i zire derc edildi. Ledil-
istihzah ^e jandarma tabur kuman-
danı tarafından Terzili ve
civarı kurada topladılarak
Sivas vilâyetinin talabı üze-
rine Sivasa gönderdiği takımıyla
arzutakdim kılınan evrak tah-
kikiyesinde beyan olunan 169
kişi sevkedildikten sonra,
zikıymet eşyalarının alınıp
beraber götürüldüğü köy boş
bırakıldığından bazı mevcut
emvalın ahali tarafından yağma
edildiği söylemekte bulunduğu
ve bunun tahkiki için bir me-
murun izam lâzım eden Binbaşı
mümaileyh tarafından makina
başında ifade kılınmıştır.

Tahkikatın kendisine havale
edileceği bildirilmiş isede,
meşguliyetinin müsait olmadı-
ğını ifade ediyor. Mâruzat-ı
meşrutadan malum vilâyet pena-

Chief of the Region of the Kaşa
of Akdagmaden, who left two night-
ago to take up his position. Ma-
jor Ahmed Bey confirms the dis-
turbanca ^e to me by telephone, ac-
cording to which 169 people, whose
(dossiers I send ^{an version} examination's),
have been arrested in the village
of Terzili and its environs by
the Commander of ^{the} Gendarmerie, and
held for questioning. These people
were to be sent to Sivas at the
request of the Vali of Sivas.
When they started towards Sivas,
they took their valuable posses-
sions with them. ~~Because, the vil-
lages became emptied~~ of their
~~Armenian inhabitants~~ <sup>as the
villages were emptied and the
remaining villages were evacuated,</sup>
and the remaining people pillaged
their homes and shops.

He [Ahmed Bey K] ~~is~~ considers
it necessary to send an official
investigation ^{of} to determine whether
there is any truth ^{in it} [to these re-
ports K]. I charged him [Ahmed Bey

hileri buyurulacağı üzere, kaymakamlardan ahiren vaki olan işaret evvelce verilen malûmatı kısmen tekzib eylemekte bulunmuş, kazalardan veka-i mütehadise hakkında evvel ve ahir verilen malûmatım temami itimade şayan görülmemekte ve Binbaşı Ahmet Beyin işarı dahi lâzım uttakkik ehemmiyeti haiz görülmektedir.

Dün gece tavisşlen arzettiğim mazeret sebebiyle merkezden infikakı cesaret edemediğim gibi livaca memurini mülkiyeden bu işi tahkik edebilecek olanlardan livanın memurinin inzibatiyesinden ma'adut olduğundan onların infikakleri muvafık değildir. Maden ve Boğazlıyan cihetlerine izam kılınan Jandarma tabur kumandanına havale-i tankikat edilmiş olsaydı, Binbaşı Ahmet Beyin ifade ve

with the task of instituting
~~to institute~~ this inquiry, but he responded that his responsibility would not permit him to carry out this task. As your Excellency has noticed from the preceding, recent communications from the kaymakams partially refute their previous informations.

Information given by various authorities of the Kazas regarding those incidents have no credence whatsoever. Major Ahmed Bey's declarations are substantial enough to verify this.

For these reasons I ~~had~~ had the honor to submit ^{documents} yesterday ~~in the~~ ^{yesterday in the} evening, I have no courage to be absent from the center of the district, and I cannot entrust this task to the officials of the villages, because they cannot be absent from their offices and duties, being themselves security officials. If the investigation is entrusted to the Commander of the gendarmerie brigade, who has been sent to Akdaghmaden and

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iş'arınamevzu-i bahsolan hareket mümaileyhin mayetinde bulunan ⁶ jandarmalar tarafından vukua gelmiş olacağı cihetle tahkikat bittabi itimade şayan olamaz.

Binaenaleyh mevki Kumandanı ve yahut Akdağmadeni Şube Reisi Beylerin mesail mezküreyi tahkik için acilen mevakı-î mezküreyi müsaade buyurulması mâruzdur.

~~11/12~~ 11/12 Temmuz 331.

Mutasarrıf:

Cemâl.

Boğhazlian, the result of the inquiry will be worth ^{believing} ~~to faith~~, because according to the information of Major Ahmed Bey, the ^{causator} ~~blamable~~ incidents could not be provoked by the gendarmes working under his order.

I ask ~~therefore~~ your Excellency ^{therefore} to designate an official and send him to hold an investigation concerning the incidents. This person may be the Commandant de Place or the Chief of Akdagmaden Section.

July 11/12, 1915. 24/25 July
1915

Mutesarif:

Jemal. 1)

1. JAJ No. h 597- h 598.

21-4-31 tarihli şifreli of Resnè', in care of Sabit

telgrafname de: - " Bradan Bey, Vali of Harpout;

Serkolunan Ermeniler "Are the Armenians,

tasfiye olunuyormu? Nefi deported from your area,

ve tazip olunduğunu bil being destroyed? An

dirdiğiniz eşhas² muzirre Report us the circum-

imha ediliyor mu? Yoksa Stances of their anni-

yalınızca sevk ve izamı litation; or, are they

olunuyor? Vaziken bildi- merely being depor-

riniz, kardeşim, deye ted and exiled?

ışar eylemişti eylemesi, Report us, my brother.

ve İttihat ve Terakki Cemi- The photocopy of the

yeti Umumisi âzaları above telegram is in

halkındaki dosier meya- the dossier of the

Nında mevcut vesâikden members of the Gene-

Erzurum Valisi MUNİR

Committee of the UNION

Beyin ...

and Progress Party....

1 - Takvim-i Vakayi Divan-ı Harbi ÖrfiMuhakemât-ı Zabıt Ceridesi, № 3771,

JANUARY 13, 1920, p. 48.

1
" President - Did you indulge in drinking parties? (Douzico) "

" The Defense - Attorney wh asked whether or not the witness knew AZNIVE and whether Tewfik shared the drinking parties? "

" Vehbi - Perhaps, if I see her. Tewfik used to participate in drinking parties. "

Vehbi and AZNIVE were cross-examined. At first Vehbi tried not to recognize her. Then he said; " She came to ask my protection, I told her not to be afraid. Wasn't that so? "

" AZNIVE - I cannot deny his help, but I cannot forget that in your room you were drinkink with them (Kemal and Tewfik) and saying; " to the health of the Armenians ". You always held meeting

in your room with them and I overheard²
your conversation, I confess, beyond the door.

"Vehbi - My conscience does not allow
me to recognize this as part of my conver-
sation. I helped you.

"AzNive - Please ask him how the
Armenians were arrested in the marketplace
of Yozgat. Gendarmes used to say: "MU-
hasebeci (accountant) Bey wishes to see
you. Muhasebeci is Vehbi Bey."

Vehbi tried to convince the Court
that he was not aware of the deporta-
tion and that he did not know when
the deportation began.

"AzNive - He is lying. Ten days
before the deportation, he held secret
meeting in his house. He and his col-
leagues were making decisions and

organizing the deportation. Mutesarif
Jemal Bey and Secretary Mustapha
Bey would not carry out the government's
orders.

1

2

Moslem Testimony

Faiz-el-Ghosein, former Kaymakam,

After leaving Ufa, we again saw throngs of women, exhausted by fatigue and misery, dying of hunger and thirst, and we saw the bodies of the dead lying by the roadside.

On our arrival at a place near a village called Kara Jevren about six hours distant from Ufa, we stopped at a spring to breakfast and drink. I went a little apart, towards the source, and came upon a most appalling spectacle. A woman, partly unclothed, was lying prone, her chemise disordered and red with blood, with four bullet-wounds in her breast. I could not restrain myself, but wept bitterly. As I drew out a handkerchief to wipe away my tears, and looked round to see whether any of my companions had observed me, I saw a child not more than eight years old, lying on his face, his head cloven with an axe. This made my grief the more vehement, ~~but~~ but my companions cut short my lamentations, for I heard the officer, Arif Efendi, calling to the priest Isaac, and saying: "Come here at once," and I knew that he had seen something which had startled

him. I went towards him, and what did I behold? Three children lying in the water, in terror of their lives from the Kurds, who had stripped them of their clothes and tortured them in various ways, their mother near by, moaning with pain and hunger. She told me her story, saying that she was from Erzerum, and had been brought by the troops ~~by~~ to this place with many other women after a journey of many days. After they had been plundered of money and clothing, and the prettiest women had been picked out and handed over to the Kurds, they reached this place, where Kurdish men and women collected and robbed them of all the clothes that remained on them. . .

The sick woman told me that the dead woman refused to yield herself to outrage, so they killed her and she died nobly, chaste and pure from defilement; to induce her to yield they killed her son beside her, but she was firm to her resolve and died heart-broken. |

1. Les Massacres en Arménie Turque, par Faiez-el, Ghoccin, traduit de l'Arabe par A. el. G. Imp. Donigian, Beyrouth Avril 15, 1965, p. 13-16
2. Armenian translation, by Krikor Basmajian, New Star Press, Cairo, 1960, p. 7-8
3. Martyred Armenia, by Faiez-el Ghoccin, a Bedouin, C. Arthur Pearson, Lmt Ltd, 1918, 3d.

I ask you, O Moslems— is this to be counted as a crime? Think for a moment. What was the fault of these poor women? Was it in their being superior to the Turkish women in every respect? Even assuming that their men had ~~married such~~ merited such treatment, is it right that these women should be dealt with in a manner from which wild beasts would recoil? God has said in the Koran: "Do not load one with another's burthens," that is, Let not one be punished for another.

What had these women done, and what had their infants done? Can the men of the Turkish Government bring forward even a feeble proof to justify their action and to convince the people of Islam, who hold that action for unlawful and reject it? No; they can find no word to say before a people whose usages are founded on justice, and their laws on wisdom and reason.

Is it right that these imposters,

who pretend to be the supports of Islam and the Khilâfat, the protectors of the Moslems, should transgress the command of God, transgress the Koran, the Traditions of the Prophet, and humanity? Truly, they have committed an act at which Islam is revolted, as well as Moslems, Christians, Jews, or idolators. As God lives, it is a shameful deed, the like of which has not been done by any people counting themselves as civilized.

The President of the Court Martial
urging the Mutessarif of Yozgat
to begin an investigation.

To the Mutessarif of Yozgat:

During the atrocities and massacres perpetrated upon the Armenians of Terzili and Chat villages by order of Gendarmerie Major Commander Tevfik Bey, some Moslem being no longer able to support the cries of Armenian women and children begged him to save at least Armenian women and children and not to permit gangs to massacre them, but he did not consider ~~them~~ such a supplication.

We urge you to begin an investigation to hear the testimonies of such Moslems and send us the result of your investigation and supplementary documents.

February 4, 1919.

President of the Court Martial trying
cases of deportation. 1

1- JAJ. No 5506.