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# 33 Kayseri - Court Martial

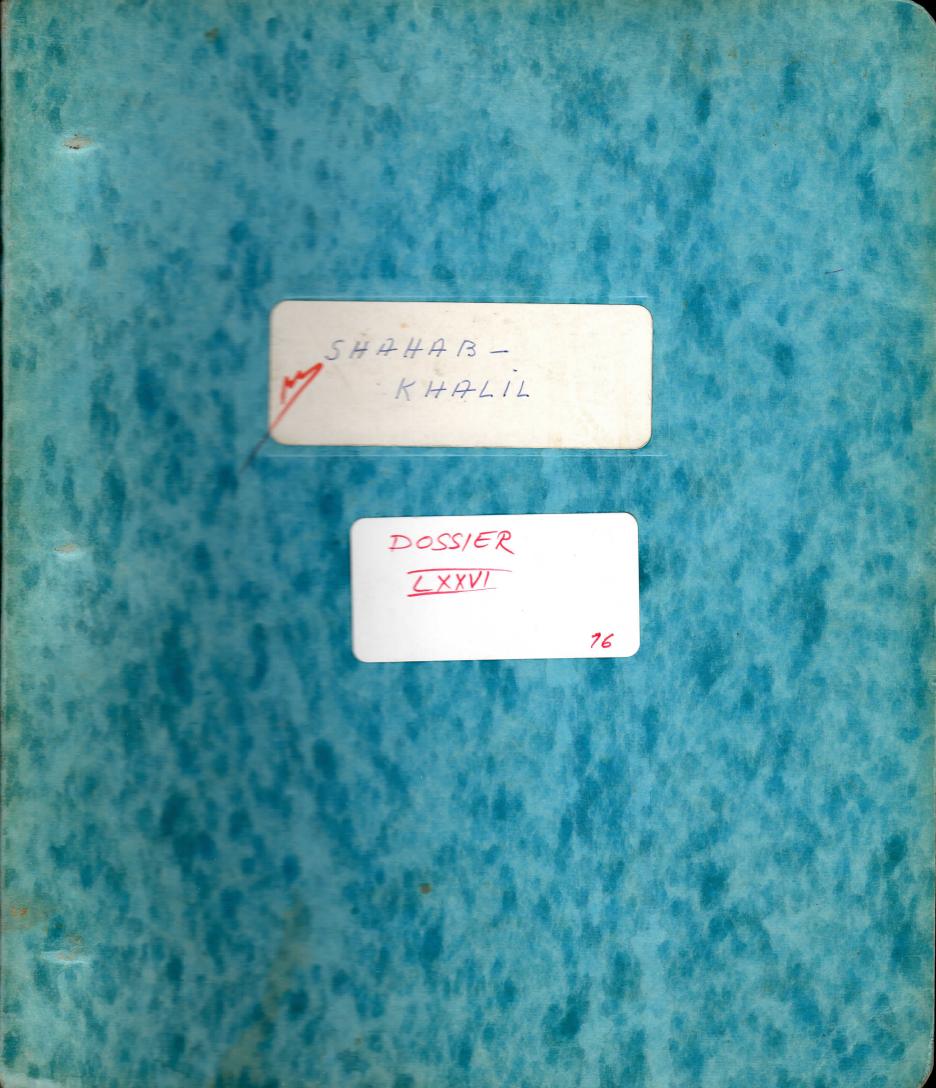
Krikor Guerguerian

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2.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army Corps

of Ankara.

The Court- Martial is trying Bishop Khosrov Effendi, Armenian Primate of Kayseri, to determine the degree of his complicity in the revolutionary movements.

He can not be summoned before the Court-Martial wing to his privilege funless by invitation of the Patriarchate.

and the mutessarif is acting to this effect.

Until the order arrives here and is carried out, a certain amount of time will elpase, which the above-mentioned individual shall certainly use to provoke disorder and make propaganda. Consequently, his presence in this city is not considered desireable. The trial may take place even in absentia. I request permission to take necessary measures to exhibe him to a locality, as the county of Mot in Selevkia, where there are no Armenian at all. Please inform me.

The Acting Commander Division Kayseri

Shahabeddin.

No. 2157

June 2, 1915.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division of Kayseri.

Reply to the ciphered telegram No. 945 dated
June 2, 1915.

2. (Cont'd)

With the exception of the Deputies and Senators, anythe, regardless who is may be summoned before the Court-Martial.

There is no need to ask for the intervention of the Patriarchate immediately and start his trial. I wrote to the Ministry for his exhile.

June 3, 1915.

Army Commander : Rejai.

3.

No. 294

Decipher: War Office.

The acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division has informed me that the Armenian Bishop of Kayseri, being an accomplice to the revolutionary movement in that town, can not be summoned before the Court-Martial owing to his privilege, unless by (invitation) of the Patriarchate, and the mutessarif himself is acting to this effect. Until the order arrives here and is carried out, a certain amount of time-will elapse, which the above-mentioned individual will certainly use to provoke disorder and make propaganda. Consequently his presence in this city is not considered desirable. His trial pay take place even in absentia. I request permission to take necessary measures to exile him to a locality, as the county of Mot in Selevkia, where there are no Armenians at all. Please communicate your decision to me.

June 3, 1915

Phe Army Commander:/Rejai.

ż

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara.

Reply to the communication dated June 3, 1915.

The communication dispatched to the Acting Divisional

Commander concerning the Primate of Kayseri has been approved.

I recommend that the legal proceedings be acclerated; inform

me of the sentence once it has been pronounced by the Court
Martial.

June 4, 1915.

On behalf of the War Office:

The Undersecretary:

Ismail.

5. .

No. 2258/4

Decipher: Acting Commander of Kayseri Division.

Supplement to the telegram dated June 3, 1915.

The Minister of War orders, in a reply by telegram, that
the course of the trial be accelerated and the judgement with
supporting papers be transmitted to him.

June 8, 1915.

The Commander of the Army of Ankara:

Halil Rejai.

6.

No. 601.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara.

Reply to the telegram dated June 8, 1915.

During the course of the trial, it has been established that
Khosrov Effendi, Primate of Kayseri, was aware of the revolutionary preparations. Since he has been granted mitigating

circumstances, the Court-Martial pronounced a judgement today, sentencing him to fifteen years of hard labor in accordance with the provisions of Article 47 of the Civil Penal Code. The proceedings are being dispatched for your approval.

June 9, 1915

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division: (Shahabeddin.

7.

No. 331

Decipher : War Office.

Reply to the coded telegram dated June 7, 1915.

I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with the telegraph communication of the Acting Commander of Kayseri, the Court-Martial has sentenced Khosrov Efendi, Primate of said town, to fifteen years of confinement.

June 10, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara:
Halil Rejai.

8.

No. 188

Communication to His Excellency,

I have the honor of including herewith for approval, the finil verdict with supporting papers, against Khosrov Efendi, Primate of Kayseri sentencing him as an accomplice to the revolutionary movement.

June 10, 1915.

The President of the Court-Martial of the Fifth-Army:

Kaymakam Tevfik.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.

I urgently recommend that you take the necessary measures to prevent the escape of Khosrov Effendi, Primate Bishop of Kayseri.

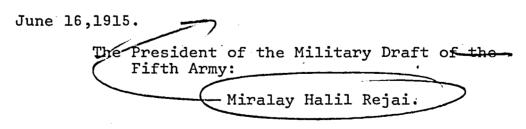
June 13, 1915.

The President of the Military Draft of the Fifth Army: Miralay Halil Rejai.

10

#### Communication

I am herewith returning to you the documents and papers that you had dispatched in your telegram No. 188 dated June 10, 1915, concerning Khosrov Effendi, Primate Bishop of Kayseri, sentenced as an accomplice to the revolutionary movement. I recommend that you examine them again and make the necessary decision in accordance with the telegram of the War Ministry, which I transmitted to you in my telegram No. 2395 dated June 15,1915, and in complement with the provisions of the paragraph annexed to Article 54 of the Civil Penal Code.



11

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri. Reply to the coded telegram dated June 16,1915.

The penalty given to the above-mentioned Primate Khosrov is considered insufficient. The trial proceedings have been returned to the Court-Martial in order for a new sentence to be passed, considering the contents of the instructions given by the High Command in telegram No. 2395 dated June 15, 1915 attached to the papers of the Court-Martial. It is understood, of course, that the new sentence to be imposed on him (Bishop) shall conform to the legal provisions.

June 17, 1915.

The President of the Military Draft of the Fifth Army:

Miralay Halil Rejai.

12

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifth Army of Ankara. I am including hereabove, for approval, the minutes containing the sentence handed down against Khosrov, Primate of Kayseri and vicinity, one of the authors involved in the preparation for the revolutionary movement and endeavoring to create a future Armenian principality.

(June 21, 1915).

The President of the Court-Martial of the Fifth Army

Lieut. Colonel Kaymakam Tevfik

13

No. 118

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifth Army.

You will find hereabove the text of the ciphered telegram
mentioned urgent, dated June 22, 1915, and dispatched by the

Minister of the Interior to the <u>mutessarif</u> of Kayseri

(Zekâi Bey) who communicated it to me. I request you to send me instructions concerning the persons whose deportation is deemed necessary either by the Court-Martial or by the local authorities and whose names are allisted herewith.

June 24, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin.

(Ciphered Circular to the Governors)

It has been deemed necessary to modify previous arrangements regarding the settlement of the Armenians in certain vilâyets and Sanjanks.

The Southern and Western areas of the <u>vilâyet</u> of Mosul, including towns and villages of the <u>sanjak</u> of Kerkuk situated at a distance of eighty kilometers and western areas of the <u>sanjak</u> of Zow, situated at a distance of twenty-five kilometers from the <u>vilâyet</u> of Diarbekir including the villages of the valley of the Khabur and Euphrates rivers; all the towns and villages of the western area of the <u>vilâyet</u> of Aleppo; the Southern and Eastern areas of said <u>vilâyet</u>, except the Northern area and the <u>vilâyet</u> of Syria; the <u>sanjaks</u> of Hauran and Keyek, except an area of twenty-five kilometers from the railroad. These are the regions where the Armenians must be distributed

and settled in a proportion of ten per cent of Moslem population. I urge you to conform your activity during the operation of the deportation in accordance with the proced June 22, 1915. (The Minister of the Interior: Talaat) 15 Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri: Reply to the telegram No. 118 dated June 24, 1915. recurs from mication of the Ministry of the Interior, you may send to Aleppo those who are to be exiled. June 25, 1915. Commander of the Army (of Ankara): Rejai. 16 No. 157, Order 4/1739 Copy of the ciphered telegram. Tonight twenty-two Armenian individuals have also been

exiled to their destination. Equal 24,19/5 K) To be put in the dossier:

War Office / 13.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara Supplement to the telegram dated June 24, 1915.

I have the honor to inform you that, by order of the government, one hundred Armenians to be exiled to Diarbekir have been sent under surveillance to tonight via Sivas.

June 25, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin.

(1) To be sent under surveillance means that the exiles were is have two places and pore were: I have two places alwo.

Shahabeddin.

(2) To be sent under surveillance means that the exiles were is have two places alwo.

18

Decipher: War Office

## Confidential and urgent.

I have the honor of transmitting to you the proceedings of the Court-Martial of Kayseri concerning the sentence handed down against Khosrov, Primate of said city and vicinity, who is one of the authors of the revolutionary movement trying to create a future Armenian principality.)

June 25, 1915.

The President of the Military Draft Commission:

19

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.
Reply to the coded telegram dated June 21, 1915.

vilayet of Aleppo; this will be the best way.

Consequently, as I had spoken with the mutessarif by phone,
they must be deported clandestinely without giving rise to for

public clamor, preferably at night and in small groups.

I urge you to do what is necessary in agreement with the

mutessarif; and relay the information to me.

June 27, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifth Army:

20

(Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifth Army of Ankara).

The <u>mutessarif</u> has informed me that it is necessary to send into exile 208 Armenians of the villages of Talas, Germir and Moonjusun subject to Kayseri. Please let me know where I have to send them.

June 27, 1915.

e Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin.

21 .

Decipher Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor of informing you that eighty-three Armenians of Kayseri, sentenced by the Court-Martial of said city the exile, have been sent tonight by order of the government,

via Nigde to their destination under surveillance, and Mark thirty-six (Armenian) soldiers have been sent via Sivas to Aleppo.

June 28, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin.

22

Order 114, No. 427

Decipher: War Office
Confidential Communication.

I have the honor of informing that the Acting Commander of the fifteenth Division communicated that the authorities have placed under surveillance eighty-three Armenians, who have been exiled tonight, June 27-28 (1915) via

Nigde to Aleppo. Also thirty-six Armenian soldiers sentenced by the Court-Martial have been exiled to Aleppo via Sivas.

June 28, 1915

The Acting Commander of the Fifth Army:

Rejai.

23

Ciphered Circular.

It has been established turing the course of the investigations held by the Courts-Martial in Constantinople as well as in the provinces, that members of the Armenian Committees have made the decision, in congresses held in various foreign countries, secretly or publicly, to organize the revolution by resorting to direct action

bombs, dynamite, arms and appropriate publications.

establish that they are pursuing a common goal of 70 creating an autonomous and independent Armenia.

This has been proved during (the enquiries which have much been held. The Court-Martial of Constantinople explained in detail and pointed out distinctly the crimes committed by the Armenian Committees within the limits of its jurisdiction. It (the Court-Martial) investigated the nature of the crimes committed, with all qualifying elements, the goal and the importance of the action and the applied the provisions of the paragraph attached to Article 54 of the General Penal Code.

I am discovering that some other Courts-Martial are fulling neglecting to examine in depth the motives for these acts and are not retaining as a midemeanor the delict of provoking revolution while Armenians in foreign countries are inciting Armenians of the Ottoman Empire against the Mohammedans. The Courts-Martial are organizing

against the Mohammedans. The Courts-Martial are organizing prosecutions and applying ordinary punishments. Although

personal.

extenuating circumstances, the bond, however, that
exists among the perpetrators of several crimes, leaves
no doubt any longer; the procedure of applying various
punishments would create a lack of uniformity in the
manner of repression. This is contrary to the purpose
of the legislator and our goal. Therefore, I urge you
to communicate the necessary orders, confidentially, to
all courts-martial in the area of your jurisdiction in that
order to conduct deep induiries and unify the jurisprudence. Classes,

June 28, 1915.

The Commander-in-Chief

and War Minister:

Enver.

W450

24

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division

of Kayseri

Confidential coded telegram.

In accordance with the instructions received from the Vice-Generalissimo It has been formally established by that the recent seditious dealings of the Armenians, and their organizations and cursed preparatives are aspiring to create an autonomous Armenia; considering the nature of the delict, the goal they are pursuing and the degree of their activity by it is fitting to apply to them the provisions of the paragraph annexed to Article 54 of the Penal Code and so to create in all Courts-Martial

uniformity of jurisprudence. en dealy und phono

I urge you to inform the President of the CourtMartial of Kayseri in order that he conform his activity
with the given above order. I also irgs you to
personally find out from him if he will act in accordance.

June 29, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army

Ankara:

Khalil Rejai.

- 1. Decipher: President of the Court-Martial of Kayseri,
- 2. Communication to the President of the Court-Martial of Ankara.

### Very Confidential.

As written to you in my supplementary communication dated June 15, 1915, it has been formally established that the revolutionary movements of the Armenians, their cursed organizations and preparatives are aspiring to create an autonomous Armenia. Considering the nature of the delict, the purpose of the aspirations and the importance of the question, it is fitting to apply the provisions of the paragraph annexed to Article 54 of the Penal Code and, thus, create uniform jurisprudence in all the courts-martial.

This over the instruction of the High Command. I urge you to deliver sentences against the Armenians accordingly.

June 29, 1915.

The Commander of the Army of Ankara:
Khalil Rejai.

26

Decipher: (Acting Commander of the Fifth Army

Ankara)

In a coded telegram received tonight, the Mutessarif of Kayseri has informed that gunders had been fined in the country of Efkere and asked me to dispatch a patrol there.

I took appropriate action by immediately sending a patrol of twenty soldiers. I haven't any official communication yet about the details of the incident.

But it has been established, as a consequence of enquiries held on the spot, that at the county-seat there had been gunshots fired at night, and not the spot of t

charged bombs have been found in the suburban gardens.

Apout thirty Armenians suspects have been arrested and sent to Kayseri. I will not fait to communicate the results of the enquiry.

June 20, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin.

Decipher: Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor to inform you that sixteen more
Armenians sentenced by the Court-Martial have been
sent to Aleppo, via Sivas.

June 30, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

28

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor of informing you that, tonight also, twenty-six Armenians sentenced to exile by the Court-Martial have been sent to Aleppo via Sivas.

July 1, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin

29

Decipher: War Office.

Supplement to the communication dated June 29, 1915.

Referring to the telegram of the Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that twenty-six Armenians sentenced by the Court-Martial of Kayseri for be deported have been sent in two groups to Aleppo via Sivas.

July 1, 1915.

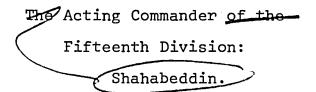
The Acting Commander of the Army:

Khalil Rejai.

Decipher: Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor to inform you that twenty-eight more Armenians have been exiled tonight to Aleppo via Sivas.

July 2, 1915.



31

Decipher: War Office

The coded telegram of July 1, 1915,

continued.

I have the honor of informing you that twenty-eight more
Armenians sentenced to exile have been sent from Kayseri to
Aleppo via Sivas.

July 3, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army:

Khalil Rejai.

32

Decipher: (Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara).

Supplement to the telegram dated June 30, 1915.

Afth field for the Mutessarif (Zekai Bey), here following a communication of the Mutessarif (Zekai Bey), here are the results of the inquiry held by a Commission which has nelf at the spot of the incident in the county-seat.

No evidence was found to establish the identity of those

who had fired the gun shots. It seems certain that they hid in their houses after the gun shots and, since they were recognized by the guards who had gone to the spot, they fired at the latter in order to avoid pursuit. This has been established by means of some cartridge cases that have been where two uncharged bombs were found. A woman, the owner of the garden has been sent to Kayseri under escort. Finally, those inhabitants of the village, whose exile had already been decided in advance and who stated that they had no knowledge of the incident, have been arrested and sent to their destination.

July 4, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara.

Tonight sixty-six Armenians have been sent to the spot

33

July 5, 1915.

of their exile.

Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin

34

Decipher: War Office
Continuation of the ciphered telegram of July 3, 1915.

I have the honor of informing that sixty-six

Armenians of Kayseri have been exiled to Aleppo, years and links.

July 6, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army:

Khalil Rejai.

35

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor of informing you that tonight 134

Armenians have been sent to the spot of their exile.

July 8, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division of Kayseri:

Shahabeddin.

36

Decoded Telegram.

I have the honor of informing you that tonight fifty-one individuals of the Armenian Millet have been exiled to their destination.

July 11, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin.

37

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.

Reply to the coded telegram dated July 11, 1915.

Have the fifty-one Armenians in question been sentenced by the Court-Martial, or has their exile been considered necessary because they were suspect? In the latter case, is their condition of being a suspect accepted also by the military authority?

I urge you to answer.

July 12, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army:

Khalil Rejai.

38

Decipher: (Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara)

I have the honor of informing that the mutessarif of

Kayseri (Zekai Bey) learned that today some Armenian

fugitives made an attack in the counties of Erkilet

and Moonjusun, and two patrols have been sent to both (4)

countries. The results of the investigation will be

communicated to you.

July 12, 1915.

Fifteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

39

Order 4/1730

No. 2869

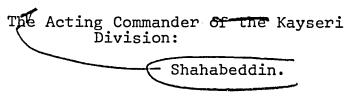
Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division

\_of\_Kayseri.\_\_\_

Reply to the coded telegram No. 2869 dated July 12, 1915.

I have the honor of informing that the individuals in question have been found in possession of prohibited arms and, for this reason, the Court-Martial sentenced them to one or two years imprisonment. They also were among those whose stay in Kayseri, has been considered undesirable by the Imperial Attorney of the Court-Martial. Consequently they have been exiled to their destination.

July 13, 1915.



40

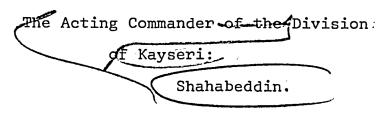
Decoding of the ciphered telegram No. 173.

(To the Acting/Commander of the Army of Ankara).

I have the honor of informing you that tonight nine

Armenians sentenced by the Court-Martial of Kayseri have
been sent to the spot of their exile.

July 15, 1915.

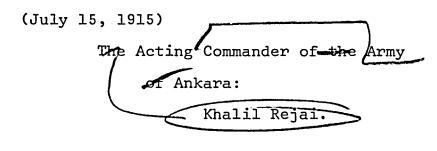


41

Decipher: War Office.

Continuation of the coded telegram dated July 14, 1915.

I have the honor of informing you that nine Armenians also sentenced to be exiled by the Court-Martial of Kayseri have been sent to their destination.



42

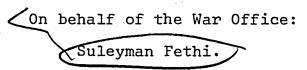
Coded telegram despatched by the War Office.

Reply to the telegram dated June 25, 1915.

An Imperial Irade has approved the death penalty of Skhosrov Efendi, Primate of Kayseri and vicinity,

sentenced to be hanged by the Court-Martial of said city. He has been considered one of the muthors of the revolutionary movement.

July 15, 1915.

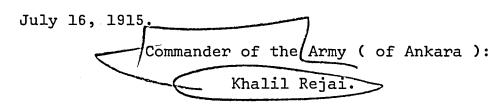


43

No. 4/1764

Decipher: War Office.

I have the honor of informing you that nine more Armenians sentenced to be exiled by the Court-Martial of Kayseri have been sent to their destination.



Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifth Army.

Supplement to the coded telegram dated July 16,1915.

In accordance with the telegram of the Prime Minister, an Imperial Irade has approved the decision made by the Council of Ministers changing to perpetual hard labor the death penalty sentence pronounced by the Court-Martial of Kayseri against Khosrov Efendi, Primate of Kayseri and vicinity, whose participation in the rising agitation and revolutionary movement has been established during the trial.

I hereby include a legalized copy of the aforementioned Imperial Irade in line with the orders. Concerning the individual called Kevork in the Imperial Irade necessary instructions have been sent to the Commander of the Eleventh Army.

July 16, 1915.

On behalf of the War Office:
Suleyman Fethi.

45

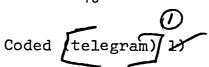
Coded Telegram from War Office.

Very Urgent.

Continuation of the telegram dated July 15, 1915.

Considering the importance of the question, I gave orders directly to the mutessarif of Kayseri to postpone until further order, the execution of the judgment against Khosrov Efendi, Primate of Kayseri and vicinity.

July 16, 1915. On behalf of the War Office: Suleyman Fethi.



I have the honor of informing you that the Mutessarif of Kayseri, in accordance with the order of Office, communicated to me by telegram dated July 17, 1915, that the execution of the death penalty handed down against Khosrov Effendi, Primate of Kayseri and vicinity, has been postponed until further orders are Kessura

July 19, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division (Of Kayseri): Shahabeddir

This coded telegram was despatched to the Acting 1) Commander of the Fifth Army in Ankara, Miralay Whalil Rejai.

47

I urge you to communicate the reasons of the death penalty. nce handed down against the Armenian Primate of Kayseri. July 20, 1915.

The Minister of War: Enver

This telegram was addressed to Miralay Halil Rejai Bey, Acting Commander of the Fifth Army of Ankara. Decipher : Acting High Commander.

It has been established during the course of the trial of Khosrov Effendi, Primate of Kayseri (carried out by the Court-Martial of said city) that the afore mentioned had been in Russia participating in the Congress of the Armenian Committee, that he has returned to Kayseri bringing the decisions of that Congress to the Armenians; and finally that he was one of the members of the Committee.

Consequently he has been sentenced to death in accordance with the provisions of the paragraph annexed to Article 54.

July 21, 1915.

(Acting Commander of the Fifth Army in Ankara):

Khalil Rejai.

49

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifth Army of Ankara.

I have the honor of informing you that fourteen Armenian suspects who were captured in the village and vicinity, were sent tonight to the spot of their exile.

July 22, 1915.

The Commander of the Place

Of Bogazlyan:

Mustafa.

That

Decipher: Commander of the Place & Bogazlyan.

Reply to the coded telegram dated July 22, 1915. I pre you to explain to me where and in which direction the individuals in question have been driven.

July 22, 1915.

President of the Recruiting Office of the Fifth Army and Acting Commander:

HALIL REJAI.

51

Decipher: Acting Commander of the (Fifth) Army.

Players.

Answer to the coded telegram dated July 22, 1915.

I have the honor of informing that the afore-mentioned

Armenians were massacred under the supervision of the gendarme officer <u>Huseyin Avni</u>, because they were considered dangerous.

July 22, 1915.

Commander of the Place Bogazlyan:

Mustafa.

52

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifteenth
Division of Kayseri.

Response to the telegram No. 203 dated June 20,1915 despatched by the President of the Court-Martial of Kayseri.

I herewith include a legarized copy of the Imperial

Irade approving the decision made by the Council of

Ministers to change to perpetual hard labor the death

penalty delivered by the Court-Martial of Kayseri

against Khosrov Efendi, Primate of said city and

vicinity, whose participation in the uprising and

revolutionary movement has been established during the

course of the trial.

The War Office informs that instructions have been despatched to the Commander of the Second Army concerning the case of Kevork, whose name is mentioned in the Imperial Irade. Please do what is necessary.

Edick August 7, 1915.

The President of the Military Draft

of the Fifth Army:

Halil Rejai.

No 945 1/2

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army Corps in Ankara.

The Court-Martial is trying Khosnov Effendi, Armenian Primate of Kayseri, to determine the degree of m his complicity in the revolutionary movements.

He can not be assigned before the Court-Martial because of the privilege, but by an invitation of the Patriarchate, and the mutesarrif is acting to this effect.

Untill the order arrives here, and be carried out,

Percol

a certain time will elapse, a time that the above-mentioned individual shall use certainly to provoke dizorder and to make propaganda. Consequently his presence in this city is 

20/19266 not convenient. The trial may take place even in a bsentia.

I request to take necessary measures to exile him into a 

locality, as the county of Mot in Selevkia, where there is 
not one Armenian. Please inform me.

June 2, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Kayseri Division:
Shahabeddin.

2

No 2157 Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Divison in Kayseri.

Response to the telegram No 945 dated June 2, 1915.

The Deputies and Senators excepted, every one, whoever he may be, can be brought before the Court-Martial. There is no need to ask for the intervention of the Patriarchate to assign the Primate before the Court-Martial. Assign him immediately and start his trial. I wrote to the Ministry for his exile.

June 3, 1915.

Army Commander:

Khalil Rojai.

3

No 294

Decipher: War Office.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division informed me that the Armenian Bishop of Kayseri, being an accomplice of the revolutionary movement in that town, can not be assigned before the Court?Martial because of his privilege, but by an invitation to be made by the Patriarchate, and the mutesarif himself is acting to this effect. Until the order reaches here, and be carried out, a certain time will clapse, at time that the above-mentioned individual will use certainly to provoke disorder and to make propaganda. Consequently his presence in this city is not convenient. His trial may take place even in absentia i request to take necessary measures to exile him into a locality, as the county of Mot in Selevkia, where there is no one Armenian. And please communicate your decision to me.

June 3, 1915.

The Army Commander:
Khalil Rejai.

Ĥ

Decode: Acting Commander of the Army in Ankara.

Answer to the Communication dated June 3, 1915.

The communication despatched to the acting commander of the Division concerning the Primate of Kayseri, has been approved. I recommend to accelerate the legal pursuit and send me the sentence once pronounced by the Court-Martial.

June 4, 1915.

On behalf of the War Office:
The Under-Secretary:
ismail.

5

No 2258/4

Decipher: Acting Commander of Kayseri Division.
Supplement to the telegram dated June 3, 1915.

The War Minister commands in a telegraphic response to accelerate the course of the trial and transmit him the judgement with annexed papers.

June 8, 1915.

The Commander of the Army of Ankara:
Khalil Rejai.

6

No 601

Decipher: Acting Commanderof the Army in Ankara.

Response to the telegram dated June 8, 1915.

In the course of the trial, it has been established that Khosrov Efendi, Primate of Kayseri, was aware of the

revolutionary preparations. Because he has been granted mitigating circumstances. the Court-Martial to-day delivered a judgement sentencing him to fifteen years of hard labor in accordance with the provisions of the Article 47. The acts are despatched for approbation.

June 9, 1915, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

7

No 331

Decipher: War Office

Answer to the coded telgram dated June 7, 1915.

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with the telgraphic communication of the Acting Commander of Kayeseri, the Court-Martial has sentenced Khosrov Efendi, Primate of the same town, to fifteen years of confinement.

June 10, 1915.

The Acting Commander

of the Army in Ankara:

Khalil Rejai.

8

No. 188

Communication to His Excellency
the Acting Commander of the Fifth Army

I have the honor to include herewith, for approbation, the sentence with the annexe papers, delivered against Khos-rov Efendi, Primate of Kayseri, who is sentenced as an ac-

complice of the revolutionary movement.

June 10, 1915.

The President of the Court-Martial of the Fifth Army:

Kaymakam Tevfik.

9

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.

I urge you thoroughly to take necessary measures to prevent the evasion of Khosrov Efendi, Primate of Kayseri.

June 15, 1915.

The President of the Military Draft of the Fifth Army:
Miralay Khalil Rejai.

10

#### Communication

to the President of the Court-Martial of Kayseri.

I herewith return to you the documents and annexed papers, that you had despatched in your telugram No 188 dated

June 10, 1915, concerning Khosrov Efendi, Primate of Kayseri,

sentenced because he was an accomplice of the revolutionary

movement. I recommend you to examine once mere and take the

necessary decision in accordance with the telgram of the War

Ministry, that I transmitted to you in my telegram No 2395

dated 15 June 1915, and in accordance with the provisions of

the paragraph annexed to the Article 54 of the Civil Code Pena:

June 16, 1915.

The President of the Military Draft of the Fifth Army:
Miralay Khalil Rejai.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.

Response to the coded telgram dated June 16, 1915.

The sanction given to the above-mintioned (Primate)
is considered insufficient. The trial acts have been sent
back to the Court-Martial in order to deliver a new sentence
taking into consideration the contents of the instructions
given by the High Command in the telgram No 2395 dated June

2Hadret
15, 1915 annexed to the papers of the Court-Martial. It is
indeed understood that the new sentence shall apply the legal
provisions to him (Primate).

June 17, 1915.

The President of the Military Draft of the Fifth Army:
Miralay Khalil Rejai.

12

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifth Army in Ankara.

Hereabove I enclude, for approbation, the minutes, providing the sentence carried out against Khosrov, Primate of Kayseri and Neighboring area, one of the authors preparing the revolutionary movement, who was trying to create a future Armenian princedom.

(June 21, 1915)

The President of the Court-Martial of the Fifth Army:

Lieut. Colonel Tevfik.

No 118

You will find here-above the text of the ciphired telegram, with mention urgent, dated June 22, 1915, addressed by the Minister of the Interior to the Mutasarif (Zekâi Bey) of Kayseri, who communicated it to me. I am asking you to sent me instructions concerning the persons whose deportation is dealed necessary either by the Court-Martial or by the local authorities and whose names are listed herewith.

June 24, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth

Shahabeddin.

Division:

14

(Ciphered Circular to the Governors).

It has been dealed necessary to change and extend the countries which had been affected to the settlement of the Armenians.

The southern and western area of the <u>vilayet</u> of <u>Kerkuk</u>
Mosul including towns and villages of the <u>sanjak</u> of Kerkuk
situated at the distance of 80 kilometers from the boundaries of Iran; the southern and western area of the <u>sanjak</u>
of Zor, situated at a distance of 25 Km. from the <u>vilayet</u>
of Diarbekir including the villages of the valley of Khabur
and Euphrates rivers, all the towns and villages of the
western area of the <u>vilayet</u> of Aleppo, the south and east

of the same <u>vilayet</u>, excepted the northern area and the <u>wilkagusxof vilayet</u> of Syria, including the <u>sanjaks</u> of Hauran and Kerek, excepted an area of 25 Km. from the railroad.

Here are the regions where the Armenians must be distributed and settled in a proportion of ten per cent of the Moslem population.

1 urge you to conform your activity in accordance with the preceding areas, during the operation of the deportations. June 22, 1915.

(The Minister of the Interior: Talaat).

15

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.

Response to the telgram dated June 24, 1915, No 118.

In accordance with the communication of the Ministry

of the Interior, you may send to Aleppo those who are to be
exiled.

June 25, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army: (Khalil Rejai).

16

No 157, Order 4/1739

Copy of ciphered telegram.

Also to night twenty two Armenian individuals have been exiled to their destination.

To be put in the dossier:
War Office/13

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army in Ankara. Supplement to the telgram dated June 24, 1915.

I have the honor to inform you that by order of the Government one hundred Armenians have been sent, under supervision, to night via Sivas, exiled to Diarbekir.

June 25, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

18

Decipher: War Office Confidential and urgent.

I have the honor to transmit to you the acts of the Court-Martial of Kayseri concerning the sentence delivered against Khosrov, Primate of the same city and neighbourghing area, one of the authors of the revolutionary movement, who was trying to create £ a future Armenian Princedom.

June 25, 1915.

The President of the Military Draft
Commission:
Khalil Rejai.

19

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.

Answer to the coded telegram dated June 27, 1915. It is advisable to exile this category of people to

vilayet of Aleppo; this will be the best way.

Consequently, as I talked by phone with the <u>Mutesarif</u>, they must be deported without giving to public emotion, in an underhand manner (clandestinely), in preference at night and in little groups.

I urge you to do what is necessary in agreement with the <u>Mitesarif</u>, and give me information.

June 27, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifth Army:
Khalil Rejai.

20

(Becipher: Acting Commander of the Fifth Army
Ankara)

The <u>Mutesarif</u> informed me that it is necessary to send to exile two hundred eight Armenians of the villages of Talas, Germir, Moonjusun depending on Kayseri. Please let me know where I have to send them.

June 27, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:

Shahabeddin.

21

Decipher: Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor to inform you that 83 Armenians of Kayseri by order of the government and sentenced by the Courtmartial of the same city, to be exiled, have been sent under supervision to night Via Nigdeto their destination, and 38

36 (Armenian) soldiers have been sent via Sivas to Aleppo.

June 28, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth
Division:
Shahabeddin.

22

Order 114, No 427

Decipher: War Office.

Confidential Communication.

I have the honor of informing that, the Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division communicated that the authorities have taken under supervision 83 Armenians, who have been exiled to night 27/28 June (1915) to Aleppo via Nigde.

Also 36 Armenian soldiers sentenced by the Court-Martial have been exiged to Aleppo via Sivas.

June 28, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifth Army:

Khalil Rejai.

23

Ciphered Circular.

It has been established during the course of the investigations held by the Courts-Martial in Constantinople as well as in the provinces, that the members of the Armenian Committees have made the decision, in congresses held in various foreign countries, secrectly or publicly, to organize the revolution by resorting to direct action with weapons and

other means of destruction such as bombs, dynamite, arms and appropriated publications, the various inter-related plots these committees organized, establish that, they are pursuing a common goal of creating an autonomous and independent Armenia.

been held. The Court-Martial of Constantinople explained in detail and pointed out distinctly the crimes committed (by the Armenian Committees) within the limits of its jurisdiction. It (the Court-Martial) investigated the nature of the crimes committed, with all qualifying elements, the goal and the importance of the action and applied the provisions of the paragraph attached to the Article 54 of the General Penal Code.

I am discovering that some other Courts-Martial are neglecting to examine in depht the reasons for this movement and not retaining misdemeanor againstates of preparing for revolution by exciting Armenians afainst the Moslems of the Ottoman Empire, organizing prosecutions and applying ordinary punishments. Although this may be allowed in some Courts-Martial because of extenuating circumstances, the bond, however, that exists among the perpetrators of several crimes, leaves no doubt any longer; the procedure of applying various punishment would create a lack of uniformity in the manner of repression. This is contrary to the purpose of the legislator and our goal. Therefore, I urge you to communicate the necessary orders, confidentially, to all courts-martial in the area of your jurisdiction in order to conduct deep enquiries and

unify the jurisprudence.

June 28, 1915.

The Commander in Chief and War Minister:

Enver.

2/1.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.

Confidential coded telegram.

I urge you to inform the President of the Court-Martial of Kayseri in order to conform his activity with the farr aforesaid order, and consequently for your concern to be sure if he has af conform activity.

June 29, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army

of Ankara:

Khalil Rejai.

- 1. Decipher: President of the Court-Martial of Kayseri.
- 2. Communication to the President of the Court-Martial of Ankara.

## Very Confidential.

As written to you in my supplementary communication dated June 15, 1915, it has been formally established that the revolutionary movemenst of the Armenians, their cursed organizations and preparatives are aspiring after the creation of an autonomylous Armenia. Considering the nature of the delict, the purpose of the aspirations and the importance of the question, it is fitting to apply the provisions of the paragraph annexed to the Article 54 of the Penal Code, and thus, create uniform jurisprudence in all the courts-martial.

This is the instruction of the High Command. I urge you to deliver sentences against the Armenians in accordance.

June 29, 1915.

The Commander of the Arky of Ankara:
Khalil Rejai.

26

Decipher: (Acting Commander of the Fifth Army of Ankara)

in a coded telegram received to night, the <u>Mutesarif</u>
of Kayseri informed that gun-shots had taken place in the
county of Efkere and asked me for despatching there a patrol.

I took appropriate action by sending immediately a patrol of 20 soldiers. I have not yet any official communi-

cation about the details of the incident.

But it is established, as a consequence of enquiries held on spot, that at the county-seat there had been gunshots at night, and in the suburban gardens non-charged bombs have been found.

About 30 suspected Armenians have been arrested and  $S_{\alpha_n}+$  forwarded to Kayseri. I will not miss to communicate the results of the enquiry.

June 30, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

27

Decipher: Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor to inform you that 16 more Armenians sentenced by the Courtk-Martial have been sent to Aleppo.

June 30, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

28

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor of informing you that, to night
also 26 Armenians sentenced to exile by the Court-Martial
have been sent to Aleppo via Sivas.

July the first, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

Decipher: War Office.

Refrring to the telegram of the Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division, I have the honor of informing Your Excellency that, 26 Armenians sentenced to be deported by the Court-Martial of Kayseri, have been sent in two goups to Aleppo via Sivas.

July the Fiirst, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army:
Khalil Rejai.

30

Decipher: Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor to inform you that, 28 more Armenians have been exiled to night to Aleppo via Sivas.

July 2, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

31

Decipher: War Office.

The coded telegram of July the first, 1915,

continued.

I have the honor of informing that, 28 more Armenians sentenced to exile have been sent from Kayseri to Aleppo via Sivas.

July 3, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army: Khalil Rejai.

Decipher: (Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara).
Suplement to the telgram dated June 30, 1915.

Following a communication of the <u>Mutesarif</u> (Zekâi Bey) here are the results of the enquiry held by a Commission, which has been on the spot of the incident in the county-seat.

No indice was found to establish the identity of those who were the authors of the gun-shots. It seems certain that they were hidden in their houses after the gun-shots and as they were recognized by the guards who have gone on the spot, they escaped helding gun-shots in order to avert the pursue. This is established with some cartridge cases that have been where two non-charged bombs were found. The owner of the garden, a women, has been sent to/foun Kayseri under escort. Finally those inhabitants of the village, whose exile had been decided already in advance, and who stated that they had no knowledge of the incident, have been arrested and sent to their destination.

July 4, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifiteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

33

Deciphor: Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara.

To night sixty six Armenians have been sent to the Phace spot of their exile.

July 5, 1915.

Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division: Shahabeddin.



Decipher: War Office

Continuation of the ciphered telegram of

July 3, 1915.

I have the honor of informing that sixty six Armenians of Kayseri have been much exiled to Aleppo.

July 6, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army:
Khalil Rejai.

35

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara.

I have the honor of informing you that to night thirty four Armenians have been sent to the spot of their exile.

July 8, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth
Division of Kayseri:
Shahabeddin.

36

Decoded Telegram.

I have the honor of informing that to night fifty one individuals of the Armenian Nation have been exiled to their destination.

July 11, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifueenth
Division:
Shahabeddin.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.

Response to the coded telegram dated July 11, 1915.

Are the fifty one Armenians in question sentenced by the Court-Martial, or their exile has been considered necessary because they were suspect? In the latter case, is their quality of suspect accepted also by the military authority? I urge you to answer.

July 12, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Army: Khalil Rejai.

38

Decipher: (Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara:)

I have the honor of informing that, the <u>mutesarfif</u> of
Kayseri (Zekâi Bey) learned that to-day some Armenian fugitives made an attack in the counties of Erkilet and Moonjusun, and two patrols have been sent to both counties. The
issue of the investigation will be communicated to you.
July 12, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Fifteenth Division:
Shahabeddin.

39

Order 4/1730 No 2869

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri.

Answer to the coded telegram No 154 2869 ly dated Jung 12, 1915.

I have the honor of informing that, the individuals in question have been found in possession of prohibit ted arms and for this reason the Court-Martial sentenced them to one of two years of (imprisonment). They also belonged to the category of those whose resort in Kayseri has been declared as presenting disadvantage by the imperial Attorney of the Court-Martial. Consequently they have been exiled to their destination.

July 13, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Kayseri Division: Shahabeddin.

40

Decoding of the ciphered telegram No 173.

(To the Acting Commander of the Army of Ankara).

I have the honor of informing you that, to night nino Armenians sentenced by the Court-Martial of Kayseri have been sent to the spot of their exile.

July 15, 1915.

The Acting Commander of the Division of Kayseri:

Shahabeddin.

41

Decipher: War Office.

Continuation of the coded telegram dated July 14, 1915.

I have the honor of informing that, nine Armenians also

sentenced to exile by the Court-Martial of Kayseri have been sent to their destination.

(July 15, 1915).

The Acting Commander of the Army
of Ankara:
Khalil Rejai.

42

Coded telegram despatched by the War Office.

Response to the telegram dated June 25, 1915.

An imperial <u>irade</u> (Decree) approved the death penalty byxhanging of Khosrov Effendi, Primate of Kayseri and neighbouring area, sentenced to be hanged by the Court-Martial of the same city,. He has been considered one of the authors of the revolutionary movement.

July 15, 1915.

On behalf of the War Office: Suleyman Fethi.

43

No 4/1764

Decipher: War Office.

I have the honor to inform that nine more Armenians sentenced to be exiled by the Court-Martial of Kayseri, have been sent to their destination.

July 16, 1915.

Commander of the Army (of Ankara):
Khalil Rejai.

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifth Army.
Supplement to the coded telegram dated July 16, 1915.

In accordance with the telegram of the Prime Minister, an Imperial <u>trade</u> (Decree) has approved the decision made by the Council of Ministers changing the death penalty to perpetual hard labor, sentenced by the Court-Martial of Kayseri against Khosrov Efendi, Primate of Kayseri and neighbouring area, whose participation to the rising agitation and revolutionary movement has been established during the trial.

I hereby include a legalized copy of the aforesaid imperial irade (Decree) in order to act following the orders. Concerning the individual called Kevork in the imperial irade (Decree) necessary instructions have been sent to the Commander of the Eleventh Army.

July 16, 1915.

On behalf of the War Office: Suleyman Fethi.

45

Coded Telegram from War Office.

Very Urgent.

Continuation of the telegram dated July 15, 1915.

Considering the importance of the question, I gave order to directly to the <u>Mutesarif</u> of Kayseri to postpone until new order the execution of the judgement against Khosrov Effendi Primate of Kayseri and neighbouring area.

July 16, 1915.

On behalf of the War Office: Suleyman Fethi. Decipher: Acting High Commander.

Answer to the coded telegram dated July 20, 1915.

It has been established during the course of the trial Khestor Effendi, Primate of Kayseri carried out by the Court-Martial of the same city, that the afore-mentioned has been in Russia participating to the Congress of the Armenian Committee, that he has come back to Kayseri bringing to the Armenians the decisions of that Congress, and that, finally he was one of the members of teh Committee. Consequently he has been sentenced to death in accordance with the provisions of the paragraph annexed to the Article 54.

July 21, 1915.

(Acting Commander of the Fifth Army in Ankara):

Khalil Rejai.

49

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifth Army of Ankara I have the honor of informing you that, fourteen suspect Armenians, who were captured at the village and vicinity, were sent to night to the spot of their exile.

July 22, 1915.

The Communder of the Place of Bogazlyan:

Mustapha.

No 3011

50

Decipher: Commander of the Place of Bogazlyan.

Response to the coded tolgoram dated July 22, 1915.

I urge you to explain to me where and in which direction the individuals in question have been driven?

July 22, 1915.

President of the Recruiting Office of the Fifth Army and Acting Commander:

Khalil Rejai.

51

Decipher: Acting Commander of the (Fifth) Army.

Answer to the coded telegram dated July 22, 1915.

I have the honor of informing that, the afore-mentioned Armenias were massacret under the supervision of the gendarme officer Huseyin Avni, because they were dangerous.

July 22, 1915.

Commander of the Place of Bogazlyan:
Mustapha.

52

Decipher: Acting Commander of the Fifteenth
Division of Kayseri.

Response to the telegram No 203 dated June 20, 1915, despatched by the President of the Court-Martial of Kayseri.

I herewith include a legalized copy of the Imperial Trade (Docree), approving the decision made by the Council of Ministers to change to lifetime hard labor the death penalty delivered by the Court-Martial of Kayseri against Khosrov Effendi, Primate of the same city and neighbourning

area, whose participation to the uprising and revolutionary movement have been established during the course of the trial.

The War Office informs that instructions have been despatched to the Commander of the Second Army concerning the case of Kevork, whose name is mentioned in the Imperial Decree. Please do what is necessary.

August 7, 1915.

The President of the Military Draft of the Fifth Army:

Khalil Rejai.