



Oct - 17 - 1968

Dear Prof. Kerr

Your Oct-12-1968 letter received and you were asking me some more questions that I am answering below:

(1) Kherlakian family relationship with my family. My aunt Mary to Kherlakian Krikor whose son muchian help me to get out prison 1915 - they didn't have nothing to do for my School Time. 1910 I went Istanbul by examination of the 200 applications they accept 40 of us to School. I study 3 years at the School.

(2) 1914 I was vacationing at the warash mobilization declared and all college and university students called up by order government to military Academy for six months training after six months training they graduate us as midazim evvel or midazim sani. 1st 2nd lieutenant then come captain (youbashi) then come (benbashi) Major, and then Colonel, and General.

(3) When I met Enver pasha, war was going on all the frontier. dardanel, galibolu Caucasus Front. Same day I met Enver pasha

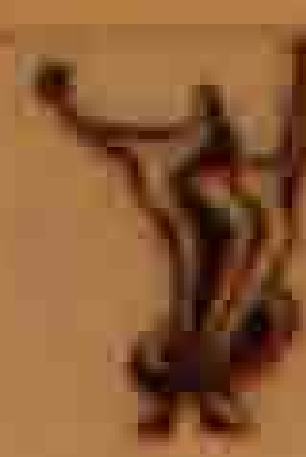


2

in Van, armenians make Revolution against
turke government and most of armenians ~~there~~
Remain to Russian side.

I was commenting on manner both attacking and
defending side. after maneuvers over I went my
room to make Rest - hour later they call me up
that Enver pasha wants see me. I went about
5 min. he ask me if I am armenian. I said
yes. but my imprisonment nothing to do we
our conversation with Enver pasha -
that was the war tactic. they start deporting
all armenians behind front line. as the germans
did to jews in Germany. you know Enver
pasha has few german generals as a adviser

(4) I wrote letter 1912 Balkan war -
I was working in my school Hospital as Dr-
assistant. that time 2 delegate (armenian) come
to J. taubert. Yervant Hrach. and S.P. Serapet
pachanian. ^{fr. u.s.s.r.} to make interparty meeting.
down tashnag club. we 3 student went to
meeting to lessen war was going on. and they
decided (Tashnag, Hinchak - Ramgavar) to orga-
nize and mobilized to make insid revolution
to through the government. Meanwhile we
knew by tr. tchatalja (Istanbul suburb) bombards



ment from Bulgar and from galibolou from the
greek advancing through to istanbul -
discussion of this meeting officially was gone.
Send all country Branches. before this official
letter send down. I wrote my Brother about
meeting discussion and I wrote in last line
letter. after you read letter destroy and Burn
letter: my father took letter home. he read
my mother after studying Burn letter they ~~went~~
away - one side. This was happen 1912
Balkan war - 1914 when military academy
call me up. before I leave marash. in the
house all my books, pictures, and letters
picked up everything in one suitcase. Send it
down my aunt house. in case government
search my house. because I have lots of turk
friends and lots of turks enemy: same thing
happen. 3-4 turk police dept. they search my
house and they found this letter I wrote
1912 - and one armenian spy (azedion meyer
dick) translated to turkish by order the court
marshal - and then they wrote school to arrest
me and send marash. that time there is no
censoring. after they arrest me at the school
they send me down secretary of war (under perhaps)
department Bekir agha Beolugu prison. same
they they hang 14 Henchak Revolutionist. they



were trying up⁴ the government -
this was another plot against government -
result the Henchak meeting in Sofia, now
Bulgaria, one of meeting member armenian
Ardevas, Arshavir Samel and object about
this affair, that's why they Hanged Meeting
the other members. I stay one month this
prison (Bekir agha Beoluz), but still I don't
know what was my guilt. after the month
they send me down police Mudury Oumou
miligi prison about one mile away -
I saw 200 armenians up there, they surprise
when they saw me in a turkish uniform
they ask me what's my trouble, I said, I
don't know, after three day a police came
down my cell and he said, you are going
to marash, if you have money, we send you
by the Train, if you have no money, you have
to walk with one gandarine, this journey take
about 20-25 day by walking, then they gave
me 3 more day time to find money to go
by railway, meanwhile I was thinking where
I can get the money, at least I found way
to see Shack - (L. - Islam) per of Islam world



7
(5) - after I released from prison, I change my name as (Salih-Zeki). This was name, one of the teacher, he was teaching (physiology) and my cousin was contractor (Mikhael Khelakian) Germans Construction Company. there was several engineers. Morf and Geobel. they were head of the construction

(6) Secretary of court marshal Zakaria effendi was turk but he was very close friend of Mikhael Khelakian

(7) The Jan. 1st 1920 Wedding of Rafail Khelakian Best man was Colonel Ernou - this information I have from my wife Margaret. She was daughter of Mikhael Khelakian the wedding take place at their Ham. by mistake I wrote you General. Quernett.

(8) French Flag never hoisted on the citadell. turk sources wrong about that. french flag flying only on the french barrack

(9) From tunnel about 8-10 Thousand armenians deported on way marash, Aintab. Hizib, Berajik shore of Euphrates River, night was near when we reach the shore. Out this 8-10 Thousand people about 4 thousand killed by shooting and knifing and 2 thousand people died of hunger and disease. Mikhael Khelakian stay in aintab, because court marshal was at



Aintab and Secretary Zakaria was aintab
zakaria he took mekran Khestakian and
few others from the caravan and
safely send them to Aleppo.

(10) after fifth day the war, we burn
our houses to escape night time safe
place. but we were unable to do this and
we joined another group Armenians they
fighting for their life. we all came to-
gether in different houses join together and
fight together until dark. but turks
overwhelmingly surround the houses and they
starting fire of four side. Meanwhile
we were 300 people. Houses start burning and
3 of us escaped some another houses. meanwhile
2 of us shot. one died and I was wounded
from my ^{HIP?} back. Bullet pass through, 2 more
men can hear, night time we watching
houses burning and rest 300 people taken
prisoners they put them one big hall, next
morning they took them all bring down to
Mennane Cemetery and burning alive
with Carabid ^{Carabid} oil, one they after 2 more
men of the that crowd Runaway and joined
with us St. George church of Shakerdashy.



all expenses journey time and this young boy
went Istanbul, graduate from law school -
from 1900-1910 he got several jobs from govern-
ment. when I went school his father and
my father they gave me two letters Bringham
and he helped me school time.

I took this to letter and found his address -
That time he was one of the Cabinet Member
(Evkaf Nazire) - he read both letters and
he divided his house. After that once of two
week I visited his house - from 1910 - to 1914
several Armenian Congressmen and well known
Armenians I brought his house and introducing
every one of them.

So, police mudur's damad he gave
order one of policeman to bring down Shakhid's
office, when we arrived there he surprised
and he took telephone and talked police mudur
and he gave 8 (lira) Gold for Train fare and
beside, he gave me 2 (lira) on the way to spend
for hotel and restaurant. Then three days after
we arrived Marash - I found my father in the
prison. then I know about the letter I wrote
1912 To my Brother

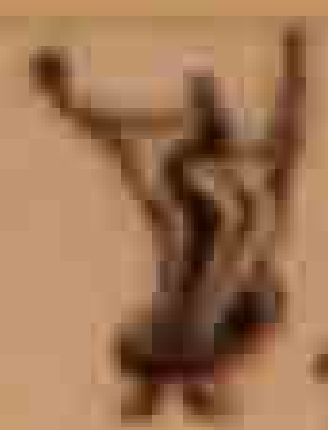


5

3th day was over, another policeman came down, he said get ready you gone start to go Mesake I said. I want see Shaik. - Islaw bay. and I am gone ask money from him. when I gave his name policeman surprise and he went up to tell police ^{goverd dnoh} ~~mudury~~ ^{by mooni}.

I am gone explain howe I had friendship with this High officer man.

1895 general massacre time of Sutton aptd dad Hamid. this Turk family live across street my home. they were very friendly with my family. during this massacre, this Turk family gone in their home defend my family and we didn't have any lost. I was three years old infant. I don't remember anything. 1896. 16 years old one of their son. Wants go Istanbul to get higher education, his father don't want to send him Istanbul, because they were agricultural people father needs him as a clerk. young boy clearly to see my grand father to talk his father. my grand father and his father was very close friend. then my grand ^{father} went down his father to tell him let this young boy as he desire have higher education and my grand father get permission to go Istanbul have higher education, and my grand father said I take care



near 2nd protestant church &

(10) after trench army withdrawal from marash. some part of the Bulgarian Huns, about 3000 armenians try to reach trench outside marash. when they start open door and came in the street turks start shooting left and right. 1st man shot was Kherlakian Family hadderman Avedis agha Kherlakian when the people saw he was shot they turn to their old place. but about 200 of them continue way to reach trench army. except 4 pearl Ruz of them all killed. One of them Hagor Kherlakian, who was 1912 elected Congress in parliament, during world war I - he was congressman in Istanbul.

after they killed next day they cut his head put him on the stick they paraded with the music all marash street.

You were up there that time you should know that. I gave

this time my information as much you promising me sent some picture you took at marash. I will be very thankful when you do this

your sincerely
Avedis B. Siferian