

STANLEY E. KERR
109 CEDAR LANE
PRINCETON, NJ 08540

7 June, 1920

HE WAS NOT HOME
AT THAT TIME
KARAKIN IS
HIS NAME

Dear Mr. Chortajian:-

For more than a month after I visited you last April I was occupied with other matters, but finally I wrote up the account of your family to incorporate this in my book. One or two questions still need to be answered:

UNCLE
BOGHOS
7 KILLED
OLDEST BOY SAVED

BOGHOS
① What is the name of the uncle who lived in the Divanli quarter (near Ebenezzer orphanage) with 4 sons & 4 daughters - all of them killed? I know about Arka, Channes, Mibram, Kartovar and your father Baphtadasar. - but not about the sixth one! 5 BROTHERS ARKA WAS NOT ONE OF THE BROTHERS

ABRAHAM
FLORIDA

② What is the name of your younger brother whom you carried on the last part of the journey to Iskehiye? He was 10 yrs. old in 1920. Is he still living? and where?
YES MIAMI, FLORIDA

I trust that the manuscript may
be published soon!

Hoping for a reply from you
shortly, I remain

Very truly yours

Stanley E. Kern



THE ZORYAN INSTITUTE

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ARKA WAS NOT ONE OF THE BROTHERS

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YES

MIAMI, FLORIDA

HE WAS NOT HOME AT THAT TIME KARAKIN IS HIS NAME

UNCLE BOGHOS 7 KILLED OLDEST BOY SAVED

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see Joss story about Sego. & his immediate family

Write Joe Chabaja -

Since I visited you on Apr. 27th I was ^{too} busy with other duties to write up the story of the Chabaja family. Now I ~~have~~ ^{begin} begun work on it, but have to ask you a few more questions.

- ① Can you give me the names of ~~the~~ ^{the} Chabaja brothers: - all except the one who - when he returned to Ararat - went to live in a Muslim quarter, and all of his family were killed. If I remember correctly his home was close to that of Dikran Berberian's father - Abraham Hodja, in the Divanli quarter.

Boplos Can you tell me his name? also where did his family stay during the period of exile?

- ② Of the sixty members of the Chabaja family how many returned to Marash? in 1919? According to what you and Anvari Ayazian have told me,

Bop your father (Baptasar) brought back his entire family except for the grandfather who died of a stroke at Meskene, also one baby born in Meskene. There were 13 in total there, and I suppose all of them came back to Marash. How many were there?

~~Whatever~~ Your uncle Vartekas had 14 persons at Meskene and lost his grandfather (who died of a stroke) but gained a baby. Hence he must have returned to Marash with 14.

The uncle (name? Boplos) who returned to live in the Muslim quarter ~~near~~ near Ebnegor had a wife, 4 boys & 4 girls so his family so there ten of his family who returned to Marash.

I have no information about ~~the~~ you and Oshannes (father of Sego). Did he also have to also exiled?

So far we have accounted for: 13 Vartekas's family
10 Baptasar's family
who lived near Ebnegor O.

Oshannes

Ask names of the 5 brothers.

- 1 Vartan, Araxir father
- 2 Arta killed in 1915
- 3 Olanos Stepan's father. Went to Aleppo in 1922
- 4 Father of family living in Tur. Or, wiped out in 1920.
- 5 Bagdasarian left Marash w. friend } to 4 young men + Araxir
- 6 Mikron died in Aleppo } 14 yr. old brother including Joseph



Which was Mikron?

On morning of invasion, Horag^{son of Bagdasarian} (then aged 19) had gone to home of his uncle a merchant living in Bosphorus Kasan - to arrange transfer of money to Aleppo. He was sleeping for lunch & was just leaving house when shooting started. Stayed there 8 days, defending w. rifles made contact w. Cath. Church. At 9 PM - 15 people started thru Tur. Cemetery & reached church (Monastery) main Chorbij residence!

Transferred food supplies from Chorbij house to Monastery for feeding soldiers & refugees.

Turks set fire to our house - burned down

A ligama - volunteered for Lyon-Lynn.

Garabek Gabekian from Massachusetts.

went to visit Chorbij.

Dr. M. notes: To are going to use.

to Joe

8 cousins got together - return to Chorbij house. 2nd floor - neighbors join us 15 in all. Pass thru veg. garden. Turks in Mosque - not Mtn Janis! Start shooting at us for moment. Two boys shot. We were all young men. Reached Yern Hoz. Dr. M. had already gone. Met Dr. Akbulak on his return from cafe in Tur. Somewhere Dr. M. As he reached the Hoz. an Arman killed Dr. M. & present news of Dr. Akbulak reaching the Turkey. Arman killed Dr. M. is the graveyard used by Germans for patients who had died. Only one of his books was not buried! [Dr. M. Grand was Arman]



At 11:00 on Tuesday we went on to the barracks
then via Amer. Girls College - passed Bontar
An Armenian woman warned us that the Barracks
had been fired for exploding in dynamite
around the barracks.

Finally caught up with Dr. Marguerite - An
Armenian recognized her. At that moment the Barr.
blew up.

13 (2 had been wounded) go on to 'Iskhye'.
My brother - missing. Joe told Bro. that fellow.
Joe returns - finds 10 yr. old brother near death.
Carried him from there to 'Iskhye'. - Three
hours.

'At Iskhye' found Dr. - ? a relative.
residing in Iskhye, who later saved brother

Armenian family came later to Lat. in Mesopotamia.
They lived in a different Q.

One of Joe's uncles living in [Kurdistan] Q.
near Erzerum - a Turkish Q. could not escape
8 in family all killed by Turks of that Q.
lived across from Butcher's. Abd. Hadja



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Mother writes us, Under Mr. Sarkis for her sister
& brings family back to Aleppo

Rest of Chorb — 10 persons died at Beirut
~~old~~

? Oct 160 who left Aleppo only ^{??} 18 returns (Araxi)

Under Mr. Sarkis died — Aleppo & Aleppo

Mother spoke about Arabists (large mob in Aleppo)
+ could speak in French & Arabic & this could pass
as a Syrian.

Another factor: the area in which we lived
in Aleppo under control of a Commissioner Hodge of
Aleppo & a neighbor in Marash

& a police officer. We used to pay him 5 £ 76 / mo
for protection. Used to come once a week to our
house for a meal. He helped us a great deal
later to the Chorb.

The Police ^{did not} knew us well, but we were warned
"Do not go out of my territory!" They were safe only
in his district. Later they gave him a suit of clothes
in disguise in order to escape Dr. Chorb. at time of
British entry.

Concealed money in false bottom of tin container
alive.

After British occupy: Returned to Marash

Araxi's father lived near Kalc'at, near municipal bldg. ^{See map}
in Kalc'at Cr.

Turks start

Joe was in Father's ^{under} ~~bottom~~ house. (Joe was to take large sum of money to
Aleppo. Took it to Uncle's house, where he was asked to stay for lunch.
On leave house shooting started. Stayed there 5 days.

Mikhael - died in Aleppo of typhus
Armen - " " M. & A. H.



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6.
5 Bros of Vart. - Aram's father → Maara
Baghdassar - John's father → Bab
Olanus. Stepan joined phalanx in Egypt
Who returned to Marash to live in

Aug. 10 - depart for Marash

No brutality in prisons as far as Aleppo
Rant to Baghdassar from the comment on

Aleppo. Ryck camp.

Does family. Aram's family taken to home of
grand father: Abd. Ch. - contracted to supply wood for
railway locomotives. (Armen) } will know the Arab arch
Armen.

Abd. Ch. Round stone in Turkey (Imamprate) Other
Dyrrakia

each family gave 100 L.T. (bribe) to be permitted
to live in Bab.

Armen's family goes to Maara -
Yarkun

Bab (Joos) (Baghdassar)

Order came to us in Bab,
(read) got. each room one family
man

Maara

(Armen)

allowed to return to Bab

leave.

we are going to be

Order small hotel (khan) in Bab -

we stayed there 8 days. Aram's brother, a

By month later ordered to

Joe writes to Uncle Abd. (brother's brother)

Armen comes for us. w. 2 policemen & archer!
to order for Superior Officer. Father Baghdassar refuses to go!

Uncle comes 2nd time. Last older brother, sister, & me

→ 7 us

& took us to Aleppo - the others - my father, mother

little brother & sister - taken to Baghdassar one stop

before Deir ez Zor. There my father died of typhus

Mother with 8 families. Mother survived



1) You gave me the names of five ~~Chobanian~~ brothers:
 Arta, Bagdasar (your father), ~~Vate~~ Vartevan (Arta's father)
 Oshanes (Shigis' father) and Mikhra. There was one more
 whose name you could not remember at the time of my interview.
 Can you recall it? He must be the one who lived in the
 Divanti quarter, near Abraham Hadja Berberian. I
 understand that his entire family (~~including~~ wife & 8 children) were
 killed. Dr. Berberian is ~~in~~ in 1920. Do you know
 where he spent the years lived during exile? ~~It was remarkable~~
~~that such a large family~~

~~According to~~ Aram Ayvazian writes that approximately
 two-thirds of the Chobanians who left were killed (~~about 60~~ all
 (60) survived, whereas you stated 18 survived

I wonder if ~~you were~~ the 18 ~~survivors~~ you mentioned
 were not the survivors after the 1920 massacre.

Perhaps we can calculate those who returned to Marash
 after exile as follows:

Bagdasar's family (your father):

Vartevan - at least 18

Arta

Mikhra

? who lived in Divanti Qtr 10

Oshanes: Oshanes' ~~and~~ family.

Total

	Lost during exile	Returned to Marash
Vartevan - 5 children (4 girls, one boy)		18
? 4 girls, 4 boys (oldest 23 yrs)		10
Bagdasar		