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Armenians Pay Tribute Today To Victims Of 1915 Massacre By Turks

BY VASKEN MINASIAN
Chairman Armenian Memorial Project Committee

Today the people of Armenian ancestry in the communities of Montebello, Pico Rivera, East Los Angeles, and Monterey Park will join with Armenians of the greater Los Angeles Metropolitan and suburban areas in a memorial tribute to the thousands of their countrymen who were massacred by the Turks in 1915.

The ceremonies, open to the public, will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Embassy Auditorium, 847 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, and is one of hundreds of similar ceremonies held throughout the world commemorating the 51st anniversary of the Turkish massacre of the Armenian people—a day of mourning as a gesture of reverence and homage to the memory of three million unarmed Armenians who were slaughtered in 1915 in a mass effort to exterminate the Armenian race.

This is not the only nor the first attempted extermination faced by the Armenian people. As early as 1884 the Turks attacked without warning the helpless civilian population of Sassoun, killing 65,000 men, women, and children in one day.

AGAIN IN 1896 another 300,000 Armenians died at the hands of the same assassins for no other reason than that they were Christians.

The Armenians were not the only ones to suffer, for in 1922 some 500,000 Greeks of the Anatolian peninsula met a similar fate at the hands of the Ataturk government. In fact, this sort of genocide has been practiced by descendants of the Mongols periodically over the past six centuries. As late as 1956 mobs organized by the Turkish police, military, and the Menderes government did \$300,000,000 damage to property, killed 3000 people, and committed acts of unprovoked violence against Armenians, Greeks and Jews.

They also defied and repudiated the United States by violating the Woodrow Wilson boundary by ravaging

but simply because the slaughtered men, women and children were not armed.

When armed, such as they could be, the Armenians presented a different story. Against overwhelming odds and trained adversaries they made glorious stands that will live throughout history—like the American stand at the Alamo. The Armenians gave 250,000 soldiers to the Allied cause and fought the Turks to a standstill and final defeat, they aided in the collapse of the German forces by denying them the oil of Baku after the British had decided Baku could not be held during World War II.

Finally, on May 28 of 1918, the Armenians formed their own free Republic after centuries of Turkish rule. The Armenians, being a creative people, without adequate arms, food, or finances, built a country from nothing and organized a well-functioning government along Western lines with the American arbitrated Woodrow Wilson boundary.

THIS GOVERNMENT, however, was short-lived for So-

viet-Turkish collusion and attack by Tartar hordes and Red divisions from the north finally succeeded in collapsing the infant Republic.

But, the United States graciously provided the Near East Relief which, along with many generous American organizations, managed to save tens of thousands of Armenian lives; and Armenians will never forget this.

The Armenians and the rest of the civilized world have an obligation to the martyrs whose remains rest in the deserts of a Der-Zor to bring freedom once again to their homeland. A resurrected free Armenia will be a bulwark against further aggression by the forces against freedom in the Near East—an international buffer zone to keep separated the forces of East and West.

Armenians throughout the world, of every nation and political belief are united in demanding the return of Armenia's historical territories, and the associated problems must be settled by the world powers. Armenians in the Diaspora are grateful for the hospitality of their host countries, but

Armenia must not be forgotten. The honor of the Western World, the existence of Armenians as a people, and the maintenance of the concepts of national honor and justice for all peoples as once enunciated by Adlai Stevenson, demand the restoration of the Armenian territories to Armenians and suitable reparations from the government which defiled them.

The continued existence of the United Nations itself depends upon truly convincing all its members of its complete fairness and integrity. Then and only then will nations give up the necessary amount of sovereignty to make a success rather than a farce out of this hopeful concept. Then they will be willing to accept the United Nations settlement of conflicts and the constant fear of world destruction present in every dispute will evaporate.

The Armenian people cannot be disinherited from their ancient homeland. It is too deeply engraved in their hearts and their minds. They have pledged to their martyrs of 1915 that

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ROWDY SESSION FOR COUNCIL SHAFT STUDY

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Monday night's Council session was the rowdiest and least orderly session in the memory of City Hall observers.

It was the 30-minute time allowed for arguments concerning dedicatory wording for a proposed Armenian Memorial Monument at Bicknell Park which drew the greatest fire but the entire meeting was far less orderly than usual. Frequently, Mayor Harry Shepherd threatened to clear the room if the heckling and interruptions continued and at one point he told an unidentified woman who was seated with the Turkish delegation that he would ask her to leave.

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by parents.

Councilman Bruce Odou, who made a strong appeal that the entire plan be abandoned, predicted that bullets instead of words will fly if the hate is perpetuated.

As at a previous meeting when plans for the Monument itself were approved and approval of