
STATEMENTS REGARDING THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The New York Times, Oct 15, 1915.

TURKISH OFFICIAL DENIES ATROCITIES

Consul General, Djelal Munif Bey, the Turkish Consul General of New York, in an official statement to *The Times* declared that claims by the American Committee on Armenian Atrocities in its report detailing atrocities committed against Armenians is a “fabrication.” “These wholesale accusations against the Turkish Government and nation were given out in the press without the slightest effort being made toward ascertaining the extent of truth there is in them.” [see *NYT Oct 15, 1915; p.4, col. 4,6.*, “Turkish Official Denies Atrocities.” Munif Bey was responding to the *NYT* page one article from Oct 4, 1915 “Tell of Horrors Done in Armenia” which was a report by the American Committee on Armenian Atrocities].

(UPI) Los Angeles, Nov 25, 1981.

GENOCIDE CHARGES DENIED BY TURKISH AMBASSADOR

Turkish Ambassador Sukru Elekdag called charges of genocide by Turks against Armenians “baseless” despite claims by demonstrators who protested his visit this week. “The accusation that Ottoman Turks 65 years ago during World War I perpetrated the annihilation of Armenians to seize their homelands is totally baseless,” Elekdag said.

(UPI) Geneva, Oct 23, 1982.

TURKISH MINISTER ADDRESSES UN, CALLS ARMENIAN MASSACRES "NONSENSE"

The Foreign Minister of Turkey, Ilter Turkmen, astonished delegates listening to Turkish policy in the General Assembly of the United Nations when he denied that Armenians were massacred by Turks, and dismissed it as propaganda and “nonsense.”

He made these statements before the current session of the General Assembly on October 4 in the morning. He devoted three pages of his speech to the Armenians. The following excerpt is from the official UN Document of the General Assembly (A/37/PV.15 of October 5, 1982, pages 11-13).

“...Armenian propaganda alleges that a great number of Armenians were massacred in Turkey during the First World War. It demands vindication for this contrived and imaginary martyrdom. Historical facts indicate that the assertions in Armenian propaganda are completely unfounded and are based on blatant falsification and distortion of history. They allege that 1.5 million Armenians died. That is nonsense!”

Marmara News, Istanbul. Sept 17, 1983.

[From a speech given in the town of Nigde, Turkey]

TURKISH PRESIDENT BLASTS ARMENIAN GOALS.

General Kenan Evren, President of Turkey, blasted Armenians in several speeches. “In 1915, we did not declare war against the Armenians. The Armenians of those years declared war on us. Just as they were disappointed then by the results, they will be disappointed now!” [referring to attacks on Turkish diplomats in the period 1973-1983]



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WASHINGTON, D.C. Oct 13, 1983.

CONGRESSMEN CHALLENGE AMBASSADOR ELEKDAG

Congressmen this week challenged the Turkish government to reassess its position on the Armenian Genocide. The Turkish Ambassador often writes to members of Congress on the Armenian issue, restating his government's assertion that the Armenian Genocide is "a fiction invented by Armenians."

Istanbul, Turkey. Oct 3, 1984.

STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TURKEY

"I have received a communication from a member of the assembly regarding a resolution pending in the US House of Representatives concerning the so-called Armenian 'Genocide'. Turkey is a country which has been a symbol of tolerance and throughout history has offered refuge to those fleeing persecution elsewhere. Vilification of Turkey, under the circumstances, is nothing short of astonishing."

Necmettin Karaduman
Speaker of the Grand National
Assembly of Turkey

1992, A&E Network Production.

STATEMENT BY H.E. HALUK BAYULKEN, FORMER TURKISH MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE.

(In an interview in the 1992 TV documentary, *The Hidden Holocaust*.

"Some of those who were asked to leave the area suffered. There is no doubt about it. In some cases, possibly the Turks were being killed so they defended themselves too so both sides suffered from the event. But the allegation that it was a genocide is entirely a big lie of the century!"

September, 1994.

TURKISH PRIME MINISTER TANZU CILLER

"It is not true that the Turkish authorities are unwilling to state their position on the so-called Armenian issue. Our position is very clear. It is evident today that the Armenian claims are unfounded and illusory in light of historical facts. Armenians were not subjected to genocide in any way. Therefore, Turkey cannot be accused of something which did not happen. For this very simple reason it is also senseless to demand any compensation for such a deliberately created myth."

WASHINGTON, DC. - March 12, 1996.

TURKISH EMBASSY LAUNCHES DRIVE TO DEFEAT GENOCIDE BILL.

In a letter sent to each member of the House of Representatives, Turkish Ambassador Nuzhet Kandemir registered "the vehement opposition of the Turkish Government and the Turkish people" to the Armenian Genocide resolution. He stressed that "Turkey categorically rejects the claim of Armenian groups that genocide was perpetrated against Armenians during the First World War."



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ISTANBUL, (Marmara)- April 30, 1996.

TURKISH AMBASSADOR ASKS CONGRESS TO DROP GENOCIDE RESOLUTION

The Turkish Daily News, in its Thursday issue, reports that Turkish Ambassador to the United States Nuzhet Kandemir sent letters of appeal to members of the US Congress asking them to withhold their support for a draft resolution on the Armenian Genocide. He added that Turkey is very sensitive about the genocide issue for the following reasons: (1) such a resolution would push Turkey to admit a crime which it has not committed, (2) the demand which is being made has not been proven historically.

Kandemir said that Turkey decidedly rejects the assertion by Armenians that a genocide was committed against them during World War I. He said that he could not imagine how the UC Congress could adopt such a position on genocide when historians have still not come to an agreement.

TURKISH EMBASSY, Washington, DC. May 27, 1999.

TURKISH AMBASSADOR'S LETTER TO CONGRESS, MAY 27, 1999

Recently I have been witnessing an effort on the part of certain Armenian circles to secure the passage through the Congress a resolution (HR 155) based on a number of unfounded allegations. The purpose of these circles is to try to discredit Turkey and thus draw a wedge between the friendly peoples of the United States and Turkey. I very much hope that working together we could avert such an undesirable development that would inevitably have consequences on Turkish-American relations.

Baki Alkin, Ambassador
Turkish Embassy, Washington, DC
