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Series D. International Relations Activities. 1961-1992.

Box 55, Folder 4, Armenia, 1988-1989.



TO PRINT, RADIO, TV
ASSIGNMENT EDITORS

SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. YURI V. DUBININ AND ARMENIAN PRIMATE ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN WILL PARTICIPATE IN CEREMONIES FOR PRESENTATION OF SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS BY AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE IN BEHALF OF SOVIET ARMENIAN RECONSTRUCTION AND RELIEF EFFORTS, INCLUDING AID TO 40,000 ARMENIAN AMPUTEES. AT THIS SPECIAL MEETING OF SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND ARMENIAN CHURCH AUTHORITIES, LAWRENCE PHILLIPS, CHAIRMAN OF AJWS INTERNATIONAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF AMERICAN JEWRY, WILL PRESENT CHECKS AS ACT OF DEEP JEWISH SOLIDARITY AND COMPASSION FOR VICTIMS OF ARMENIAN EARTHQUAKE.

PRESENTATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, ELEVEN A.M. AT SOVIET EMBASSY, 1125 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W., YOUR COVERAGE CORDIALLY INVITED.

PLEASE CONTACT:

RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM
212-751-4000

WARREN EISENBERG
202-857-6545



DUPS

ARMENIANS AND JEWS - A SHARED EMPATHY

C O M M E N T A R Y

RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM* OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

All people of conscience must share the grief that overwhelms our Armenian neighbors during these tragic days. The natural catastrophe of the earthquake which has resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands and the destruction of whole villages in Soviet Armenia evokes deepest feelings of compassion and human solidarity.

In the Jewish community, I have found a special sense of identification with the Armenian people in this trying time. Both Armenians and Jews are numerically small people. As one American Armenian aptly put it, "Armenia being such a small country, it doesn't matter if it's a member of the family or not. We take our losses very hard. Every single member is important." That could have been a Jew describing the ethnic closeness of the Jewish people.

Both Armenians and Jews have had long and often painful histories dating back to Biblical times. The Talmud suggests that there were Jewish communities in Armenia since the Babylonian dispersion (Sanhedrin 94A). Armenians, like Jews, have a homeland and a diaspora which figure centrally in their religious and national consciousness.

In recent times, Ambassadors Oscar Straus and Henry Morgenthau played crucial roles in seeking to end the 1915 massacres of Armenians, and they have become authentic heroes among knowledgeable Armenians.

When I was working as consultant on the NBC-TV Holocaust series in the 1970s, one of the first people to respond with deep understanding of the Nazi victimization of the Jews was Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate of the Armenian Church. "Armenians understand Jewish suffering," he declared publicly.

Now it is our turn to respond with equal sympathy and caring. The Armenian churches, and major relief groups listed in newspapers, are key places to provide help. In the Jewish community, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC, 711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017) and the American Jewish World Service (AJWS, 729 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116) are mobilizing Jewish relief for the Armenian people.

*Rabbi Tanenbaum is director of international relations of the American Jewish Committee.

EMBASSY OF THE
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
1125 - 18TH ST. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036
FAX No. (202)347-5028

COVER SHEET FOR FAX TRANSMISSION:

SEND TO

Mr. Marc H. Tanenbaum

ATTENTION

The American Jewish Committee

FAX NUMBER

(212) 319-0975

FROM

First Secretary Andrei Parastaev

DATE

December 28, 1988

NUMBER OF PAGES

two

(including cover sheet)

Dear Mr. Tanenbaum,

I am sending you a list of medical equipment.

Thank you again for all your efforts to provide relief to the victims of the earthquake in Armenia.

Sincerely,

Signature

LIST
OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT ITEMS NEEDED
FOR TREATING EARTHQUAKE PATIENTS
IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Item	Number
1. Mobile computer tomographs	2
2. Stationary computer tomographs	4
3. Mobile X-ray equipment	10
4. Artificial blood circulation machines	10
5. General anesthesia equipment	10
6. Biochemical laboratories	10
7. Bacteriological laboratories	10
8. Self-powered anesthesia/breathing equipment kits	10
9. Ultrasound diagnostic equipment	20
10. Water purification equipment	20
11. Large surgical sets	100
12. Small surgical sets	100
13. Operating tables	100
14. Operation room lamps	100



The American Jewish
Committee

Institute of Human Relations
165 East 56 Street
New York, New York 10022-2746
212 751-4000; FAX: 212 319-0975

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January 4, 1989

His Excellency
Yuriy V. Dubinin
Ambassador E. and P. of the Union
of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United States
Embassy of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics
1125 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Ambassador Dubinin,

It was a genuine privilege for my colleagues and myself to meet with you on December 28th at the Soviet Embassy in connection with the American Jewish World Service presentation of its check for Armenian Relief.

We sincerely hope that this modest contribution will help bring meaningfully relief to the Soviet peoples who have suffered so terribly during the tragic earthquake.

As you so rightly declared, the spirit of compassion and caring which animated our people is more significant than the actual dollars that were contributed.

We trust there will be other occasions for our meetings and discussion, but resulting from constructive reasons rather than this tragedy which brought us together.

With warm personal good wishes to you and your colleagues,
I am,

Respectfully yours,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
International Consultant

MHT:RPR



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Committee**

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January 4, 1989

The Honorable
Andrei Parastaev
First Secretary
Embassy of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics to the
United States
1125 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Minister Parastaev,

I was pleased to have the opportunity to meet in person Ambassador Dubinin and yourself during our December 28th presentation of the American Jewish World Service contribution to Armenian Relief.

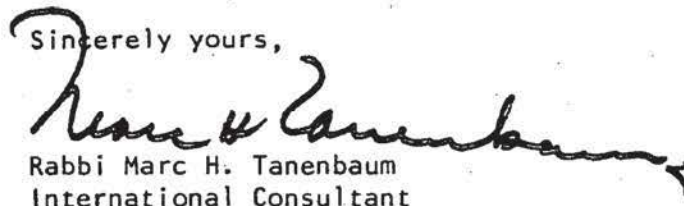
I am especially grateful for your warm personal cooperation in helping make this significant event possible.

Enclosed please find a copy of a wire story issued by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency which is sent to Jewish communities throughout the world.

May I ask a favor of you? It would be important for our leadership to have some knowledge of how this presentation was covered in the Soviet press, radio and TV. I wonder if it is possible to obtain copies of those reports?

With warm personal good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,


Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
International Consultant

MHT:RPR

FOR RELEASE: AFTER 11:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 28, 1988

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The American Jewish World Service, an international relief and development organization of the American Jewish community, today presented checks aggregating \$75,000 to Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Yuri V. Dubinin, and Armenian Primate, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, for reconstruction and relief aid to Soviet Armenian victims of the December 7th earthquake. An estimated 55,000 people died, and 500,000-700,000 were left homeless.

The presentation was made by Lawrence Phillips, chairman of the board of the American Jewish World Service, as "an act of deep solidarity and compassion felt by American Jews for the Armenian people who have suffered such vast tragedy." Mr. Phillips added that the American Jewish World Service, which supports relief and village-level agricultural and health care programs in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, wishes through this gesture to strengthen mutual understanding and helpfulness between the Soviet and American peoples, and thereby contribute to international peace and a more humane world.

Soviet Ambassador Dubinin expressed the appreciation of his government and the Soviet peoples for the financial aid provided by the American Jewish World Service.

Archbishop Manoogian, primate of the Armenian Church of America, reported that on his recent visit to Soviet Armenia he learned that there are an estimated 40,000-50,000 amputees, many of whom are beneath the age of 18. The archbishop, in expressing his gratitude for the aid provided by the American Jewish World Service, said that much of these funds would be used to seek to rebuild the lives of the amputees as well as for other rehabilitation programs.

Mr. Phillips was accompanied by American Jewish World Service Board Members, Warren Eisenberg, B'nai B'rith International; Henry Everett, businessman and philanthropist; Henry Morgenthau III, writer and producer; Ruth Morgenthau, professor at Brandeis University; Peter Rabinowitz, Boston management consultant; Anne Roiphe, writer; Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, American Jewish Committee; and Herbert Weiss, Boston attorney.

AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE

1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10104 (212) 541-5200 FAX: (212) 468-7398

Chairman
Lawrence S. Phillips

President
Laurence R. Simon

For Release: After 11:00 A.M., Wednesday
December 28, 1988

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The American Jewish World Service, an international relief and development organization of the American Jewish community, today presented checks aggregating \$80,000 to Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Yuri V. Dubinin, and Armenian Primate, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, for reconstruction and relief aid to Soviet Armenian victims of the December 7th earthquake. An estimated 55,000 people died, and 500,000 - 700,000 were left homeless.

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The American Jewish World Service Board Members who accompanied Mr. Phillips, Chairman of Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation, were Warren Eisenberg, B'nai B'rith International; Henry Everett, President, Lexington Associates; Henry Morgenthau III, writer and producer; Ruth Morgenthau, Professor at Brandeis University; Peter Rabinowitz, President, PAR Associates; Anne Roiphe, writer and Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, American Jewish Committee.

TO PRINT, RADIO, TV

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More - In spite of this letter, I should send our money thru the ambassador - Larry



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DIocese of the Armenian Church of America, 630 Second Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10018-4885 212 686-0710

Archbishop Toros Manogian, Primate

December 14, 1988
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

Mr. Bob Snow
 The American Jewish World Service
 729 Boylston Street - Fifth Floor
 Boston, MA 02116
 Fax #617-266-7571

Dear Mr. Snow:

This is to thank you for your great kindness and generosity in planning a fund-raising campaign under the auspices of Rabbi Tannenbaum to assist the victims of the recent earthquake in Armenia. Your gracious assistance to our anguished homeland is greatly appreciated.

His Eminence Archbishop Toros Manogian, left for Armenia yesterday and will return to New York on December 20. He will, of course, be able to give you first hand information regarding the most immediate needs of survivors whether they be medical supplies, equipment, food or shelter.

Funds sent to the Soviet Union will be directed to His Holiness Catholicos Vasken I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians in Etchmiadzin, Armenia.

God bless you for this effort and may He fill us all with strength and hope in the years of recovery to come.

With prayers,

FR. Ar. Najar
 Fr. Ar. Najarian
 Acting Vicar General