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November 12, 1996

Defense Intelligence Agency
PSP/FOIA
Washington, D.C. 20340-5100

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 O.S.C. § 552, I request access to and copies of any and all documents referring or pertaining to Gerard Libaridian (and/or to "Jirair Libaridian", "Doctor Libaridian", or "Dr. Libaridian"). Mr. Libaridian has served as Senior Advisor to the President of the Republic of Armenia since 1992. Mr. Libaridian was born in Beirut, Lebanon, but his family immigrated to the United States, where he became active in the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (or the "Dashnak Party" / "Dashnaksutyun" / "ARF") and edited the ARF's West Coast newspaper, Arbarez. He attended the University of California at Los Angeles, then relocated to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he edited the Armenian Review and headed the Zoryan Institute.

In the late 1980's, Mr. Libaridian broke with the ARF, and became increasingly involved with the newly-established Republic of Armenia in the early 1990's. Although his wife remains in Cambridge and he has retained his U.S. citizenship, Mr. Libaridian has lived in Armenia since 1992.

As a representative of the Center for Economic and Social Rights, a non-profit human rights group based in New York, I request that you waive any applicable fees. Through this request, I am gathering information on Mr. Libaridian that is of current interest to the public because of his role in the Armenian government and his implication in the violations of human rights there, particularly in connection with the recent presidential elections there in September of 1996. We are investigating these matters as part of a class action suit our organization has filed against him under the Alien Tort Claims Act. We will be disseminating our findings to the public. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of the involvement of U.S. citizens in Armenian government operations and activities.

However, if a waiver is not granted, I agree to pay reasonable duplication fees for the processing of this request in an amount not to exceed \$100. However, please notify me prior to your incurring any expenses in excess of that amount.

If my request for information is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all aggregable portions of otherwise exempt material. For documents withheld in their entirety, please inform me of the date and the number of pages in each document. If any records responsive to this request are stamped classified, please treat this as a request that such records be declassified. I request that excised materials be "blacked out" rather than "whited out" or "cut out". I reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees and ask that you list the address and office where an appeal can be sent.

As I am making this request as a human rights attorney and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone at [REDACTED] rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request. I look forward to your reply within 10 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,
[REDACTED]

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