



U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Cleveland, Ohio
January 15, 1988

DATE: 09-26-2012
CLASSIFIED BY 60322 UC/LP/PLJ/JCF
REASON: 1.4 (b/derivative)
DECLASSIFY ON: 09-26-2037

ARMENIAN TERRORIST MATTERS
IT-ARMENIA

(U) ~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

SARKIS SOGHANLIAN,
ALSO KNOWN AS,
SARKIS SOGHANLIAN
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM - ARMENIA

(R3)
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This document is classified "~~SECRET~~" ~~(S)~~
its entirety.

[Redacted]

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On January 12, 1987, a source of proven reliability with an established historical knowledge of Canadian Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF) development and activities provided the following information:

Source had no knowledge of the purported 1976 discussions by Toronto Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) members to infiltrate the Hunchak Party. ASALA always considered the Hunchak Party a potential source of recruits, though inferior to recruits culled from the ranks of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF). A member of the ASALA team that staged the 1981 takeover of the Turkish Consulate General in Paris was a former Hunchak Party member from Beirut who had previously denounced the Party.

[Redacted] is not known to source. However, source recalled that in 1981 when then faced with charges of having received illegal explosive parts by way of the mails, [Redacted] was represented

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1998-410-60

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by an Armenian attorney whom source opined was very possibly [redacted]

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Source recalled [redacted] as the ARF Regional Executive for Canada from St./Catherine, Ontario, circa 1975. [redacted] the ARF Central Committee of Canada in 1975. Later, specific time frame not recalled, [redacted] [redacted] left Canada for employment in Saudia Arabia. [redacted] was known to have been employed by British Petroleum (BP). [redacted] Saudia employer was not known to source.

[redacted] is unknown to source. Source opined [redacted] travelled to Los Angeles to access the Hunchak's success in attracting new members and to judge the success of their alliance with Soviet Armenians living in Hollywood.

Source explained that the Hunchak's have always been "third world orientated" and have leaned towards Syria, whereas the ARF has traditionally exhibited a strong pro-western influence. Source did not find it at all unusual, given the above, that the Hunchaks would align themselves with the Soviet Union and/or the Marxist-Leninist ASALA.

The recently reported clash between the Hunchaks and Dashnags in Beirut brought to mind a similar clash in 1956, precipitated by disagreement over a political issue, resulting in the deaths of over 200 Armenian youth in Beirut. It is important to remember that the Hunchak's and the Dashnags are the only militarily active political organizations in modern Armenian history. Since the advent of the Lebanese civil war, all the Armenian parties have unified in support of the Lebanese government. As such, the recently reported clash could presage a fissure in that unity.

[redacted] may be identical to [redacted] (LNU), a Hunchak from Beirut, who was known to be contemporary and "old friend" of [redacted]. In 1982 [redacted] had resided in Toronto for [redacted] years [redacted] a

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[redacted] manufacturing business. [redacted] was observed in the company of [redacted] attending the court proceedings following [redacted] in Toronto. [redacted] was not known to be active in the Toronto Armenian community. [redacted] was known to source to have attended at least two PM - ASALA sponsored functions in Toronto, but he was not known to be active in ASALA per se. After [redacted] legal proceedings ended, source did not again see [redacted]

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Source explained the Armenian church in Toronto is affiliated with the diocese of Archbishop TORKOM MANOUGIAN of New York, who in turn answers to VASKEN I in Soviet Armenia. It seems that as the only Armenian church in Toronto, 75 percent of the membership were Dashnag's who are aligned with KARKEN I at Antilias.

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[redacted]

Source characterized SOGLANIAN as a "terrorist". He has made appearances on the west coast on behalf of both the Hunchaks and the Dashnags. He is known to have made large financial contributions to Antilias (KARKEN I), and to have purchased land in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on which to build a monastery for the diocese of VASKEN I! He has also recently made a contribution for the restoration of another monastery in Soviet Armenia. SOGLANIAN is also a Knight of Antilias, the highest award conferred by KARKEN I! Source opined SOGLANIAN is "fishing with two poles", meaning he would readily sell weapons to either or both sides.

As an aside source opined the Hunchaks are in fact "fishing" among the Ramgavar ranks for new recruits. Source provided no factual basis to support this belief.

Source related that recently the Montreal ARF chapter (250+ members) has been broken down into small cells. Each cell functions much like a chapter holding a monthly meetings, recording minutes, and voting on resolutions. Once every three months, a

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general meeting of all members is held. New members are indoctrinated through the cell. This new structure gives the heirarchy much greater control over the organization and greatly limits internal opposition.

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