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DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA, 630 SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10016 212 686-0710

ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN, PRIMATE

June 16, 1982

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the  
President for Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

We wish to thank you for the copy of the President's proposed Voluntary School Prayer Amendment that you so kindly sent to us.

The ancient Armenian nation, when it became the first nation to adopt Christianity as its state religion in 301 A.D., was thereby strengthened and unified by the people's common belief in God and their inherent understanding of the message of Jesus Christ. Rather than being any sort of detriment, this religious conviction served to keep together a people that had been beset by foreign invaders for centuries.

We personally believe that to recognize a Supreme Being as the ultimate giver of life and liberty, of course in each person's individual way and on a voluntary basis, will also serve to strengthen the bonds and moral fiber of this great country, the United States.

May God bless you in your constant efforts for the good of your country and of your fellow man.

Prayerfully,

*Arch. Torkom Manoogian*

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

*PUBLIC LIAISON DEP*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*M*  
*S*  
*File*

February 3, 1981

Dear George:

Thanks for your note regarding Bishop Papken Varjabedian. I will be glad to insure that he remains on the mailing list.

Thank you for forwarding his request.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL K. DEEVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

The Honorable George Deukmejian  
Attorney General  
State of California  
3580 Wilshire Blvd.  
Suite 800  
Los Angeles, CA 90010



# Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

BISHOP PAKEN VARJABEDIAN  
DIOCESAN LEGATE

2801 Park Center Drive  
Alexandria, Virginia 22302  
Telephone (703) 671-6196

December 1, 1980

Hon. George K. Deukmejian  
Attorney General of California  
3580 Wilshire Boulevard, 8th Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90010

Dear Mr. Deukmejian:

Please accept our heartfelt congratulations on the election of your friend and Republican colleague, Gov. Ronald Reagan. We are sure your efforts in his behalf within the Armenian Community and throughout California were most helpful toward his victory.

As you may know, the Office of Diocesan Legate was created several years ago to establish and maintain contact with religious and lay leaders here in the Nation's Capital. If I may say so, with the active assistance of the Legate's Council - a group of dedicated Armenian-Americans based in Washington - we have been able to foster strong ties of friendship with many prominent and influential individuals, such as the Rev. Francis B. Sayre, former dean of the Washington National Cathedral; Dr. Edward L.R. Elson, chaplain of the United States Senate; Bishop James K. Mathews of the Methodist Church; William Cardinal Baum, until recently head of the Catholic Archdiocese of Washington; Archbishop Jean Jadot, the apostolic delegate, and numerous ambassadors and members of Congress.

Recently, through the efforts of the Hon. Set Momjian and the members of the Legate's Council were invited to the White House for a prayer breakfast and Armenian "house-blessing." Following the breakfast, the Primate met with President Carter to exchange greetings and to present the President with a beautifully framed and inscribed "khatchkar".

The Primate and I have been included in a mailing list maintained at the White House for appropriate occasions having to do with religious, humanitarian or ethnic matters. Over the past four years, both Archbishop Manoogian and I have been invited to attend and participate in relevant gatherings. I trust that the incoming administration will do likewise. Accordingly, I request that you use your good offices to insure that both the Primate and I are kept on the White House mailing list.

We look forward to the possibility of an early visit by you to Washington after your friend has taken office. It will be good to see you again and have the opportunity of introducing you to the Washington Armenian Community.

Regards,

  
Myron P. Erkiletian  
Chairman, Legate's Council

With best wishes and prayers,

  
Bishop Paken Varjabedian  
Diocesan Legate

DEC 8 1980

Our Addresses Are:

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
Of America

630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Bishop Papken Varjabedian, Legate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
of America

2801 Park Center Drive, #201  
Alexandria, Virginia 22302



**George Deukmejian**

(PRONOUNCED DUKE-MAY-GIN)

**Attorney General**

**State of California**

January 19, 1981

Please send reply to:  
3580 Wilshire Blvd.,  
Suite 800  
Los Angeles, CA 90010  
Telephone (213) 736-2273

Mr. Michael Deaver  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mike:

Enclosed is a letter sent to me by Bishop Papken Varjabedian, Diocesan Legate, Diocese of the Armenian Church of America. Bishop Varjabedian is requesting that the White House continue the inclusion of Bishop Varjabedian and his Church on the White House mailing list for appropriate occasions relating to religious, humanitarian or ethnic matters.

I would appreciate it if you would grant his request.

Thank you for your assistance.

Most cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "George".

George Deukmejian

mv  
Enclosure

cc: Bishop Papken Varjabedian  
Diocesan Legate



# Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

BISHOP PAPKEN VARJABEDIAN  
DIOCESAN LEGATE

2801 Park Center Drive  
Alexandria, Virginia 22302  
Telephone (703) 671-6196

December 1, 1980

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Attorney General of California  
3580 Wilshire Boulevard, 8th Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90010

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Regards,

  
Myron P. Erkiletian  
Chairman, Legate's Council

With best wishes and prayers,

  
Bishop Papken Varjabedian  
Diocesan Legate

DEC 8 1980



**Bishop Papken Varjabedian**  
2801 PARK CENTER DRIVE  
671-6196 671-4402  
ALEXANDRIA, VA. 22302



Our Addresses Are:

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New York, New York 10016

Bishop Papken Varjabedian, Legate  
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