

AMERICAN EMBASSY*
CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 545

October 20, 1915

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith for the information of the Department a copy of a despatch received from the Consul at Trebizond in regard to the probable murder of Mr. Beylikdjian, an Armenian employed as Inspector in the Ottoman Public Debt, together with his wife, son and maid. The Embassy has today received a telegram from Mr. Heizer stating that he has verified the facts given in this despatch.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

[Signed] Morgenthau

Enclosure:

Mr Heizer to Mr. Morgenthau, September 25, 1915

* Source: NA/RG59/867.4016/210

AMERICAN CONSULATE*
TREBIZOND

September 25, 1915

Honorable Henry Morgenthau,
American Ambassador,
Constantinople.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Embassy's telegraphic instruction of September 22nd inquiring about the Public Debt Inspector Mr. Beylikdjian and family who left here August 13th in a motor-boat for Constantinople. In reply I telegraphed the Embassy that they left here August 13th by motorboat and hoped to arrive in Constantinople within a week.

Mr. Beylikdjian who was transferred from Erzerum to Trebizond shortly before the deportation of the Armenians commenced was granted a vesika to remain in Trebizond with his family and continue his work as Inspector of the Public Debt. On August 13th however he was arrested and told that he would be sent to the interior. He secured a vesika from the Vali to go to Constantinople instead by motorboat with his wife, and son about 12 years of age, and an Armenian maid he brought from Erzerum. He paid Ltq. 100 in advance for the motorboat to Constantinople. It is reported that the motorboat returned in three days bringing back the two gendarmes who had forced themselves upon him when he left. One of these gendarmes has related in the market that they were all killed and thrown overboard, not far from Trebizond.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

(signed) Oscar S. Heizer
American Consul

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* Source: NA/RG59/867.4016/210