

AMERICAN EMBASSY*
CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 1023

February 29, 1916

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a despatch dated February 8, 1916 from the American Consul at Aleppo, in which he reports upon the number of Armenian immigrants in his district and their needs.

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

[Signed] Hoffman Philip

Enclosure: As above stated.

* Source: NA/RG59/867.48/271. Copies of cover letter and report sent to James L. Barton and Samuel Dutton.

Copy *
AMERICAN CONSULATE

No. 534

Aleppo, Syria, February 8, 1916

The Honorable
Henry Morgenthau,
American Ambassador,
Constantinople, Turkey.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a report received from reliable sources in reference to the number of Armenian immigrants in this vicinity, between here and Damascus and in that surrounding country, and down the Euphrates river as far as Dier-el-Zor, showing a total of about 500,000 persons. In connection with the relief sent by Mr. Peet for these people it would seem proper to state that the sum of Ltq. 500 weekly is entirely inadequate to aid even a small part thereof, in fact as a person cannot live on less than 2 gold piasters per day, it will require the sum of Ltq. 10,000 a day to keep those alive who are in good health, to say nothing for the ill.

The Protestants have a fairly good organization for the caring for and distribution of money and other help to those in the localities mentioned in the list. The two distributing centers are Aleppo, which comprises all of the places mentioned on the list except Damascus, which is the other distributing center. Rev. Tahmizian may be charged with the distribution at the latter place.

Copy is enclosed for Mr. Peet. Please have him take energetic measures in this matter and advise me thereof.

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

Signed: J. B. Jackson.
Consul

Enclosure: Copy
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* Source: NA/RG59/867.48/271

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The following is the statistics of Armenian immigrants according to best information:

Damascus as far as Maan	more than	100,000
Hama and surrounding villages		12,000
Homs	”	20,000
Aleppo	”	7,000
Maara	”	4,000
Bab	”	8,000
Mumbidge	”	5,000
Ras-el-Ain	”	20,000
Rakka	”	10,000
Der-el-Zor	more than	300,000
Total		486,000

February 3, 1916

* Source: NA/RG59/867.48/271

TELEGRAM RECEIVED*
GREEN CIPHER

From Constantinople (via Copenhagen)
Dated April 4, 1916.
Rec'd April 9, 1916, 7 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

1723, April 4, 11 p.m.

Your telegram #1582, Dec. 18th and your telegram #2176, March 29th, ordering payments of important sums for the relief of suffering Armenians. Both were received in open text. Urgently requested that such instructions be telegraphed in cipher or mailed in the pouch. Turkish Government has not officially recognized the right of foreigners to assist deported Armenians.

PHILIP, Constantinople

AMERICAN MINISTER COPENHAGEN

* Source: NA/RG59/867.48/271