

AMERICAN CONSULATE*

Cipher Letter
N.E. 252

Bagdad, Turkey, June 19, 1915

Subject: Armenian Massacre

The Honorable
Henry Morgenthau,
American Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Constantinople, Turkey.

Sir:

Armenian Community Bagdad requests this consulate inform Embassy that many reports received in Bagdad agree that there has been a great massacre of Armenians near the cities of Van and Diyagbekr. They report that many atrocities were committed and many if not most of the men killed. Details are lacking here but it is reported that this trouble is widespread.

The governor-general of Diyagbekr is Reshir Bey who was acting governor-general of Bagdad when the Bagdad caravan was sent from Bagdad and who was believed here to have been responsible for most of the difficulties here before his transfer to Mossoul. Reshir Bey was later transferred from Mossoul to Diyagbekr.

Armenian community here requests Embassy to do anything you can to alleviate condition of Armenians. Believed no massacre will occur here. Bagdad governor-general strongly against such course.

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

Charles F. Brissel
American Consul

* Source: LC/HM(Sr.)/Reel 7/593