

Morgenthau's telegram of July 16, 1915, and the 'genocide' entry in the Fontana Dictionary of Modern Thought be printed in the RECORD.●

The text follows:

[Telegram received from Constantinople,  
July 16, 1915]

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Deportation of and excesses against peaceful Armenians is increasing and from harrowing reports of eye witnesses it appears that a campaign of race extermination is in progress under a pretext of reprisal against rebellion.

Protests as well as threats are unavailing and probably incite the Ottoman government to more drastic measures as they are determined to disclaim responsibility for their absolute disregard of capitulations and I believe nothing short of actual force which obviously United States are not in a position to exert would adequately meet the situation. Suggest you inform belligerent nations and mission boards of this.

American Ambassador, Constantinople.

THE FONTANA DICTIONARY OF MODERN  
THOUGHT

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[New and revised edition by Alan Bullock  
and Stephen Trombley assisted by Bruce  
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GENOCIDE.

Term coined by American jurist Raphael Lemkin in 1944 to denote the physical destruction of a national, racial or ethnic population. The term was included in the indictment at Nuremberg of German war criminals accused of involvement in Nazi attempts to exterminate the Jewish population of Europe. It acquired still wider currency in a United Nations Resolution of 11 December 1946 and UN Convention of 9 December 1948 which sought to make genocide a crime under international law. Details of the UN definition of the term are contested, for example by radical critics of colonialism who view as genocide the destruction of the social fabric of a colonized people, but it remains the most widely accepted definition.

Bibl: L. Kuper, *Genocide* (Harmondsworth and New York, 1981).

#### UNITED STATES MUST SUPPORT A SOVEREIGN LEBANON

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to express my strong support for the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the country of Lebanon. As you know, Mr. President, Lebanon has again been the most recent victim of the fighting in the Middle East. The hostilities of last week which continue today have caused a great loss of Lebanese lives.

The United States has always supported the independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon. However, in the most recent negotiations to end the fighting in the region, the U.S. administration has been focusing its efforts on Syria and Israel.

I believe that the State Department is sincere in upholding its support for the sovereignty of Lebanon. But I am afraid that the United States views a resolution to the Israel-Syria conflict as the only priority—and the consequence is the plight of the civilian

population in Lebanon is ignored. It is Lebanon that is suffering the most in this conflict, and it is with that country which the United States should focus its immediate attention.

The influence and support of the United States is critical to giving Lebanon the help it needs to move forward and rebuild after two decades of civil war.

As its stands, the presence of all foreign forces in Lebanon irritates the situation, making it difficult for the Lebanese to find a peaceful solution to their quest for independence and sovereignty. Only until there is the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, combined with a diplomatic solution, will peace in the Middle East be achievable.

I believe that Lebanon will then be on its way to returning to the independent, sovereign and unoccupied land that it once was—free of all non-Lebanese forces. Not only will this advance the case of Middle East peace in the region, but it will also be in America's best interest to have its friend, Lebanon, stable once more.

Today, President Clinton is meeting with President Elias Hrawi of Lebanon. It is my hope that the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Lebanon is the subject of much discussion. President Clinton will also be announcing a humanitarian aid package for Lebanon, and I was pleased to lead the efforts in the Senate to insist upon this assistance for the innocent civilians of Lebanon.

But the humanitarian assistance is only one part of the equation. I, once again, urge the administration to persist in trying to negotiate a cease fire in this region and to bring an end to the hostility immediately.●

#### THE 81ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

● Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, once again I rise to join my colleagues, and Armenian Americans in Ohio and across the Nation, to remember the Armenian genocide of 1915-1923. Over this period the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire was systematically destroyed. Some were killed, others left to die of deprivation, still others uprooted and expelled from their homeland. In the end, some 1.5 million Armenians perished and another 0.5 million were displaced.

Evidence of the Armenian genocide is available from a number of sources, among the most compelling is the reporting of our own United States Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau. In a cable to the Secretary of State, Ambassador Morgenthau wrote: "Deportation of and excesses against peaceful Armenians is increasing and from harrowing reports of eye witnesses it appears that a campaign of race extermination is in process under a pretext of reprisal against rebellion."

Some may ask why it is important to take time each year to commemorate

an event which occurred over half a century ago. In reply I would recall the reported observation of Adolph Hitler as he contemplated the "final solution"—"Who remembers the Armenians?"

Today we remember the 1½-million victims of the Armenian genocide. Undeniably it is not comfortable to repeatedly revisit this tragedy, or to visit the Holocaust Memorial Museum, or to have contemporary atrocities played out nightly on our television screens, as in Bosnia or Rwanda. But we remember today, we did last year and the year before, so that we will not become complacent about or indifferent to any example of man's inhumanity to man, wherever and whenever it may occur. For in the words of Edmund Burke, "the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."●

#### JAMES I. WILLIAMSON, MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, it is sometimes argued these days that we Americans place too high a premium on the value of individual, yet our experience over more than 200 years as a Nation has taught us that it's almost impossible to overestimate the value of some individual citizens to our community and our country. James I. Williamson of Harrington, DE, who died on Monday of this week at the age of 66, was one of those invaluable individuals without whom the character and history of America would be very different.

During his distinguished 21-year career in the U.S. Army, from which he retired in 1969 as a staff sergeant, James Williamson won many decorations, including the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and the Silver Star. In 1968, during the last of his three tours of duty in Vietnam, he won the rarely awarded Congressional Medal of Honor for extraordinary, individual valor in combat.

Of the millions of men and women who have served in our military since the award was first conferred during the Civil War, Mr. President, fewer than 3,500 have received the Congressional Medal for voluntary action above and beyond the call of duty, at the risk of the recipient's own life—and the high standard of admission to that elite group of heroes is indicated by the fact that the majority of Congressional Medals have been awarded posthumously.

Sergeant Williamson survived the action that earned him our highest military decoration, but it was his willingness to risk his own life that saved the lives of comrades in arms engaged in that action with him. Alone and armed with a machinegun, he rescued the crew of a mechanized weapons carrier that had taken a disabling direct hit. Remaining exposed to enemy fire, he attached a towing cable so the vehicle and its crew could be pulled to safety.