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## Armenian National Committee of America

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

May 15, 2014

The Honorable Victoria Nuland  
Assistant Secretary of State  
for European and Eurasian Affairs  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Assistant Secretary Nuland:

I want to thank you for your letter of May 2, 2014 and to share, once again, the value we attach to the Department of State's condemnation of the extremist attack, of March 21, 2014, that depopulated the historically Armenian town of Kessab, Syria. We remain, however, very troubled by the Administration's continued reluctance to provide a simple answer to a straightforward question:

*Is it the considered judgment of the U.S. government that the Republic of Turkey aided, abetted, facilitated, or otherwise played a role in the March 21st attack on Kessab?*

As Americans, citizens of a nation bound to Turkey by our NATO treaty obligations, we deserve to know if this U.S. ally has conspired with extremists - officially designated by our government as terrorists - in a cross-border attack against a peaceful population. If our government's investigation has found that Turkey played no role in this attack, the Administration should make this view known, challenging widespread media accounts of Ankara's complicity. If, however, our government's investigation has confirmed a Turkish role, the Administration should forcefully and publicly confront Turkey for conspiring with an al Qaeda-linked group to drive thousands of civilians from their homes. In either case, we ask the Administration to cooperate with all relevant Congressional investigations.

Thank you, once again, for the Department of State's willingness to engage with Americans of Armenian heritage on this matter, and on all those issues that hold special meaning for our community.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Hachikian  
Chairman

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