

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Ambassador - Designate Richard Hoagland  
Senator Lincoln Chafee (#1)  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
June 28, 2006**

**Question:**

What is the State Department's policy regarding statements by official US government representatives, such as yourself, about the Armenian Genocide?

**Answer:**

U.S. policy concerning the tragic events of 1915 is clearly enunciated by the President on April 24, Armenian Remembrance Day. The mass killings and forced exile of as many as 1.5 million Armenians in the final days of the Ottoman Empire were a tragedy that we and the world must never forget. We mourn this terrible chapter of history and recognize that it remains a source of pain for people in Armenia and for all those who believe in freedom, tolerance, and the dignity and value of every human life.

It is a credit to the human spirit and generations of Armenians who live in Armenia, the United States, and around the globe that they have overcome this suffering and proudly preserved their centuries-old culture, traditions, and religion.

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Ambassador - Designate Richard Hoagland  
Senator Lincoln Chafee (#2)  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
June 28, 2006**

**Question:**

Have you ever been counseled to not refer to the events of 1915 as the Armenian Genocide?

**Answer:**

No. However, it is an Ambassador's responsibility to communicate United States policy, which is clearly enunciated by the President.

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Ambassador - Designate Richard Hoagland  
Senator Lincoln Chafee (#3)  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
June 28, 2006**

**Question:**

If confirmed, how will you deal with the real and understandable anger and grief that exists, both in Armenia and in the United States, about the genocide? For instance, what might you say as Ambassador on the Remembrance Day of April 24 to either an US or Armenian audience?

**Answer:**

If confirmed, I will work with the people of Armenia and Armenian-Americans to draw attention, as the President has done, to these horrific events. I will work to encourage dialogue between Armenia and Turkey on this issue and to encourage all parties to examine the historical events of this time with honesty and sensitivity.