

July 19, 2023

DISSEMINATION BY THE LIVINGSTON GROUP, LLC

FARA registration #6344

The following letter of support was enclosed in a July 18, 2023 email, the text of which was filed as a dissemination on July 19, 2023. The email included the following disclaimer:

THE LIVINGSTON GROUP, LLC PROVIDES REPRESENTATION FOR THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE, A PRO-WESTERN POLITICAL PARTY IN ARMENIA. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, DC.

07/04/2023

Dear Honorable Member of Congress:

As Armenian Americans and proud citizens of this blessed land, we are writing to express our indignation about a glaring injustice that is taking place in our historical homeland of Armenia. More precisely, we would like to bring to your attention the case of Varouzhan Avetisyan, a human rights activist, lawyer, and former colonel of Armenia's Armed Forces.

Mr. Avetisyan has been unjustly imprisoned, and his health is deteriorating rapidly. Recently, he has suffered from multiple sepsis bouts. And we have a reason to believe the Russian FSB/KGB operatives had poisoned him.

Mr. Avetisyan is a member of the governing council of the National-Democratic Alliance (NDA), the largest pro-Western political party and movement in Armenia. NDA advocates for close ties between Armenia and USA, and it has enormous support among the population both inside Armenia and in the Diaspora.

We, the undersigned, are the sons of a prominent Soviet dissident, Vache Sarkissian. Our father was tortured in KGB prisons and held in Gulag camps for 18 years. He was a member of Natalya Gorbanevskaya's and Lev Konson's Human Watch Group (Andrey Sacharov's team), and his novels and treatise about the comparative analyses of the world's constitutions were largely regarded as the precursor of understanding the Jeffersonian ideas of Republicanism and human rights amongst the people of Armenia. Sadly, our father did not live long enough to see the collapse of the Soviet Union, and our family moved to the United States with the help of the International Institute of Human Rights in 1989.

We are proud citizens of the United States and strong believers in freedom and justice. We want our government to support liberty-minded pro-western heroes such as Mr. Avetisyan.

Because of our upbringing and family's history, we know how KGB and its destructive forces operate in former Soviet Republics and the world. KGB is as bloodthirsty and murderous as Gestapo. In fact, many argued that there's not much difference between the two.

Armenia's Prime Minister, Nicol Pashinyan and his government are heavily influenced by Russia's Putin and KGB. Therefore, consistent with the handwriting of FSB/KGB's methods of eliminating descent, we have reasons to believe Mr. Avetisyan was poisoned in prison. Mr. Avetisyan's case is very similar to that of Russia's Navalny and Georgia's Saakashvili.

Mr. Avetisyan is the champion of liberty in Armenia and has the support of local human rights activists and groups. He is vocal and courageous, and just like the Sons of Liberty during the American evolution, has championed the cause of Armenia's independence from Russia and Soviet ideology.

Mr. Avetisyan is a political prisoner, and his life is in danger. Please impress this upon the appropriate channels of our government and advise them to raise this issue with the government of Armenia. He should be released on compassionate grounds; in this case, our families will be more than happy to contribute and expertise for Mr. Avetisyan's complete diagnosis and treatment.

Further delays may cost the life of one of America's most faithful advocates in Armenia and are unacceptable.

Should you have any questions concerning the information provided, please do not hesitate to contact us at the numbers below.

With admiration and gratitude,

Hamlet Sarkissian & George Sarkissian

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The signature on the left is 'H. Sarkissian' and the signature on the right is 'G. Sarkissian'.

Hamlet Sarkissian is the best-selling author of the novel "LOVERS IN THE FOG" (soon a major motion picture starring David Boreanaz). He has also written, produced, and directed "THE VETERAN HOUR," an award-winning campaign for suicide prevention among US veterans.

George Sarkissian works as Administrative Director at KECK USC Hospital. He is a renowned innovator in the healthcare field and recipient of multiple awards in healthcare.