

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 26, 1995

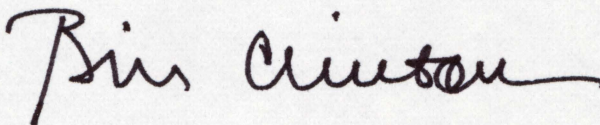
Dear Mr. Leader:

Thank you for your letter of concern regarding the 80th anniversary of the tragic Armenian massacres in the last years of the Ottoman Empire. These terrible events can never be forgotten; they will always be mourned.

Even as we commemorate the past, we must focus on helping a newly independent Armenia secure its future as an independent, democratic and prosperous nation. To this end, my Administration's efforts have centered on facilitating Armenian reform, advancing negotiations toward a peace settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh, supporting oil companies as they work to develop reliable transport routes for Caspian Sea oil and gas through the Caucasus to Turkey and promoting regional cooperation, particularly among Armenia, Turkey and Azerbaijan.

These measures represent a quiet but unambiguous message to the world about this Administration's resolve and commitment to support the Armenian people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Bill Clinton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

The Honorable Robert Dole
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-1601