

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

From an FDR Armenian Study; MGL-A-303, prepared 28 October 1949.

GANAIAN, Trostamad (w.a. General TRO)

1. Early Life: In his youth was a terrorist in underground Tashnak organization in Armenia; became commander of armed forces of Independent Armenian Republic 1919-20; under subject Armenian Army overran Georgia and took Tiflis; after Soviet ovvupation subject escaped Armenia;

2. Inter-War Period: According to one source subject war friendly with the Russians and was guest of Moscow after World War I; 1923 signed Cuacasmus declaration of Tashnak Party which favored Russian control of Armenia; December 1924 came to Paris to participate in Tashnak convention; suspected of being Soviet spy; went to Rumania "never to return to Moscow again, until the Hitlerian invasion of Russia;" while in Paris subject worked with General KUTIEPOV (deceased 1930) who was leader of international White Russian Emigre General Staff (ROWS); later moved to Bucharest where, in 1941, was occupying a high administrative position in German-controlled Astro-Romana Oil Company;

3. War-Time Activities; Early in 1941 Gideon SCHULER, German Intelligence officer in Bucharest, was introduced by DESANDRO, Italian Naval Intelligence officer there, to subject and ARARATIAN, former Armenian Minister of Finance; SCHULER attempted to carry out internal activities in Russia with subject's help; attempt by Ast Bucharest (section of German Army) to conduct intelligence operations in USSR with subject's help, was, with German advance into USSR, transferred to Major BAUN of Stab "Walli"; as soon as Germans occupied the Caucasus subject and ARARATIAN visited Berlin to negotiate with the Germans for the Tashnaks to take over the administration of Armenia; in Germany subject persuaded Nazi Government to treat captured Armenians better as they were opposed to the USSR; subject was attached to German Army and rescued thousands of Armenian prisoners who are now scattered through western Europe;

4. Post-War Activities; was captured by U. S. troops in Germany but was later released; in 1946 visited U.S. to consult with Tashnak leaders; June '46 was approached in Stuttgart by SHADOV, representative of the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations, in an effort to gain his support for ABN; at that time subject was reportedly working for British IS; in November 1947 subject was reportedly head of the Tashnaks in Munich; however at that time he was also supposedly attending a World Tashnak Convergence in Egypt, and from that time on lived in the Middle East, first in Cairo and then in Beirut; now a citizen of Lebanon; came to U.S. November 1948 on Lebanese passport; visited Washington, New York, and other cities; returned to Lebanon spring of 1949; opposes cooperation with Britain and claims British interest in the Middle East are not in harmony with those of the Tashnaks; disclaimed any knowledge of British I.S. operations; advocates war with USSR during which time he thinks that the Tashnak organization can be of service to the U.S.; subject reportedly being paid \$1,300 per month by BREUER. (MGL-A-303; FDR Armenian Study.)

Gen. TRO holds operational clearance No. 1834 dated 10 January 19521

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