



Armenian National Committee of America

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Attention:
Foreign Affairs L.A.
*Please attend the Capitol Hill Observance of
the Armenian Genocide on Wednesday April 28th
from 5:30 - 8:30 pm in the Cannon
Caucus Room, 345 CHOB*

To: Foreign affairs aide
From: Abraham Niziblian, Government Affairs Director
Date: April 9, 2004

Re: The lessons of the Rwandan Genocide

This week, President Bush marked the 10th anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide and expressed the support of United States for the people of Rwanda as they commemorate this horrific chapter in their history.

“Ten years ago today, the world witnessed the beginning of one of the most horrific episodes of the twentieth century, the 1994 Rwanda Genocide. A 100-day campaign waged by Hutu extremists tore Rwanda apart and resulted in the murder of at least 800,000 Tutsi men, women, and children, as well as many moderate Hutus. This genocide also included systematic rape and sexual violence against countless Tutsi women and the orphaning of thousands of children.”

-- President George W. Bush, April 7, 2004

The Voice of America, in an April 8th editorial reflecting the official views of the U.S. government, echoed the President’s message, noting:

“The damage wrought in Rwanda by ethnic hatred is there for the world to see - and to learn from.”

The Congress can help ensure that we learn from past genocides by passing the Genocide Resolution (H.Res.193 and S.Res.164), which states, in part, that U.S. implementation in 1988 of the Genocide Convention “marked a principled stand by the United States against the crime of genocide and an important step toward ensuring that the lessons of **the Holocaust, the Armenian Genocide, and the genocides in Cambodia and Rwanda**, among others, will help prevent future genocides.”

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