

# Bagdad

## Carpet Cleaning Co. Inc.

5869 WESTHEIMER • HOUSTON, TEXAS 77027

March 15, 1973

AIR MAIL

H.G. Archbishop Torcom Manoogian  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Ave  
New York, N.Y.

Your Grace :

Please note that we have been approached by the Egyptian Coptic Community in Houston, through their Father Yohanna Tadros Guirguis, in relation with our Church facilities. They are interested in using our Chapel for their religious services once a week, either Saturday or preferably Sunday, and also, one evening for Bible study.

They say that they are in the process of getting organized, they have bought a plot already, but they will not be able to stand on their own only after a year or two. They number approximately 70 people.

Father Guirguis, recently ordained in Egypt, used to be an accountant in Houston with a local Mortgage Company (Loomas & Nettleton). He is expressing his devoted belief to the Christian Dogmas of the Armenian Church, so says he, which is closer in ties with the Coptic Church, considering other Orthodox churches. For this reason, according to him, they do not want to continue the monthly use of the Greek Orthodox Church of Houston. He will accept any monthly contribution toward defraying our expenses and other.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter of credentials in the form of a certificate issued to Father Guirguis by the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate of Egypt. When asked about referrals in the United States about his authority and his congregation, he could only refer to their See in Egypt.

I will appreciate if you could give us your opinion on this subject the soonest possible.

Respectfully yours,

*Stephen Saxenian*  
Stephen Saxenian.

*~ Permission given on condition -  
Any time we hear or find out that the priest  
or the group are dissident of Coptic Church, we  
shall deny them the privileges ~*

encl- copy certificate