



ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT, INC.

February 4, 1988

Archbishop Torkum Manoogian
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 - 2nd Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Archbishop Manoogian:

After recent telephone conversations with Fathers S. Kasparian and Garabed Kochakian, I decided that a letter to you is the proper way to describe the situation in Kansas City.

The Armenian group, headed by Zaven Hatutian and Ara Zakaryan, has established an Armenian Cultural Center. They have continually stated that the group is not interested in establishing a permanent Armenian Church in the community. They desire only to have church services five to ten times a year, depending on when an Armenian priest is available. Zaven has aligned himself with the priest from Granite City, Illinois, and the rest of the Armenian group (with the exception of Mrs. Stella Gulaian and myself) have polarized to that side. My latest discussions with Zaven and Ara indicate that the set-up is working well and the Armenian people are happy with the situation. They now have a building which they refer to as a Cultural Center. They both claim that they are not interested in establishing a church, but only in pursuing the Cultural Center.

We must realize that the power and resources lie with Zaven and Ara. They both have large families and are willing to devote time and resources to the Armenian community. They are close friends and continually support each other. The other Armenians will follow Zaven and Ara. I have seen no other Armenians in Kansas City with the desire, leadership and other necessary qualities to overcome the Zaven and Ara situation. That group appears to be getting stronger and any attempt to circumvent those efforts would be futile.

My particular situation is that I recently became president of a corporation (Environmental Audit, Inc.), which has put a tremendous work load on me and exhausted my time and energies. My free time is very limited. I will try to help whenever and wherever possible, but I have an extremely heavy workload.

Based on all of this, my recommendation at this time is to do nothing. In my opinion, any attempt to start any effort without the involvement of Zaven and Ara and their families would be disastrous.

Very truly yours,


Charles H. Hajinian