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April 5, 2005

Vice President Richard Cheney The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

FAX: 202-456-2461 vice.president@whitehouse.gov

## Re: REQUESTING LETTER FOR 100 YEAR OLD ARMENIAN SURVIVOR

Dear Vice President Cheney,

I am the representative from the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection in New Britain, CT to the Annual Armenian Genocide commemoration committee for the state of Connecticut.

Every year since 1978, hundreds of people gather at the state Capitol in Connecticut to commemorate the anniversary of the start of the Armenian Genocide on Aril 24, 1915. This year's commemoration will be held on 11:00AM Saturday, April 23, 2005 in the State Capitol House Chambers and marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this tragic event in history.

I am writing to request a letter from you addressed to our oldest living survivor that can be read at the event. Her name is <u>Maritza Ohanesian</u> and she turned 100 years this year. Ms. Ohanesian is both physically active and mentally sound. She was born in Husenig, Turkey in 1905 and escaped with her life at a young age. It would be well received by both she and the community at large to receive such a letter from the Vice President, honoring her birthday and her struggle at an early age to escape the Armenian Genocide.

As a side note, I am also a strong supporter of yours. After we won the last Presidential election, I was really pleased to be able to tell my liberal friends in Connecticut, "see, the majority of the country thinks and agrees with me!".

Sincerely,

Guy Simonian