Nemat Abilov

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

Testimony regarding the Khojaly Tragedy

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and 70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well-documented and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khojaly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Anar Ahmadov Active community member Azerbaijan American Friendship Association

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

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<mark>Ismayil Ahmadov</mark> <mark>President</mark> AACA

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Irada Akhoundova President Azerbaijan Center

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Kenan Aliyev Senior Reservoir Geologist eni petroleum

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

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Khalid Gozal Drilling Engineer, BP America Inc.

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Rafig Gurbanzade An Azerbaijani community member

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Namig Khochberov Board Member Alliance of Turkic Petroleum Professionals / ATPP

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Jeyhun Mammadov Drilling Engineer / BP America

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Kemal Oksuz President Assembly of the Friends of Azerbaijan / AFAZ

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Samir Novruzov US Citizen, Member of Azerbaijanian American Cultural Alliance

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Roxanne Kamalu

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Monday, February 10, 2014 9:22 AM	
То:	vmitestimony	
Cc:	konul_mamedova@hotmail.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM	

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/10/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Konul Mamedova	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you very much for your recognition

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Written Statement of Stephen Majzun

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFIARS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

- To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee
- Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments reflecting my **<u>strong</u> <u>opposition</u>** to **H.R. NO. 13.**

The statements offered within this resolution are one-sided, out-of-context, and attempt to manipulate historic fact in favor of the true aggressor of the Nagorno-Karabakh War, Azerbaijan.

The Khojaly tragedy was the unfortunate consequence of a horrific war started by Azerbaijan against the civilian population of the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. **This conflict was initiated by Azerbaijan in response to the peaceful demands of the people of Karabakh for the right to self-determination**. Azerbaijan's response to this peaceful referendum was to indiscriminately massacre the Armenian population in Sumgait, Baku, Kirovabad, and elsewhere from February 1988 through 1991.

These orchestrated and barbaric massacres, during which thousands of Armenians were maimed, raped, mutilated, and killed as Azerbaijani police stood by and watched, created over 500,000 Armenian refugees (many orphaned). These massacres escalated to such vile brutality on the part of the Azerbaijanis that pregnant Armenian women were targets for rape and death, newborn Armenian babies were burned to death, and men were mutilated and tortured to the point of death.

Azerbaijan was its own aggressor in Khojaly. Starting 1991, Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh's capital city) and adjacent Armenian communities were sustaining daily massive artillery fire by Azerbaijani forces. The shelling of the NKR cities was carried out using "Alazan" and "Kristal" combat rocket launchers, as well as BM-21 'Grad' Multiple Launcher Rocket System vehicles, the use of which is prohibited against civilians. In 1992, while heavy

artillery fire continued, Azerbaijan blockaded all routes to the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. The region and its people were left without fuel, electricity, water, and food supplies.

Khojaly, the location of Nagorno-Karabakh's sole airport, was one of six positions being used in the months-long offensive by Azerbaijan. The only way of saving the inhabitants from the fate decreed for them by the authorities in Baku — that they die from cold and hunger — was to launch a military operation aimed at bringing an end to the siege and heavy artillery fi re. The Armenians chose to defend themselves, rather than die in the mercy of those that so viciously annihilated their people from 1988-1991. The Armenians were outnumbered, they were outgunned, and they were out-maneuvered.

Azerbaijan continues to be the aggressor to this day by refusing to negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and by continuously violating the cease-fire order by the U.N. Security Council. Azerbaijan most recently violated the cease-fire February 8th of this month, after having shot and killed an Armenian man earlier this year on January 28th in another cease-fire violation.

I ask that you please vote in opposition to this resolution, as it severely misrepresents documented historic fact, presents only Azerbaijan's alleged narrative of what happened in Khojaly, and presents a narrow view of the past.

Stephen Majzun 1636 Piikoi St # 204 Honolulu, HI 96822 smajzun@gmail.com

Written Statement of Arpine Mar Philian

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

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The Khojaly tragedy was the unfortunate consequence of a horrific war started by Azerbaijan against the civilian population of the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh (NKR). **Azerbaijan was its own aggressor in Khojaly**. Starting 1991, Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh's capital city) and adjacent Armenian communities were sustaining daily massive artillery fire by Azerbaijani forces. **The international Human Rights Watch organization describes the situation in 1992**: Azeris "pounded the capital of Nagorno Karabakh, Stepanakert, and other Armenian towns and villages with shells and grenades. The indiscriminate shelling and sniper shooting killed or maimed hundreds of civilians, destroyed homes, hospitals and other objects that are not legitimate military targets, and generally terrorized the civilian".

Khojaly, the location of NKR's sole airport, was one of six positions being used in the monthslong offensive by Azerbaijan. The only way of saving the inhabitants from the fate decreed for them by the authorities in Baku — that they die from cold and hunger — was to launch a military operation aimed at bringing an end to the siege and heavy artillery fi re. **The Armenians chose to defend themselves, rather than die in the mercy of those that so viciously annihilated their people from 1988-1991.**

Azerbaijan continues to be the aggressor to this day by refusing to constructively negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and by continuously violating the cease-fire order by the U.N. Security Council.

Promoting resolutions like H.R. NO. 13 is a tactic by Azerbaijan to mislead the international community (and particularly elected representatives in various democracies) in an effort to legitimize its aggressive stance and intolerance towards everything Armenian – a policy that threatens regional peace and U.S. interests in the South Caucasus.

I ask that you please vote in opposition to this resolution, as it is damaging to international peace efforts, severely misrepresents documented historic fact, presents only Azerbaijan's alleged narrative of what happened in Khojaly, and presents a narrow view of the past.

Thank you,

Arpine Mar Philian Waikiki

Roxanne Kamalu

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 10, 2014 8:10 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Cc:	wctanaka@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM*

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/10/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Gara Amirov Sr. Graphic Designer Helix Design and Production

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

Testimony regarding the Khojaly Tragedy

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and 70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijani, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well-documented and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khojaly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

The Truth About Khojaly

For 20 years since the events in Khojaly, official Baku has been obstinately fanning anti-Armenian hysteria with the aim of falsifying the real events and discrediting the Armenian people in the eyes of the international community. However, Azeri allegations are first of all disputed by statements from the Azeri leadership itself, as well as independent Azeri and international sources:

Human Rights watch 1993 report

"While Azerbaijani forces held outposts in Shusha and Khojaly, they pounded the capital of Nagorno Karabakh, Stepanakert, and other Armenian towns and villages with shells and grenades. The indiscriminate shelling and sniper shooting killed or maimed hundreds of civilians, destroyed homes, hospitals and other objects that are not legitimate military targets, and generally terrorized the civilians".

Source: http://www.hrw.org/reports/1993/WR93/Hsw-07.htm#TopOfPage

Eynulla Eminoglu Fatullayev, Azerbaijani journalist convicted by Azerbaijan for the investigation of events in Khojaly

"And even several days prior to the attack, the Armenians had been continuously warning the population about the planned operation through loudspeakers and suggesting that the civilians abandon the town and escape from the encirclement through a humanitarian corridor along the Kar-Kar River. According to the Khojaly refugees' own words, they had used this corridor and, indeed, the Armenian soldiers positioned behind the corridor had not opened fire on them"

Source: Case of Fatullayev v Azerbaijan' (Application no. 40984/07) European Court of Human Rights http://www.icj.org/img/CASE OF FATULLAYEV v AZERBAIJAN.pdf

Ayaz Mutalibov, First President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

...the corridor, by which people could escape, had nonetheless been left by the Armenians. So, why did they have to open fire? Especially in the area around Aghdam, where there was sufficient force at that time to get help to the people." Source: 'Nezavisimaya Gazetta', 2 April 1992 (Russia)

From the Report of Human Rights Center "Memorial", Russia

"According to information received from both sides, on 28 March 1992 more than 700 Khojaly residents were handed over to the Azeri side. They had been captured in the town itself and along the road to Aghdam and were mostly women and children." Source: http://www.memo.ru/hr/hotpoints/karabah/HOJALY/CHAPTER1.HTM

Yakub Mamedov, Chair of the Supreme Council in 1992 and Acting President of the **Republic of Azerbaijan**

"In an interview with a correspondent from Azerbaijani television, YakubMamedov stated that those on whose conscience lies the tragedy of Khojaly have bravely made themselves known to him. He was not talking about the Armenian side."

Source: 'Ogonyok' Magazine, Issue 14-15, 1992 (Russia)

Eynulla Eminoglu Fatullayev, Azerbaijani journalist convicted by Azerbaijan for the investigation of events in Khojaly

"... part of the Khojaly inhabitants had been fired upon by our own [troops]... Whether it was done intentionally or not is to be determined by investigators ... [They were killed] not by [some] mysterious [shooters], but by provocateurs from the NFA¹ battalions ... [The corpses] had been mutilated by our own ...".

Source: 'Case of Fatullayev v Azerbaijan' (Application no. 40984/07) European Court of Human Rights <u>http://www.icj.org/img/CASE OF FATULLAYEV v AZERBAIJAN.pdf</u>

Elman Mamedov, Khojaly Town Mayor

"We don't know who to attribute this atrocity to; we don't know whose history will find the guilty party in this matter..."

Source: video interview taken by journalist Chingiz Mustafayev, who was later killed after reporting to the Moscow news agency DR-Press on complicity of Azerbaijani politicians in Khojaly events.

http://xocali.net/RU/Mamedov-Mustafayev.html

Tamerlan Karayev, Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan

"The tragedy was committed by the authorities of Azerbaijan", and specifically by "someone highly placed".

Source: Mikhalifat, newspaper, 28 April 1992, (Azerbaijan).

Heydar Aliyev, former president of Azerbaijan

"...the former leadership of Azerbaijan is also guilty". "...the bloodshed will profit us.We should not interfere in the course of events". Source: Bilik-Dunyasi Agency, April 1992 (Azerbaijan)

Arif Yunosov, Azeri Human Rights' Activist

"..the town and its citizens were deliberately sacrificed for a political goal" *Source: Zerkalo newspaper, July 1992(Azerbaijan)*

Ayaz Mutalibov, First President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

"As the Khojali inhabitants, who narrowly escaped, say, it was all organized in order to have ground for my resignation. Some forces functioned for the effort to discredit the president".

Source: 'Nezavisimaya Gazetta', 2 April 1992 (Russia)

From the report of Megapolis-Express magazine, Russia

"It cannot be denied that, if the Popular Front of Azerbaijan actually set far-reaching objectives, they have been achieved. Mutalibov has been compromised and overthrown, public opinion worldwide has been shaken, and the Azerbaijanis and their Turkish brethren have believed in the so-called genocide of the Azerbaijani people in Khojaly". *Source: Megapolis Express, Magazine. No. 17, 1992.(Russia)*

¹National Front of Azerbaijan. In 1992 an opposition militarized party, which came to power after the Khojaly events.

Hajar Khochberova Volunteer Azerbaijani American Cultural Alliance / AACA

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

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The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Tarlan Khalilli

Clinical Expert at IRHYTHM Technologies

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

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Burcu Gozal Geological Engineer

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

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Rashad Ajalov Subcontracts Engineer Saipem inc. Houston, TX 77094

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

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Anna Velieva

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

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Written Statement of **Jeff Malins**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFIARS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee

Re: **Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13**

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments reflecting my **<u>strong</u> <u>opposition</u>** to **H.R. NO. 13.**

Effectively, this bill is the equivalent of a resolution honoring a small number of dead English civilians at the hands of the "brutal" and "aggressor" Irish during a battle in Northern Ireland. The reasons for *that* conflict are many and extremely complex.

Just because the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is remote and foreign to the people of Hawaii is not reason enough to take such a simplistic, one-sided proclamation of what happened in Khojaly 22 years ago.

The statements in this resolution represent a whitewashed, self-serving, "state run media" type of PR for the totalitarian Azerbaijani regime. The bill ignores years of subjugation of the Armenian population in Nagorno-Karabakh region by Azerbaijan prior to the so-called "massacre". The casualties, refugees and collateral damage from those actions far exceed anything that occurred in Khojaly 22 years ago.

Azerbaijan continues to violate the UN Security Council ordered cease-fire in the region on a daily basis. Negotiations to create a peaceful resolution of this complex struggle will not be helped by a sensationalist, one-sided retelling of the events in Khojaly. **I ask that you please vote in opposition to this resolution**.

Jeff Malins 1212 Nuuanu Ave, #2601 Honolulu, HI jmalins0@gmail.com

Written Statement of **Ani Martirosian Menon**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

- To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee
- Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my strong opposition to H.R. NO. 13.

The statements offered within this resolution are one-sided, out-of-context, and attempt to manipulate historic fact in favor of the true aggressor of the Nagorno-Karabakh War, Azerbaijan.

The Khojaly tragedy was the unfortunate consequence of a horrific war started by Azerbaijan against the civilian population of the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh (NK). This conflict was initiated by Azerbaijan in response to the peaceful demands for the right to self-determination by the Armenian-populated NK, a region that was victim to the Soviet Empire's strategic "border-drawing" that was meant to destabilize Armenia and strengthen Soviet ideology. Azerbaijan's response to this peaceful referendum was to indiscriminately massacre the Armenian population in Azeri towns of Sumgait, Baku, Kirovabad, and elsewhere from February 1988 through 1994.

These orchestrated and barbaric massacres, during which thousands of Armenians were maimed, raped, mutilated, and killed as Azerbaijani police stood by and watched, created over 500,000 Armenian refugees (many orphaned). These massacres escalated to such vile brutality on the part of the Azerbaijanis that pregnant Armenian women were targets for rape and death, newborn Armenian babies were burned to death, and men were mutilated and tortured to the point of death.

Azerbaijan was its own aggressor in Khojaly. Starting 1991, Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh's capital city) and adjacent Armenian communities were sustaining daily massive artillery fire by Azerbaijani forces. The international Human Rights Watch organization describes the situation in 1992: Azeris "pounded the capital of Nagorno Karabakh, Stepanakert, and other Armenian towns and villages with shells and grenades. The indiscriminate shelling and

sniper shooting killed or maimed hundreds of civilians, destroyed homes, hospitals and other objects that are not legitimate military targets, and generally terrorized the civilian".¹

It is noteworthy that the shelling of the NKR cities was carried out using "Alazan" and "Kristal" combat rocket launchers, as well as BM-21 'Grad' Multiple Launcher Rocket System vehicles, the use of which is prohibited against civilians. In 1992, while heavy artillery fire continued, Azerbaijan blockaded all routes to the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. The region and its people were left without fuel, electricity, water, and food supplies.

Khojaly, the location of Nagorno-Karabakh's sole airport, was one of six positions being used in the months-long offensive by Azerbaijan. The only way of saving the inhabitants from the fate decreed for them by the authorities in Baku — that they die from cold and hunger — was to launch a military operation aimed at bringing an end to the siege and heavy artillery fi re. The Armenians chose to defend themselves, rather than die in the mercy of those that so viciously annihilated their people from 1988-1991. The Armenians were outnumbered, they were outgunned, and they were out-maneuvered.

Azerbaijan continues to be the aggressor to this day by refusing to constructively negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and by continuously violating the cease-fire order by the U.N. Security Council. Azerbaijan most recently violated the cease-fire February 8th of this month, after having shot and killed an Armenian man earlier this year on January 28th in another cease-fire violation.

Promoting resolutions like H.R. NO. 13 is a tactic by Azerbaijan to mislead the international community (and particularly elected representatives in various democracies) in an effort to legitimize its aggressive stance and intolerance towards everything Armenian – a policy that threatens regional peace and U.S. interests in the South Caucasus.

I ask that you please vote in opposition to this resolution, as it is damaging to international peace efforts, severely misrepresents documented historic fact, presents only Azerbaijan's alleged narrative of what happened in Khojaly, and presents a narrow view of the past.

Should you have any questions, or would like a line-by-line review of the deep misrepresentations in this resolution, I am available to meet with any interested committee member or legislator.

Thank you,

Ani Martirosian Menon animartirosian@gmail.com (808) 429-4490

¹Human Rights Watch <u>http://www.hrw.org/reports/1993/WR93/Hsw-07.htm#TopOfPage</u>.

Written Statement of **Dawn Morais Webster Ph.D.**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

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To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee

Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments reflecting my **strong opposition** to **H.R. NO. 13.** I am very puzzled as to why taxpayer dollars are being spent on a misleading resolution of this nature when Hawaii has so many of its own issues to contend with.

Thanks to my Armenian daughter-in-law, Ani Martirosian Menon, I have come to learn that the statements offered within this resolution are one-sided, out-of-context, and attempt to manipulate historic fact in favor of the true aggressor of the Nagorno-Karabakh War, Azerbaijan.

The Khojaly tragedy was the unfortunate consequence of a horrific war started by Azerbaijan against the civilian population of the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. **This conflict was initiated by Azerbaijan in response to the peaceful demands of the people of Karabakh for the right to self-determination**. Azerbaijan's response to this peaceful referendum was to indiscriminately massacre the Armenian population in Sumgait, Baku, Kirovabad, and elsewhere from February 1988 through 1991.

These massacres, during which I am told thousands of Armenians were maimed, raped, mutilated, and killed as Azerbaijani police stood by and watched, created over 500,000 Armenian refugees (many orphaned). The Armenian people have carried with them the memory of too many accounts of the rape of their women, the killing of newborn Armenian babies and the mutilation and torture of Armenian men. This resolution adds to the pain of that history.

My understanding is that Azerbaijan was the aggressor in Khojaly. Starting 1991, Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh's capital city) and adjacent Armenian communities sustained daily massive artillery fire by Azerbaijani forces. The shelling of the NKR cities was carried out using "Alazan" and "Kristal" combat rocket launchers, as well as BM-21 'Grad' Multiple Launcher Rocket System vehicles, the use of which is prohibited against civilians. In 1992, while heavy artillery fire continued, Azerbaijan blockaded all routes to the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. The region and its people were left without fuel, electricity, water, and food supplies.

Khojaly, the location of Nagorno-Karabakh's sole airport, was one of six positions used in the months-long offensive by Azerbaijan. The only way of saving the inhabitants from being wiped out by the cold and hunger was to launch a military operation to bring an end to the siege and heavy artillery fire. The Armenians chose to defend themselves despite being outnumbered and despite not having the kind of military weaponry of the Azerbaijani forces.

Oil-rich Azerbaijan has refused to negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and has repeatedly violated the cease-fire order by the U.N. Security Council. It has also orchestrated extensive worldwide communications and lobbying efforts that have ensured that history is told from their perspective.

Armenia has not had the resources that Azerbaijan has had to amplify its side of the story in the same way. But its people are determined to speak out wherever their history is misrepresented as this resolution here in Hawaii seems to do.

I ask that you please vote in opposition to this resolution. It is unseemly for Hawaii, given its own history, to participate in the possible misrepresentation of documented historic fact as to what happened in Khojaly and aid in the public reinvention of one party's role.

Dawn Morais Webster Ph.D.

Testimony of Christina Ching in favor of H.R. 13

Committee on VMI

Monday, February 12, 2014, 8:30 AM.

State Capitol CR 312

Honorable Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and committee members,

I think we can all agree that in order to create a better future, we must learn from the mistakes of our past. To do that, we must make an effort to remember the tragedies that humanity has face in times of war.

The horrors that the people of Khojaly in Azerbaijon suffered on February 26th in 1992 should stand as a poignant reminder that even in these modern times, war, conflict, and human suffering are still a harsh reality.

On that fateful day, more than 600 innocent lives were lost in the unauthorized attack by the Armenian armed forces. It has been nearly 22 years since, yet tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan still run high today. Those lost in this senseless tragedy should not be forgotten, and their story should serve to move us to have better tolerance and understanding.

Please pass this resolution in hopes that our history can provide a lesson for the future.

Christina Ching

Steven Nordell in support of HR13 on 2/10/2014 at 3:32 PM

Chair and Members,

This should be a straightforward and simple resolution to pass. I am in flat out support for obvious reasons. The recognition of the tragedy in Khojaly and spreading awareness of said tragedy isn't wrong by any means.

The Khojaly tragedy is already documented as the worst massacre in the history of the Nagorno-Karabakh War and should be recognized regardless of certain party's vigilance in the denial of how history had unfolded on those fateful days. I believe that until presented with empirical evidence to contradict the accounts made by the survivors of the slaughter that we should observe it the way that it deserves. As a mourning of a senseless loss of lives of hundreds of people at the hands of murderers in an unauthorized attack on innocent civilians.

Therefor I proclaim that we treat this anniversary with reverence and respect and for those who oppose this bill, I ask you, would this bill be any less meaningful if the tables were turned? Should we not recognize September 11th because a specific party does not acknowledge that it happened even with all the evidence proving that it did. I think not and you not either. Please show that you respect this tragic event and pass HR13 and do not disrespect those people's memories. Orkhan Imanov L&D Consultant BP America Inc.

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

Testimony regarding the Khojaly Tragedy

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and 70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well-documented and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khojaly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Roxanne Kamalu

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Monday, February 10, 2014 2:16 PM	
То:	vmitestimony	
Cc:	michaelpetrosian@gmail.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM	

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/10/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Michael Petrosian	Individual	Oppose	No	

Comments: Other than an expenses paid caviar diplomacy trip paid by the Azerbaijan govt, has any research or fact finding been done by sponsors of this resolution? There is an overwhelming amount of documentation and testimony including reports by our own CIA refuting the statements made in HR13 regarding the Nagorno conflict. Our State Legislature can do better than this.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Narmin Karimova Unemployed

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

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Emin Hajiyev Director, Office of International Students and Scholars Lindenwood University

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

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From:Ihajibayova@icloud.comSent:Sunday, February 09, 2014 9:42 PMTo:Rep. Ken ItoSubject:Support HR9 and HR13

Lala Hajibayova 2640 Dole St. Apt. E256 Honolulu, HI 96822-2334

February 10, 2014

Ken Ito

Dear Representative Ito:

I join Azeri-Americans, members of Azerbaijani-American Council (AAC), to call for a bipartisan support to Resolutions 9 and 13 recently introduced in the Hawaii House of Representatives. HR 9 urges the U.S. government to strengthen efforts in facilitating a peaceful settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. HR 13 commemorates the 22nd anniversary of the Khojaly Massacre, the first largest atrocity against civilians in Europe since World War II.

In 1991-94, the post-Soviet Eurasian nations of Armenia and Azerbaijan fought a war over the Azerbaijani territory of Nagorno-Karabakh. The conflict took nearly 30,000 lives and resulted in the Armenian military occupation of the fifth of Azerbaijan and the expulsion of close to

800,000 Azerbaijani civilians from their homes. The UN Security Council resolutions 822, 853, 874, 884, which called for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Armenian forces and the return of Azerbaijani refugees, remain unfulfilled by Armenia. The ongoing occupation and the plight of Azerbaijani refugees are serious obstacles to peace in the South Caucasus thereby directly affecting U.S. interests in that region.

Disturbing images of ethnic cleansing committed 22 years ago by Armenian forces with support of Russia's 366th infantry regiment in the town of Khojaly continue to roil the memory of Azerbaijani people. 613 civilians, including 106 women and 63 children, were tortured, killed and mutilated with extreme brutality by the Armenian forces in what Human Rights Watch described as the largest massacre of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. As the U.S. mediates a peaceful settlement of this conflict, recognition and remembrance of the horrific tragedy in Khojaly is an important step towards healing and reconciliation between the Armenian and Azerbaijani people.

For the past two decades since its independence, Azerbaijan has been a strategic ally of the United States in the vital region between Russia and Iran. In response to the 9/11 attacks, Azerbaijan has immediately opened its airspace and airports in support of the U.S.-led operations in Afghanistan. In addition, Azerbaijanis took part alongside our troops in both Iraq and Afghanistan missions, and the country remains a key U.S. partner in ensuring the global energy security.

Please, support HR 9 and 13 for the sake of advancing humanity, peace and justice.

Sincerely,

Lala Hajibayova

Chair and Committee,

We are all familiar with the adage that those who do not know history are doomed to repeat it. The various conflicts triggered by the dissolution of the Soviet Union have brought much sorrow and destruction to millions of people in Eastern Europe. While we cannot change history we can definitely learn from it in our attempts for a better future.

One way to ensure we not forget history is to have specific days of remembrance to commemorate those who have died in conflicts, atrocities, and the like. In the United States we have days remembering the death of leaders like Dr. King, Independence Day, and Veteran's day. In any corner of our great nations, millions of Americans reflect on these days to remember and teach our children of those who came before us and gave their wisdom and strength for the improvement of ourselves as a nation today.

These days of remembrance help us teach our children of the importance to keep in mind and heart the legacy of others so that we do not forget historical lessons. But our remembrance of important points in history should not be limited by our national geography. Given the great diversity of our nation which in the 21st century extends around the globe, I strongly support that February 26 be recognized as the 22th anniversary of the Khojaly tragedy in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict.

The people of the Armenia-Azerbaijan region have suffered greatly since the early 1990's when the Soviet Union collapsed. The thousands of civilian casualties in this conflict should not be forgotten. Neither should be forget that we must work together to avoid such conflicts in the future. This is why to have this anniversary memorial so that we remember and teach our children of the unfortunate misery the people of Khojaly suffered.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify before you.

Sincerely,

Windsor Kant

Nargiz Ahmadova

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

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Nijat Ahmadov Drilling Engineer Bp America Inc.

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Monday, February 10, 2014 5:46 PM	
То:	vmitestimony	
Cc:	e.safiye@gmail.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM	
Attachments:	HR13.docx	

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/10/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
safiye	Individual	Support	No

Comments: THANK YOU for your recognition

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Written Statement of **Zubin Adrian Menon, MBA**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee

Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments reflecting my **<u>strong</u> <u>opposition</u>** to **H.R. NO. 13.** I am very puzzled as to why taxpayer dollars are being spent on a misleading resolution of this nature when Hawai'i has so many of its own issues to contend with.

As a longtime student of history, and as someone married to an Armenian-American, I understand that the **statements offered within this resolution are one-sided**, **out-of-context**, **and attempt to manipulate historic fact in favor of the true aggressor** of the Nagorno-Karabakh War, Azerbaijan.

The Khojaly tragedy was the unfortunate consequence of a horrific war started by Azerbaijan against the civilian population of the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. **This conflict was initiated by Azerbaijan in response to the peaceful demands of the people of Karabakh for the right to self-determination**. Azerbaijan's response to this peaceful referendum was to indiscriminately massacre the Armenian population in Sumgait, Baku, Kirovabad, and elsewhere from February 1988 through 1991.

These massacres, during which thousands of Armenians were maimed, raped, mutilated, and killed as Azerbaijani police stood by and watched, created thousands of Armenian refugees. The Armenian people have carried with them the memory of too many accounts of the rape of their women, the killing of newborn Armenian babies and the mutilation and torture of Armenian men. This resolution adds to the pain of that history.

My understanding is that Azerbaijan was the aggressor in Khojaly as a means of furthering a political end. Starting 1991, Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh's capital city) and adjacent Armenian communities sustained daily massive artillery fire by Azerbaijani forces. In 1992, while heavy artillery fire continued, Azerbaijan blockaded all routes to the independent

republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. The region and its people were left without fuel, electricity, water, and food supplies.

Khojaly, the location of Nagorno-Karabakh's sole airport, was one of six positions used in the months-long offensive by Azerbaijan. The only way of saving the inhabitants from being wiped out by the cold and hunger was to launch a military operation to bring an end to the siege and heavy artillery fire. The Armenians chose to defend themselves despite being outnumbered and despite not having the kind of military weaponry of the Azerbaijani forces.

Oil-rich Azerbaijan has refused to negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and has repeatedly violated the cease-fire order by the U.N. Security Council. It has also orchestrated extensive worldwide communications and lobbying efforts that have ensured that history is told from their perspective. But Armenians and those who understand the importance of an informed, balanced view of history are determined to speak out wherever history is misrepresented as this resolution here in Hawai'i seems to do.

I ask that you please vote in opposition to this resolution. It is unseemly for Hawai'i, given its own history, to participate in the misrepresentation of the events in Khojaly and to aid in the public reinvention of one party's role.

Sincerely,

Zubin Adrian Menon, MBA zmenon@gmail.com 808-383-1466

; Elvin Amiraslanov] [Student in Washington DC] [Which organization, if applicable]

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

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[Emil Babayev] [Student in Washington DC] [Which organization, if applicable]

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From:kerem.bolukbasi@ge.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:37 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Kerem Bolukbasi 314 Newfort Place Greenville, SC 29607-5985

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Sincerely,

Kerem Bolukbasi

[isbandiyar hasanov] [student in Washington DC] [Which organization, if applicable]

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

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[konul hasanova] [student in Washington DC] [Which organization, if applicable]

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[Nigar hasanova] [student in Washington DC] [Which organization, if applicable]

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The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

From:javid@azeris.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:27 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Javid Huseynov 15886 Camo Bluff Court Fountain Valley, CA 92708-1105

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

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The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Sincerely,

Javid Huseynov 949-500-6949

Nadir Shafiyev

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

Testimony regarding the Khojaly Tragedy

The Khojaly Tragedy in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, occurred on February 26, 1992. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and 70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

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The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Turkan Shafiyeva

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

Testimony regarding the Khojaly Tragedy

The Khojaly Tragedy in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, occurred on February 26, 1992. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and 70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

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The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 3:20 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Cc:	selmoff@icloud.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/11/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Alexander Selimov	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: Honorable Committee members: The FEBRUARY 26, 2014 date should be recognized AS THE 22ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY IN AZERBAIJAN. Thank you for considering this measure. Sincerely, Alexander

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 4:27 AM	
То:	vmitestimony	
Cc:	ozatalayali@Hotmail.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM	
Attachments:	HR13.docx	

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/11/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ali Ozatalay	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for your recognition and support.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 6:57 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Cc:	murad.azer@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/11/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Azar Muradov	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for considering this important date!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 10, 2014 8:01 PM
То:	vmitestimony
Cc:	orxan_mustafa@hotmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM*

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/10/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Orkhan Mammadov	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 6:26 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Cc:	muzaffer.a.erdogan@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/11/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Muzaffer Erdogan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: THANK YOU for your recognition

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 10, 2014 7:40 PM
То:	vmitestimony
Cc:	ilgar138@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HR13 on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM

<u>HR13</u>

Submitted on: 2/10/2014 Testimony for VMI on Feb 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ſ	llgar Azizov	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Recognizing the tragedy is part of the way to avoid the crime in the future! Thank you!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Written Statement of TATYANA CERULLO

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFIARS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

- To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee
- Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments reflecting my **<u>strong</u> <u>opposition</u>** to **H.R. NO. 13.**

The statements offered within this resolution are one-sided, out-of-context, and attempt to manipulate historic fact in favor of the true aggressor of the Nagorno-Karabakh War, Azerbaijan.

The Khojaly tragedy was the unfortunate consequence of a horrific war started by Azerbaijan against the civilian population of the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. **This conflict was initiated by Azerbaijan in response to the peaceful demands of the people of Karabakh for the right to self-determination**. Azerbaijan's response to this peaceful referendum was to indiscriminately massacre the Armenian population in Sumgait, Baku, Kirovabad, and elsewhere from February 1988 through 1991.

These orchestrated and barbaric massacres, during which thousands of Armenians were maimed, raped, mutilated, and killed as Azerbaijani police stood by and watched, created over 500,000 Armenian refugees (many orphaned). These massacres escalated to such vile brutality on the part of the Azerbaijanis that pregnant Armenian women were targets for rape and death, newborn Armenian babies were burned to death, and men were mutilated and tortured to the point of death.

Azerbaijan was its own aggressor in Khojaly. Starting in1991, Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh's capital city) and adjacent Armenian communities were sustaining daily massive artillery fire by Azerbaijani forces. The shelling of the NKR cities was carried out using "Alazan" and "Kristal" combat rocket launchers, as well as BM-21 'Grad' Multiple Launcher Rocket System vehicles, the use of which is prohibited against civilians. In 1992, while heavy

artillery fire continued, Azerbaijan blockaded all routes to the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. The region and its people were left without fuel, electricity, water, and food supplies.

Khojaly, the location of Nagorno-Karabakh's sole airport, was one of six positions being used in the months-long offensive by Azerbaijan. The only way of saving the inhabitants from the fate decreed for them by the authorities in Baku — that they die from cold and hunger — was to launch a military operation aimed at bringing an end to the siege and heavy artillery fire. The Armenians chose to defend themselves, rather than die in the mercy of those that so viciously annihilated their people from 1988-1991. The Armenians were outnumbered, they were outgunned, and they were out-maneuvered.

Azerbaijan continues to be the aggressor to this day by refusing to negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and by continuously violating the cease-fire order by the U.N. Security Council. Azerbaijan most recently violated the cease-fire February 8th of this month, after having shot and killed an Armenian man earlier this year on January 28th in another cease-fire violation.

I ask that you please vote in opposition to this resolution, as it severely misrepresents documented historic fact, presents only Azerbaijan's alleged narrative of what happened in Khojaly, and presents a narrow view of the past.

Tatyana Cerullo and Robin Van Niekerk 60 N. Beretania St., 209 Honolulu, HI 96817 808-722-6816

Written Statement of Verjine Jerian

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee

Re: **Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13**

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my strong opposition to H.R. NO. 13.

The statements offered within this resolution are one-sided, out-of-context, and attempt to manipulate historic fact in favor of the true aggressor of the Nagorno-Karabakh War, Azerbaijan.

The Khojaly tragedy was the unfortunate consequence of a horrific war started by Azerbaijan against the civilian population of the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh (NK).

Azerbaijan was its own aggressor in Khojaly. Starting 1991, Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh's capital city) and adjacent Armenian communities were sustaining daily massive artillery fire by Azerbaijani forces. The international Human Rights Watch organization describes the situation in 1992: Azeris "pounded the capital of Nagorno Karabakh, Stepanakert, and other Armenian towns and villages with shells and grenades. The indiscriminate shelling and sniper shooting killed or maimed hundreds of civilians, destroyed homes, hospitals and other objects that are not legitimate military targets, and generally terrorized the civilian".¹

Azerbaijan continues to be the aggressor to this day by refusing to constructively negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and by continuously violating the cease-fire order by the U.N. Security Council. Azerbaijan most recently violated the cease-fire February 8th of this month, after having shot and killed an Armenian man earlier this year on January 28th in another cease-fire violation.

The Republic of Azerbaijan, being rated as one of the most corrupt in the nation, is a master of propaganda. They are busy lobbying democratic nations around the world to recognize their manipulations of historic fact, and continue to insist on their version of what happened from an unbalanced biased perspective.

¹Human Rights Watch <u>http://www.hrw.org/reports/1993/WR93/Hsw-07.htm#TopOfPage</u>.

In this same way, the Azerbaijani authorities have tried to erase from international memory their bloody pogroms against Armenians in Sumgait (February 1988) and in Baku (January 1990) as well as the mass killings of Armenians in Maragha and Khramorth villages in the summer 1992. Azerbaijan attempts to use these ill-founded accusations to make illegal and historically inaccurate demands over NKR.

What is most important in all of this is that the authorities of modern-day Azerbaijan are trying to forcibly attach the intolerable burden of genocidal psychology onto their own people. Similarly, those Azerbaijanis - including professors, historians, and journalists - who bravely stand-up to challenge Azerbaijan's propaganda are threatened with their lives and the lives of their families. They are treated like traitors, and terrorists to their own countries.

I have no doubt that with time, the bitter truth about the real aggressors of Khojaly will be known to the world. Only then will Azerbaijan's attempted propaganda and caviar diplomacy no longer work. I painfully watch as Azerbaijan buys legislators and corrupts our democratic processes with their oil money, as the Armenians struggle to survive as a small, land-locked republic.

Promoting resolutions like H.R. NO. 13 is a tactic by Azerbaijan to mislead the international community (and particularly elected representatives in various democracies) in an effort to legitimize its aggressive stance and intolerance towards everything Armenian – a policy that threatens regional peace and U.S. interests in the South Caucasus.

I ask that you please oppose this resolution. The sides should not be busy re-writing history or using politics to gain an advantage, but instead should be focusing on ways to achieve lasting peace and security in the region.

Thank you,

Verjine Jerian vivim808@gmail.com

Written Statement of Arthur Martirosian

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFIARS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee

Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13

My name is Arthur Martirosian and I am a local business owner who has created jobs, lived, studied and worked in Hawaii for over 15 years. I am testifying with my deepest opposition to House Resolution 13. If one takes a critical look at the actual happenings of Feb.26, 1992 and what Azerbaijan has become today the facts will be clear. TO understand what Azerbaijan is one can simply find the answer by looking at Transparency International's Corruption Index, in which Azerbaijan was ranked 127/177 countries in 2013, to put this in a little context, this makes them the most corrupt nation in the South Caucuses. In addition, in 2012 a political watchdog NGO called The Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP), based in Sarajevo and Bucharest, awarded Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev as the most corrupt person in the world. This is based on the fact that the President and his family have secret shares in vast business, including banks, construction firms, gold mines and the communication industries. Besides the fact that Azerbaijan is a considered a corrupt nation, it also has a horrible human rights history, according to Human Rights Watch, it's 2014 World report described Azerbaijan as follows:

"The Azerbaijani government's poor record on freedom of expression, assembly, and association dramatically deteriorated during the year. The authorities arrested dozens of political activists on bogus charges, imprisoned critical journalists, broke up several peaceful public demonstrations, and adopted legislation that further restricted fundamental freedoms. This crackdown was the backdrop for the October 2013 presidential election, in which incumbent President Ilham

Aliyev was re-elected for a third term with 84.5 percent of the vote."

One now see Azerbaijan clearly for what it is, a corrupt state, which has cracked down on their own peoples freedoms including those of the press and peaceful demonstrations.

That being said I would like to provide the committee with some facts as they pertain to the Khojaly indecent, and this new concerted effort by Azerbaijan to push an agenda of falsehood and revisionist history. Additionally I will share some additional facts which will shed greater light on who was fighting during that Armenian-Azerbaijan conflict. First some facts about Khojaly, based on Dr. Dikran Abrahamian's non-partisan website devoted to community activities, human rights and democracy which provide some first have accounts of what really happened:

Azeri photographer Chingiz Mustafaev photographed the Azeri corpses immediately after the fight and two days later. His latter photos show that the position of the casualties had been changed and their injuries had strikingly become more brutal. During both of his assignments, the territory was still controlled by the Azeri's.

Shortly after, President Ayaz Mutalibov said to the photographer, "Chengiz, do not tell anybody about what you have noticed. Or, you'll be killed." Undeterred, Mustafaev began to investigate on his own. But after his findings were made public by the DR-Press Information Agency in Moscow that the Azeri forces had participated in crimes against Khojaly inhabitants, the journalist was killed not far from Aghdam. His death remains a mystery.

- Azeri human rights activist Arif Yunusof wrote in "Zercalo" Azerbaijani newspaper (July 1992),
 "The town and its citizens were deliberately sacrificed to the political goal." He was referring to the quarrel between President Mutalubov and his enemies. The latter, who wanted to topple the president, ordered the killing of their own citizens to portray Mutalibov as incompetent.
- Tamerlan Karaev, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan Republic, said in "Mukhalifat" Azeri newspaper (April 28, 1992): "The tragedy was committed by Azerbaijan authorities, specifically by a top official."

• A month after his resignation, Mutalibov, Azerbaijan's first president, told Mazalova in "Nezavisimaya Gazeta" that according to the "Khojali inhabitants who escaped, all this was organized to dismiss me. Some forces acted to discredit the president. I don't think that the Armenians, strictly and professionally treating similar situation, could let the Azerbaijanis gain any documents" which would incriminate them. He also said that he couldn't believe Armenian's would provide a safe corridor and then shoot at the escaping civilians.

These facts show that what transpired on that day was a fabrication at best and worst a massacre of their own civilian population for a political goal. By agreeing to continue with this HR you provide the Azerbaijani government with legitimacy in the horrors during the build up to war and during the war in Nagorno-Karabagh. Next time one of you honorable members visit Azerbaijan don't forget to ask about the systematic destructions of Armenian lives and property in the Azerbaijani cities of Sumgait and Baku, their capital, where in 1988 and 1990 respectively, hundreds of innocent men, women and children were dragged out of their homes beaten, some raped and others killed all because Azerbaijan was radicalizing towards the Armenian's within their country because the area of Nagorno-Karabagh decided to join Armenia in free elections. How about asking them about some of the top leaders of the Azerbaijani forces during the war with Armenia and Karabagh, how they had Afghani mujahidin (Gulbuddin Hekmatyar) fighting for them, the same ones our brave US Soldiers are fighting today in Afghanistan or Chechen terrorist (Shamil Salmanovich Basayev) whom led assaults and were also hired by the Azerbaijanis as mercenaries. Or even the use of the Grey Wolves, an ultra-nationalistic, neo-fascist youth group based in Turkey.

I ask you now honorary committee members, is this the type of governments we support now in Hawaii? Ones that used hired mercenaries and terrorists to conduct their affairs and proclaim they want peace? What happened to having principals and standing up against powers of foreign oil which are trying to dictate our lives here in Hawaii? And most importantly how is Hawaii benefiting from being a mouthpiece of the most corrupt man in the world?

On a more personal note, about 5 years ago I was one youngest members inducted into Hawaii's Rotary Club, I have since sadly had to leave, but as a Rotarian we had a four way test, that test was my guide then and still is my guide since, those four tenants are:

- 1) Is it the truth
- 2) Is it fair to all concerned
- 3) Will it build goodwill and better friendship
- 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned

In using this simple guide this HR meets none of these tenants, I ask you, how could one support such a HR with a clear conscious? I once again implore you to oppose this HR and would gladly meet with any committee members personally to discuss this matter.

Written Statement of Vatche Martirosian

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFIARS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee

Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13

My name is Vatche Martirosian. I am 59 years old, and a US citizen for last 27 years. I immigrated to the United States in 1980 when I was only 25 years old. I have been married for 37 years and we have raised three wonderful kids in this beautiful Aloha state. I would like to share with you my life story, generally story of every Armenian around the world.

When I was a young child I asked my grandpa and my grandma, how and where did you meet? I was shocked when both of them told me that they met at orphanage, because they were orphans. My next question to them was, why were you orphans? The answer was Turks and Azeri's killed our parents and siblings and we we're lucky to be alive. The summer after that, during my vacation I met my other grandparents from my mother side, they had the same story to the same question and the same answer, TURKS and AZERI'S slaughtered our families. My Grandma told me a story on how these barbarians threw her older sister into fire, because her parents did not have any more gold to give them. Those years were considered the worse years in human history. This was the first genocide that people have seen. That was 1915, the first Genocide of the 20th century and probably human history. Turks from West and Azeri's from East slaughtered 1.5 million Armenian women and kids, because they were Christians, because they were

hard working and creative people. They took our land, our pride, our homes, and our dignity and threw us away from our country.

You can Google or use any search engine to understand who are the Azeri's/Turks. They deal with terrorists from around the globe, during the war with Armenia, Azerbaijan was bringing Mujahidin from Afghanistan and Chechen rebels to Karabagh to fight against Armenians and kill as many people as they could.

In 1990, I went back to Armenia to help my countrymen because they were surrounded by Azeri/Turkish forces that blockaded Armenia and would not allow any train or cargo into Armenia. They were trying to starve a whole nation to death, at this time I start importing sugar to Armenia in quantities through a town called Megri. Being that sugar is high in calories and is a necessity for survival in cold weathers. I have seen and heard many, many incidents about Azeri acts of horror enough so that I was almost ready to go and fight against them myself. I lost three good friends in the Karabagh war; all of them were family men who had young children. After their deaths we felt the obligation help these newly widowed wives raise the kids. The Azeri's created a vast array of destruction from homes to families and they still cause a number of big problems in that region.

The historical facts of what led Azerbaijan to be an aggressor began in 1921 when two Communist dictators, Lenin and Stalin gave Karabagh to the Azeri's, this was done in a deliberate manner to divide countries to make it easier for the communists to rule. Being that Karabagh has historically been Armenian lands when it was annexed to Azerbaijan, the people of Karabagh struggled, they could no longer use their own language or holydays, they could not relax, could not be themselves or feel like a human beings.

An honorary committee member, Armenia is one of the oldest countries in the world. Our history goes back to 14000 B.C. We were instrumental in the creation of the bronze era; we came up with the idea of wheel, wheat, MRI machines and ATM's.
Armenians have also become some of the world's most well-known composers, like Aram Khachaturian and Charles Aznavour, writers such as William Saroyan to many famous artists. Armenians was the first nation to adopt Christianity in 301 AD, forty years before the Romans .And there are Armenian physicists working around the world from NASA to large universities, think tanks and more.

We are the good people; we are the ones to be supported, not these terrorists!

PLEASE DO NOT BE SUPPORTIVE TO TERORISTS, WE DO NOT HAVE TO SUPPORT THEM.

I CAN AND WILL TESTIFY ANY TIME YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT THE TRUTH AND HISTORICAL FACTS

ALOHA

From:arslan86@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:37 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Arslan Ibrahimi 1242A, Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94709-1933

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well- documented and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khoja ly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Arslan Ibrahimi

From:elnuraydinov@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Elnur Aydinov 10000 Imperial Hwy, E222 Downey, CA 90242-3286

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Elnur Aydinov

From:agshin-taghiyev@uiowa.eduSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Agshin Taghiyev 2043 Timber Lane Coralville, IA 52241-9721

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Agshin Taghiyev

From:	hpeker@gmail.com
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:47 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Subject:	Testimony in support of HR 13

huseyin peker 2549 Maitland Crossing Way apt#11106 Orlando, FL 32810-7109

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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huseyin peker

From: Sent: To: Subject: oktay_erbil@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:02 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Oktay Erbil 878 LOIS AVE SUNNYVALE, CA 94087-1645

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Oktay Erbil

From:nmgunal@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:02 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Nezih Gunal 5474 E garford St Long Beach, CA 90815-3008

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Nezih Gunal 562-986-5791

From:	rustamovi@hotmail.com
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:57 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Subject:	Testimony in support of HR 13

Ismail Rustamov 1915 farrell Ave # B Redondo Beach, CA 90278-1814

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Ismail Rustamov

From:uyilmazusa@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Michael Yilmaz 15 Stony Brook Road Tenafly, NJ 07670-1117

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Michael Yilmaz

From:monir.kazemi@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Monireh Kazemi 3814 King Lane San Mateo, CA 94403-4540

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Monireh Kazemi

From: Sent: To: Subject: bergama51@att.net Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:57 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Frank Kurmanay 1515 Arc Way #302 Burlingame, CA 94010-5051

February 11, 2014

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sincerely,

Frank Kurmanay

From:timursumSent:Tuesday,To:vmitestimSubject:Testimon

timursumer@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:52 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

timur sumer 2443 Margaret Dr. Fenton, MI 48430-8842

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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timur sumer

From: Sent: To: Subject: lale_agamirze@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:02 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Lala Aliyeva 31 Concord avenue, Unit 1 Cambridge, MA 02138-2339

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Lala Aliyeva

From: istsea@hotmail.com Sent: To: vmitestimony Subject:

Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AM Testimony in support of HR 13

NEVZAT CANKAYA 12602 renton ave s seattle, WA 98178-3711

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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NEVZAT CANKAYA

From: Sent: To: Subject: zair59@aol.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Rafail Rajabzade 30 notus avenue Staten Island, NY 10312-3123

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Rafail Rajabzade

From:bdogan@co.ocean.nj.usSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:52 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Betty Dogan 152 nautilus dr manahawkin, NJ 08050-2450

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well- documented and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khojaly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Betty Dogan

From: Sent: To: Subject: oertan@nc.rr.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:57 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

ozay ertan 115 Ambiance Ln Cary, NC 27518-7000

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Ozay Ertan

From:ma1697@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:07 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Tunc Tanin 38 Linnaean Street Cambridge, MA 02138-1575

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Tunc Tanin

From:hacimurad@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Murad Fataliyev 1240 s elnhurst mr prospect, IL 60056-5270

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.
Murad Fataliyev

From:aziz_sancar@med.unc.eduSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:52 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Aziz Sancar 311 West University Drive Chapel Hill, NC 27516-2922

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Aziz Sancar

From: Sent: To: Subject: vugar@azeris.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:07 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Vugar Seidov 1495 Reedy Ave, Highland, CA 92346-3289

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Vugar Seidov

From:adils55@hotmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:02 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Adil Sadig Zada 2301 S Voss Rd #2329 Houston, TX 77057-3851

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Adil Sadig Zada

From: Sent: To: Subject: aozusta@cox.net Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:52 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Ahmet Ozusta 8618 Cherry Dr. Fairfax,, VA 22031-2136

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Ahmet Ozusta 703-573-2677

From:ekremsarper@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:47 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Ekrem Sarper 3021 Nicosh Circle, #1309 Falls Church, VA 22042-1234

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Ekrem Sarper

From: Sent: To: Subject: uldouz@gmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Uldouz Berenjforoush 3814 King Lane San Mateo, CA 94403-4540

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Uldouz Berenjforoush

From:bkaya1@verizon.netSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Behcet Kaya 1640 Camino Olmo Apt E Newbury Park, CA 91320-5926

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Behcet Kaya 805 267 6968

From:franksolman@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Frank Solman 11232 Bertrand ave Granada Hills, CA 91344-4007

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Frank Solman

From:shsul222@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:07 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Shafi Sultanov 1425 S Eads street, # 1109 Arlington, VA 22202-2851

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Shafi Sultanov

From: Sent: To: Subject: eldarg@gmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:12 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Eldar Guliyev 2306 Millerton In Katy, TX 77450-6018

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Eldar Guliyev (303) 981 4066

From: Sent: To: Subject: sukranski@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:07 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

su gozum 6743 dupont ave n brooklyn center, MN 55430-1519

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well-documen ted and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khoja Iy massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

su gozum

From:nerilece@hotmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:12 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Serpil Karakaya 900 Blue Ridge Dr. Annapolis, MD 21409-5208

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Serpil Karakaya 443-852-6330

From:nilgun.sezgin@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:32 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Nilgun Sezgin 1603 Green Tree Ln Duncanville, TX 75137-3715

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Nilgun Sezgin 214 240 0296

From:bigmitch66@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:27 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Dave Mitchell 561 10th Ave #4D New York, NY 10036-3044

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Dave Mitchell

From: Sent: To: Subject: sdinlenc@gmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:12 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Sadi Dinlenc 300 E. 56th Street, Apt 22E New York, NY 10022-4128

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Sadi Dinlenc

From: Sent: To: Subject: mirgalam@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:22 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Mirgalam Miriyev 5557 Houston # 276 Houston, TX 77035

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Mirgalam Miriyev (832)-466-3290

From:	pinar.enis@gmail.com
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:32 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Subject:	Testimony in support of HR 13

Enis PINAR 2122 mass. Avenue, NW, Apt. 601 Washington, DC 20008-2830

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Enis M. İ. Pınar (202) 321-4276

From: Sent: To: Subject: muradk77@hotmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:32 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

murad kuliyev 33-06 nicholson drive Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-4150

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.
murad kuliyev

From:ness_tebriz@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:12 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Naser Alamdari 712 Cramer Ave. 149, KY 40502-1412

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Naser Alamdari

From:ksaatci@Sent:Tuesday,To:vmitestimSubject:Testimon

ksaatci@gmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:22 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Kursat Saatci 108 Yankee Court Rockwall, TX 75032-8447

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Kursat Saatci 214-771-4110

From:	sabinanb@gmail.com
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:32
То:	vmitestimony
Subject:	Testimony in support of HR 13

Sabina Babayeva 100 Woods Road PMB#496 Valhalla, NY 10595-1530

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Sabina Babayeva

From: Sent: To: Subject: thomascgoltz@gmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:37 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Thomas Goltz 5 Old Clyde Park Road (5 OCPR) Livingston, MT 59047

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Thomas Goltz

From: Sent: To: Subject: roselg@comcast.net Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:22 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Rose languist 735 duchess ct pbg, FL 33410-1553

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Rose languist 561-748-6241

From:sukranski@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:32 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

su gozum 6743 dupont ave n brooklyn center, MN 55430-1519

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

su gozum

From:zzeynalo@hotmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:37 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Zemfira Zeynalova 473 Monroe st. monterey, CA 93940-2269

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well- documented and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khojaly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Z.Zeynalova 831-242-6574

From: Sent: To: Subject: mirgalam@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:27 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Nigar Aliyeva 5557 Houston # 276 Houston, TX 77035

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Aliyeva Nigar (713)-721-0414

From:ness_tebriz@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:12 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Naser Alamdari 712 Cramer Ave. 149, KY 40502-1412

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Naser Alamdari

From:omerkucukmd@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:07 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Omer Kucuk 1811 N. Decatur Rd Atlanta, GA 30307-1117

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Omer Kucuk

From:sandugi@aol.coSent:Tuesday, FebruaTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in su

sandugi@aol.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:12 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Arzu Sandugi 12405 Venice Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90066-3803

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Arzu Sandugi

From:	rufat.nadir@gmail.com
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:27 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Subject:	Testimony in support of HR 13

Rufat Nadirov 250 Del Medio Ave Mountain View, CA 94040-1072

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Rufat Nadirov

From: Sent: To: Subject: mirgalam@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:32 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Mirgalam M 5557 Houston # 276 Houston, TX 77035

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Mirgalam Miriyev (832)-466-3290

From: Sent: To: Subject: akan75@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:02 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Ahmet Akan 8016 Julie Marie Dr. West Chester, OH 45069-2419

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Ahmet Akan

From:derya_oz@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Derya Ozyurt 181 High St Unit 2 Brookline, MA 02445-7051

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Derya Ozyurt

From:gurbanov.anar@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Anar Gurbanov 34245 Hogan Terrace Fremont, CA 94555-3840

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Anar Gurbanov

From:erkanatrek@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:47 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

ERKAN ATREK 809 s. bundy dr. Los Angeles, CA 90049-5247

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

ERKAN ATREK

From:sevdakup@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:37 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Sevda Aleckson 37 Vantis Drive Aliso Viejo, CA 92656-2600

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.
Sevda Aleckson Elkhan Aghamirzayev General Manager BWZ Consulting

Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs, and Culture and the Arts

February 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

HR13

Testimony regarding the Khojaly Tragedy

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 83 small children, and 70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijani, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Regards, Elkhan Aghamirzayev

From: Sent: To: Subject: ssahin7@hotmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:57 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Sahin Sahin 1644 S Garfield St Colorado, CO 80210-3006

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well-documen ted and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khoja ly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Sahin Sahin

From:kkorhan15@hotmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

K. Korhan 210 Kansas Rd San Francisco, CA 94103-5128

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

K. Korhan

From:turalb@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:52 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Tural Badirkhanli 3 Bayside Village Pl, Apt 307 San Francisco, CA 94107-1467

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Tural Badirkhanli

From:savastumer@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:02 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Michael Tumer 819 Wethersfield Dr Vacaville, CA 95688-9251

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Michael Tumer

From: Sent: To: Subject: ilhan37@aol.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:27 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Ilhan Aran 57 Addington Rd.Apt.2 Brookline, MA 02445-4542

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Ilhan Aran

From: Sent: To: Subject: ursohome@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:07 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Wesley Ursou 3401 S Baker St Santa Ana, CA 92707-3825

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Wesley Ursou

From: Sent: To: Subject: halidekasan@gmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:37 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Halide Gazioglu 3120 Booth Falls Ct. Vail, CO 81657-5821

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Halide Gazioglu

From: Sent: To: Subject: ysashalena@aol.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:52 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Alex Yu 15138 Stagg Street Van Nuys, CA 91405-1025

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Alex Yu

From:ramil_rex@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 11:17 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Ramil Ahmadov 12322 Perthshire rd Houston, TX 77024-4103

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Ramil Ahmadov 650-283-1792

From: Sent: To: Subject: namiksultan@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:57 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Sevil Sultanova 362 La strada dr. # 21 San Jose, CA 95123-1034

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Sevil Sultanova 408 226 1310

From:	bpl1139@gmail.com
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:37 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Subject:	Testimony in support of HR 13

BERRIN NIGHTINGALE 2929 SW CORNELL AVE PALM CITY, FL 34990-2955

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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BERRIN NIGHTINGALE

From:muradpasha@aol.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

joey murad 16 20 202st. bayside, NY 11360-1021

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

joey murad 718)352 6029

From:rovshan_xx@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:57 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Rovshan Sadygov 823 Brevins Loop San Jose, CA 95125-6302

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Rovshan Sadygov

From: Sent: To: Subject: celebi19@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:42 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

celebi celebi 1100 euclid ave long beach, CA 90804-4050

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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celebi celebi

From:vusalrajabov@Sent:Tuesday, FebruTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in s

vusalrajabov@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:07 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Vusal Rajabov 2828 Hayes Rd Houston, TX 77082-6633

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well-documen ted and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khoja ly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Vusal Rajabov

From:zatsme@yahooSent:Tuesday, FebruaTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in su

zatsme@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:17 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Ruslan Babayev 1427 E Ostrander Ave Spokane, WA 99207-4433

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Ruslan Babayev

From: Sent: To: Subject: oplg@aol.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 11:07 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

oscar gallo 700 e ocean blvd unit 2008 Long Beach, CA 90802-5038

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

oscar gallo
From: Sent: To: Subject: m_ekin_2000@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 12:12 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Muammer Ekin 5 Sun Valley Road Hamilton, NJ 08690-1529

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Muammer Ekin

From: Sent: To: Subject: kamran7007@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:52 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Kamran Aghazada 15200 Memorial Dr Houston, TX 77079-4322

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Kamran Aghazada

From: Sent: To: Subject: elnur_i@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:52 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Elnur Ibrahimzade 36000 Fremont blvd. Fremont, CA 94536-3465

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Elnur Ibrahimzade

To:

From: ftuzer@yahoo.com Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:42 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13 Subject:

Ferit Tuzer 1209 Green St Apt 2F Philadelphia, PA 19123-3216

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Ferit Tuzer

From: Sent: To: Subject: polytradeintl@aol.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:47 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Bahri Aliriza 46608 Silhouette Square Sterling, VA 20164-6321

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Bahri Aliriza 703-598-7269

From:atalaysofuoglu@hotmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:57 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Atalay Sofuoglu 303 Cezanne Lane Folsom, CA 95630-5617

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Atalay Sofuoglu

From: Sent: To: Subject: rizeli@aol.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:12 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

ibrahim kurtulus 425 jefferson ave staten island, NY 10306-5430

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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ibrahim kurtulus

From: Sent: To: Subject: fatma120@aol.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:32 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Fatma Aldas Staten Island New York, NY 10308

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Fatma

From:raorg309@yahoo.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:17 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Rana Haciyeva Carra street Gladewater, TX 75647

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Rana Haciyeva

From: Sent: To: Subject: info@globaltradesltd.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 11:12 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Esmaal Khalilpour 958 Edwards Ferry Rd Leesburg, VA 20176-3324

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Esmaal Khalilpour

From:dikarsan@sbcglobal.netSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:47 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Demir Karsan 613 Rancho Bauer Houston, TX 77079-6821

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Demir Karsan

From:utkuekin@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:42 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Utku Ekin 325 N. 15th Street 1103B Philadelphia, PA 19102-1013

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well-documen ted and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khoja ly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Utku Ekin

From:cxbayrak@ualr.eduSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:47 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Coskun Bayrak 124 Grenoble Circle Maumelle, AR 72113-6893

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Dr. C. Bayrak

From:nijat1989@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:57 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Nijat Worley 19 E Centre St. Baltimore, MD 21202-2365

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Nijat Worley

From: Sent: To: Subject: elhavina@aol.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:12 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Zelda Elcin 2264 79th Street Brooklyn, NY 11214-2005

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Zelda Elcin

To:

From: acinar1@gmail.com Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:32 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13 Subject:

Ali Cinar 279 gorge rd Cliffside park, NJ 07010-1317

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Ali Cinar

From: Sent: To: Subject: dbalakis@phys.ufl.edu Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:52 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Durdana Balakishiyeva 3700 Windmeadows Blvd, Y257 Gainesville, FL 32608-0432

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Durdana Balakishiyeva

From:omurtag@rmu.eduSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:22 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Yildirim omurtag 210 Kenrich Drive Moon Township, PA 15108-1090

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Yildirim "Bill" Omurtag 3143941346/412
From:duzkale@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 11:12 AMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Hatice Duzkale 5814 Washington Blvd. Arlington, VA 22205-2906

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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From:	cshahbazzade@gmail.com
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:22 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Subject:	Testimony in support of HR 13

Chimnaz Shahbazzade 300 Gooding Way # 343 Albany, CA 94706-1950

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Chimnaz Shahbazzade

From:	n.abilov@yahoo.com
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:37 AM
То:	vmitestimony
Subject:	Testimony in support of HR 13

Nemat Abilov 12660 STAFFORD RD APT 714 STAFFORD, TX 77477-3551

February 11, 2014

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Kayihan Duzkale 5814 Washington blvd Arlington, VA 22205-2906

February 11, 2014

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kayihan Duzkale

Written Statement of Your Name

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFIARS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

February 12, 2014, 8:30AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

- To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee
- Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments reflecting my **<u>strong</u> <u>opposition</u>** to **H.R. NO. 13.**

The assertions made within this **resolution include blatant misrepresentations and false statements** regarding the historical background of Nagorno-Karabakh as well as the circumstances surrounding the events at Khojaly. The resolution attempts to portray the aggressor of the Nagorno-Karabakh War—Azerbaijan—in the most favorable light, with no regard for the truth.

The Khojaly tragedy was the unfortunate consequence of a horrific war started by Azerbaijan against the civilian population of the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. **This conflict was initiated by Azerbaijan in response to the peaceful demands of the people of Karabakh for the right to self-determination**. Azerbaijan's response to this peaceful referendum was to indiscriminately massacre the Armenian population in Sumgait, Baku, Kirovabad, and elsewhere from February 1988 through 1991. These orchestrated and barbaric massacres, during which thousands of Armenians were maimed, raped, mutilated, and killed as Azerbaijani police stood by and watched, created over 500,000 Armenian refugees

Azerbaijan was its own aggressor in Khojaly. The Armenians chose to defend themselves, rather than die in the mercy of those that so viciously annihilated their people from 1988-1991. The Armenians were outnumbered, they were outgunned, and they were out-maneuvered. In 1991 and early 1992, Azerbaijan used the Azeri inhabited village of Khojaly in Nagorno Karabakh as a launching pad for indiscriminate artillery and rocket fire on Stepanakert, the capital of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic (NKR). By the end of February 1992, intensive fire from Khojaly and other Azeri military strongholds in Karabakh had killed 243 people, including 14 children and 37 women, and wounded 491, including 53 children and 70 women.

Systematic and intense artillery and rocket fire against civilian targets in Stepanakert paralyzed the city, destroying hospitals, administrative buildings, schools, and homes. By controlling Khojaly, Azerbaijan also prohibited access to Karabakh's airport, the only link with the outside world, which was used to bring food and medical aid. Furthermore, Khojaly was also used as a staging area for military offensives on Stepanakert and nearby Armenian-populated villages. Thus, Khojaly became a legitimate military target for Self-Defense Forces of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic.

The operation to neutralize Khojaly base of the Azeri armed forces began on February 25 and was successfully completed within five hours. Nagorno Karabakh forces took full control of the area, killing dozens of military personnel during the operation. Unfortunately, 11 civilians became unintended victims. About 700 civilians and military surrendered to NKR Self-Defense Forces. The captured civilians were returned to Azerbaijan in the following days, while the military personnel was later exchange for the Armenian military prisoners and civilian hostages held by Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan continues to be the aggressor to this day by refusing to negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and by continuously violating the cease-fire order by the U.N. Security Council. Azerbaijan most recently violated the cease-fire February 8th of this month, after having shot and killed an Armenian man earlier this year on January 28th in another cease-fire violation. Just days earlier, Azerbaijan had launched sporadic attacks in the direction of several village in the Tavush Region, seriously wounding a 16-year-old Lianna Anikyan while she was studying in her room.

I ask that you please vote in opposition to this resolution, as it severely misrepresents documented historic fact, presents only Azerbaijan's alleged narrative of what happened in Khojaly, and presents a narrow view of the past.

On behalf of the Armenian-American community of Hawaii, I ask that you please oppose this resolution. The sides should not be busy re-writing history or using politics to gain an advantage, but instead should be focusing on ways to achieve lasting peace and security in the region. Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elen Asatryan Executive Director

From: Sent: To: Subject: tomris1@verizon.net Tuesday, February 11, 2014 1:17 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Tomris Azeri 20 Skyview Terrace Clifton, NJ 07013-1382

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Tomris Azeri 973 523-1151

From:grafiga@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 2:27 PMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Rachel Korban 15886 Camo Bluff Fountain Valley, CA 92708-1105

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

The tragic events in Khojaly are well-documen ted and there is a general consensus on it is being the most brutal event in the conflict. In addition to various reports by leading international media and human rights groups, a noted Armenian writer Markar Melkonian describes the terrifying aftermath of the massacre, while Armenia's current leader and former defense minister, Serj Sarkissian, told a British journalist in a widely publicized interview that the objective of the Khoja ly massacre was to produce fear among the Azerbaijani population.

The future of the Armenian and Azerbaijani people should not be defined by massacres such as Khojaly! As the United States is working to bring about peace between the two nations, we need to make sure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future. We have learned from history that the best way to prevent the future tragedies is to recognize the ones that, unfortunately, have happened. This is important for our friends in Azerbaijan and, I believe, for our friends in Armenia.

The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Rachel Korban +16479075511

From:latafet@hotmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 1:47 PMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Latafet Ibrahimova 545 Darrell RD Hillsborough, CA 94010-6711

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Latafet Ibrahimova

From:namus1@verizon.netSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 2:27 PMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Namus Zokhrabov 3747 sepulveda blvd Los Angeles, CA 90034-6870

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Namus Zokhrabov

From:taac.sacramento@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 2:07 PMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

Berk E. 626 dodds drive Woodland, CA 95776-4258

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Berk E.

From: Sent: To: Subject: demiral@edinboro.edu Tuesday, February 11, 2014 11:17 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Sezai Demiral 138 Harrison Dr. Edinboro, PA 16412-2242

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Sezai Demiral 814 - 734 1310

From:	elsevarm@hotmail.com
Sent:	Tuesday, February 11, 2014 1:17 PM
То:	vmitestimony
Subject:	Testimony in support of HR 13

Elsevar Musayev 1335 Montecito Ave, Apt 29 Mountain View, CA 94043-4541

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Elsevar Musayev 650 691 3065

From: Sent: To: Subject: grafiga@gmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 2:27 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Rachel Korban 15886 Camo Bluff Fountain Valley, CA 92708-1105

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Rachel Korban +16479075511

From:igamidov@gmail.comSent:Tuesday, February 11, 2014 2:27 PMTo:vmitestimonySubject:Testimony in support of HR 13

ilham Gamidov 1000 Blossom river way 511 San Jose, CA 95123-6345

February 11, 2014

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llham

Written Statement of Eric Roubentz

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFIARS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

IN OPPOSITION TO:

H.R. NO. 13 Recognizing February 26, 2014, as the 22nd Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy in Azerbaijan.

To: Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Committee

Re: Testimony in Opposition to H.R. NO. 13

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments reflecting my **strong opposition** to **H.R. NO. 13.**

The statements offered within this resolution are one-sided, out-of-context, and attempt to manipulate historic fact in favor of the true aggressor of the Nagorno-Karabakh War, Azerbaijan.

The Khojaly tragedy was the unfortunate consequence of a horrific war started by Azerbaijan against the civilian population of the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. **This conflict was initiated by Azerbaijan in response to the peaceful demands of the people of Karabakh for the right to self-determination which was happened strictly in accordance to the regulations and law**. Azerbaijan's response to this peaceful referendum was to indiscriminately massacre the Armenian population in Sumgait, Baku, Kirovabad, and elsewhere from February 1988 through 1991.

These orchestrated and barbaric massacres, during which thousands of Armenians were maimed, raped, mutilated, and killed as Azerbaijani police stood by and watched, created over 500,000 Armenian refugees (many orphaned). These massacres escalated to such vile brutality on the part of the Azerbaijanis that pregnant Armenian women were targets for rape and death, newborn Armenian babies were burned to death, and men were mutilated and tortured to the point of death.

Azerbaijan was its own aggressor in Khojaly. Starting 1991, Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh's capital city) and adjacent Armenian communities were sustaining daily massive artillery fire by Azerbaijani forces. The shelling of the NKR cities was carried out using "Alazan" and "Kristal" combat rocket launchers, as well as BM-21 'Grad' Multiple Launcher Rocket System vehicles, the use of which is prohibited against civilians. In 1992, while heavy artillery fire continued, Azerbaijan blockaded all routes to the independent republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. The region and its people were left without fuel, electricity, water, and food supplies.

Khojaly, the location of Nagorno-Karabakh's sole airport, was one of six positions being used in the months-long offensive by Azerbaijan. The only way of saving the inhabitants from the fate decreed for them by the authorities in Baku — that they die from cold and hunger — was to launch a military operation aimed at bringing an end to the siege and heavy artillery fi re. The Armenians chose to defend themselves, rather than die in the mercy of those that so viciously annihilated their people from 1988-1991. The Armenians were outnumbered, they were outgunned, and they were out-maneuvered.

Azerbaijan continues to be the aggressor to this day by refusing to negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and by continuously violating the cease-fire order by the U.N. Security Council. Azerbaijan most recently violated the cease-fire February 8th of this month, after having shot and killed an Armenian man earlier this year on January 28th in another cease-fire violation.

I ask that you please vote in opposition to this resolution, as it severely misrepresents documented historic fact, presents only Azerbaijan's alleged narrative of what happened in Khojaly, and presents a narrow view of the past.

Eric Roubentz Volvo of Honolulu President 704 Ala Moana Blvd. Honolulu, HI 96813

From: Sent: To: Subject: omer@turkiye.net Tuesday, February 11, 2014 1:57 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Omer Komili 7127 Hollister Ave Suite 25A-150 Goleta, CA 93117-2859

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Omer Komili 949-874-4438

TESTIMONY OF CHRIS LETHEM IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 13 WEDNESDAY, 02-12-14 8:30AM IN CONFERENCE ROOM 312 COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS REP. K. MARK TAKAI, CHAIR REP. KEN ITO, VICE CHAIR

Dear Chair Mark Takai and members of the Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs and the Arts. As a former U.S. Marine having lived in a multitude of countries throughout the world I find that it is important to reflect on tragedies that have sparked long term conflicts. The Massacre at Khojaly is an historic example of such an event.

During the month of February in 1992, Armenian armed forces accompanied by Russian military troops occupied the town of Khojaly in Azerbaijan. According to Human Rights Watch, the tragedy struck when "a large column of residents, accompanied by a few dozen retreating fighters, fled the city as it fell to Armenian forces. As they approached the border with Azerbaijan, they came across an Armenian military post and were fired upon.

The site of the mass killing of Khojaly inhabitants was filmed on videotape by Azerbaijani journalist Chingiz Mustafayev. He was accompanied by the Russian journalist Yuri Romanov during the first helicopter flight to the scene of the tragedy.

Khojaly Massacre was recognized and commemorated by a number of international organizations and US states, and memorials were created in various locations around the globe. Organization of Islamic Cooperation called Khojaly events "crime against humanity" with consensus of all members and recognized it as genocide.

Khojaly massacre has also been recognized and commemorated at various levels in a number of US states, including the states of Massachusetts, New Jersey, Texas, Georgia, Maine, New Mexico, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, West Virginia, Connecticut and Florida.

This resolution would simply add Hawaii to the list of states above.

Thank you

Chris Lethem

From: Sent: To: Subject: adishovajamilya@hotmail.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 5:12 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Jamila Scheve adishovajamilya@hotmail.com Anchorage, AK 99515

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.



Jamila Scheve

From: Sent: To: Subject: n.m.kazan@comcast.net Tuesday, February 11, 2014 5:22 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Meral Kazan 1450 kearney rd ann arbor, MI 48104-4062



February 11, 2014

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Meral Kazan

From: Sent: To: Subject: fuad@javadov.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 5:22 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13 LATE

Fuad Javadov 15114 Sherman Way, Suite 101 Van Nuys, CA 91405-2085

February 11, 2014

VMI Committee

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The Khojaly Tragedy has so far been recognized by the parliaments of Turkey, Pakistan and Mexico. Moreover, US states including New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as the international Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have adopted resolutions recognizing the Khojaly Tragedy.

Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Fuad Javadov

From: Sent: To: Subject: iscakir@yahoo.com Wednesday, February 12, 2014 1:52 AM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Isfendiyar Cakir 13815 97th. ave Kirkland, WA 98034-1812

February 12, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

70 elderly persons and 1,275 peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. The tragedy of Khojaly has become the symbol of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in which some 30 000 people, mostly Azerbaijanis, died.

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.



Isfendiyar Cakir

From: Sent: To: Subject: ibrahimozturk13@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:07 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

ibrahim ozturk 1401 opal ct Raleigh, NC 27615-2897

February 12, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.



ibrahim ozturk

From: Sent: To: Subject: jjgunyuz@yahoo.com Tuesday, February 11, 2014 7:57 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13 LATE

Jamie Gunyuz 17602 N. Buntline Drive Sun City West, AZ 85375-5148

February 12, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Therefore, I kindly urge you to join the other states to acknowledge the tragedy of Khojaly.

Jamie Gunyuz

From: Sent: To: Subject: uguneyi@sbcglobal.net Tuesday, February 11, 2014 8:02 PM vmitestimony Testimony in support of HR 13

Umit Guneyi 3025 Socrates Drive Reno, NV 89512-4505

February 12, 2014

VMI Committee

Dear VMI Committee:

The Tragedy on February 26, 1992 in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly is the most tragic page of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Human Rights Watch report described the event in Khojaly as "the largest tragedy to date in the conflict." There are multiple survivors who testified to their personal and family tragedies. As a result of an attack on Khojaly by Armenian armed forces and their collaborators some 613 Azerbaijani civilians lost their lives, including 106 women, 63 small children, and

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Umit Guneyi (775) 786-2311