

are to take it for granted that we of the West are saints, then no Turk is any good. You will agree with me, no doubt, that the Turks count among the few gentlemen still in existence... I do not want you to look upon this as a declaration of war. My purpose in mentioning these matters is to let you know that there is at least one human being not afraid to break a lance with an ex-ambassador of the United States. **Ultimately truth will prevail...**"¹⁰

There is much more to be said about Ambassador Morgenthau's Story, but space does not allow it here. However, as you can see, dear reader, as only one of the very few witnesses to Morgenthau's efforts, Schreiner's letter and a comparison between the facts as recorded in Morgenthau's 'Diary' and 'Letters' and the text of **Ambassador Morgenthau's Story** together clearly illustrate the fact that **the book is a fictionalized account woven around real events and real characters in such a manner as to give it the gloss of factual history**. And the matter does not end there. He was the person from whom all the wartime atrocity books relating to the Turkish treatment of Armenians flooded the market place. Through his role as a conduit for material flowing to the German Lepsius and England's Lord Bryce and Arnold Toynbee, et. al., Henry Morgenthau, Sr., was a major factor in the shaping of American public opinion vis-à-vis Turks and Armenian long before he ever approached President Wilson late in 1917 with the project which ultimately became Ambassador Morgenthau's Story. That such an important book has not until Heath Lowry's monograph (from which most of the material here was thankfully taken) ever been the subject of a single published study, would be inconceivable in any historical field except that narrow subfield know as 'Turco-Armenian History,' where all too often, raw emotion serves as a substitute for dispassionate scholarship, and propaganda passes for history. As Lowry states "One cannot help but wonder how many of the young Armenians who turned to the terrorist assassinations of Turkish officials (and bystanders) in the 1970's and early 1980's, were influenced by reading Ambassador Morgenthau's Story?¹⁴ One would have hoped that the duty of scholars would be to find, nourish and preserve truth, and that they not help perpetuate hate by disseminating fantasy as fact and outright lies as truth, as some of them do. Henry Morgenthau, Sr., has been dead for sixty-four years. "It is long past the time that his book should likewise be laid to rest. His legacy rightfully lies in the 'Diary,' his family 'Letters' and his cabled dispatches and written reports in the form of letters submitted to the U.S. Department of State during his twenty-six month stay in Turkey. They, and they alone, are the real Ambassador Morgenthau's Story"¹⁵, not the book **Ambassador Morgenthau's Story**.

End Notes:

1. Morgenthau, H., Ambassador Morgenthau's Story, Doubleday, Page & Company, Garden City, NY, 1918.
2. Shaw, S. J., History of the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey, Vol. II, Cambridge University Press, 1977, p. 315.
3. Lowry, H. W., The Story Behind Ambassador Morgenthau's Story, The Isis Press, Istanbul, Turkey, 1990.
4. *Ibid*, p. 69
5. *Ibid*, p. 70
6. *Ibid*, p. ??
7. Lowry, H. W., "American Observers in Anatolia CA. 1920: The Bristol Papers, P.2. (??)
8. Lewy, Guenter, The Armenian Massacres in Ottoman Turkey, The University of Utah Press, 2005, p. 140
9. Lowry, *Ibid*., p. 9
10. Lewy, *Ibid*., p. 141;
11. Lowry, *Ibid*., p. 23; 12. *Ibid*, p. 29; 13. *Ibid*, pp. 61-63; 14. *Ibid*., p. 79; 15. *Ibid*.

ARMENIAN FABRICATIONS

HENRY MORGENTHAU, SR.. WAS HE, OR WASN'T HE

- well-known for bad-mouthing the Turks?
- not the real author of his Memoirs?
- not an eye- witness to the events of 1915?
- propagandistic in trying to foster support for World War I, and
- freely indulging in exaggerations and distortions in his Memoirs,



Ambassador Morgenthau's Story¹,

and irresponsible speeches too.....

The Ethics-Challenged
Henry Morgenthau, Sr.

<http://tallarmeniantale.com/>

THE ANSWER TO ALL THESE QUESTIONS IS A
RESOUNDING **YES! HE WAS!** !

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE TURN THE PAGE...

... while keeping in mind that Morgenthau's book would like us to believe that the Armenians in the Ottoman lands were all marked for death. But, we know that for war time treasonous acts and logistical reasons, the Ottoman government decided to relocate the Armenians to a different part of the country, neither to imprison nor to kill them. "Strict orders were given by the Ottoman authorities to local officials to protect them during the relocation process."² Some of the Turkish officials that disobeyed this order were tried, imprisoned and some even executed. Would Hitler have put German authorities on trial and condemn them to imprisonment and death for mistreating the Jews who were being transported for any reason at all to various places in Germany, France or Poland and other countries under German control? ...

SO, WHAT IS WITH THE BOOK- Ambassador Morgenthau's Story? As Professor Heath W. Lowry observes in his monograph The Story Behind Ambassador Morgenthau's Story³, "Were this book to have remained simply the memoirs of a successful real-estate developer, turned campaign fund-raiser, who was rewarded for his efforts not with the cabinet post of Secretary of the Treasury, which he sought, but with the lesser political plum of Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, we could forget Henry Morgenthau, Sr. [1856-1946] as the world would have done close to a century ago."⁴ But, this is not the case, as Lowry reminds us. In 2010, ninety-two years after its initial appearance, Ambassador Morgenthau's Story is still in print. Just this year, it was repeatedly cited on the floors of the U. S. Congress, by a host of well-meaning Senators, as proof that the Young Turk Government planned and carried out so-called 'genocide' against its Armenian minority. Lowry goes on to say that "Currently, a number of 'Genocide and Holocaust Studies Curricula Guides' which are in use in high schools in the U. S. expose students to passages from the book as furnishing examples of the twisted minds that can plan and perpetrate a genocide, etc."⁵ In short, far from having found the well-earned rest it serves, Ambassador Morgenthau's Story remains today a lynch pin in the body of literature which has and continues to present the Turkish as some of the unrepentant genocidal villains of history. We believe in this country in the adage that says "innocent until proven guilty." So, dear reader, please read on and let us together put an end to the endless fabrications that have been the fabric, if not the wool, that some Armenians have been pulling over the eyes of the innocent public starting with Morgenthau's real story...

SO, WHAT KIND OF A MAN WAS THE AMBASSADOR? Firstly, let us keep in mind Morgenthau's own quote: "my opinion can have little value."⁶ That truism can be applied to the bulk of Morgenthau's opinions on record. But Armenians have put unquestioned value to what he has said, because Henry Morgenthau, Sr., "was a confirmed 'Turcophobe' whose hatred for the Turks was matched only by his unabashed support for the Christian minorities under Ottoman rule."⁷ Furthermore, the Ottoman Empire was the perfect scape-goat to goad the U. S. into joining WW I by vilifying the Ottoman Empire, an enemy of the Triple Entente. In a letter Morgenthau wrote to President Wilson on 26 November 1917, he said, " I am considering writing a book in which I would lay bare, not only Germanys' permeation of Turkey and the Balkans,.....For in Turkey we see the evil spirit of Germany at its worst..."⁸ Lowry argues that Morgenthau's propagandistic purpose to foster U.S. support for the war effort explains the exaggerations and distortions in his writings and speeches, which unfortunately are visible today and form the basis for the unfounded belief that the Young Turk government of the Ottoman Empire perpetrated a premeditated massacre of its Armenian minority under the cover of World War I.

Armenian spokespersons consistently refer to Morgenthau's statements as proof, in their pursuit to convince politicians that a so-called genocide occurred throughout Anatolia of the Ottoman Empire. And yet, in his tenure, Mr. Morgenthau never left Istanbul, and in fact, Morgenthau himself acknowledged that he never visited eastern Anatolia and he let his Armenian aide shape up his diplomatic propaganda against the Ottoman Empire when he says: ***"I have really found it impossible to sit down and dictate a letter quietly. So I have instructed Andonian to take my diary and copy it with some elaborations of his own. Of course this relieves me of all responsibility for any error."***⁹

SO, WHOSE 'STORY' IS IT? we might ask, as Heath Lowry rightly asks in his book The Story Behind Ambassador Morgenthau' Story. Luckily, we have two collections of surviving Morgenthau papers, one housed in the Library of Congress in Washington D.C., and the other in the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library in Hyde Park, New York. As vociferous or voluble as we may describe him in his pronouncements, we find Ambassador Morgenthau quite candid in what he wrote in his 'Diary,' and lengthy 'Letters' during his tenure as ambassador to the Ottoman Empire for approximately 26 months from November 1913 until February 1916. These 'Diary' and 'Letters' formed the skeletal framework upon which the finished product, Ambassador Morgenthau' Story, was hung. The book records long conversations put into quotation marks, which include purported statements made by Turkish or German officials; however, with few exceptions, no such verbatim comments appear in the sources i.e., in the "Diary," and "Letters" written by Morgenthau. "The use of this literary device," as Gunter Lewy points out in his book The Armenian Massacres in Ottoman History, "designed to make the words put into the mouths of the various players more believable, apparently was the brainchild of the journalist Burton J. Hendrick, who ghost-wrote the book"¹⁰ (that is, he was the real author of the book) and received a share of the royalties. Morgenthau, who knew neither Turkish nor French, also relied heavily on the assistance of this Armenian secretary, Hagop S. Andonian, who followed him to the United States and lived with him while the book was under preparation. Another key figure in the writing of the book was Morgenthau's interpreter in Istanbul, Arshag K. Schmavonian. The memoir, Lowry concludes, was less a personal memoir than "a memoir by committee as it were," a work that bears "only a cursory relationship to what was actually experienced by Henry Morgenthau, Sr. during his tenure in Turkey."¹¹

SO, WE ASK THE QUESTION: How much of Ambassador Morgenthau's Story which does not originate from the "Diary" or "Letters" comes from the fertile journalistic imagination of Burton J. Hendrick, and how much of it was invented by Morgenthau in support of his aim of writing a sensational book damning the Turks and Germans and thereby stirring up support for the war among his fellow Americans? There are many examples given in a case study presented in Chapter IV¹² of Lowry's monograph cited above.

Dear reader, you might ask, so what? Well, those are only the tip of the iceberg. There are many other such inconsistencies and distortions as it was known even by Morgenthau's own contemporaries and yet still perpetuated by today's Diaspora Armenians.

A case in point is a letter- fortuitously preserved among the Morgenthau papers in the Roosevelt Library mentioned above, addressed to the Ambassador by George A. Schreiner- which shows that at least one of his contemporaries took strong exception to his efforts. Morgenthau refers to Schreiner as "the well-known American correspondent of the 'Associated Press.'" Schreiner, whose letter to Morgenthau was occasioned by a chance meeting in the State Department (in December 1918) as well as by the fact that he had recently read Ambassador Morgenthau's Story addressed him in the following terms:

"... I am writing this letter under the impression that the peace of the worlds will not gain by such extravagant efforts as yours... In the interest of truth I will also affirm that you saw little of the cruelty you hasten upon the Turks...To be perfectly frank with you, I cannot applaud your efforts to make the Turk the worst being on earth... Of course, if we