

DAVUTOGLU COMES TO TOWN

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 **Keghart.com Editorial Board**, 10 September 2012 

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People following the Turkish and Canadian foreign ministry's secret maneuverings to keep under wraps (literally) the genesis, construction and erection of the monument have wondered about the plaque text. Was it being revised to respond to the winds of change? Was it being feverishly edited due to pressure from politicians, federal bureaucrats, Armenians, the Turkish embassy? And did Canada send the text to editor Davutoglu for his seal of approval?

As expected, the August 26 Attila commemoration, the prelude to the unveiling of the metal and wood monument, was attended by a mostly Turkish crowd. The pseudo event was festooned with the blood-red Turkish flag and banners. Of course, there were the hypocritical harangues and crocodile tears.

Meanwhile Canadian-Armenians are wondering whether the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) would extend its interrogations of Armenians from Montreal to Toronto, Canada's biggest city. Montreal Armenians interviewed by RCMP officials remain reluctant about discussing the nature of these "interviews."

An important development to the Attila operation is the manner in which Turkish community leaders orchestrated their so-called commemoration of Attila's death. Although the culprit(s) of the Attila

killing were not arrested or identified, there was a billowing and objectionable banner at the Turkish gathering. Emblazoned at its centre was the word TERROR in Turkish-red and in capital letters. Wink, wink; nudge, nudge... guess to whom were the Turks referring? Certainly not to Tala'at, Enver, Jemal, and Mustafa Kemal, the Four Horsemen of the Genocide of Armenians. That's for sure.

This irresponsible Turkish photo-op might have made Canada's foreign ministry more circumspect about the plaque text. Indeed, the banner is a crystal-clear indication that the made-in-Turkey, Turkey financed, transported free of charge by the Turkish Airlines "monument" is intended to be a permanent symbol of anti-Armenian propaganda devised by the globe-trotting Turkish foreign minister and his mignons at the Ottawa embassy.

The Turkish hate banner underlines Canada's folly in bowing to Ankara's will and in ceding part of our national park to the dissemination of hate propaganda by a foreign government. The main blame for the hate banners, of course, lies with the Turkish embassy in our country: it initiated the monument project and lobbied for it. The blame lies with the Turkish embassy in Ottawa because, for years, it has been ground-zero of anti-Armenian propaganda in Canada. There's no point in listing Ankara's anti-Armenian projects in this country: the Canadian government knows all too well about the Turkish ambassadors' red hand in clandestine operations... in devising, funding, propagating Turkey's racist rants.

A key question that Canada government should answer is this: knowing the mindset of Turkey's diplomats in Canada and Turkey's animosity toward Armenians, why did Ottawa take the unprecedented act of ceding part of our territory for the advancement of a foreign government's falsehoods?

Canadian-Armenians should condemn the pretend-monument in a Canadian park. The Canadian-Armenian lobby, together with Greeks, Cypriots and Kurds, should protest Davutoglu's presence in our capital. Along with these victims of Turkish terror, Armenians should condemn the naiveté of Canada's foreign ministry, and Canada's Boy Scouts R Us handling of this diplomatic debacle. Armenians should expose how the monument promotes divisiveness—nay, hatred—among Canadian-Armenians and Turks, and how the monument can make Canadian-Armenians hate targets in this country. No government which espouses amity and cooperation among its diverse cultural, religious, ethnic groups should have been seduced by Turkey's sweet-talking Ottawa man in black-striped pants. The collective protest would be a legitimate response to the hateful shenanigans of the Turkish embassy and major domo Davutoglu. Armenians and righteous people should eviscerate Turkey's expensive conspiracy with the truth: Turkey, failing to eliminate the Armenian nation (1915 to 1923) is now harassing the Canadian descendants of the Armenian martyrs who fell under the Turkish sword, and it is out to erase Armenia from the map to revive its long dream of a contiguous Turkic land mass from Istanbul to the Chinese border.

Last week hundreds of Canadian-Armenian youth travelled to Ottawa to demonstrate against the

Azeri and Hungarian embassies. They, other Armenians, in addition to Cypriots, Greeks and Kurds, should now head to Ottawa to demonstrate against Davutoglu, the sham monument, and Ankara's foreign and domestic policies.

