IT'S 2010, ALREADY

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Avedis Kevorkian, Philadelphia, PA USA, 26 September 2009

According to a report in the New York Times, President Medz Yeghern has apparently begun his campaign for the 2010 elections, as a prelude to his re-election bid in 2012.

The report said (in part): ". . .this is a White House willing to use its clout to help clear the field for favored Democratic candidates and to direct money and other resources in the way it thinks will most benefit the administration and help preserve the Democrats' majority in Congress."

This should now send signals to all Armenians in America to begin their own campaign to vote Republican next year. If President Yeghern loses control of the Congress, he and his staff will want to know why. Perhaps an honest member of the staff (surely, there must be one!) will say: "We lost seats in the states where the Armenians are most congregated." If someone asks the significance, the reply will be, "Because the President didn't keep his promise about recognizing the Armenian Genocide."

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This campaign also includes donations to the Republican Party. In the words of Mark Hanna, who is credited with buying the 1896 election for William McKinley: "There are two things that are important in politics. The first one is money. I can't remember what the second one is." If politicians can see that the Armenians will support their campaign with money, they will listen. For too long have the Armenians been moaners and whiners--"Our cause is just, please vote for it." President Yeghern's insult should be the cause for a change of attitude among the Armenians.

Of course, this assumes that in April 2010, President Yeghern will keep his promise to his Turkish masters and will again refuse to use the word "genocide," and will come up with some more weasel words.

Going on that assumption, the Armenians must accept that the time has come to say to politicians of both parties, "Enough is enough. We are mad as Hell, and we are going to vote you out."

"But," I hear you say, "the Republicans are no better at keeping promises." To which, I will reply, "We are not rewarding the Republicans for past performances. We are using them as messengers." After all, if they do take control of Congress, they, too, will want to know how and why. And, it is hoped that someone will note that they won seats where the Armenians live in large numbers. If they then try to connect the dots (as a current cliché has it), they will note that the Armenians were disappointed in President Yeghern's broken promise.

If one wants to dream a bit, we have a situation where the Democrats could then very well decide to use April 2011 and April 2012 to recognize the Genocide. And, dreaming on, the Republicans will say, "We have a chance to capture the White House if we use April 2011 and April 2012 to speak about the Genocide and pass resolutions in both Houses to that effect." There could well be a competition between the two parties as to which loves the Armenians more.

"But," I hear you say again, "we have many Democrat friends in both Houses. We don't want them to lose their seats." To which I will reply, "So what!" (Isn't that a profound statement? It will go into the books of quotations alongside General McAuliffe's.)

I will expand on that reply by saying that lip-service Democrats are more useless than no "friends" at all. What good have the Democrat "friends" done for the Armenians--other than to accept free lunches and free dinners as they receive Awards and Citations and Medals for being "friends." Have these Democrats convinced a Democrat President to keep his word? Have they threatened to vote against his health bill, for instance, unless he does?

If the victorious Republicans see that Armenian loyalty goes just so far, they may get a strong message.

But, much depends on the Armenian mind.

If someone spits in your face, there are two things that you can do. One is to beat the person to a bloody pulp. The other is to say "It's raining!"

For too long, the Armenians have been walking around with raincoats, rain-hats, umbrellas, and galoshes.