AGBU 1990/1991 ACTIVITIES

ARMENIA

The AGBU established full operations in Armenia in 1990. The Yerevan office, with a staff of three, satellite telephone, fax, computers and copiers, had daily communication with the Central Board of Directors and international chapters. Along with AGBU programs, the office serviced many foreign humanitarian organizations, local institutions, government officials and businesses through its direct telephone lines.

Three major programs were implemented in Armenia during 1990. The construction of a 10,000 ton cold food storage plant in Leninakan began with the shipment of 100 forty ft. crates of building materials and equipment through the port of Talinn, Estonia. The 60,000 sq. ft. modern facility, connected to rail lines for immediate delivery, is designed to preserve meat, chicken, butter, fruit and vegetables. The construction was awarded to the Intercool Company of Denmark and supervised by AGBU and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. The Government of Armenia provided the general labor force and all materials for the foundation. The project will be completed in early 1992 at a cost of \$5,000,000.

AGBU's second project, a Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Center (PRSC) in Yerevan, was a direct result of AGBU's earlier experience in the emergency airlift of earthquake victims for medical treatment in the United States. The new center, the first of its kind in Armenia, will be designed to treat patients in Armenia requiring reconstructive surgery, congenital and developmental anomalies, maxillofacial and hand trauma, breast/chest wall problems, head and neck neoplasms, skin tumors and radiation injuries. Twelve doctors and nurses from Armenia began their special one year training program in September, 1990, at Yale University Hospital, New Haven, Connecticut, under the supervision of Dr. Stephan Ariyan, Dr. Paul Barash and

Karen Camp, R.N. The Armenia team returned to Yerevan in September, 1991 to begin the design and renovation of the 22 bed center housed at the Mikaelyan Surgical and Scientific Hospital. Medical equipment, including anesthesia machines, compressors, vacuum pumps, x-ray units, sterilizers, surgical instruments, monitors, ventilators, special care beds, and pharmaceutical supplies will be shipped in 1992. The PRSC will provide patient services and will serve as the designated plastic and reconstructive surgery training center for the Yerevan Medical Institute. The PRSC is a project of the AGBU Armenia Medical Programs Department, directed by Regina Ohanyan, with major funding of \$2,700,000 from U.S. AID, the Howard Karagheusian Commemorative Corporation, Miss Leila Karagheusian and the AGBU District of France.

The third project, the American University of Armenia (AUA) was established in September, 1991. Sponsored by AGBU and affiliated with the University of California, AUA enrolled one hundred graduate students for a Masters Degree Program in business management and engineering. Study includes intensive English and computer application courses administered by the ÛCLA ESL division. Academic instruction is in English and all teaching staff is recruited from the United States. During 1991 the AGBU airlifted 500 cartons of supplies to AUA including textbooks, library books and a complete computer lab. AUA is located on Bagramian Street in Yerevan in an imposing building that includes classrooms, laboratories, library and full lecture and seminar facilities. Additional classes of 100 students per year will be enrolled each September. In 1991 the Papazian Family of Switzerland contributed \$1,000,000 to AGBU for the first AUA Endowment Fund. In honor of the gift the AUA Library will be designated in the Papazian name. AUA is administered by Dr. Mihran Agbabian, President, Dr. Armen Der Kiureghian, Dean of Engineering and Dr. Stepan Karamar-

The AGBU 10,000 ton Cold Food Storage Unit in construction in Gumairi (Leninakan).





AGBU PRSC Medical Staff (partial) in renovated Intensive Care Unit.







Dr. Mihran Agbabian, ADr. Stepan Karamardian and Dr. Armen Der Kiureghian accompany University of California representatives to Armenia, July 1990. Task Force included Wlliam Frazer, Sr., V.P. for Academic Affairs; Michael Bocchicchio, Asst. V.P. for Facilities Adm.; Karl Pister, Chancellor, Santa Cruz; Raymond Miles, former Dean of Bus. Adm., Berkeley; Frank Wazzan, Dean of Engineering, UCLA; Theony Condos, Spec. Asst. Int'l. Educ.; Lyman Porter, Prof. of Mgt., Irvine and John Marcum, Director-Educ. Abroad.

△ AUA applicants writing first part of their English entrance exam.

dian, Dean of Business Management. The annual budget is estimated at \$1,000,000.

Beginning in 1990, twelve graduate students from Armenia were selected to enter a Masters Degree program in Engineering, Business Management and Computer Science at the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. Upon graduation they will join the academic staff at the American University of Armenia.

Six college students from the University of Yerevan and the Economic Institute were chosen for a special six week summer introductory Business Management course at Bentley College, Waltham, Massachusetts. The sessions included field trips to local financial institutions, industries and businesses. The program was directed by Dr. Agnes Missirian.

AGBU sponsored a two month trip to the United States for Armenian Television host, Robert Mavisakalian and a two-man film crew. The video footage of American-Armenian personalities, institutions and organizations was edited for a five part documentary

aired on Armenia Television.

Computers, scanners and copiers were allocated to the Araratian Diocese of Armenia to publish a monthly religious newsletter and to prepare textbooks for a Bible study program in the public school system.

BUENOS AIRES/CORDOBA, ARGENTINA

The three hundred and thirty student Marie Manoogian Institute continues to be the center of activity for the Buenos Aires AGBU Chapter. Located in the five story AGBU community building on Armenia Street, the school and community building facilities attract thousands of participants during the year with cultural events, art exhibits, lectures, computer programs, sport and scout programs. Throughout the year the sold out Friday night "Armenian" dinners continue to generate great enthusiasm. Profits from the Friday dinners are used to subsidize the school's annual two week trip to Armenia for each graduating class.

The AGBU Cultural Center in Cordoba organized a full schedule of sports, social and artistic events for the Armenian community. The Cordoba



AGBU Marie Manoogian School students, Buenos Aires, Argentina.