

my interrogation in Yerevan, the inquisitions covered a wide range of issues, but without any formal accusation. Evidently, the Soviet Armenian National Security Service had no case against me and was trying to concoct something by breaking the “*nastayashchi* Dashnak” and making me say things they could use against me. That is truly against all standards of human rights or any acceptable conventions, but that is the Soviet judicial system.

During these “preliminary” cross-examinations, my interrogator and the other Chekists in attendance treated me politely, in a civilized manner, without inflicting any physical pain. Contrary to many Armenian prisoners whom I met in the labor camp, I did not experience the brutality and torture they had gone through.

My interrogator and I addressed each other as *Baron* [Mr.], which at least in appearance showed mutual respect. Significantly, Mr. Ghazaryan never used the derogatory term “Dashnak” but always “Dashnaktsutiun” or “HoHiDashnaktsutiun.” Perhaps my unyielding stance made him respect me and my Party. On many occasions, he told me stories of similar situations or brought up examples as if to encourage me to continue my unwavering posture. On one occasion, when I told him that my Party discipline and my principles did not allow me to answer a particular question, he retorted,

A Red Army officer was tortured by the Gestapo but he didn’t give in.

What do you expect? If a Russian refused to concede and revealed no secrets, how can an Armenian and a