



Adm. Guido Von Usedom

He [German Admiral Usedom] said that the Armenians were in the way, that they were an obstacle to German success, and that it had there fore been necessary to remove them, just like so much *useless lumber*. He spoke about them as detachedly as one would speak about removing a row of houses i n order to bombard a city.

Ambassador Morgenthau's Story by **Henry Morgenthau**

The Register

Adelaide: Tuesday, May 20, 1914
[Southern Australia]

**GERMANY AND THE ARMENIAN
MASSACRES.**

The character and extent of Ger-
many's relation to the massacre
of the Armenians are impress-
sively indicated in **the memoirs of Mr.**
Henry Morgenthau, the Am erican Am-
bassador at Constantinople for some
years prior to February, 1916 , when he
resigned and returned to Washington.
Still more brutally implacable

towards the Armenians was the **German Naval Attaché in Constantinople, Herr Humann, a personal emissary of the Kaiser.** In reply to American protests, Humann said the Turks had to protect themselves, and from that point of view they were entirely justified in treating the Armenians as they were doing. Various attempts were made to prevent Mr. Morgenthau publishing particulars of the crimes. While his son, Henry Morgenthau, jun., was on a visit to the Gallipoli Peninsula, **Gen. Lim an von Sanders (the German commander)** remarked to him:—**“Your father is making a great mistake in giving out the facts about what the Turks are doing to the Armenians. That really is not his business.”** A German Jew from Berlin, Dr. Nossig, apparently on behalf of the Embassy, waited twice on the Minister and advised him that his protests would be useless, and that the Turkish Government was contemplating asking for his recall. He added, “All of us Jews, are proud of what you, a Jew, have done, and we would hate to see your career end disastrously.” **Morgenthau retorted that he could think of no greater honour than to be sacrificed because he, a Jew, had been exerting all his powers to save the lives of hundreds of thousands of Christians!**

Mr. Morgenthau observes that when Turkey decided on the deportation and massacre of her subject peoples, especially the Armenians and Greeks, she signed her own economic death warrant. “These were people who controlled her industries and her finance and developed her agriculture, and the material consequences of this great national crime began to be everywhere apparent... As the

Armenians and Greeks were the largest taxpayers, their annihilation greatly reduced the State revenues, and the fact that practically all Turkish ports were blockaded shut off customs collections.” Regarding Germany’s war aims, the American Embassy was informed by **Enver Pasha** (who had been enlightened on the subject by **Gen. Falkenhayn**) that the **Kaiser’s** main purpose was to achieve the **Pan-German “Mit tel Europa” ambition** . The things on which the German leaders had definitely settled were the **dismemberment of Serbia** —which would practically disappear as an independent State—and a complete unhindered route from Berlin to Constantinople and the East. After finally leaving Turkey, Mr. Morgenthau journeyed to Copenhagen via Berlin. En route he obtained further light on the German attitude towards the Armenian massacres. **Admiral Use- dom**, who had been captain of the Kaiser’s yacht, the *Hohenzollern*, told him that the Armenians were in the way, that they were an obstacle to German success, and that it had, therefore, been necessary to remove them, just like so much **useless lumber** ! “One would never have guessed from his remarks that the lives of a million human beings had been involved.” Although he is a native of Germany (he was taken to America at the age of nine years by his parents), Mr. Morgenthau expresses deep abhorrence of Germany’s conduct in the war. The proof which he supplies of her passive acquiescence in the most extensive and demonical massacre of modern times, and the many independent records of her active policy of frightfulness on land and sea for four years, must have weighed heavily in the judg-

ment pronounced against Germany by
the Peace Conference .
