NYTimes oct 9 1974 Nixon Condescending To Armenian Doctor

LONG BEACH, Calif., Oct. 8 (AP)—A physician of Armenian heritage who met Richard M. Nixon at Memorial Hospital Medical Center of Long Beach said today that the former President suggested to him that he open an Armenian restaurant.

Dr. Robert Toumajian said that Mr. Nixon's remarks "bugged me a little" and said he regretted that he had not expressed his irritation to Mr. Nixon during their brief talk. Dr. Toumajian said he felt that Mr. Nixon probably meant no offense but said he thought he "was condescending."

"I feel that what he said was like saying to a black, 'You've come a long way from the cottonfield.' The stereotype of an Armenian is that you have to be cleaning rugs or running a restaurant," Dr. Toumajian said.