

necessary to spend many months exploring the region. Doubtless the best way to do this would be with a helicopter if the service of one could be secured. On the other hand, of course, even with the meager information available it is not impossible that a group might be able within two or three days to find the exact spot where the structure is in case it is still there.

If I know the Turkish language, and had credentials from the Turkish government which would be sufficient to protect me from interference or suspicion of being a spy in that border area, it would be a great pleasure for me to roam over the region and hunt out whatever might be there. I would enjoy spending many months doing this. However, my colleagues tell me that they do not feel that I would be justified in taking a period of months away from my work here at the Seminary unless I had pretty definite certainty of actually finding something at the end of the time. They say if it were possible to talk with someone of trustworthy character who had been there within the last year and was ready to say that he had personally seen something that impressed him as similar to the ark, one would have much more to go on.

One of them went so far as to make the suggestion that if an Armenian Christian could be found who had been brought up in the area and knew the customs and language, and who was rather sturdy and able to camp out and travel through rough country, it might be the best plan if he could be sent to the area to spend months there if necessary hunting to see if something could be found which seemed to him to at least bear a resemblance to the ark. Then if he were ready to certify that he had found something of this nature a small group of experts could go and verify it, and if they were satisfied a larger expedition could be invited to come and make a thorough examination. Of course, to carry out this plan it would be necessary to be sure that the agent was entirely trustworthy. It might be difficult to find such a person, and the only alternative might be that one or two would go from this country and ask the Turkish government to furnish them guides and interpreters for the hunt. As I said, it would give me great pleasure to be a member of such a party, but I doubt if I would be justified in taking the time from my work, unless first someone within this year had actually seen something there.

If you should be able to find the lieutenant who is said to have been in charge of the expedition thirty years ago, and talk with him personally, it is possible that the information he could give