

CSTO Chief Visits Armenian-Azeri Border

The Russian head of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) paid a first-ever visit to Armenian army positions on the border with Azerbaijan on October 7 more than two months after an upsurge in fighting in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone.

Accompanied by Armenian Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan, Nikolay Bordyuzha, the CSTO secretary general, met with Armenian soldiers guarding a section of the border with Azerbaijan's Nakhichevan and inspected their dugouts and fortifications.

Photographs released by the Armenian Defense Ministry showed the two men looking through binoculars towards the Azerbaijani side of the frontier. A ministry statement said an Armenian army general briefed them on the situation in the area and "preemptive actions" taken by his troops against ceasefire violations.

Bordyuzha visited the border section the day after meeting with President Serzh Sargsyan and hearing strong criticism of other ex-Soviet republics aligned in the Russian-led defense pact. Serzh



Sargsyan claimed that they emboldened Azerbaijan to escalate tensions on in the conflict zone in late July and early August.

Speaking to Armenian pro-government TV channels, Bordyuzha said he is glad that truce violations on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border and "line of contact" around Karabakh have declined dramatically since then. He also said that he is visiting the Armenian frontline troops in order to prepare a report on the situation on the ground.

According to the Defense Ministry statement, Ohanian praised Bordyuzha for the on-site inspection, saying that it will help Armenia and the CSTO leadership map out "possible steps dictated by the situation."

In recent years, the CSTO and its Moscow-based secretariat in particular have been increasingly criticized by Armenian opposition politicians, pundits and media have for not reacting to periodical escalations on the Armenian-Azerbaijani frontlines.

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Serzh Sargsyan criticizes CSTO allies over Karabakh

President Serzh Sargsyan has accused ex-Soviet states aligned in the Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) of failing to support Armenia and even aiding Azerbaijan in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Serzh Sargsyan launched the unusually scathing attack at a meeting with Nikolay Bordyuzha, the CSTO's visiting secretary general, held late on Monday, on October 6.

In a statement on the meeting, Sargsyan's press office said, "The president emphasized that the position of several CSTO partners, which is displayed on various international platforms on issues of fundamental interest to their allies and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in particular, does not correspond the overall spirit of the negotiation process, contradicts statements and proposals by the co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group as well as documents adopted within the CSTO framework."

"Ilham Aliyev's bellicose and Armenophobic statements do not receive an appropriate reaction from CSTO partners, which Serzh Sargsyan believes could have restrained the Azerbaijani leadership's adventurist ambitions," said the statement. "In the president's words, as a result, Azerbaijan continues to escalate the situation and take provocative actions, blatantly violating its commitment to the conflict's peaceful resolution."

It was not clear whether Sargsyan referred only to Central Asian states affiliated with the defense pact or Russia as well.

The Armenian leader has already slammed the CSTO's Turkic member states like Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan in the past. In September 2013, for example, he publicly criticized their presidents for signing up to a declaration of Turkic states that called for a Karabakh settlement "within Azerbaijan's internationally recognized borders."

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan well as another CSTO member, Tajikistan, had previously backed even more pro-Azerbaijani statements by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The grouping of more than 50 predominantly Muslim states has repeatedly condemned Armenian "aggression" against Azerbaijan.



Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev underlined his country's close ties with Azerbaijan in May when he publicly set a pro-Azerbaijani condition for Armenia's accession to the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU).

Sargsyan's latest criticism of Armenia's nominal Central Asian allies -- and possibly Russia as well -- came just three days before an EEU summit in Minsk during which he is expected to sign an accession treaty with the Russian-led union. The signing of the treaty, although very likely, is still not a forgone conclusion because of Kazakhstan's apparent misgivings about Armenian membership in the EEU.

Incidentally, Kazakhstan's First Deputy Foreign Minister Rapil Zhoshibayev visited Yerevan and met with Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian earlier on Monday. The Armenian Foreign Ministry said the two men agreed that Armenia's accession to the EEU "will open up new opportunities" for deepening relations between their nations.

According to Serzh Sargsyan's office, Bordyuzha's latest trip to Yerevan is "connected," among other things, with a recent upsurge in deadly truce violations in the conflict zone. Sargsyan was quoted as telling the CSTO chief that the fighting put at risk "the fragile security system formed in the CSTO's zone of responsibility."

Tension on the Armenian-Azerbaijani frontlines has eased substantially since Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted talks between Sargsyan and Aliyev on August 10.

Armenian President meets CoE Commissioner for Human Rights

President Serzh Sargsyan on October 7 received a delegation headed by the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe (CE) Nils Muiznieks, President's Press Office reported.

The president welcomed the guest and underscored that Armenia attaches great importance to the cooperation with the CE, the chief guarantor of human rights in Europe, and its support of continuous reforms implemented in our country. According to the president, the institute of CE Commissioner for Human Rights with which Armenia has traditionally promoted effective cooperation in a constructive and mutually beneficial environment plays a great role in all that. Serzh Sargsyan stated with satisfaction that during Mr. Muiznieks's tenure that collaboration continues and expressed confidence that the visit of the CE Commissioner for Human Rights to Armenia will give a new stimulus to the bilateral relations.

Nils Muiznieks noted that during his visits to various countries he puts the most important issues of the given country high on his

busy work agenda and concentrates upon them at corresponding meetings. Arriving in Armenia, they have decided to concentrate upon issues concerning judicial reforms and gender equality and fight against domestic violence. The CE Commissioner for Human Rights stressed that he is happy to learn these spheres have recorded some progress.

At the meeting the interlocutors touched upon the process of RA constitutional reforms, the implementation process of obligations assumed by Armenia after joining the CE, including reforms in a number of directions. The Armenian President noted that in recent years Armenia has made consistent and, more importantly, continuous reforms aimed at enhancing the principles of democracy, protection of human rights and the rule of law. Armenia has made considerable progress in fulfilling its membership obligations with the support of the CE which has yielded to tangible and permanent results.

Tsarukyan's party calls for regime change



Gagik Tsarukyan's Prosperous Armenia Party (BHK) for the first time explicitly added its voice to opposition calls for President Serzh Sargsyan's resignation on October 6 as it continued to prepare for a major anti-government rally in Yerevan.

Naira Zohrabyan, a senior BHK member and Tsarukyan aide, announced a further toughening of the party's stance at a rally held jointly with the Zharangutyun and Armenian National Congress (HAK) parties in the northern city of Vanadzor.

"The three forces standing on the podium may have differences on various issues but we are united on one issue: this government has led the country to ruin; this government has left the

country in deadlock; and this government must go. This is our common political agenda which has brought together the three political forces," Zohrabyan told about 1,000 people that gathered in Vanadzor's central square.

"Our problem is not a flawed constitution," she said in reference to Sargsyan's plans for constitutional reform. "Our problem is a flawed government that is thinking only about one thing: to continue its destructive policies for ten more years through constitutional changes."

The BHK, which was part of Sargsyan's governing coalition until May 2012, has been careful not to publicly demand regime change until now. Tsarukyan and his associates have even refrained from calling themselves an opposition party while intensifying their criticism of government policies.

The BHK signaled its readiness for an open confrontation with the Sargsyan administration when it embarked on a campaign of nationwide rallies with the more radical HAK and Zharangutyun late last month. The three parties are scheduled to hold a joint rally in Yerevan's Liberty Square on Friday. It is still not clear what they plan to do afterwards.

"Changes will definitely come about this time around," Mikael Melkumyan, another senior BHK figure, told the Vanadzor rally. "If the people have faith today, they will leave no stone unturned."

Ruling Party 'Not Worried' About Opposition Protests



Armenia's political leadership sees no serious threat to its hold on power emanating from nationwide rallies held by three leading opposition forces, a senior lawmaker from the ruling Republican Party (HHK) said on October 6.

Gagik Melikyan, the secretary of the HHK's parliamentary faction, insisted that Gagik Tsarukyan's Prosperous Armenian (BHK) will not strive for President Serzh Sargsyan's resignation and opt for nonstop rallies in support of that demand.

"There will simply be a rally in Yerevan on October 10. I don't think that it will mark the beginning of a push for

regime change because I see no grounds for that," Melikyan said, commenting on the ongoing campaign launched by the BHK and its more radical opposition allies, the Armenian National Congress (HAK) and the Zharangutyun parties.

Melikyan claimed that neither the BHK nor the majority of ordinary

Armenians wants to fight for regime change in the country. "The BHK is a more far-sighted political force, and it does realize that the public will not back such demands," he told RFE/RL.

Unlike the HAK and Zharangutyun, the BHK, which controls second largest faction in Armenia's parliament, has until now stopped short of demanding Sargsyan's exit. Still, its senior members are increasingly toughening their anti-government rhetoric in the three-party rallies that are taking place in various Armenian regions in preparation for Friday's big demonstration in Yerevan.

"We want radical changes," Mikael Melkumyan, a senior BHK figure, told hundreds of opposition supporters in the southern town of Ararat on Friday. "If that means regime change, then we are in favor of it."

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Government offers concessions to traders

The Armenian government moved to make concessions to scores of angry market traders on October 6 in response to their continuing street protests against new taxation rules introduced by it.

Prime Minister Abrahamyan instructed Finance Minister Gagik Khachatryan to draft relevant legal amendments after holding two more meetings with leaders of the traders in the space of several hours. Khachatryan also met them separately.

The four representatives of the protesters announced after the talks that they reached a compromise agreement relating to recent changes in an Armenian law on turnover tax, which is levied from businesses with annual sales of up to 58 million drams (\$140,000). The latter pay no other taxes.

The amended law, which took effect on October 1, lowered from 3.5 percent to 1 percent the turnover tax rate. However, it obligated the small business owners to provide tax authorities with documentary evidence of their wholesale purchases made from larger firms or face heavy fines.

The traders say that they cannot comply with this new requirements meant to complicate tax evasion because their suppliers usually refuse to issue them with receipts and invoices. Hundreds of them have demonstrated outside Abrahamian's office over the past two weeks. Angry protests have also been reported in other parts of the country.

"These protests will only intensify. They could become a Waterloo for these authorities," one trader in Yerevan told RFE/RL as the protest leaders met with Abrahamyan.

One of those leaders, Samson Grigoryan, told the crowd after



the first meeting with Abrahamyan that the government is taking its concerns seriously. "They say that they don't want small businesses to close down," he said. "They will do everything to find a solution to this dispute."

A government statement released late in the evening said the prime minister instructed Gagik Khachatryan to draft a number of amendments to the law on turnover tax within the next three days. It said that the amendments, if approved parliament, will extend from October 10 to next February a deadline for stock inventories which must now be conducted by the traders in a manner required by tax officials.

The finance minister was also given until the end of this month to propose ways of simplifying what the traders see as complicated procedures for complying with the new law.

Armenia, NATO Agree On 2015 Action Plan

Military officials from NATO and Armenia reportedly drew up on October 7 a plan of joint actions for next year highlighting Yerevan's intention to continue stepping up cooperation with the Western alliance.

The officials representing the Armenian Defense Ministry and NATO's Allied Command Operations center in Belgium reviewed their deepening ties during two-day "staff negotiations" held in Yerevan. In particular, they looked into the Armenian army's "educational needs for enhancing interoperability with NATO forces," according to a ministry statement issued after the talks.

The statement said that they "mapped out the main directions of cooperation in 2015-2016." They also worked out a "roadmap" for joint activities planned for next year, it said. No details of the plan were immediately made public.

Those activities stem from Armenia's Individual Partnership Action Plan (IPAP) with NATO that was launched a decade ago and has been repeatedly updated since then. Armenian officials



said early this year that a fresh version of the cooperation framework will be agreed upon by the end of 2014.

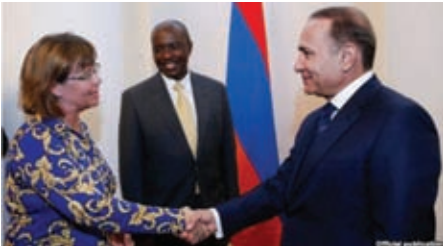
The IPAP commits Armenia to implementing defense reforms aimed at bringing its armed forces into greater conformity with NATO standards. It also calls for Armenian participation for NATO-led multinational military missions.

The Armenian government is sticking to the IPAP despite the West's deepening standoff with Russia, Armenia's main military ally, over the conflict in Ukraine. President Serzh Sargsyan underscored

this policy last month when he attended a NATO summit for the first time in more than five years.

Sargsyan's defense minister, Seyran Ohanyan, reaffirmed Yerevan's commitment to close cooperation with NATO shortly after the summit. He said that it is drawing no objections from Russia. Ohanian said the ties with NATO are helping Armenia to not only "modernize" its armed forces but also act as a bridge between the alliance and the Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO).

Russian-Led bloc not enough for robust growth, says World Bank



Membership in a Russian-led trade alliance alone will not speed up Armenia's economic development and needs to be complemented by closer commercial ties with Europe, the World Bank cautioned on October 3.

"Assume that Armenia does join the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) and fully exploits all of the opportunities there," said Laura Bailey, head of the bank's Yerevan office. "Is that enough for Armenia's economic growth? The World Bank would say no. We would say that Armenia should be more ambitious."

"After it has joined the EEU and fully exploited all the possibilities, Armenia should also see what other opportunities there are to continue to deepen and strengthen its trade relationships with member states in the European Union, even if they are not part of that formal partnership. It would be this ability to creatively exploit as many different markets as possible, without being locked into a bloc, that will determine the dynamism of Armenia's economy in the medium term," Bailey told RFE/RL's Armenian service in an interview.

"You have to choose where your primary markets are but don't ignore other markets," she said. "Imagine if a country in Asia had focused exclusively on the United States for the last 20 years and not noticed what was happening in China. Imagine how much they would have lost."

Armenia was on track to sign a far-reaching free trade deal with the EU until President Serzh Sargsyan unexpectedly decided last year to join Russia's customs union with Belarus and Kazakhstan, which

is currently transformed into the EEU. Serzh Sargsyan and his government say that membership in the EEU would earn Armenia significant economic benefits given its traditionally close ties with Russia, its single largest trading partner and main source of vital remittances from Armenian migrant workers. They have also argued that Russia will keep supplying natural gas to the South Caucasus nation at knockdown prices.

Domestic critics of Sargsyan's policy U-turn dismiss these arguments, saying that the Armenian government simply bowed to strong pressure that was exerted by Moscow for geopolitical reasons. They say that joining the Russian-led bloc could actually hurt the Armenian economy now that Russia is plunging into recession amid economic sanctions increasingly imposed by the West.

The International Monetary has revised downwards its growth outlook for Armenia, singling out the fallout from Russia's economic slowdown. A senior IMF official said earlier this week that Armenian growth will slow to around 2.6 percent this year.

Bailey came up with a virtually identical growth forecast, which is well below the Armenian government's most recent projections. She said that the World Bank expects growth to accelerate to 3.5 percent in 2015.

As well as stressing the economic importance of EEU membership, the authorities in Yerevan say that they remain committed to deepening ties with the EU, Armenia's main trading partner on aggregate. In particular, Sargsyan has repeatedly claimed that Armenia will become more attractive to Western investors seeking tariff-free access to the Russian market. "Armenia's integration into the Eurasian Economic Union opens up new horizons for foreign investors that could penetrate the common EEU market via the Armenian economic zone," he told a Greek-Armenian business forum in Yerevan on Tuesday.

Foreign Ministers of Armenia, France to discuss the details of Sargsyan-Aliyev meeting

The Foreign Ministers of Armenia and France Edward Nalbandian and Laurent Fabius will discuss the details of the forthcoming meeting of the Presidents of Armenia, Azerbaijan and France.

At the meeting scheduled for October 7 the Foreign Ministers will discuss the process of settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development said in a statement.

"During his visits to Baku and Yerevan in May of the current year President of France Francois Hollande offered his Armenian and Azerbaijani counterparts to meet in Paris in autumn to discuss ways of finding a solution to the Karabakh conflict. We are currently working in this direction. This issue will be on the agenda of the meeting between Laurent Fabius and Edward Nalbandian," the statement reads.

France's Bourg lès Valence, Artsakh's Shushi sign friendship declaration

On October 5, Artsvik Sargsyan, Mayor of Shushi, the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, and Marlene Mourier, Mayor of Bourg-Les-Valence, France, who is on a visit to Artsakh, signed a Declaration of Friendship between the two towns.

The Declaration, in particular, reads that welcoming the consistent steps of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh (Artsakh) Republic aimed at the creation and development of a free and democratic society, as well as realizing that the isolation of the people of Nagorno Karabakh doesn't contribute to the establishment of dialogue between peoples and to the achievement of final peace, the parties decided to establish friendly relations between the two towns.

The Declaration aims to facilitate relations between the two towns and to promote implementation of programs in the spheres of education, culture, sports, trade, and local self-government.



Armenia's accession to Eurasian Union 'nearing completion'

Russian President Vladimir Putin has given another indication that the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) will almost certainly sign an accession treaty with Armenia at its summit in Minsk next week.

"The process of Armenia's accession to the Eurasian Economic Union is now drawing to a close," Putin said in a speech at a business forum in Moscow on October 2 evening.

Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov confirmed on Friday that the treaty, drafted by the EEU's executive body earlier this year, will be on the agenda of the summit slated for October 10. But he stopped short of saying that its signing is a forgone conclusion.

"If the treaty is signed in Minsk the Republic of Armenia will become a member of this union from January 1," the RIA Novosti news agency quoted Shuvalov as saying during Putin's meeting with members of his government.

The Armenia-related outcome of the Minsk summit will depend on the positions of Belarus and Kazakhstan, the two other EEU member states. Both countries

are thought to have delayed Armenia's accession for various economic and geopolitical reasons.

Visiting Yerevan in mid-September, a deputy speaker of the Belarusian parliament, Viktor Guminsky, said that "some issues" related to Armenia's membership in the EEU have yet to be agreed upon. But he expressed confidence that they will be worked out in time for the upcoming summit.

Sergey Rumas, a Belarusian member of the EEU's executive body, likewise sounded optimistic on that score on Thursday. "All issues related to the Belarusian side will be settled before the Minsk summit. Belarus will be prepared to sign the treaty [with Armenia,]" Rumas told reporters, according to RIA Novosti.

In an August 7 phone call with Putin, Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenko said that the terms of Armenian entry into the union must not be negotiated "to the detriment" of his country's interests. He might have referred to sweeping trade preferences sought by the Armenian government.

Lukashenko's Kazakh counterpart,



Nursultan Nazarbayev, underscored his misgivings about Yerevan's membership at the EEU's founding summit held in May. Citing a letter from Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev, Nazarbayev said the accession treaty must contain a special reference to Armenia's internationally recognized borders that do not encompass Nagorno-Karabakh. The demand appeared to have taken President Serzh Sargsyan off guard.

Andranik Migranyan, an Armenian-born Russian pundit close to the Kremlin, claimed last month that Putin has convinced the Kazakh leader to drop his objections. "Nazarbayev's opinion is certainly interesting but not decisive," said Migranyan.

Russian arms manufacturer opens office in Armenia

The state-run manufacturer of Russia's world-famous Kalashnikov assault rifles inaugurated on October 3 an official representation in Armenia in the presence of senior Armenian and Russian officials.

According to the Armenian Defense Ministry, the Kalashnikov Concern's office will be located at the premises of Aspar Arms, an Armenian defense company specializing in small arms and ammunition production. The company has already housed Kalashnikov's sole "service center" in the region.

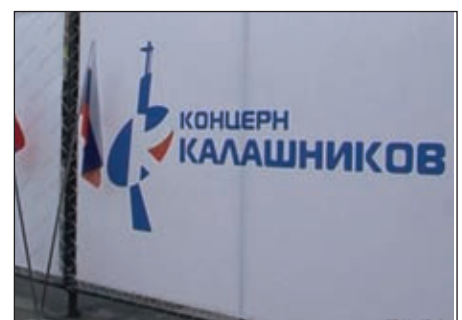
A ministry statement said the opening ceremony, which was apparently closed to media, featured speeches by Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan, the Russian ambassador in Yerevan, Ivan Volynkin, and a senior executive of Russia's Rosoboronexport arms exporter. It said they all stressed the importance of deep-

ening the already close military ties between Russia and Armenia.

"We attach great importance to military and military technical cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Armenia," Ohanian was quoted as saying. He noted that Russian-Armenian agreements signed to date envisage, among other things, the creation of joint defense ventures.

One of those agreements allows Armenian and Russian defense companies to supply each other with equipment, assembly parts and other materials needed for the production, modernization and repair of various arms.

The Armenian Defense Ministry did not specify the mission of the Kalashnikov office in Armenia. It said only that during the opening ceremony the Russian company put on display several samples of its weapons, including



handguns and sniper and automatic rifles used by special army units.

These are the kind of small arms that are manufactured by Aspar Arms and increasingly used by Armenia's armed forces. One of them is a modernized version of a semi-automatic sniper rifle developed by the Kalashnikov Concern.

Kalashnikov's AK-74 rifles and PK machine guns are the principle light weapons of the Armenian army's regular infantry units.

Vigen Sargsyan Elected Chairman of the Matenadaran Managing Board



Election of the Chairman was on the agenda of the 4th extraordinary meeting of the Managing Board of the Matenadaran (Institute of Ancient Manuscripts after Mesrop Mashtots) held on October 4.

Reportedly, 33 of 36 members of the Board participated in the meeting.

As The Highlights sources told, 10 members of the Managing Board nominated Chief of the Armenian President Staff, a member of the Board **Vigen Sargsyan** as a candidate for the Board Chairman. In his speech Matenadaran Director Prof. **Hrachya Tamrazyan** said that Vigen Sargsyan was "an intellectual of the great erudition and was familiar not only with science and culture, but also with academic circles". Mr Tamrazyan said as well that Mr Sargsyan played an important role in both in-country and all-Armenian scientific and cultural

projects such as Armenia's Year in France (Chief Commissioner of Armenia, 2005-2007), Armenia's Year in Russia and Russia's Year in Armenia (Chief Commissioner of Armenia, 2005-2006), 500th anniversary of the Armenian Book-printing - events held within frames of the Yerevan World Book Capital 2012, while now Vigen A. Sargsyan coordinates the commemorative events of the Armenian Genocide Centennial. "He is one of those statesmen who are well aware of the Matenadaran's great potential, its national and international importance," - Hrachya Tamrazyan stressed.

Speeches were also made by Armenia's National Archive Director Prof. **Amatuni Virabyan**, Academician **Vladimir Barkhudaryan**, Culture Minister Mrs **Hasmik Poghosyan**.

By a secret ballot vote Vigen Sargsyan was elected Chairman of the Matenadaran Managing Board. Notably, 32 members out of 33 Managing Board members voted "yeah". One ballot was null and void.

In his speech Vigen Sargsyan thanked for his election the honorable members of the Matenadaran Managing Board and in a typical for him way turned immediately to a detailed discussion on the Matenadaran programs and development priorities.

To remind The Highlights readers, how busy has been Mr Sargsyan in the recent years, we put only a part of his similar

responsibilities.

Vigen Sargsyan is:

- Member of the CIS Humanitarian Council, Special Representative of the President of Armenia on Humanitarian Cooperation Issues
- Chairman of the Council of the Yerevan V. Bryusov State Linguistic University
- Member of the Editorial Board, Civil Service magazine
- Member of the Council of the Yerevan State University
- Member of the Council of the State Institute of Cinema and Theater
- Member of the Council of the European Regional Educational Academy
- Member of the Board of the Educational Programs Council, Luys Fund... and many more.

...Well, it is difficult to add something special to the words of appreciation to the newly elected Chairman from the Matenadaran Director and the Board members as it is well known that Mr Vigen A. Sargsyan has been distinguished in the Armenian establishment and in society in general by his - we'd dare to say in this manner - role model education, professionalism, culture,- especially of the management culture and treatment to ALL people he has been contacting, regardless their social status.

Congratulations, Mr Sargsyan!

GRATULIEREN, DEUTSCHLAND!

The Day of German Unity Celebrated in Yerevan



By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**

Chief Correspondent

On October 3 a reception on the occasion of the National Holiday of Germany - Day of German Unity on behalf of the German Ambassador to Armenia H.E. Mr **Reiner Morell** and Mrs **Kristin Morell** was held at the Armenia Marriott Hotel in Yerevan.

In his congratulatory speech RA Prime Minister **Hovik Abrahamyan** who attended the event (accompanied by several members of his cabinet, other dignitaries) said in particular:

"October 3 is a truly historic day, since that very day 24 years ago the age-old dream of all Germans about the reunification of the two parts of Germany became a reality. In this regard, it is worth mentioning another historic event - the collapse of the Berlin Wall - the 25th

anniversary of which will be celebrated this November 9.

Dear friends, both the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of Germany were milestone events that marked down the iron curtain, paving the way for the European continent's progress and influencing the global developments.

Armenia is eager to develop both bilateral and multilateral relationship with Germany, including on the margins of the Eastern Partnership Program.

I am pleased to note that the 22-year-old relations between the newly independent Armenia and the reunified Germany have steadily developed and strengthened to cover new areas of cooperation.

We boast close cooperation in the cultural, educational, humanitarian, military and political spheres. We are committed to furthering bilateral trade and economic ties between the two countries.

I am highly appreciative of those technical and financial assistance programs implemented for about two and a half decades now with the German



Government's continued support.

Dear attendees,

The German Embassy in Armenia has gone a long way toward strengthening the Armenian-German relationship. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. Ambassador, the Embassy staff for valuable contribution in terms of consistent development of bilateral relations and strengthening of friendship between our two peoples. I am confident that the

continued on page 13



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- ♦1440. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 110 sq.m., 1 bedroom, h-3m, euro repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 350.000 USD.
- ♦1715. **Sayat Nova Ave.**, 5/4, 70sq.m, stone bld, h-4m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 110.000 USD
- ♦1680. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/4, 68sq.m, 1 bedroom, old repair, possibility of gas. Price: 86.000 USD.
- ♦1674. **Abovyan str.**, 2nd floor, 70sq.m., 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 135.000 USD
- ♦1698. **Aram str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 62sq.m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, AC, security system, parking. Price: 120.000 USD.

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- ♦3003. **Sayat-Nova str**, 5/3, 105sq.m, 2 bedrooms, stone building, capitally repaired. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1560. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 10/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.
- ♦2818. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished. Price: 400.000 USD
- ♦1156. **Komitas Ave.**, Hambarzumyan str. 5/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, kitchen is furnished. Price: 150.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦2949. **Aram str.**, Newly built, 1st floor, 143 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, zero state, Price: 2000 USD per sq.m.
- ♦2300. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.

3 ROOMS

- ♦2998. **North Ave**, Newly built, 9/6, 181sq.m, 3 bedrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking, Price: 700.000 USD
- ♦2682. **Aram Str.**, Newly built, 13/6 187sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 open balconies, capitally repaired, heating system, 2AC, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 550.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦2958. **Pushkin str.**, 5/2, 140 sq.m., stone building, 4 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦2895. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable
- ♦2802. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 8/4, 166sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, security system. Price: 320.000 USD.
- ♦1104. **Komitas Ave.**, **Aram Khachatryan str.**, 5/2, 125sq.m., stone bld, h-2.75m., 3 bedrooms, office, 2 bathrooms, old repair, gas, garage. Price: 130.000 USD
- ♦2950. **Aram str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 176 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, office, zero state, Price: 310.000 USD
- ♦2836. **Pushkin str.**, 4/4, 5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 460.000 USD.
- ♦2990. **North Ave.**, Newly built, 11th floor, 295sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: Negotiable.

PREMISES

- ♦1789. **Charents str.** Land-1270sq.m, 5 storied building, each floor-400sq.m., basement, capitally

- repaired, parkings. Price: 4.000.000 USD negotiable
- ♦1598. **Komitas, Nairy Zaryan str.**, 1000 sq.m., working restaurant, 1st line, capitally repaired. Price: negotiable.
- ♦1603. **Northern Ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 160 sq.m., zero level, window glasses. Price: 2.600.000 USD.
- ♦2035. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2013. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 1.300.000\$ negotiable
- ♦2012. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 1.100.000\$ negotiable
- ♦2155. **Mashtots ave.**, 3storied building, 540sq.m., each floor-180sq.m, window glasses, parking. Price: 3.600.000 USD
- ♦2020. **Hr. Kochar str.**, Land-300sq.m, 1st line, 4storied building, 1080sq.m., each floor-270sq.m, h-3.6m, without divisions, parkings, 3 access. Price: 1.400.000 USD negotiable
- ♦1986. **Cascade**, Land 1000sq.m. 3storied building 1200sq.m., unfinished, parking. Price: 1.000.000 USD.
- ♦2167. **Sayat Nova str.**, newly built, 38sq. m, capitally repaired. Price: 200.000 USD
- ♦2175. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground and 1st floor of the building, 600sq.m, ground floor-300sq.m, 1st floor-220sq.m, basement-80sq.m, - 1st line, zero level, 2 entrances, facade-15m, 4 window glasses, capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 3500 USD per sq.m,
- ♦2172. **Isahakyan str.**, 92sq.m, 1st line, 7 degrees above zero level, facade-9m, 2 window glasses, h-3.20m, 2 halls, cabinet, bathroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 450.000 USD

LANDS

- ♦2122. **Davitashen**, 1800 sq.m., water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600 sq.m., and 1200 sq.m. Price: 150 USD per sq.m.
- ♦2121. **Demirchyan str.**, 1338 sq.m., building permits. Price: 2million USD.
- ♦2013. **Cascade**. 1000 sq.m. building permits, first line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price 460.000USD
- ♦1402. **Hr. Kochar Str.**, 1100 sq. m., facade -25 m. Price negotiable.
- ♦2090. **Lori region**, close to Stepanavan, Gyargyar village, 6 hectares, forest 2 hectare has building permits, 3 water source, electricity. Price: 100.000USD.
- ♦2406. **Avan**, Mher Mkrtchyan block, 1000 sq.m., electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30USD per sq.m
- ♦2310. **Monument, Babayan str.**, 1000 sq. m, facade-25m, privatized, Price: 350 USD negotiable
- ♦2107. **Monument**, 2400sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: 400 USD per sq.m.
- ♦2413. **Ashtarak roadway**, 1000sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2414. **Demirchyan str.** land-750sq.m., building permits. Price: 750.000 USD.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦3348. **Blur, Barbyus str.** Land - 800 sq.m, 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 1.2 million USD
- ♦3146. **Aygestan**, Land-500 sq.m., 5 storied bld-765 sq.m., each floor-180 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system, elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.
- ♦3583. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 1.350.000 USD.
- ♦3432. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m , 3 storied bld.-

- 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, boiler room garden, swimming pool, sauna, garage, security system. Price: 1.000.000 USD
- ♦3576. **Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capitally repaired, heating system, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 850.000 USD
- ♦3606. **Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur/near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-1.500.000 USD
- ♦3574. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 2.000.000 USD
- ♦3590. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450 sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 680.000 USD



- ♦3651. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 1.700.000 USD.
- ♦3401. **Antarayin str.**, Newly built, land-700sq.m, 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms, capitally repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD

NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

- ♦74. **Cascade**, Verin Antarayin. 136-315 sq m., walls plastered, electricity, water, gas, euro windows, no exploitation fees. Price: 1200 USD per sq.m, parking -15.000 USD.
- ♦107. **Monument**, Verin Antarayin. inhabited, 8 floors, gas, windows, street view -1000 USD per sq.m., city looking -1500 USD per sq.m., parking - 4 million USD preliminary.
- ♦87. **Sayat-Nova str.**, 21 floors, 3 bedrooms -188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., Price 1900 USD per sq.m., 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight - 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m., Price: 1700 USD per sq.m., climate control, gas.
- ♦93. **Kievyan str.**, Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas, parking. Price: 1500-1600USD per sq.m, parking-12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.
- ♦94. **Masiv**. 3 floors, 8 flats, each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.
- ♦130. **Antarayin str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦131. **Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable



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1 ROOM

- ♦2037. **Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, gas, heating system, AC, modern furnished, equipped. Price: negotiable
- ♦2189. **Vardanants str.**, Newly built, 24/12, 90 sqm, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- ♦2099. **Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 600 USD.
- ♦1972. **Northern ave.**, 8/4, 80sq.m., 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD
- ♦2171. **Tumanyan str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sq.m., 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capially repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- ♦2367. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th floor, 98 sq.m., capially repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

2 ROOMS

- ♦942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- ♦1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- ♦1681. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦1535. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦2089. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 8/6, 120sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦1738. **Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1951. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦1406. **Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2187. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9/5, 120 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2.200 USD
- ♦2109. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦2243. **Buzand str.**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD
- ♦2267. **North Avenue** Newly built, 7th floor, 170sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished equipped. Price: 2500 USD

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- ♦2257. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2021. **Teryan Str.**, Newly built, 9/8, 9, 245 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.
- ♦2005. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m,

- 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.
- ♦1723. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4., 170 sq.m 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦1981. **Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, 3 open balconies, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.



- ♦1793. **Teryan str.**, Newly built, 8th floor, 260 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦1720. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 16/10, 179 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, AC, cellar- 25sq.m, with or without furniture, parking, Price 3000 USD negotiable
- ♦2195. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦2261. **Hin Yerevantsi**, /North Avenue/, Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD
- ♦2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦2252. **Northern ave**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦1323. **Monument, Babayan str.**, Land-400sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m , 3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, central heating, AC, sauna, boiler room garden, swimming pool, garage, alarming system, security system. Price: 8000 USD.
- ♦999. **Aygedzor**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors- 310 sqm, capially repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- ♦1094. **Noy block**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden. Price: 2000USD.
- ♦1195. **Nork, Armenakyan str.**, Land - 2000 sq.m, 4 storied bld.-520 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished, swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦1142. **Djrvej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capially repaired, no furniture/ can be furnished, if neces-

- sary /garage for 2 cars. Price: 4 000 USD.
- ♦1293. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520 sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 7.000 USD
- ♦327. **Nork-Marash**, Land-500sq.m., 4 storied building-600 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-4000 USD
- ♦1306. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking, with or without furniture. Price: 6000-8000 USD negotiable
- ♦1288. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦1197. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD
- ♦1312. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦1323. **Monument, Babayan str**, Land - 400 sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, each floor-100sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable

PREMISES

- ♦1693. **Malatia-Sebastia** 4 storied building, 1200sq.m, each floor-300sq.m, 2 separate entrances, climate control, 2 elevators, basement, parking. Price: 15USD per sq.m.
- ♦1526. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦1408. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghramyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capially repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capially repaired, AC, parking. Price: 10.000 USD.
- ♦1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1,2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capially repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- ♦1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capially repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- ♦1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capially repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- ♦2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m., 1st line, zero level, capially repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦2033. **Abovyan str.**, 388sq.m, Ground floor of the building, 3 degrees above zero level, window glasses, h-3m., basement-235sq.m, capially repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 15.000 USD
- ♦2031. **Vardanants str.**, 500sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, facade-20m, window glasses, without divisions, ,basement-250sq.m, Price: 8000 USD
- ♦2027. **Sayat Nova str.**, 95sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, 7 degrees above zero level, 4 window glasses, capially repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

Memorial Honors Armenian-Yezidi Ties

Aknalich, Armenia - A small town in Armenia has built a memorial honoring the country's enduring ties with Yezidis who fled there a century ago.

The Armenian-Yezidi Brotherhood memorial was opened on October 6 in Aknalich, a small town in Armavir province that is home to the only Yezidi temple in the Caucasus.

The memorial consists of several sculptures, including a peacock angel-worshipped by Yezidis-with an Armenian solar cross symbolizing eternity.

The memorial also includes three sculptures of Armenian and Yezidi Kurdish community leaders, who fought together against the Ottoman Empire from 1915-1918.

Thousands of Yezidi Kurds from Armenia and Georgia attended the event and the ceremony also drew Armenian officials, Yezidi clerics and leaders from the Armenian Apostolic and Catholic churches.

The event included prayers for Yezidi victims under threat by Islamic State (IS)

extremists in Iraq and memorialized the persecution of Yezidis and Armenians during the Ottoman Empire.

About 40,000 Yezidis were uprooted to Armenia from modern-day Turkey during the Ottoman Empire and continue to live in mostly rural areas.

Many officials spoke about the tragedy in Shingal, were thousands of Yezidis-who are ethnically Kurdish but practice an ancient religion-have been killed and kidnapped by IS radicals.

Even though the Armenian government has not taken in Yezidis from Iraq, it contributed \$50,000 in humanitarian aid to Yezidi refugees in Kurdistan.

"Yezidis and Armenians have been brothers over the centuries, and we help them as much we can," said Minister of Justice Hovanes Manukyan.

Gazi Tahir Khaled, Iraq's ambassador to Armenia, attended the event. Iraqi Yezidi Member of Parliament Vian Dakhil, the main advocate for Yezidis in Iraq, was expected to attend but could not because of health reasons.



On Oct. 1, Armenian Member of Parliament Naira Zograbyan called on the Council of Europe to intervene on behalf of Yezidis and other minority groups that are under IS threat in northern Iraq. She compared the international community's "silence" on the current threats against minorities to its passive position during the Armenian Genocide by the Ottoman Empire.

Earlier, Armenian and Kurdish musicians held a charity concert for Yezidi refugees in Iraqi Kurdistan and Syria. The famous Armenian singer Shushan Petrosyan announced before the performance, "My Yezidis, your pain is ours. We know how it feels."

Lab Tools to Let Mining Communities Detect Health Risks

ONEArmenia has launched its newest crowdfunding campaign, this time for lab equipment that will enable mining communities in Armenia to detect toxic pollution in their soil, and water, and identify lead contamination in children's blood. This campaign has a fundraising goal of \$29,000 and is implemented through collaboration with the American University of Armenia (AUA) Center for Responsible Mining.

There are currently 400 mines operating in Armenia, a small country with an area the size of Belgium. Twenty-two of these are active metal mines that are a major source of toxic pollution when improperly monitored and controlled.

Research done by the Blacksmith Institute and the American University of Armenia, shows that high concentrations of heavy metals exist in many mining communities where children play, adults work, and families grow their food.

"We are committed to improving environmental conditions for communities throughout Armenia," says Alen Amirkhanyan, director of the AUA

Acopian Center for the Environment and the AUA Center for Responsible Mining. "This fundraising effort will give us the tools and equipment we need to do this on a wide scale and on an ongoing basis," says Amirkhanyan.

More than 215,000 people across 20 communities in Armenia are at risk of exposure to heavy-metal pollution from mining and related industrial activities. Exposure to elements such as arsenic, lead, cadmium, and chromium lead to a wide range of health consequences including cancer, fertility problems, and reduced intellectual development in children.

The equipment to be purchased will help mining communities determine the specific locations and levels of toxic pollution in their soil and the levels of pollution in water. This information will help communities manage their health risks by avoiding polluted areas and taking steps to stabilize the soil in smaller, more manageable sites. The equipment could also arm communities with information to hold polluters accountable and seek compensation

for remediation and cleanup.

The devices will be kept at AUA and taken to mining communities for analysis and testing. Additionally, AUA will implement various educational and outreach programs in impacted towns and villages so that communities are well aware of the risks from mining and action steps to mitigate these risks.

Learn more about the project and crowdfunding campaign by visiting the Indiegogo page.

Non-profit funding platform ONEArmenia was founded in September 2012 to stand with the change-making individuals and the organizations they represent, using social media and crowd-funding to involve anyone with an Internet connection in boosting projects that are geared toward making tangible changes in Armenia now. The ONEArmenia network makes it possible to not only raise money for a project based in Armenia as a worldwide community, but to also track the progress of said project with complete access to financial information.

UK shifts policy on Armenian Genocide after jurist Robertson's report



By Harut
Sassounian

Publisher, The
California Courier

Geoffrey Robertson, prominent British expert on international law, wrote a 40-page report in 2009, exposing the false and inaccurate statements on the Armenian Genocide by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO).

Robertson's investigative report, "Was there an Armenian Genocide?" was based on internal British documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act, which revealed that the Foreign Office had denied the Armenian Genocide and misled the British Parliament on this matter in order to curry favor with Turkey.

Mr. Robertson had sent me an advance copy of his new 286-page book, "An Inconvenient Genocide: Who Now Remembers the Armenians?" to be published this month in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, and the United States. Anyone who reads this influential jurist's meticulously researched book will have no doubt about the true facts of the Genocide and Armenians' just claims for restitution.

The confidential FCO documents recently obtained by Robertson reveal that the British government has made a gradual shift in its position on the Armenian Genocide, going from denial to declining to state its position. The Foreign Office acknowledges that the change in governmental policy is a direct result of the powerful legal arguments advanced by Mr. Robertson in his 2009 report.

Until recently, Great Britain had tenaciously clung to its outright denialist position on the Armenian Genocide. A secret 1999 FCO memo, quoted by Robertson, admitted that the British government "is open to criticism in terms of the ethical dimension. But given the importance of our relations (political, strategic, and commercial) with Turkey, and that recognizing the genocide would provide no practical benefit to the UK or the few survivors of the killings still alive today, nor would it help a rapprochement

between Armenia and Turkey, the current line is the only feasible option."

However, shortly after the publication of Robertson's 2009 report, British officials quietly shifted their position from denial to avoidance of taking a stand on the genocide issue. In a 2010 internal memo, FCO stated: "Following Mr. Robertson's report and the publicity it attracted, we have updated our public line to make clear that HMG [Her Majesty's Government] does not believe it is our place to make a judgment (historical or legal) on whether or not the Armenian massacres constituted genocide." In another memo, FCO explained that it will no longer maintain that "the historical evidence was not sufficiently unequivocal to persuade us that these events should be categorized as genocide." The memo went on to assert that "there is increasing agreement about the extent of the deaths and suffering experienced by the Armenian community" and that "jurisprudence in relation to genocide, and particularly the nature and type of evidence required to prove the relevant intent, has developed significantly in the wake of events in Rwanda and the Balkans in the 1990's." Yet, FCO still advised against an explicit recognition of the genocide because "the Armenian diaspora in the UK is relatively small (less than 20,000) and there is limited wider public interest."

Nevertheless, in view of the upcoming Centennial of the Armenian Genocide, the British government has

decided to become a bit more accommodating on this issue. Last year, when the British Ambassador to Lebanon asked London for guidance on attending an April 24 commemoration in Beirut, the Foreign Office advised him to go ahead. FCO also recommended to its staff not to "give the impression that we deny what happened in 1915...we still consider them (the massacres and deportations) to be truly dreadful and in need of remembrance."

To bring the genocide issue to a legal resolution, Mr. Robertson makes two suggestions: that the Armenian government submit it "to adjudication at the International Court of Justice [World Court] pursuant to Article IX of the Genocide Convention" or ask the UN Secretary General to establish an ad hoc court on the Armenian Genocide.

Geoffrey Robertson should be commended for authoring a most important book on the eve of the Armenian Genocide Centennial. The Armenian National Committee of UK has already purchased 1,000 copies for distribution to elected officials and members of the media in London. The book is available from Amazon.com. I feel honored that Mr. Robertson has made half a dozen references to my columns in his monumental work.

Mr. Robertson has appropriately dedicated his book to the cherished memory of Ben Whitaker, author of the 1985 UN Report which classified the Armenian mass killings as genocide.



RA President attended Digitec Expo 2014



President Serzh Sargsyan on October 3 attended the opening of the technological exhibition Digitec Expo 2014 at the exhibition complex Yerevan Expo located in Yerevan Scientific Research Institute of Mathematical Machines.

As informed by RA President's Press and Information office, the leader of the country toured traditional pavilions of Digitec Expo presenting offers of about 130 participant companies pertaining to telecommunications and networking, comprehensive engineering services, technologies, software and web development, as well as to other solutions and services. Serzh Sargsyan talked with the participants of the exhibition about their activities, problems and upcoming development projects.

Moscow court places ailing Russian-Armenian businessman under house arrest



A Moscow court late last week decided to place Russian-Armenian businessman Levon Hayrapetyan under house arrest, releasing him from jail.

The attorney of Hayrapetyan, who is accused of money laundering and had been in custody since mid-July, had repeatedly asked the court to release his client on bail or place him under arrest pending the investigation and trial because the businessman is seriously ill and prison conditions are dangerous for his health and life.

Hayrapetyan, 65, who is considered to be one of the wealthiest Armenians in the world and is known for his business and charity projects in native Karabakh, was arrested by Russian Federal Security Service officials on July 15. A Moscow court allowed the

businessman's two-month imprisonment while investigators conducted a probe into his alleged criminal connections and involvement in some illegal financial dealings. He was officially charged on July 24 with money laundering and embezzlement and his shares in the Russian oil company Bashneft, said to be worth \$8.5 million, were frozen. On September Hayrapetyan's arrest was extended by another three months.

Meanwhile, on October 3, Russian President Vladimir Putin said he would not intervene in the case that involves Russian oil giant Bashneft, for which Hayrapetyan was detained and indicted, but expressed hope that the matter would be resolved outside of criminal courts.

"I hope that all solutions will be found not within criminal law, but rather based on civil law and in arbitration," said Putin.

Earlier last week, Russia's Ombudswomen Alla Pamfilova announced that her office was watching the Hayrapetyan case closely and had sent inquiries to officials dealing with it.

Publishers say will restore ignored values and reveal new facts ahead of Armenian Genocide centenary



Ahead of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide publishers in Armenia intend to re-publish old books related to the topic and issue new ones.

Restoration and recirculation of ignored values and revealing of new facts: this is the result of the 4-year activity of the publishers.

Editor-in-chief of the "Antares" publishing house Arkmenik Nikoghosyan says they intend to publish an interesting series.

"In 1930s the Society of Friends of Martyred Writers in Paris, a group of French intellectuals, published the books of writers that fell victim to the Armenian Genocide," Arkmenik Nikoghosyan said speaking to Public Radio of Armenia.

"Antares" intends to re-publish the series not only in Armenian, he added.

The collection of works by martyred writer Ruben Zardaryan will also be published in the near future. His works were last published in Armenia in 1960s. Nikoghosyan said the research has revealed his works not known to wider public published in the press.

Another publication ahead of the genocide centenary will be the "Martyred writers" volume. When compiling the book the editors have taken into consideration the involvement of Western Armenian writers in literature at the time, rather than the values they have created.

Head of the Publishing Department of the Ministry of Culture Armen Avanesyan said, in turn, that a special task force set up at the Ministry is working on the final list of publications connected with the Armenian Genocide.

Key Armenian Party Explains 'Regime Change' Tactic



Gagik Tsarukyan's Prosperous Armenia Party (BHK) and its opposition allies are concentrating on the prevention of sweeping constitutional changes in their joint effort to unseat President Serzh Sargsyan, a senior BHK figure said on October 7.

Stepan Markaryan elaborated on BHK's first-ever public endorsement of radical opposition calls for "regime change" in Armenia, which was voiced during a rally held in the northern city of Vanadzor on Monday.

"Regime change is about us being against amending the constitution in order to prevent the authorities from reproducing themselves," Markaryan told reporters. "We have always said that the government will be changed in Armenia. That's what our constitution says."

"We are dealing with a departing president. We are dealing with a government departing with the president. Even if nothing occurs the authorities will quit power," he said.

"It means that if we block the constitutional changes [planned by Sargsyan] then regime change in the country will occur in one way or another," added Markarian. "Whether it's regular or pre-term, regime change in the country will definitely

happen."

The BHK and the opposition Armenian National Congress (HAK) and Zharangutyun (Heritage) parties have repeatedly rejected the planned constitutional reform which is apparently aimed at transforming the country into a parliamentary republic. They say that Serzh Sargsyan is thus keen to stay in power after completing his second and final presidential term in 2018.

An ad hoc presidential commission is due to present Serzh Sargsyan with a final "concept" of the reform by October 15. It will start working on specific constitutional amendments in case of its approval by the head of state. Some Armenian officials have suggested that the draft amendments would be put on a referendum by the beginning of 2016, just over a year before the next parliamentary elections.

The BHK, the HAK and Zharangutyun are already stepping up pressure on the Sargsyan administration. They have held a series of rallies across the country over the past two weeks in preparation for a big joint demonstration that will take place in Yerevan on Friday.

Speaking after a fresh meeting of senior members of the three parties, Markaryan indicated that the upcoming rally may well be followed by more anti-government protests in the capital. This is why, he said, it is still not clear whether their top leaders -- Tsarukyan, the HAK's Levon Ter-Petrosian and Zharangutyun's Raffi Hovannisian -- will take part in Friday's action.

"The leaders will definitely be in Liberty Square," the BHK representative said. "We are now discussing at what point [they should show up.] Nobody has said that there will be a single rally. It's a tactical issue. We have not made a final decision yet on when the leaders will join in."

GRATULIEREN, DEUTSCHLAND!

The Day of German Unity Celebrated in Yerevan

From page 7

Armenian-German cooperation will be evolving in the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding to the benefit of our two peoples.

Wrapping up my speech, I once again congratulate you all on Germany's national holiday. I wish you every success, and continued progress - to the friendly people of Germany."

October 3 is a very important and happy day in the history of Germany, said Herr Morell at a news conference held few hours before.

"The German people did not believe the unification of the two Germanies could happen so quickly, so that was a real miracle," Botschafter Reiner Morell stressed.

According to His Excellency, due to the protests in Germany the Berlin Wall was crumbled.

"And so the German Democratic

Republic (East Germany) decided mere in a year to reunify with the Federal Republic of Germany.

For this reason we Germans mark two events: the demolition of the Berlin Wall in 1989, and the reunification of two parts of Germany on October 3, 1990," said Ambassador Morell.

He also spoke on the Armenia's accession to the Eurasian Economic Union (EuAsEU - "EvrAzES").

I see the signs for Armenia's joining the Eurasian Economic Union in October, but you should wait for further developments, German Ambassador to Armenia said.

In his words, it is not known yet whether or not Armenia will join this organization in October.

Mr Morell said that in such a situation Armenia and the European Union should reconcile further cooperation.

According to the German Ambassador, the European Union is wait-

ing for an answer from Armenia regarding ways of further cooperation.

P.S. A couple of words from the Author.

What do we imagine first when hear the words "Germany" and "Germans"?

I do not know what about You, dear The Highlights reader, but yours truly think about a really legendary feature of Germans - their discipline, and, importantly, sense of team, i.e. what is called THE UNITY.

Just thanks to this very UNITY (first of all) Germany has become a leading industrial power just a couple of decades after being ruined in the World War II, and, still, is a locomotive (if not the only one) for the entire Europe.

Probably, after all, the time for us the Armenians has come to realize that without that very UNITY we could endanger THE DREAM numerous generations of Armenians have been cherishing for centuries - OUR INDEPENDENCE?!

The Alliance for Genocide Awareness and Remembrance condemns The destruction of the Armenian Church in Der Zor

The Alliance for Genocide Awareness and Remembrance (AGAR) vigorously condemns the destruction of a historical memorial church commemorating the Armenian Genocide in Der Zor, by the terrorist forces of the Islamic State for Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

The Der Zor Armenian Genocide Memorial Church, located in present-day Syria, was built at the site where there were the remains of countless Armenian Genocide victims who arrived in the area as the last stop of the mass deportation of Armenians, orchestrated by Ottoman Turkey in 1915. Armenians who survived the deportation and reached Der Zor were executed by the Turks. Several years later, an Armenian Genocide Memorial Church was erected on the site, to serve as a reminder to future generations of this black page of Ottoman Turkish history. We are concerned that the destruction of this site of great significance, which serves as a beacon to prevent crimes against humanity and genocide received little media coverage and is not known by the general public.

'This horrendous act aimed at the Armenian people, many of whom have the remains of their ancestors buried under the memorial, is something that we vigorously condemn,' said Mr. Mheir Karakachian, representing the board of AGAR. 'This site is the Armenian equivalent to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial, where many Jews died during the Shoah,' Mr Karakachian continued.

Despite the international recognition of the mass deportations of Armenians from 1915-1923 that led to the death of 1.5 million Armenians as genocide, today's Turkey still denies this historical fact.

AGAR additionally calls on The Right Honorable Prime Minister Stephen Harper to denounce this act of genocide denial and this shocking disregard for the victims of the Armenian genocide and their descendants. Such memorials must serve as places of commemoration and education for all citizens of the world.

AGAR is composed of communities marked by the scars of genocide and crimes against humanity. The objectives include working together, survivor communities and their descendants to raise awareness about genocide, to foster education, and to effectively and vigorously combat denial. The Alliance members are: The Armenian Genocide Centennial Committee of Canada; The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre; PAGE-Rwanda; Centre Khemara; Ukrainian Information & Anti-Defamation Committee.

Detroit photographer commemorates Armenian Genocide through art

Detroit photographer Michelle Andonian is working on a project "Hope Dies Last" to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in 1915 in which 1.5 million people perished. The project will be released in 2015, Deadline Detroit reports.

Back in 1989, one year after a massive earthquake in Armenia killed tens of thousands of people, Detroit photographer Michelle Andonian ventured to that nation, the home of her ancestors.

While talking to the archbishop, Paren Avedikian, he told of a sad tale of a man who survived the earthquake, but lost so much: His entire family and his home, not to mention both his legs.

How on earth, the archbishop asked the man, could he go on in life after losing so much, to which the man replied: "Hope dies last."

"That has stayed with me for years," says Andonian, who works out of her photography studio in a loft in Eastern Market.

Now, nearly 25 years later, she's working on a project, "Hope Dies Last" to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in 1915 in which 1.5 million people perished. The project will be released in 2015.

"Instead of emphasizing genocide destruction, the project will pinpoint universal themes of bravery, resilience and hope," she said.

The project is still a work in progress, and will include a book chock full of photographs, photo exhibits and a performance that combines live music and visuals. The photos are from Andonian's seven visits to Armenia since 1989, and from visits to Turkey and trace the history of the Armenia.

The live show will be performed at different venues including the Detroit Institute of Art and the Macomb Center, and will be produced in collaboration with Alexandra Du Bois, a music composer, the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings and the University Michigan School of Music.

On Tuesday, the Knight Foundation made public some good news Andonian had known for about two week. She was



among 58 winners of the Detroit Knight Arts Challenge who got a piece of a \$2.48 million in grants to help promote the arts in Detroit.

Andonian, a free-lance photographer and former Detroit News photographer and Washington Post photo editor, got \$50,000.

She said she was not only thrilled to learn of the grant, but also saw it as a validation of the importance of recognizing the Armenian genocide, a controversial, political hot-potato internationally. Some nations have refused to recognize it out of concern of offending Turkey, which still says it was not responsible for the Armenian deaths.

The Armenians say the genocide took place in 1915, during World War I. The Ottoman government, which ruled what is now Turkey, carried off a campaign to systematically kill of the minority subjects, the Armenians. An estimated 1.5 million people perished.

Andonian says she's been to Armenia seven times since 1989, the last two times, in the past year, and she's also traveled to Turkey for the project. She says she plans to use photos from her project from all the trips.

"The book is kind of a personal biography of my attempt to hold on to my Armenian culture by going to where the Armenians came from and where my grandmother originated from. Knowing survivors has always held a very special place for me."

"I had been trying to find a voice for that story. The book this book really is retracing my Armenian journey as best I can."

BBC: The preacher refusing to give up the keys to an Armenian Church in Yangon



An article published by the BBC refers to the visit of His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians to Myanmar, also known as Burma.

To mark the visit of the head of the Armenian Church the garden was tidied, the fence re-painted, and one of Yangon's new heritage plaques erected outside.

It proudly states that at the age of 152, St John the Baptist's is "Yangon's oldest surviving church".

For most of those years Yerevan has had very little to do with this small remote outpost.

Now that's changing and Catholicos Karekin II came to Yangon to try to

resolve a dispute over the management of the church and its property.

A recent article reported on the dwindling number of Armenians in Myanmar. According to the BBC, when the last full Armenian (both parents) in Myanmar died six years ago, effective control had passed into the hands of a man who had no connection with either Armenia or the Orthodox tradition.

"Father" John Felix, as the sign in the street outside calls him, had taken over the running of the church. A Burmese man of Indian extraction, he claimed to be an ordained Anglican priest which would, with the Armenians' permission, give him the right to perform religious services.

Felix comes across as a very pleasant, humble man, but unfortunately the Anglican Church says he has never been a priest.

"He's not recognized by our Church any more, once he was a deacon," the Archbishop of Myanmar Stephen Than Myint Oo said.

The archbishop makes a veiled reference to inappropriate behaviour and says "Felix does not have the authority to perform religious services."

Felix says the allegations are just "rumours", that he has the correct documentation and that efforts are being made to undermine him.

He was called to a meeting with the Catholicos Karekin II, who told that he could no longer work in the church and asked to return the keys.

Felix refused, and according to the Armenian Church is now effectively a squatter on the historic site. A legal battle looks likely.

Nevertheless, the church doors opened on Saturday for the biggest Armenian mass in Myanmar in decades. The altar was re-consecrated and it was announced that an Armenian priest based in Calcutta would be flying in every weekend to conduct services.

The Armenians are hoping that this rather painful trip will prove to be a badly needed turning point for the community.

Churches in Germany to pray together on 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide



"Violence and terror in the name of religion cannot be justified by anything," the Council of Christian Churches of Germany said in a statement adopted as a result of the General Assembly of the Council of Christian Churches in Magdeburg.

The delegates of the Council also called on their member

churches to stand up for humane treatment of refugees. In addition, the Council requests to mark the 100th commemoration of the Armenian genocide in 2015 with church services and prayers.

"2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the genocide committed against the Armenians by the Ottoman Empire. For this reason, the General Assembly adopted a Declaration. "Even after almost a century, this event not only has a significant impact on the Armenian people, but also on the international community," it says in the statement.

Although there are few survivors are left, the question of recognition of suffering and injustice remains urgent. The Council of Christian Churches encourages its member churches and communities to mark this commemoration with prayer and worship. Together with the World Council of Churches it invites individual churches to pray together on April 24, 2015."

Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the development of super-resolved fluorescence microscopy

The 2014 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to a trio of researchers for improving the resolution of microscopes, the BBC reports.

Eric Betzig, Stefan Hell and William Moerner used fluorescence to extend the limits of the light microscope.

The winners will share prize money of eight million kronor (£0.7m).

They were named at a press conference in Sweden, and join a prestigious list of 105 other Chemistry laureates recognised since 1901.

The Nobel Committee said the researchers had won the award for "the development of super-resolved fluorescence microscopy".

Committee chair Prof Sven Lidin, a materials chemist from Lunds University, said "the work of the laureates has made it possible to study molecular processes in real time".

Optical microscopes had previously been held back by a presumed limitation: that it would never obtain a better resolu-



tion than half the wavelength of light.

The researchers used fluorescent molecules to circumvent this limitation, allowing scientists to see things at much higher levels of resolution.

This has even allowed scientists to visualise the pathways of individual molecules inside living cells.

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine awarded for locating brain's GPS

John O'Keefe, May-Britt and Edvard Moser found how the brain creates a map to enable us to navigate our environment

British-US scientist John O'Keefe and married couple May-Britt and Edvard Moser from Norway have won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for discovering the brain's "inner GPS".

The "place cells" and "grid cells" they discovered make it possible for our brains to work out where we are .

The Nobel Assembly said the discoveries show how the brain creates "a map of the space surrounding us and how we can navigate our way through a complex environment." O'Keefe, of University College London, discovered the first component of this positioning system in 1971 when he found that a certain type of nerve cell was always activated when a rat was at a certain place in a room.

Thirty-four years later May-Britt and Edvard Moser, of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, identified another type of nerve cell that generates a co-ordinate system for precise path-finding, the assembly said.

O'Keefe was awarded half of the 8m Swedish krona (around £700,000) prize while the other two winners receive a quarter each.

Andrew King, professor of neurophysiology at Oxford university, said the discovery that neurons in the hippocampus possess "place fields" that fire when an animal is in a particular part of its environment had "revolutionized our understanding of how the brain knows where we are and is able to navigate within our surroundings".

The Nobel assembly said that knowledge about the brain's positioning system may "help us understand the mechanism



underpinning the devastating spatial memory loss" that affects people with Alzheimer's disease.

John Stein, a professor of physiology at Oxford University, said: "This is great news and well deserved. I remember how great was the scoffing in the early 1970s when John first described 'place cells' ... 'Bound to be an artifact', 'He clearly underestimates rats' sense of smell', were typical reactions. Now, like so many ideas that were at first highly controversial, people say 'Well that's obvious!'"

"May-Britt and Edvard's research lies at the very heart of the cognitive-neuroscience enterprise," Stanislas Dehaene, who studies consciousness at the Collège de France in Paris told Nature. "They are trying to understand the neural codes for cognition - and so unite biology with computer science and even philosophy."

May-Britt Moser is the 11th woman to win the medicine Nobel since the award began in 1901.

The Nobel awards in physics, chemistry, literature and peace will be announced later this week. The economics prize will be announced next Monday.

Unique Armenian Newspaper Discovered at Stanford University



The microfilming staff at Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace recently came across an unmarked box of microfilm that presented them with difficul-

ty: a copy of a newspaper from World War I published in the Armenian script, according to the Institution's official website.

To help transliterate the title, the Hoover librarian turned to Behzad Allahyar, principal Middle East languages cataloger for Stanford University Libraries; he in turn sought help from Nora Avetyan, the librarian for Armenian and Persian at UCLA. With the help of those two colleagues, we had enough information to identify and catalog this publication, as well as realizing that no other copies appear to be available. We are proud that the Hoover Library has again added an item unique to its collection.

The newspaper, entitled Zang, was produced by the Social Democrat Hunchakian

Party, founded in Switzerland in 1887 by Armenians hoping to establish an independent Armenia free from the Ottoman Empire. (It also may have been the first socialist political party in the Ottoman Empire.)

The issues we have on microfilm span the years from 1919 to 1922, the period when the short-lived First Republic of Armenia was established in the wake of the Russian Revolution before being incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1922.

This is an important source for any scholar researching Armenian history and political institutions, the First Armenian Republic, the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, or the early history of the Soviet Union.

Armenian Film Project Seeks Backing on Kickstarter

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, Stephanie Garoyan Ayanian and Storyshop Films are producing the documentary film "A New Armenia" to document Armenian American lives today.

"Many excellent films have been made about the Armenian Genocide, but there are no films that capture the stories of the generations of Armenians who have grown up in the United States," the filmmakers say in a statement released about the project.

Storyshop Films, with experienced filmmakers Stephanie Ayanian, Tom Keiter, and Joseph Myers, are asking the community to back their project on Kickstarter with monetary contributions to help make the film a reality. Their goal is to raise \$45,000 dollars by Oct. 21 (of which about 28,000 has been raised at the time of this writing).

Kickstarter is an online "crowdfunding" website, where individual can contribute donations or investments to a project. If the project's funding goal (in this case \$45,000) is reached, the project receives the money, but if the goal is missed, the money contributed is returned to the donors.

"To make the film, the creators will immerse themselves in the daily lives of Armenian Americans young and old," the project's description explains.

"Spending significant time with both families and individuals, we will watch

artists, musicians, and language teachers at their craft. We'll peek into kitchens while grandparents impart thousand-year-old recipes. We'll share social and religious traditions, with laughter and solemnity. We'll huddle with business leaders as they bring honor and financial security to their families and communities.

"We lack a film that documents and celebrates the joys, struggles, culture, and values of these Armenian Americans. We lack a film that asks: as survivors, and as a thriving community, how do we move into the future while remaining connected to our values, our roots?"

"It is our mission to perpetuate a thriving Armenian culture. Please help us make this film," the film's Kickstarter statement reads.

The project idea for "A New Armenia" originated with Stephanie Ayanian, a third-generation Armenian American living in the Philadelphia area. Her grandparents survived the Genocide as children, grew up in the Armenian ghettos of Marseille, France, and came to reestablish their community in Fresno, California. Her bedtime stories were often of her grandmother's childhood—the Genocide, the kidnapping of her family members, the reuniting, and the refugee camps.

"First, we must find the families," the filmmakers say on their Kickstarter page. "The hardest part of any film like this is to

spend the time - real, dedicated time - traveling, meeting people and choosing a 'cast' of families and characters for the film. This is where your support and your stories come in."

"Your support will provide funding for preliminary interviews with Armenians around the country, and the plane tickets and hotel rooms we'll need to make them happen. The stories you send us after you sign up to donate will help us cast a net far and wide, leaving no stone unturned in our search for the best stories."

Storyshop's Ayanian, Keiter, and Myers have considerable experience as filmmakers with multiple national directing, producing, and executive producing credits, as well as many awards. Storyshop's documentary work takes on difficult, complex topics, and attempts to change minds through real-person narrative storytelling. Storyshop has a history of public television projects that focus on issues including human rights, domestic violence, technology, and environment.

Previous public television projects include "Liquid Assets," "Geospatial Revolution," "Telling Amy's Story," "World on Trial," "You Can't Say That" (in development), and "Water Blues, Green Solutions."

To learn more about the "A New Armenia" film project and to make contributions, visit the project's Kickstarter page.

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- Colposcope
- Cryosurgery machine
- Electrocoagulation apparatus
- ELLMAN Pelleve Unit (radio frequency surgery and wrinkle reduction system)
- Other equipment by "Aesculap" and "Stainless" companies

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Zodiac Weekly Forecast

Aries (Mar. 20--Apr. 19) :

The eclipses of this 18 month series will draw your attention to your partnerships. Patterns from your childhood history needed to be uncovered repaired or removed in order to allow your growth into a more mature relationship. Psychotherapy may be truly helpful. There may be a critical turn of consciousness at this time.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

This Aries eclipse pressures you to concentrate on improvement of work related relationships and health maintenance. Diet, exercise and improvement of physical regimen will become imperative. Honing your management systems in personal and work arenas is necessary to create order in your daily work routine.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

This eclipse pattern emphasizes your progeny or other personally creative births. Romantic ventures will be intensely emotional and self-revealing. You will be learning a few lessons in discernment concerning friendships and associations that no longer serve you well.

Cancer (June 21--Jul y 21) :

Matters concerning your family and property are accented for this period. A decision is required now, though you don't have all the facts you need. Old problems in relationships, even with the deceased, will surface for cleansing and healing. A new family member may enter the scene, or you may begin to spend more time with family in general.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

The accent of this eclipse cycle is on travel, education, care of vehicles and relationships to siblings, roommates, neighbors, or others who daily traverse your life. Habit patterns of thought are being brought to consciousness so negative thinking can be corrected. You are learning new practical life skills.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

During this 18 month series of eclipses you are pressed to value yourself in new ways. Alongside of that comes education in the management of money and other resources, such as time and energy. There will be less help from others in these arenas, but you are creating these resources for yourself. There may be a critical turn of events during this period.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22)

Your sense of personal identity is the subject under consideration. Who are you becoming and who do you need to be? How do you wish to define yourself before the world? Given the intensity of this eclipse, you may be struggling to hold onto your identity while simultaneously maintaining a personally rewarding relationship.

Scorpio (Oct. 23--Nov. 21) :

The Aries/Libra eclipses emphasize your need to create order, both internally and externally. Continuing your projects requires the faith of your deepest self. Bringing order out of chaos is done on both the inner and outer levels simultaneously, so while you organize your health routines, you are also organizing your psyche.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 --Dec. 20):

This eclipse season will be opening your mind and heart to accept a larger circle of friends. You may become a leader or a strong supporter of a community network which has shared ideals. Certainly you will continue to have the friendships you have built in the past. However, your attention may be focused on more political goals.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

This eclipse focuses a certain amount of intensity in both the arenas of career (work in the world) and also home, hearth and family. You have stretched your worldly boundaries in the past 18 months to serve a new group people. Family relationships of this 18 month saros cycle includes one loss and one gain. This might include pets.

Aquarius (Jan. 20--Feb. 17) :

Legal, ethical or educational issues are emphasized by this 18 mo series of Aries/Libra eclipses. Travel will be punctuated, whether it via of body, mind, or spirit. Exposure to those of different backgrounds or cultures opens your heart and expands your philosophy. A challenge concerning siblings, roommates, or neighbors may cause you to seek a Higher Road.

Pisces (Feb. 18--Mar. 19) :

This eclipse pattern emphasizes issues of sexuality, intimacy, and material accumulation. Reorganization of debt, investments and your estate may be in progress. You may become more conscious than usual about existential matters related to life, death, and what is on "the other side" of normal, waking consciousness.

Archbishop Khoren Nar Bey de Lusignan (d. 1892)

Dawn

Roses upon roses
Spread in sheets below,
In the high blue ether
Clouds that shine like snow,
Lightly, brightly, softly,
Spread before thy feet,
In this tranquil season
Wait thy face to greet;
Waits in hope all nature,
O Aurora sweet!
Radiant, pure she rises,
In her veil of white,
With her floating tresses
Gleaming golden bright,
Spreading wide in ripples
By the zephyrs swayed,
And her pearly pinions
Opening, half displayed -
Gracious, fair Aurora,
The celestial maid.
On her brow bright jewels
Glow in loveliness,
And her joyous glances
Heaven and earth caress;
While her rose-lips, brighter
Than earth's blooming bowers,
Smiling blithely, scatter
Perfume sweet in showers,
Making yet more fragrant
Many-colored flowers.
Now the small birds twitter
'Mid the leaves so green,
Blending with their rustle;
Hail, O Dawn serene!
Hail! Thou changest darkness
Into sunlight free,
The sad earth thou makest
Glad and full of glee.
All created beings
Cry "All hail" to thee.
Unto thee each offers
Its first gift in love,
Tenderest gift and holiest;
Cloud that floats above,
Zephyr, crystal streamlet,
Flowers and nightingale -
All with love are melted,
Praise thee, bid thee hail,
Heavenly maiden, lovely
In thy shining veil!
Thou our hearts that charmest
Now with such delight,
Leave us not forsaken
In the grave's dark night!
When our eyes are closing,
Let it beam and shine
Still before our souls' eyes,
That sweet light of thine,
Full of hope and promise,
Dawn, thou maid divine!

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