

Mario Mazzola is the Fifth Global IT Award Laureate

On 12 November Serzh Sargsyan decorated Cisco Chief Development Officer with the President's Award



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New French Amb. presents credentials to Armenian President

The newly-appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the French Republic to the Republic of Armenia, Jean-Francois Charpentier, presented his credentials to President Serzh Sargsyan.

The President congratulated Ambassador Charpentier on his appointment and expressed the hope that he would do his best to fulfill his diplomatic mission for the benefit of the two friendly countries and peoples.

Serzh Sargsyan expressed satisfaction with the fact that year after year the special relationship between Armenia and France has been further strengthened and deepened. In the Armenian President's opinion, this multidimensional and close relationship is manifested through active political dialogue, strong interstate relations, model decentralized cooperation, intensification of economic relations and through collaboration in the cultural and numerous other fields.

Serzh Sargsyan noted that Armenia is keen on maintaining and further promoting friendship and warm relations.

Ambassador Jean-Francois Charpentier assured that during his tenure he would do his best to worthily continue the previous ambassador's work highly appreciated by the RA President and to make the relationship between Armenia and France more dynamic, further enlarge their cooperation having a great future and potential, enhancing and elevating it to the high level of relations in other spheres.

The newly-appointed French ambassador said that he was very proud and honored to assume office in a country that had ancient history, a rich spiritual-cultural heritage and age-old friendly ties with France.



Armenian helicopter shot down near Karabakh

In a fresh escalation of tensions in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, Azerbaijan's military shot down on November 12 an Armenian combat helicopter near Karabakh, killing its three crew members.

The incident took place at the eastern section of the line of contact between Azerbaijan and Nagorno Karabakh, Press Service of the NKR Defense Ministry reports.

Later in the day the Karabakh Defense Army identified the three dead pilots as Major Sergey Sahakyan, Senior Lieutenant Sargis Nazaryan and Lieutenant Azat Sahakyan.

Azerbaijan's Defense Ministry claimed that the helicopter gunship was shot down after "attacking" Azerbaijani army positions in the Aghdam district east of Karabakh. It said Armenian warplanes and helicopters had carried out "provocative flights" over the frontline in the past three days.

The Armenian military dismissed those claims. Military officials in Stepanakert and Yerevan insisted that the Mi-24 carried no weapons and did not cross the frontline.

"The escalation of the situation by the Azerbaijani side continued even after the helicopter fell," said Artsrun Hovannisyanyan, the spokesman for the Defense Ministry in Yerevan. "Gunshots from the Azerbaijani



side did not allow [Armenian servicemen] to approach the pilots."

"The consequences of this unprecedented escalation of tension will be very painful for Azerbaijan," Hovannisyanyan warned in a Facebook post. He did not elaborate.

The helicopter was brought down as tens of thousands of Armenian and Karabakh soldiers held large-scale exercises near "the line of contact" for a seventh consecutive day.

The shooting down came just over three months after an upsurge in deadly truce violations around Karabakh as well as on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border, which left at least 16 Azerbaijani and 6 Armenian soldiers dead. Tensions on the frontlines eased substantially following an August 10 meeting of the Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents, which was mediated by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Serzh Sargsyan flies To Karabakh

RA President Serzh Sargsyan who has made a working visit to the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic as part of the RA and NKR armed forces' joint operative-tactical military exercises "Unity-2014," on November 13, accompanied by NKR President Bako Sahakyan, the two Armenian republics' defense ministers and some representatives of the supreme command of the armed forces, observed the military exercises conducted by the sub-



units of the Defense Army in the central part of the Artsakh Republic and encouraged the most distinguished servicemen.

The RA and NKR Presidents also took part in the opening of a number of new military buildings, familiarized with servicemen's everyday life and their living conditions. Afterwards, they visited one of the command posts of the Defense Army to listen to the decision made by the commander of the Defense Army.



Russia, US React to Helicopter Downing



Russia, together with other co-chairing countries of the mediating OSCE Minsk Group, will continue targeted efforts in resolving the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, the Russian Foreign Ministry's official spokesman said Thursday, a day after Azerbaijani forces shot down an unarmed Artsakh military helicopter, killing three people.

"Russia calls on Armenia and Azerbaijan to refrain from moves which could lead to the escalation of tensions," the Russian Foreign Ministry's spokesman Alexander Lukashevich said on November 13, TASS reports.

Congratulations, Mr Armen Smbatyan!



On 17 November prominent Armenian statesman, Counsellor of the RA President on the International Cultural and Humanitarian Cooperation and diplomat having rank of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, composer, Honored Art Worker of the Republic of Armenia, holder of a number of high Armenian as well as foreign awards, Dr. of Science Professor *Armen Bagrati Smbatyan* marks his 60th birthday.

We congratulate wholeheartedly H.E. A.B.Smbatyan for his glorious jubilee and wish him and his family members good health, happiness and further success in all his deeds in the name of prosperity of our Motherland Armenia and Armenian people.

The Noyan Tapan Media Holding

"We are very concerned about the incident which has led to the deaths of people. We offer our deepest condolences to the families of the victims," Lukashevich said, adding that Russia's stance was reflected in the statement of the OSCE Minsk Group on November 12.

The spokesman said that Russia reminds the leadership of Azerbaijan and Armenia of their "responsibility towards complying with their commitments on searching for a peaceful resolution of the conflict which they took at the meeting in Sochi, Newport and Paris."

The United States and the European Union similarly echoed international mediators' concerns of an escalation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict resulting from Wednesday's incident.

The EU's foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, also called for an inquiry into the incident which could lead to another upsurge in fighting between Armenian and Azerbaijani forces, RFE/RL's Armenian service) reports.

"It is essential that all sides show restraint and avoid any actions or statements which could escalate the situation. Furthermore, we call for an investigation into this incident," read a statement issued by Mogherini's office late on Wednesday.

"Both sides have to strictly respect the ceasefire, to refrain from the use of force or any threat thereof, and to resume efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict," added the statement.

U.S. State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki similarly said that the incident is "yet another reminder" of the need to reduce tensions in the conflict zone. There can be "no military solution to the conflict," Psaki told reporters in Washington.

"We urge all sides to respect the ceasefire and not to take any actions to escalate the situation," Kate Byrnes, the acting head of the U.S. mission to the OSCE, said on Thursday.

Byrnes spoke at a meeting of the OSCE's governing Permanent Council in

Vienna, which discussed the Karabakh conflict and the downing of the Armenian helicopter in particular. The U.S., Russian and French diplomats co-chairing the OSCE Minsk Group briefed the council on their ongoing efforts to revive the Karabakh peace process.

"A wider conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh is in no one's interest," James Warlick, the U.S. co-chair tweeted ahead of the Vienna meeting.

NATO also warned against an escalation in violence. The incident "is absolutely not conducive to the peaceful resolution of this conflict," NATO's Liaison Officer in the South Caucasus William Lahue told reporters on the sidelines of a workshop for reporters organized within the framework of NATO Week in Armenia.

"Military actions serve to inhibit the ability of the parties to resolve such a conflict," he said, adding that "NATO would like to see the parties engaged in peaceful negotiations and discussions to resolve this conflict within the OSCE Minsk Group format."

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) also urged Armenia and Azerbaijan to honor their 20-year-old truce on Thursday, Reuters reports.

The OSCE, which has led talks between Azerbaijan and Armenia since the war, said it should not lead to new violence.

"The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Swiss Foreign Minister, Didier Burkhalter ... appeals to the Presidents of Azerbaijan and Armenia to do their utmost to prevent such incidents and to honor the ceasefire regime," the OSCE said in a statement.

Footage from the Azeri side showed the helicopter explodes in the air over the neutral zone between the two sides and officials said the three crew members were killed.

Armenia promised "painful" consequences for Azerbaijan after it downed the helicopter, which had been carrying out training exercises.

The Azeri defense ministry said an army officer had been honored for shooting down the aircraft.

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CSTO Chief Calls Helicopter Downing 'Dangerous Expression of Violence'

The downing of an unarmed Artsakh helicopter during a training flight has provoked further aggravation of the situation in the region and increased concerns, Secretary General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) Nikolay Bordyuzha said in a statement.

"Armed incidents have occurred along the line of contact of the armed forces of Nagorno Karabakh and Azerbaijan all through 2014. The ceasefire was violated over 1,500 times during just the three summer months, with civilian settlements and peaceful populations targeted. There were incidents of incursion by subversive groups that resulted in

violence and death of civilians," the Secretary General said.

"Today we witnessed yet another violation of the ceasefire agreement. The downing of the helicopter is a dangerous expression of violence, which creates a new threat of escalation of the conflict. The situation in the South Caucasus is further aggravating," he said.

"We are deeply convinced of the need to prevent the threatening development of the situation. The most important things that could prevent such turn of events include refusal from the use of force, unequivocal commitment to the ceasefire agreement and avoidance of provocative



actions. It's important to ensure the continuation of the negotiation process on the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict," Bordyuzha stated.

Thomas de Waal: Helicopter downing threatens shaky truce

"The shooting down of an Armenian helicopter on the ceasefire line - known as the Line of Contact that separates Armenian and Azerbaijani forces in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone - is the worst incident of its kind in more than 20 years of the truce that ended the war of the early 1990s," Thomas de Waal, senior associate for the Caucasus at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, writes in an article published by the BBC.

"Three Armenians were killed, and the Azerbaijani officer who shot down the helicopter was given a medal for courage. It is a very disturbing development that follows a serious upsurge of fighting in the summer in which more than 20 soldiers were killed on both sides," he wrote.

The Azerbaijanis blame the Armenians for sending two helicopters to fly over their positions. The Armenians say the helicopter was on a routine training mission and posed no danger. A video taken from the Azerbaijani side shows a missile being fired and one of the two helicopters bursting into flames to shouts of excitement from the Azerbaijani soldiers.

"There is no military logic to these attacks. A local commander can be responsible for small arms fire, but use of heavier weapons takes a decision from politicians higher up. These attacks are all about showing off your strength," Thomas de Waal writes.

According to him, the incidents at the line of contact "are an illustration of the increased militarization of the Nagorno-Karabakh ceasefire line over the last 20 years - the most militarized zone in Europe."

France 'working' on new Armenian Genocide bill

France's President Francois Hollande has instructed his government to draft a new law that would make it a crime to deny the 1915 Armenian genocide in Ottoman Turkey, a senior French diplomat said on November 12.

"In accordance with the president's instruction, the French government ... is working on the new bill that would address objections made by the Constitutional Council," Jean-Francois Charpentier, the new French ambassador to Armenia, told a news conference.

Charpentier said the bill is being drafted by the French Ministry of Justice. But he could not say when it will be approved by the government and sent to the French parliament.

The parliament's two houses already passed such a law in December 2011 and January 2012, a move that was orches-

trated by Hollande's predecessor Nicolas Sarkozy. France's constitutional court subsequently struck it down as unconstitutional, however.

Hollande pledged to criminalize public denial of the Armenian genocide when he ran for president in 2012. He told leaders of France's influential Armenian community at the time that the new bill should be drafted with "utmost legal security" that would satisfy the French Constitutional Council.

Charpentier noted that Hollande reaffirmed that pledge in Paris last April while commemorating the 99th anniversary of the deaths of some 1.5 million Armenians in the Ottoman Empire. The envoy also confirmed that the French president will visit Armenia next April to attend official ceremonies marking the 100th anniversary of the genocide.



Prime Minister congratulates social workers on professional holiday



Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan attended a gala event dated to the Social Worker's Day and the 10th anniversary of the founding of Welfare Work and Technology Chair at the Yerevan State University.

Extending congratulations on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Armenia and himself, Hovik Abrahamian stated in part, "Social workers are conducting an important mission in our country, which requires a lot of organization, focus of effort, sometimes overstrain, especially when dealing with the most vulnerable. At the same time, it calls for a special attitude based on the respect of human rights and the principles of humanism; I would say a caring approach."

According to the Premier, the current reforms in the social sector are implemented based on a new integrated approach toward the provision of social services, and aim not only to respond to the people's needs, but also to predict and manage future risks, especially as success depends not only on improved laws and procedures, but also on the commitment to bring them to life.

"We still have much to do to reduce poverty, ensure equal

opportunities for all members of society and address the population's requirements. Those in attendance of this event and thousands of others outside this room have the calling to provide daily efforts in order to help people ease their concerns and solve their social problems. Although we are still far from our ultimate goal of turning into a socially developed society, but the work being done is worth high appreciation as it helps us achieve our final objective," the Prime Minister added.

Assuring of the Government's undertaking to focus on sector development and further improvement issues, Hovik Abrahamyan wished every success to social workers in their important mission.

For valuable contribution, decent and productive work, the Prime Minister's commemorative medal was given to YSU Sociology Chair, Department of Social Work and Social Technologies Associate Professor Mira Antonyan. The Premier's diplomas were presented to Gavar Orphanage SNCO social worker Nara Baghdasaryan, Idjevan Welfare Service Agency chief specialist Tigran Poghosyan, Nor-Nork Welfare Service Unit chief specialist Alvard Sargsyan, Artashat Employment Center Accounting, Consulting and Implementation Unit head Sonik Yeghiazaryan, Yerevan N1 Nursing Home nurse Emmik Ivanyan and Nork Information-Analytical Centre Research and Analysis Division head Seda Israelyan.

Then the Prime Minister toured the stands of the exhibition organized on the sidelines of the forum, which were presented by the international and non-governmental organizations engaged in social sector activities, as well as a number of ministries and the YSU Faculty of Social Work and Social Technologist.

Hovik Abrahamyan talked to the staff to learn of the pace of various projects and subsequent steps. Note that the event was hosted by the USAID/PRIP program.

New World Bank loan to support Armenian reforms



The World Bank announced on November 13 the release of a \$75 million budgetary loan to the Armenian government that commits it to improving the domestic business environment and implementing broader economic reforms.

The Development Policy Operation

loan, formally approved by the bank's governing board in Washington late on Wednesday, will cover around one-third of Armenia's state budget deficit projected for this year.

"The Operation is designed to support economic growth and sustainability to help Armenia reduce poverty and promote shared prosperity," Laura Bailey, the head of the World Bank office in Yerevan, said in a statement. "Creating jobs is critical here in Armenia. The program aims to achieve this through strengthening competitiveness and enhancing fiscal, social and environmental sustainability."

The statement listed five policy objectives that have been agreed with the Armenian authorities and will be support-

ed by the low-interest credit repayable in 25 years. Those include measures to improve the country's investment climate that has long been affected by government corruption and a lack of competition.

According to the World Bank, the authorities will specifically reduce the frequency of financial inspection of businesses conducted by tax officials. They have also pledge to simplify customs administration procedures for Armenian importers of goods.

The latest allocation raised to just over \$2 billion the total amount of various loans disbursed to Armenia by the World Bank since 1993. The figure accounts for roughly half of the country's overall external debt.

Serzh Sargsyan: The day of retribution will come



On the third day of his working visit to the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, the RA President and the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the RA Armed Forces, Serzh Sargsyan, in company of NKR President Bako Sahakyan, observed the RA and NKR armed forces' "Unity-2014" joint operative-tactical military exercises at the Tigranakert Military Training Center. A tank biathlon competition was demonstrated during which the best participant in shooting and other categories were determined. The Presidents of the two Armenian republics observed the live-fire firing phase from the observation-tower of the same military training center followed by an award giving ceremony dedicated to the servicemen actively involved in the military exercise and military service. Serzh Sargsyan congratulated the participants of the military exercise on demonstrating courage and high fighting abilities in the imitated battle and the successful implementation of these large-scale military exercises.

"Honorable generals and officers,

Dear soldiers,

The biggest, the most large-scale and useful military exercises that have been ever conducted with the cooperation of the NKR Defense Army and the RA Armed Forces are coming to their end, and despite the deplorable occurrence, I think that the military exercises have succeeded. Of course, corresponding experts and executives are yet to sum up, analyze and draw conclusions about them but we are happy for what we saw in the imitated battle. You demonstrated high fighting abilities, will and devotion to the Motherland. Well done, thank you.

Throughout these days, not only your proud parents, but also the entire population of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and the Republic of Armenia have focused their attention on you, because you are our hope and belief, our sword and shield, and as you know, the shield is stronger and the sword is sharper when they are used for just purposes. You serve the ends of justice
Thank you.

Of course, you have been followed by foreigners and, first of all, the ones who consider us their enemies, who use indiscriminate methods and are able to chop a sleeper; who are able to destroy a non-dangerous helicopter that has got into a difficult situation. It is their business. You do your work well. We all remember everything, and the day of retribution will come. Your task is very clear: continue in the same spirit. I have said numerous times and I am reiterating that the war instigated by the Republic of Azerbaijan at the beginning of the 90s was also the result of underestimation, and if, God forbid, they instigate war once again, we too will be guilty of giving them the chance to underestimate us.

Respectable officers,

Dear soldiers,

Your behavior demonstrated in the imitated battle and the contact line, as well as your fighting trim deserves not underestimation, but appreciation. Your mastery already makes very many Azeri simpletons change their opinion about war. They thought that fighting against Nagorno-Karabakh and

Armenia was a short and pleasant hobby, something like a flash mob – to assemble, perform an act, be photographed and disperse. No, there will be no flash mob and pleasant walk. I am confident that war will not occur either, because you are strong and are standing here.

Dear soldiers,

Remember, there has been written a lot on papers, including rights of humans and nations, but those rights need to be protected, and you are the guarantors of those rights. A lot of peoples of the world truly take pride in their armies, but you are responsible for our life and the security of our people. We believe in you and resting on that belief, we will do everything to reach a fair solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and ensure Armenia's and Artsakh's security.

We are grateful to you. You are our sons, we secure your rear and you are our defenders. Remember it. I wish all of you success. Military exercises are not the end, but the beginning of your fighting trim, diligence, sufferings, because both war and military exercises are emergency situations. And an emergency situation requires emergency actions that are full of difficulties and sufferings. But remember: there is not holier thing than serving the Motherland's security. You do it very well.

I would like to thank you on behalf of our people.

I wish you good service," said the RA President and the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the RA Armed Forces, Serzh Sargsyan, in his speech to the participants of the military exercise.

Later on, a military parade took place at the Tigranakert Military Training Center.

Presidents Serzh Sargsyan and Bako Sahakyan today also attended the opening of a newly-built military hospital in Martakert town.





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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

- 1780. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, /13th floor, 82 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD negotiable.
- 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

- 2286. **Sose str.**, Newly built, 12/2, 154sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD

- 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, 3storiad bld-300sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m , 3storiad 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, 2storiad 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, 4storiad 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., 3storiad bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capially repaired, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary /garage for 2 cars. Price: 4 000 USD.
- 1293. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2storiad

- 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., 4storiad 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., 3storiad 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., 4storiad 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., 2storiad 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., 4storiad building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- 1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5storiad building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable.
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str.**, Land - 400 sq.m, 3storiad bld-300sq.m, each floor-100sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable

PREMISES

- 2049. **Teryan str.**, ground floor+basemnet, 1st line, 200sq.m, repaired. Price: 6.000 USD
- 1693. **Malatia-Sebastia** 4storiad 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./, 2storiad building, 600sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capially repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- 1462. **Teryan str.**, 3storiad 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



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1 ROOM

- 1696.**Tumanyan str.**, 5/4, stone bld, 1 bedroom, h-3m, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 160.000 USD.
- 1726.**Khorenatsi str.**, 4/4, 35sq.m.,1bedroom, capitally repaired,heating system. Price: 55.000 USD.
- 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.

2 ROOMS

- 3003.**Sayat-Nova str**, 5/3, 105sq.m, 2bedrooms, 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:400.000USD
- 1156.**Komitas Ave.**, Hamardzumyan 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

- 3012.**Aram str**, Newly built, /7th floor, 136sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking, facing to bulvar, Price:300.000 USD negotiable.
- 2998.**North Ave**, Newly built, 9/6, 181sq.m, 3bedrooms, 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,3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,capitally repaied, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable
- 2802.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built,8/4, 166sq.m,3bedrooms, 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: Negotiabel
- 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 building1200sq.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 floorof the building, 600sq.m, ground floor300sq.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 Mkrtychyan 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, 4bedrooms, 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, hjeating 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, 4bathrooms, 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.,3bedrooms, 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.**Antarayan 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**. 3floors,8 flats,each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.
- 130.**Antarayan str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m,available sevices-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 131.**Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available sevices-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable

Mario Mazzola: "...I am Honored and Delighted with the Award... Armenia will Stay with Us for Good..."



By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**

Chief
Correspondent

We've informed The Highlights readers in our Weekly's 19 September issue that **Mario Mazzola**, a high-tech/IT guru and living legend who currently is Chief Development Officer at Cisco Systems, Inc., a world leader in the IT infrastructure and data centers industry, has become the 2014 Laureate of the Global IT Award, the RA President's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Humanity through IT. In accordance with the Charter of the Award, the Laureate arrived in Armenia in person, accompanied by his spouse **Luciana** and daughter **Franческа** on Sunday 9 November.

News conference and presentation at VivaCell-MTS

On 10 November Mario Mazzola visited VivaCell-MTS headquarters to give a lecture on "Innovations in Data Center Networking" for the representatives of the IT Industry of Armenia and the awardees of the 2014 RA President's Educational Award in the IT sphere.

Before the presentation Mr. Mazzola, VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Award Committee **Dr. Hovik Musayelyan** and the Award Selection Panel member and CEO and Chairman of the Viasphere Technopark **Anthony (Tony) Moroyan** gave a joint press conference.

"For me it is the great honor to be in the list of the Laureates of this Award

which is a special one", said Mario Mazzola, being a bit excited, and, we'd say - even with some genuine emotion..

"If frankly, I have not been expecting to receive such an Award", said an outstanding executive and engineer, who, according

famous previous Laureates, such as Steve Wozniak. He stated that it was really a great honor to be awarded Armenian President's Global IT Award. He further stated that it is a binding one - "I am ready to be helpful, as much as I can, to Armenia which has much in common with my native Italy".

"The technology should not be developed for itself, it should be very applicable for people, businesses, i.e. a user-friendly one", expressed this genius of technology during his presentation.

An advice to the Armenian students and young specialists from a legendary engineer and a team leader: the main secret of his (tremendous) success was a simple one - dedication to his own job, goals, and the team indeed.

Asked by The Highlights correspondent what did he know about Armenia before the nomination, Mr. Mazzola mentioned our "millennia-old history and culture".

Traditionally, Armenia's leading telecom operator company VivaCell-MTS supports projects aimed at developing sustainable solutions in the IT sphere as a key factor in boosting Armenia's competitive advantage. For the fifth time already the Company was undertaking the sponsorship of this important award encouraging the development of the IT sphere in Armenia.

Ralph Yirikian who is also a member of the Selection Panel, mentioned in his welcome address: "On behalf of VivaCell-MTS I would like to greet Mario Mazzola for his outstanding contribution in the IT sphere and express deep gratitude for his readiness to meet with the IT

community of Armenia, students and VivaCell-MTS employees. Armenia is a land of talents. There is no greater reward

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Mario Mazzola is the 2014 GIT Award Laureate: the awarding...



...and the press conference (10.09.2014) revealing his name (Vigen Sargsyan, Chief of the RA President's Staff, Chairman of the GIT Award Committee in the center)



from right to left: Hovik Musayelyan, Tony Moroyan, Ralph Yirikian, Mario Mazzola

to the US relevant magazines, is among top 50 IT people. Mr. Mazzola expressed his gratitude and warm feelings for being honored by the same Award as were the very

Mario Mazzola: "...I am Honored and Delighted with the Award... Armenia will Stay with Us for Good..."

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in life than making our dream come true, seeing the strong potential of Armenia revealed. The opportunity of communicating with you will allow us drawing the route to our dream more accurately."

Asked by this author "what keeps you as a company and as Ralph Yirikian personally keep on supporting such programs, because without your support the continuity of such programs is at doubt, especially if to take into account that VivaCell-MTS, an undisputed leader in the ICT sector in Armenia, has very huge tax "burden", being actually the country's second taxpayer?", Mr. Yirikian said that he personally and the Company

he has been leading since its establishment would spare no effort to continue support similar programs that contribute positively to the image of our Homeland country.

"It is a fact that the competitive advantage of Armenia is connected with the ICT sphere and this prestigious and ambitious award is a vivid proof of that. The giants of the high-tech sphere come to Armenia, increasing the awareness about our country as one that relies on its intellectual

potential," said Dr Hovik Musayelyan. In response to a question does an analogue of the GIT Award exist anywhere else in the world and also why such a Prize was established just in Armenia, Dr Musayelyan said that, in spite of existence of various awards and prizes in ICT, Armenia is the only country that attached the state level to the GIT Award. Why Armenia? Because in our country exist the leadership will, great inspiration and a big pool of talents who

are eager to turn Armenia in a world ICT hub, Hovik Musayelyan emphasized.

And, as the Award Laureates' benchmark has been set very high, how they are going to keep it at the same level in terms of finding new nominees, for, let's say, coming 5-10 years?

"We've been very well realizing all the importance and at the same time responsibility of the benchmark you've mentioned, and, do not worry, we have a list of no less



Meeting with the President Serzh Sargsyan



even the whole cities.

And, importantly for us the Armenians, especially under light of the recent unprecedented deed by Azerbaijan: All those inventions must serve only peaceful goals, a legendary inventor stated.

In his reply to a question from a student "What is needed for a SEUA student to become an employee

prestigious candidates," Dr Musayelyan ensured your author (and the gathered).

"The history knows few people that had the vision, conviction and opportunity to create technologies that resulted in considerable, paradigmatic changes in the IT sphere, thus having a positive impact on our lives. Mario Mazzola is one of those rare world-known individuals. It owes to his guidance that Cisco keeps the position of the leader and transforms the networking industry at the global level," said Tony Moroyan.

Tony Moroyan stressed that without Mr. Mario Mazzola's critical technology solution continued contribution to the convergence of voice, data and video it was very difficult to imagine existence of today's Internet, smartphones such as iPhones and many other products and services.

Mr. Moroyan, a Silicon Valley Armenian veteran (since 1960s), did the formal introduction of Mr. Mazzola, his life and revolutionary inventions, again and again stressing the Laureate's personal qualities as his extreme devotion to all the teams he has been ever leading, modesty and humbleness.

At the Mother See of Holy Echmiadzin

On November 10, His Holiness **Karekin II**, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, received Mario Mazzola, his family members, and his lifelong friends, Mr. **Piercarlo Ravasio** and Mrs Ravasio. According to Mother See infoservice, "His Holiness noted his appreciation for the important contribution made by the company led by Mario Mazzola in the development of the IT. Mr. Mazzola expressed his heart-felt apprecia-

tion, noting that during his time spent in Armenia, he has felt the warmth of the Armenian people everywhere...The CDO of Cisco Systems noted that it was a great honor to be receiving such an award".

Mario Mazzola is the Honorary Doctor of the Engineering University

Traditionally, a GIT Laureate was granted the title of the Honorary Doctor of the State Engineering University of Armenia (SEUA) which was followed by a lecture and a Q&A session.

"I'm so honored and delighted and moved by the Award of the University Honorary Doctor title", commenced Mr. Mario Mazzola his presentation. In his words, within the years, Cisco has contributed to development of other IT companies. The current clients list includes Facebook, Microsoft, Amazon, other world-recognized companies.

During his lecture Mr. Mazzola attached importance to applicability of the products developed; he touched upon convergence of voice, data and video, cloud computing technology and cyber security.

In reply to a question from your correspondent (an Engineering University graduate) about future projects Mario Mazzola said the future belongs to the cloud computing including connecting

at Cisco?" the Corporation Chief Development Officer said: "The most important thing is dedication...And...be open, contact with many, share your ideas with others...without that you cannot achieve any success. I have to recognize that my best ideas were born in the course of discussions, really...To have a success in the engineering you should have, first of all, capability for the teamwork..."

"And I am convinced that there are youngsters in your University who could be useful for Cisco as for specialists from such a country that Armenia is we always could find a job in our Corporation", Mr. Mazzola added.

According to him, today in Cisco, they have more and more young employees from other countries such as India.

The journalists present asked Mr. Mazzola several questions...

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Mario Mazzola: "...I am Honored and Delighted with the Award... Armenia will Stay with Us for Good..."

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One of the questions was "What was the reason Mr. Mazzola was convinced to be a GIT Award Laureate and to come to Armenia?" Mario Mazzola stated that his schedule currently is not as tight as in the past. So he could travel. And also I was impressed by Tony's (Moroyan) personality, indeed, he said. (Mr. Moroyan, hearing the statement, said "No, no, no").

"...I've been concentrating for many years in creating groups, delivering products, creating companies with interesting business model, but I've not been pursuing any... fame, any title or a kind of personal exposure... By the way, as an engineer, I've a strong admiration for **Steve Wozniak** (2011 GIT Award Laureate), - although I'd never be "Dancing with Stars" (an American TV show, - smiling), without Wozniak, Apple, Inc. would not exist today", Mario Mazzola added.

Tony Moroyan was asked how he was able to convince Mr. Mazzola since he was very modest person and did not seek recognition and awards: "During the discussions with Mr. Mazzola, I stated that the recognition was not just for Mr. Mazzola and for his life-long achievement but it was also for recognition of all the people who have worked with him many years. Also by this award, many will find a great role model to follow".

-And what about Cisco plans related to Armenia?

Mr. Mazzola stated that his team has operations abroad, e.g. India. He welcomes diversity of talents and Armenia has great talents and the possibilities exist. He also stated that after accepting to be the GIT Award 5th Laureate, he was informed that

his team was seriously looking to acquire a Silicon Valley small start-up, called Memoir Systems which had a small team in Armenia. "My opinion about Armenia

good engineering teams is to have very good education, schools. And we think that in Armenia has quite good educational system, Mr Mazzola said.



was positive. We acquired this company and its subsidiary in Armenia. One of my team members will be in Armenia this week to review future plans for Armenia", Cisco CDO said. He stated that his decision about the GIT was independent and was not influenced by other activities, including Memoir Systems acquisition that happened later on.

Again, the important point for having

...Once a month or sometimes even more frequently I'm meeting with **John Chambers**, Cisco CEO. As to our company's plans in Armenia, I think what we can do here, will be delegated to myself and my group.

...My last company, Insieme (which name means in Latin language "Together Now"), has been a team of the people who have been working hand-to-hand for more than twenty years...

And that is type of continuity of relationship in creative and dedicated work, i.e. strong teamwork effort that is able to provide innovation.

- What's your advice to the Armenian IT community managers?

- I think the (relevant) education in universities should be more theoretically-oriented - software development, proofs of topologies are very important for what we're doing now... And I think it can be done without having a huge infrastructure.

...Sometimes, if you look, for instance, at the development of microprocessors, a type of infrastructure you need is very major and requires much initial and continued investment.

In many other things we develop you can have specific tasks and goals that can be accomplished by a 20-30 people strong team (which is the best way to make progress).

...When Cisco for the first time acquired my company, Crescendo, in 1993, we were all together only 62-63 people. And later it was a time when I was responsible for organization of 17,000 people in

Cisco. Then I felt that the most of my time was spent for the issues related to HR, planning, i.e. "pure" management problems that was to me, if frankly, less interesting thing than my creative work...

So my advice to my Armenia colleagues is to focus on creation of not large groups being specialized on this or that area of the IT.

...Mr. Mazzola joked on his "habit" to leave Cisco and to come back the Corporation:

"It reminds me three times marrying, but the same lady (i.e. Cisco)".

(The idea of such a back'n'forth movement: if you want to implement a project in a short time, you get out the company as in big corporations it is very difficult to make such creative things - this is a matter of politics as various departments at the corporation are fighting, competing each other... So you develop your product fast, and then you are coming back with your new, smaller company/team got acquired by your previous corporation as its integral unit. (In April 2012 Cisco invested USD 100 mln in Insieme Networks, and just in a 1.5 year, in Nov. 2013, Insieme acquired it paying to Mario Mazzola and his friends and colleagues for thirty years **Luka Cafiero** and **Prem Jaine** USD 863 mln - **G.Kh.**)

At the Genocide Memorial

As it befits the case, the Laureate, his family members, friends paid tribute to the victims of the 1915 Armenian Genocide at the Tsitsernakaberd Memorial.

Your author talked to them a bit. As Mr Mazzola said, it was *"a very complete, touching feelings... It is impossible to deny and very difficult to forget what we've seen here... This huge, an incredible tragedy.*

But this also inspires for a hope, for a better future..."

Mrs Mazzola, Luciana (Cavaletti) said that *"indeed, we knew about the Armenian Genocide, but you realize all the horrors much better only when you yourself see all*

these documents, facts..."

In their younger daughter Francesca's opinion, *"the Museum very well done"*

"I wish the Museum to expand so to let more and more people in the world to get



Mario Mazzola and his lifelong friend Piercarlo Ravasio at the Matenadaran

know about this terrible tragedy", Ms Mazzola added.

Traditionally, the GIT Award Laureate planted a fir tree (what, according to protocol, is done mainly by the Heads of foreign states and govts.)

PM Welcomes Cisco Systems Chief Development Officer

According to the Government press service, *"on 12 November Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan welcomed Mario Mazzola.*

Congratulating Mario Mazzola for winning the presidential GIT Award, Mr. Abrahamyan said he was honored to host a prominent businessman with landmark achievements in the field of IT technology.

The Prime Minister pointed out that the development of information and digital technology is among his government's priorities as an area where our country can have a competitive advantage. This fastest growing branch of industry boasts around 20-25% growth every year, and there is still great potential to tap on.

Thankful for a warm welcome, Mr. Mazzola briefed the Premier on his company's activities, achievements and future plans, after which the parties discussed the prospects for boosting cooperation.

According to the Prime Minister, the Government has been implementing a number of successful projects with several multinational companies resulting in sev-

eral regional centers set up in Armenia. Given the successful experience of cooperation with Cisco Systems; the Cisco Networking Academy has been operational in Armenia since 2010 (in particular, based

mainly at the "Unicom" CJSC, one of the most dynamic companies - edit.), and the Government is prepared to expand it and support every reasonable initiative.

Mario Mazzola said his company is interested in making new business investments to promote bilateral cooperation.

At the end of the meeting, Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan awarded Mario Mazzola with a nominal watch".

The Awarding

On 12 November RA President **Serzh Sargsyan** received Mario Mazzola and Mrs. Mazzola.

Mr. Sargsyan underscored that time showed the GIT Award had completely proved its value: the IT industry had already achieved certain success, Armenian young men were pleased to be involved in the promising sphere of IT, schoolchildren for whom the Tumo Center for Creative Technologies had been founded also showed keen interest in it, and then they intended to found such centers in all Armenia's Marzes in the near future.

Mr. Mazzola thanked for being awarded the GIT Award and noted that it was an unforgettable event for him, his wife and daughter. Throughout these days they have felt the full warmth and hospitality of the Armenian people and have managed to win very good friends, visited the Matenadaran, familiarized with the Armenian people's millennia-old history and the testimonies of its contribution to world civilizations, visited the Memorial to the Victims of the Armenian Genocide and paid tribute to the memory of the innocent victims. Mr. Mazzola noted he was impressed with the Tumo center that opens up new opportunities for children to achieve success in the IT.

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Mario Mazzola: "...I am Honored and Delighted with the Award... Armenia will Stay with Us for Good..."

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"Mr. President, I am deeply impressed, touched and happy for the opportunity you have given me and my family to come to Armenia and feel the warmth and attention we are getting," said Mario Mazzola.

The Ceremony of the 2014 RA President's Global IT (GIT) Award took place on 12 November evening at the Presidential Palace followed by a reception in honor of Mario Mazzola and his spouse Luciana Cavaletti.

At the reception, the Chairman of the Executive Board of the GIT Award Committee Dr Hovik Musayelyan told about recent years' achievements in IT, the largest value-added and a dynamically developing sector in Armenia, initiatives aimed at boosting the sector in our country as well as about the GIT Award winner

Indeed, Mr. Barrett is right. We have no alternative to developing the knowledge-based branches. We are confident that the giants who have received this honorary award will return to Armenia, bringing with them a modern culture of high technology, and will raise the international prestige and recognition of our country that relies on knowledge and intellect. It is undeniable that Armenia's competitive advantages are closely related to the IT sphere, and our country has all the necessary prerequisites and resources to become a regional center and an important player," said Dr Musayelyan.

Dr Musayelyan expressed gratitude to the RA President's Staff (headed by Mr. **Vigen Sargsyan** who is also the Chairman of the GIT Award Committee - **edit.**), permanent sponsor of the Award VivaCell-

major paradigm shifts in the IT industry that have left their positive imprints on our lives and humanity. Mario Mazzola is one of these globally recognized Titans and rare Luminaries. Mario Mazzola has always been there to drive the key disruptions that allowed Cisco to continue to lead and significantly transform the network industry globally...

Mario has helped guide Cisco's strategies for providing global, end-to-end solutions & Convergence of Data, Voice and Video since 1997. This, ladies and gentlemen, was extremely difficult. Without this we would not be enjoying the ease of switching from Voice to Video to Data on our smartphones such as the iPhone, nor surfing easily on the world-wide-web...

Mr. Mazzola's impression of Armenia has been very positive. We think he will



selection procedure and the previous Awardees.

"Every year, making a speech at this ceremony, I mention various opinions of the previous Laureates about their visits to Armenia. Today I would like to recall the words of former Intel Corporation Chief Dr. Craig Barrett: "I am very impressed with the Armenian people's rich history and culture. I have been to Jerusalem many times and every time I visited the Armenian Quarter, I witnessed immense devotion and warmth. I can see the same thing in Armenia. Armenians are very clever, bright and hard-working people. I was happy to notice that Armenians understand the importance of developing information and telecommunication technologies for the country's future. It is pleasant to observe the same understanding at the government level."



MTS and Hayastan All-Armenian Fund for cooperation and support.

Tony Moroyan introduced Mr. Mario Mazzola, the 5th GIT Award Laureate:

"In history, few have had the vision, the stature and the capability to create disruptive technologies that have brought about

leave his imprint on the IT industry and on Armenia.

"...I have met many top executives, titans and luminaries in my professional life in the IT industry. It has always intrigued me what makes someone great. Gentlemen and ladies, Mario's secret is his unparalleled humility. It was not easy to convince him to accept this recognition."

President Serzh Sargsyan delivered a speech at the reception held on the occasion of the awarding ceremony, the highlights of which The Highlights readers could find below:

"...Today I have an honor to hand the RA President's Global IT (GIT) Award to the Chief Development Officer of Cisco Systems, Inc.

Neither Cisco Systems nor Mr. Mazzola needs special introduction. Everyone, who has more or less dealt with information

technology, should be well-aware of these names.

It is said that a talented person is talented in everything. I strongly believe that Mr. Mazzola's talent should have been revealed in any area he had chosen to dedicate his life to. Nevertheless, it has happened in the area of information technology, and it is now best utilized at Cisco Systems, Inc.

Today Cisco's engineering and technological solutions are probably used in almost every single country of the world. Those are utilized in mechanical engineering, mining industry, construction, trade, finance and banking, insurance and in a number of other areas...

...Thank you for finding it convenient to come and receive this modest award in person".

In his acknowledgment speech, GIT prizewinner Mario Mazzola said he was "thankful and proud" for being bestowed such a prestigious IT award, introduced his activities, talked about the development of the IT sphere in the world as well as about the present prerequisites for boosting that sphere in Armenia and its prospects. "Preserving its rich past, Armenia at the same time is looking for future evolution; and, seeing your firmness, I believe your country has good chance to get at the world IT", the Fifth GIT Award Laureate Mario Mazzola stated.

enthusiasm of the young with who I've always been working in a team with the great pleasure; you know, it has been a kind of "complementarism" between them and myself - their being "aggressive" incorporated with my experience. Yes, we should rely upon the young people, - like those I've met at the SEUA.

...As to your question on the Armenia's IT industry, I should say that I think for Armenia it is a just very moment to realize a very good opportunity based on the people's enthusiasm, capability and education... I felt the people here are eager to participate in changing the country.

Today (12 Nov.) I've visited Tumo Center, and there I was impressed much by



Mr Mazzola with the RA Premier Hovik Abrahamyan....

...and Karekin II

...The GIT Award of the President of the Republic of Armenia has already five years' history. Therefore, this ceremony also celebrates an anniversary of this prize.

And today we can assert confidently that this award is well-established and widely recognized internationally. ...

But through this Award we also direct a special message to our youth. Today's ceremony is symbolic and pregnant with the slogan of the Cisco Systems, Inc.: "Tomorrow starts here". I am confident that Mr. Mazzola will serve as a role-model for Armenian youth...

Distinguished Mr. Mazzola,

I am very glad that you have arrived in Yerevan accompanied by your family members, your wife and daughter. I hope that during your stay you will learn about our country, our people's history and present. As for us, we always look forward to seeing our friends and are ready to give them our warmth.

And, as usual,

the Laureate's interview with The Highlights:

-...The strongest emotion that I've felt was at the Armenian Genocide Memorial, and, especially, in its Museum. And I am amazed by the Armenians' will to reborn after this tragedy and to have their own independent state.

As to the Armenian people, we all have been very impressed from the immense sense of the hospitality we've enjoyed in Armenia, their warmth, steadiness to move ahead, to change something, to make a progress. And I've seen this desire to move ahead in a very clear way when meeting with students at the Engineering University.

Although within last decades the humanity have had revolutionary achievements in science and technology, but, still, there is a space for future great discoveries, and in these terms one should focus on the

the energy, passion of the teachers, - my colleagues, and also by the originality of the programs, in particular, those related to programming, robotics, animation, script languages.

If frankly, what I've seen there, is much more advanced that in many other places.

I've already been mentioning absolutely sincerely that the aspirations of the young here in many cases is to become equal technically and technologically to those we have in the United States.

So those programs and the enthusiasm of the Tumo Principal and the teachers are really unique ones...

-In the practical terms, what did you talk with the Armenian Premier Hovik Abrahamyan?

- Well, about Mr. Prime Minister's request to invest more in Armenia I'd refer to the Cisco CEO **John Chambers**. Notably, Cisco recently made a small acquisition here in Armenia - Memoir Systems

continued on page 16

Mario Mazzola: "...I am Honored and Delighted with the Award... Armenia will Stay with Us for Good..."

from page 15

Armenia, and yesterday I've visited that office...



younger colleagues in Armenia?

- I think the overall attention to the application space, the data space and the security is very important. Yes, data

elderly have been traditionally important.

My wife Luciana who was born in the Northern Italy, Milano, was coming for vacation to Sicily when we were very-



The Highlights has been covering the GIT Award since its very establishment

Mr Mazzola was very impressed by the Tumo Center. The Center Director Marie Lou Papazian in the center. On the right hand side from Mrs Papazian Armen Baldryan, Founding CEO of Unicomp, a Cisco Premier Partner for a long

...Naturally, by the moment I can give no 100% guaranties, but, I think soon the number of employees who are very knowledgeable people will reach 20-30 as they could be very useful for Cisco...

...Well, how soon?

- I think, in about five-six months.

In coming days **Tom Ezzo**, Chief Technological Officer (CTO) at my division with who I've been working since 1984 when Mr. Ezzo was a just-graduated from the Stanford University, is to come to Armenia, so I believe ties between Cisco and Armenia will get stronger in foreseeable future.

...What is the most important thing in today's rapidly changing world, especially in terms of IT, is the capability of employees and good education. And, as I see, these both elements are evident here in Armenia.

...And what is the advice from the Fifth Armenian President's GIT Award Laureate Mario Mazzola's to his

preservation is very important in today's world.

-And the last, but not the least, not at all: according to common opinion, there is a lot in common between Armenians and Italians...

very young, so we've been knowing each other for many-many years...

We've visited the beautiful Armenian churches, and we've seen the Ararat Mountain, which is, in particular, the Armenian special value, and, in general, a universal value - for entire mankind, so here we've realized all the contribution the Armenians have done in the entire human history and culture.

So this was a unique experience that will stay with me for the rest of my life.

-So, you, Mr. Mazzola, Mrs. Mazzola and your younger daughter Francesca loved our country...

- ...Absolutely, no doubt...

-So when are you back in Armenia?

...I've received invitation to participate in the Armenian Genocide Centennial commemorative events.

By the moment I can't declare my commitment to come in 2015 April as I have to check my schedule for the possibility to come, but I feel honored by that invitation, no doubt.

Photos by Zaven Khachikian, Photogroup Studio



From left to right: US Ambassador H.E. John Heffern, Ambassador of Italy H.E. Giovanni Ricciulli, Tony Moroyan and Piercarlo Ravasio

So have you found something really Italian in us the Armenians?

-I must be speaking on this issue very openly: I think, similarity you've just mentioned, in a bigger extent connected to Southern Italy such as, for instance, is my native Sicily.

...You know, both for the Italians and the Armenians family ties, respect to the

Republican Congressional majority casts dark shadow on Armenian interests



By *Harut Sassounian*

Publisher, The California Courier

Nearly all congressional candidates nationwide who supported Armenian - American issues were victorious during the November 4 elections. The outcome was similarly positive for other candidates running in state and local races. Consequently, the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA) announced that over 95% of its endorsed candidates had been successful.

Although both Republicans and Democrats have traditionally supported Armenian-American issues, there are some dark clouds looming over Armenian lobbying efforts in Washington due to major changes in the new Congress, which take effect in January 2015, during the critical Centennial Year of the Armenian Genocide.

Several key pro-Armenian Democratic Senators will lose their leadership positions as a result of the new Republican majority. For example, Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ), rated A+ on Armenian issues by ANCA, will no longer Chair the Foreign Relations Committee. He will be replaced by Sen. Robert Corker (R-TN), rated D+ by ANCA, one of five Republican Senators who voted against the Armenian Genocide Resolution in the Foreign Relations Committee last April. In addition, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), rated A by ANCA, will become Minority Leader. He will be replaced by Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY), rated C+ and endorsed for reelection by ANCA. Sen. McConnell has voted positively on some Armenian issues.

The picture is not any brighter on the House side, in terms of the position of its top leadership on Armenian-American issues. Speaker John Boehner (R-OH), who saw a major surge in his party's majority, had announced during a recent visit to Ankara that the House of Representatives will not deal with the Armenian Genocide issue. No wonder ANCA gave him a C rating. A glimmer of

hope is House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA), rated B- and endorsed by ANCA for reelection, who has maintained close contacts with his Armenian constituents. Fortunately, Cong. Ed Royce (R-CA), rated A+ and endorsed by ANCA, will still Chair the important Foreign Affairs Committee.

It is not surprising that the Turkish media has been gloating over the congressional election results. "Republicans favor Turkey on Armenian issue," was one of the headlines in Sabah, a Turkish newspaper. Reporter Ragip Soylu wrote: "Some changes within the Senate will help Turkey's distasteful experience with Congress." The "removal" of Sen. Menendez from chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee "will help Turkey's uncomfortable and weak position in the Senate." The reporter went on to call the continued Republican control of the House "more good news for Turkey as House Speaker John Boehner has already promised to not bring up the Armenian issue to the executive agenda of the chamber. 'Congress won't get involved in this issue. We don't write history, we are not historians,' he reportedly said during his visit to Ankara in April 2014."

In another Sabah article, Ilnur Cevik confidently wrote: "Turkey's fortunes are not so bad," in the face of "the likely problems posed by the advent of the 100th year since the 1915 incidents regarding the Armenians during Ottoman times." Cevik described Republicans not as "combative" on the Armenian issue as Democrats "who are dying to appease the Armenian lobby in the U.S. and thus would be more receptive to a tough worded motion regarding Armenians, especially in 2015 when the 100th year of the events during World War I when Armenians living under Ottoman rule were killed and the Armenians called this controversially a genocide."

Another Turkish publication, "World Bulletin," cheerfully headlined its report: "Republican Victory in US Congress Benefits Turkey." The article pointed out that "a Democrat-led Senate's Foreign Relations Committee would have been a nightmare for Turkish-American rela-

tions, as it would have come out with bills on Armenian claims of genocide during the 1915 incidents in eastern Turkey." Soner Cagaptay, Director of Turkish Research Program at Washington Institute for Near East Policy, confirmed the pro-Turkish orientation of the new Senate, as "it has been Republicans in the Senate who have blocked bills on genocide claims against Turkey." Another Turkish analyst, Kadir Ustun, observed that the chance of passing a Congressional Resolution on the Armenian Genocide "is now lower than ever, as the Republicans are in control of Congress."

It is now incumbent upon Armenian-Americans who have strong ties with Republican Congressional leaders to convince them to uphold Armenian initiatives, while exposing Turkey's support for ISIS terrorists who threaten US national interests in the Middle East.

Spacebridge with Armenian peacekeepers in Afghanistan

A spacebridge between Armenian peacekeepers on mission in Afghanistan and their families was organized at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as part of the NATO Week event in Armenia under the Individual Partnership Action Plan with NATO

In a video message Armenian Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan expressed gratitude to the peacekeepers involved in operations in Kosovo and Afghanistan.

Deputy Foreign Minister Ashot Hovakimyan attached importance to the participation and contribution of Armenian peacekeepers to the establishment of international peace and security.

UK Ambassador Catherine Leach, German Ambassador Reiner Morell and US Ambassador John Heffern, as well as representatives of the Ministry of Defense and the Peacekeeping Brigade also welcomed and extended their good wishes to the Armenian peacekeepers.

Frank acknowledgement of the facts behind 1915 events in the interests of Armenia and Turkey

"A full and frank acknowledgement of the facts behind the horrible events and this terrible set of massacres and tragedies that occurred is in the interest of both Turkey and Armenia," newly appointed US Ambassador to Turkey John Bass said in an interview with the Hurriyet Daily News. Asked whether the US is going to recognize the Armenian massacres of 1915 as genocide in 2015, the

Ambassador said: "What I would say about that today is that we have been quite clear as a government about our views on the circumstances and the events that transpired in this horrible tragedy beginning in 1915, as you see from our statements this past year on Armenian Remembrance Day and in prior years." "We continue to believe that a full and frank acknowledgement of the facts behind those horrible

events and this terrible set of massacres and tragedies that occurred is in the interest of both Turkey and Armenia, and important to building the kind of the relationship going forward between the two countries that we believe is in the interest of both countries and in the end, our shared interest with Turkey and building and strengthening stability in this region," Ambassador Bass said.

Members of Congress to hold press conference on White House display of Armenian Orphan Rug

On November 18th, Members of Congress including Reps. Adam Schiff and David Valadao and Armenian-American groups will host a press conference at the National Press Club to mark the opening of the White House display of the Armenian Orphan Rug - also known as the Ghazir Rug - a work of art that has been the subject of political controversy since it was woven by orphan survivors of the Armenian Genocide and gifted to U.S. President Calvin Coolidge in 1925 in appreciation for U.S. humanitarian assistance following Turkey's mass murder of over 1.5 million Armenians and other Christians during World War I.

For the past year, Rep. Schiff has been working with members of the Armenian American community, as well as several of his colleagues, to convince the White House to reverse a 2013 decision to not allow the rug to be displayed. Display of the Armenian Orphan Rug is especially sensitive to the Turkish government, which objects to any official U.S. commemoration, directly or indirectly, of the Armenian Genocide. Ankara has been able to block its exhibition for decades.

As the world prepares to mark the centennial of the Armenian Genocide, a crime that claimed the lives of 1.5 million Armenians, the display of the Orphan Rug will present a new generation of Americans with an artifact that can spark a candid discussion about how the world's failure to either prevent or punish the first genocide of the modern era has contributed to the cycle of genocide that continues to this day.

Following the press conference, Members of Congress and Armenian

American community leaders will proceed the few blocks to the White House Visitor Center to view the Armenian Orphan Rug, which will be on display from November 18th to 23rd.

After long decades in storage, and following Congressional pressure and a nationwide Armenian American grassroots campaign to secure its release, the White House has agreed to the display of the Armenian Orphan Rug, woven by orphan survivors of the Armenian Genocide and gifted to U.S. President Calvin Coolidge in 1925 in appreciation for U.S. humanitarian assistance following Turkey's mass murder of over 1.5 million Armenians and other Christians.

The White House will be displaying the Armenian Orphan Rug, also known as the Ghazir Rug, as part of an exhibit at the White House Visitors Center. The exhibit - entitled "Thank you to the United States: Three Gifts to Presidents in Gratitude for American Generosity Abroad" - will showcase the Ghazir rug, as well as the Sèvres vase, given to President Herbert Hoover in appreciation for feeding children in post-World War I France, and the Flowering Branches in Lucite, given to President Barack Obama in recognition of American support of the people of Japan after the devastating earthquake and tsunami in 2010. These three gifts to American presidents will be on display so visitors to the White House and those wishing to see the artifacts can view them."

The exhibit is scheduled to take place at the White House Visitor Center from November 18th to 23rd. The White House Visitor Center is located at 1450

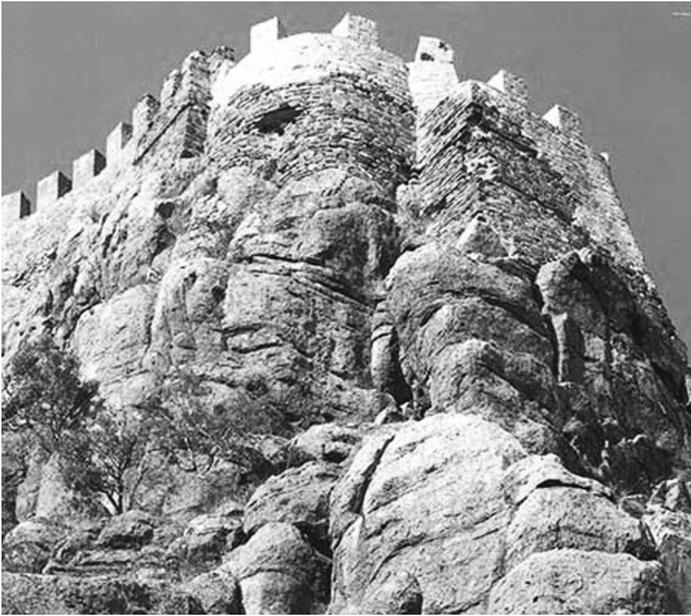
Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC and is open to the public from 7:30am to 4:00pm daily.

The Armenian Orphan Rug measures 11' 7" x 18' 5" and is comprised of 4,404,206 individual knots. It took Armenian girls in the Ghazir Orphanage of Near East Relief 10 months to weave. The rug was delivered to President Coolidge on December 4, 1925, in time for Christmas, with a label on the back of the rug, which reads "IN GOLDEN RULE GRATITUDE TO PRESIDENT COOLIDGE."

The controversy surrounding the Armenian orphan rug erupted in October, 2013, when the Washington Post and National Public Radio reported the White House's abrupt and unexplained reversal of its agreement to lend the rug for a December 16, 2013, exhibition at the Smithsonian Institute, organized in cooperation with the Armenian Cultural Foundation and the Armenian Rugs Society. In an interview with Public Radio International (PRI), Washington Post Art Critic Philip Kennicott noted that while the White House has not offered an explanation for the reversal in decision, it is likely due to the U.S. government's deference to Turkey's international campaign of genocide denial.

In November, 2013, a bipartisan group of over 30 U.S. Representatives, led by Representatives Adam Schiff (D-CA) and David Valadao (R-CA), called on the White House to reverse its decision. Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) and Representatives Brad Sherman (D-CA) and Nikki Tsongas (D-MA) also sent personal letters urging the White House to take action.

Armenian Asia Minor Volume Released



Armenian Communities of Asia Minor has been released by Mazda Publishers as the 13th volume in the UCLA series, "Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces," edited by Professor Richard G. Hovannisian. The Asia Minor volume focuses on several of the more than 100 Armenian communities within easy reach of Constantinople, the Ottoman capital, Massis Post

reports.

Although these communities are less well known to the general public than the traditional Armenian provinces to the east, they nonetheless had a vibrant existence, playing an important role in the production and exportation of silk, textiles, timber, tobacco, and agricultural products. Among them were the cities and towns of Izmid, Adabazar, Bardizag, Armash (the site of a noted seminary), Bursa, Banderma, Eski-Shehir, Kutahia, Sivri-Hisar, and Afion-Karahisar, each with its own Armenian quarters, merchants and craftsmen, schools and churches, cultural and athletic organizations, fanfare bands and choruses.

Contributing to the volume are Armen Manoug-Khaloyan and Richard Hovannisian, who provide an overview of the many Armenian communities stretching from the Gulf of Izmid to Konia; Ara Melkonian on the all-Armenian town of Bardizag; Barbara Merguerian on American missionary schools in Bardizag and Adabazar; Peter Cowe on Konia in the Seljuk period; Arpi Vardumyan on Komitas vardapet, the renowned son of Kutahia; Dickran Kouymjian on the exquisite tile works of Kutahia; Hasmik Khalapyan on the Armenian theater in Asia Minor and Rodosto on the European shore; Osman Köker on contemporary postcards depicting these communities; and Simon Payaslian on the decimation of the Armenians of Asia Minor, who were not spared in 1915 despite the fact that they constituted a small percentage of the total population. Roupen Berberian has prepared the maps that accompany the volume.

Food for diplomacy: Turkish project hosts Armenian chef

Kadir Has University's Lifelong Education Center, in collaboration with its Culinary School, has initiated a project that blends food and diplomacy, with an award-winning Armenian chef from Yerevan cooking dishes with students.

Khashntur Vahagni, an ancient lamb dish named after the Armenian god of war, Vahagni, a pre-Christian deity, was the main dish cooked by award-winning Chef Grigori K. Antinyan at a dinner organized as part of the "food for diplomacy" project in Istanbul, the Hurriyet Daily News reports.

The first four letters of the dish may have suggested a link to the dinner's host, Kadir Has University, but it was just a charming coincidence. However, the fact that Armenia was chosen as the first country for the university's project was not a coincidence, since "food for diplomacy" aims to harness the common heritage of culinary culture to enhance political, social and cultural dialogue between Turkey and its neighbors, near and far. With a rich common heritage, but closed borders, Armenia appeared to be a good choice as the first in the project.

"As part of the 'languages for peace' project, we opened courses to teach neighboring countries' languages, and Armenian was one of them. We decided to continue the languages for peace project with food for peace," said Mustafa Aydin, the rector of Kadir Has University.

The University's Lifelong Education Center, in collaboration with its Culinary School, invited Antinyan, who is also the founding member of the Armenian traditional cuisine associa-

tion, to cook together with the university's students.

The dinner was also designed to brainstorm about the state of bilateral relations. Ünal Çeviköz, Turkey's former ambassador to the U.K. and Azerbaijan, spoke about the current situation between the two countries. Çeviköz was one of the diplomats involved in the proposed reconciliation process in 2009 with Armenia, which ended up failing. In his speech, he paid homage to Mkrtuich Hekimyan, one of Ottoman Turkey's first wine producers, before continuing his speech with an overview of Turkish-Armenian relations.

The menu consisted of dishes served during special events such as New Year, Easter and other religious holidays, and combined ancient and modern Armenian culinary heritage.



Hermès' Armenian scarf goes on sale

The legendary luxury brand Hermès unveiled in early September a new scarf featuring an Armenian alphabet motif to mark the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Solidarité Protestante France-Arménie (SPFA), a humanitarian organization created in France in 1990 to aid victims of the Spitak earthquake in Armenia, Asbarez reports.

On Wednesday, Pierre-Alexis Dumas, artistic director of Hermès, and Janik Manissian, president of SPFA, announced that the silk carré will be on sale, by subscription only, until Nov. 30.

The proceeds from the exclusive, limited edition scarf are to be donated to the SPFA for its continued efforts in Armenia.

Ten years after "Jardins d'Arménie," the new design by Hermès, called "Lettres d'Erevan," celebrates 25 years of the SPFA. The silk scarf is presented in two colors. The scarf, featuring the Armenian alphabet, is a "testimony to the surprising vitality of the Armenian people and their culture," as Pierre-Alexis Dumas explained during the presentation at the Petrossian Restaurant & Boutique



in Beverly Hills.

On the scarf, dropped capitals and friezes are drawn in delicate calligraphy and illuminated in the style of ancient manuscripts. In the middle of the writing, under a richly embellished arch, a sage sits meditating beneath a starry sky; in his hands, he holds the tools of knowledge: a quill and an open book.

Speaking to Asbarez, the SPFA's gen-

eral secretary Clément Hellich-Praquin expressed her organization's gratitude for the initiative from Hermès. "As a small organization that struggles to meet its operational needs through limited resources, this is truly a great honor for us," Hellich-Praquin said. "We can continue to do great work for young children in Armenia and Artsakh thanks to this gesture from Hermès."

Erdogan says Muslims discovered Americas



Turkish leader says Muslims, not Christopher Columbus, discovered continent in 1178, offering to build a mosque in Cuba.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has said that the Americas were discovered by Muslims in the 12th century, nearly three centuries before Christopher Columbus set foot there, Aljazeera reports.

"Contacts between Latin America and Islam date back to the 12th century.

Muslims discovered America in 1178, not Christopher Columbus," the president said in a televised speech during an Istanbul summit of Muslim leaders from Latin America.

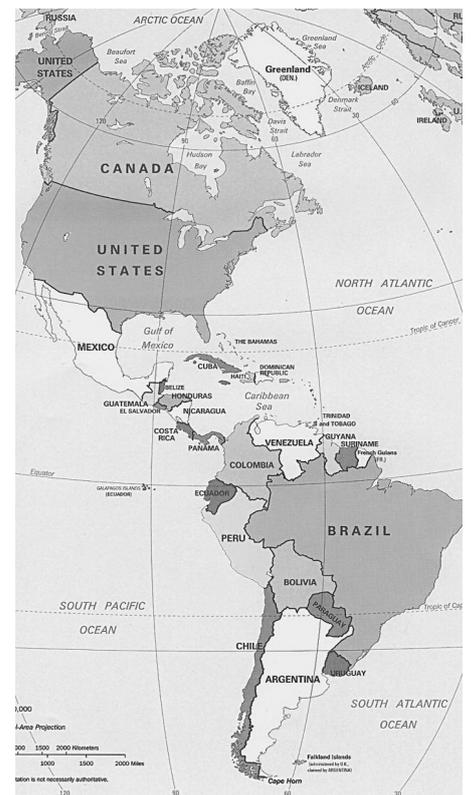
"Muslim sailors arrived in America from 1178. Columbus mentioned the existence of a mosque on a hill on the Cuban coast," Erdoğan said.

The president also said that Ankara was prepared to build a mosque at the site mentioned by the Genoese explorer, the AFP news agency reported.

"I would like to talk about it to my Cuban brothers. A mosque would go perfectly on the hill today," he said.

Most history books say that Columbus set foot on the American continent in 1492, while seeking a new maritime route to India.

Some Muslim scholars have recently suggested a prior Muslim presence in the Americas, although no pre-Columbus ruin of an Islamic structure has ever been found.



"KAAR-MED"

PRIVATE CLINIC CENTER FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

The Private Clinic "KAAR-MED" has been functioning on the market for medical services for more than 15 years. The Clinic is located in Warsaw (10 Bitwy Warszawskiej street) close to the centre of the city within easy reach of Dworzec Zachodni railway station and other city communications networks.

Our Patients can use a private parking located directly at the entrance to the Clinic with special places for ambulance and disabled people. Clinic is fully adapted and friendly for wheelchair users.

The Clinic specialisation is gynaecology and obstetrics including full pregnancy care, "one day surgery" and aesthetic medicine procedures as well as plastic and cosmetic gynaecology. "KAAR-MED" employs gynaecologists and physicians of all specialisations who have clinical experience gained in leading Warsaw hospitals.

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

Our clinic fulfils all the official norms (stated by the Direction of the Health Minister of Poland of 02.02.2011) concerning professional, technical and sanitary conditions for health care organizations.

We are looking forward to see You in "KAAR-MED" Clinic and shall do out best to make You feel comfortable, safe and professionally treated here.

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02-362 Warsaw, Poland**

Information and registration:

- +48 22 823 04 52
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- + 48 50 910 74 05



WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?**Enjoy your leisure****18 November**

15:00. Alice in Wonderland. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Rich Girl Can't Be Ugly. Author: Alexander Ostrovski. Director: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Comedy, 2 acts. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. The Conquest of Tmkaberd. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Coma Nostra. Author: Narek Duryan. Staging and music design by Narek Duryan. Producer: Kristine Hovhannisyan. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
20:00. As a Beginning. Hrachuhi Utmazyan. Artur Utmazyan. Poetry, ?vening of literature and music | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan

19 November

12:00. The Tailless Fox. Author: Hovhannes Tumanyan. Staging: Ruben Marukhyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Gayane. A. Khachaturyan. Ballet in 3 acts. Ballet | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. Twelfth Night. Author: William Shakespeare. Comedy in 2 acts. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. Flight Over The City. Author: Anush Aslibekyan. Director/Producer: Narine Grigoryan. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
20:00. Why have we invented love?. Based on Edward Albee. Director-Assistant: Hranush Chichakyan. Play | Edgar Elbakyan Theater
21:30. Yohan & Co. Rock mega-hits. Concert | Stop Club

20 November

19:00. Physiology of Race. Author: A. Ayvazyan. Staging: Narine Malyan.

Genre: Tragicomedy. Play | H. Malyan Theater of Film Actors

19:00. Flowers Manuscript. Author and Director: Zhirayr Dadasyan. Music by: Vahan Artsruni. Mime play in one act. Play | Yerevan State Pantomime Theater
19:00. Pro Semiramis. Dance show for adults. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Vahan Teryan. A literary-musical evening dedicated to Vahan Teryan. Poetry, ?vening of literature and music | Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall
19:00. UNDER GROUND. Author: Ara Yernjakyan. Staging Director: Lusine Yernjakyan. Pessimistic comedy. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
19:00. Tagharan Ensemble of Ancient Music: Charity Concert. Artistic Director and Principal Conductor: Sedrak Yerkanyan. Concert | Chamber Music House after Komitas
20:00. Herbie Hancock: Live in Yerevan. Herbie Hancock, piano. Vinnie Colautta, drums. James Genus, bass. Concert | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
20:00. Why have we invented love?. Based on Edward Albee. Director-Assistant: Hranush Chichakyan. Play | Edgar Elbakyan Theater
20:00. A Tale from the Clouds. Z. Antonyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
21:30. The Band. Concert | Stop Club

21 November

19:00. King John. Author: William Shakespeare. Translation: Khachik Dashtents. Tragedy in 2 acts. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan
19:00. Julius Caesar. Author: W. Shakespeare. Tragedy in 2 acts. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. Natalie Filion. Performance in Russian, for adults. Play | State Puppet

Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Anush. Author: H. Tumanyan. Director: Davit Hakobyan. Drama. Play | State Musical Chamber Theater
19:00. Geghuni Chitchian: A Tribute Concert. Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra. Concert | Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall
19:00. Albania+. Author and director of the play: Ara Yernjakyan. Pessimistic comedy. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
20:00. Ak. Ak. Based on N. Gogol's "The Overcoat". Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
21:30. Ani Lupe Seno & Camaradas Band. Concert | Stop Club

15 November

12:00. Cinderella. Author: Charles Perrault. Staged by: A. Miridjanyan. Play for kids | State Musical Chamber Theater
12:00, 14:00, 16:00. Cock-a-doodle-doo. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
12:30, 14:00, 15:30. The Dog and the Cat. Based on Hovhannes Tumanian's tale. Staging: Anna Elbakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
19:00. Old Gods. Author: Levon Shant. Staging: Vahe Shahverdyan. Drama in 2 acts. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan
19:00. Maugli. R. Kipling. Director: Honoured Artist of Armenia, Davit Hakobyan. Play | Student Theater
19:00. Gala concert dedicated to Leonid Azgaldyan's 72th anniversary. Concert | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. Fish Without Water or Suicide. A. Khandikyan, L. Mutafyan. Tragicomic fantasy without a break. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. You Can't Get Rid Of Me. Author: Gurgen Khanjyan. Staging: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Comedy in 2 acts. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

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

Your warrior self is front and center during this period. The best use of this energy is on behalf of the Greater Good or another person who needs a champion. Use that energy with thoughtful intentionality. Your reflexes may be off kilter. Ground your adrenalin with heavy exercise but take care not to force your body beyond its limits.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

Walking around in your relationships may feel like a mine field right now. Either you or your partner is easily set off during this period. It could be a good thing if you call a truce and let things be while these challenging transits are occurring. Avoid contentious attitudes.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

The next two weeks focus your attention on the subject of healing. This may develop on the physical, spiritual or emotional plane. Given the mind-body connection, it is probable that work on the emotional level will heal you physically and vice-versa. If it is not you who is healing, then you may be tending someone significant in your life.

Cancer (June 21--July 21) :

You need a rest. You may withdraw into your shell for a while this week. The past 6 weeks have carried so much emotional energy for you that it would feel enormously good to be quiet and read a book. Give yourself a break.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

This is a time in which your exuberance and enthusiasm may carry you farther than you really intended to go. You will certainly have more energy to do whatever you choose, but take care that you don't promise way more than you can deliver. Your warm and generous heart will have a heyday.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

This may be a really good time to heal rifts in a relationship. Aspects favor dialogue and mutually human understanding. The energies augur communicating via written sharing as well. Activities involving school, studying new skills, and nearby travel are also favored.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22)

The financial picture is demanding that you review and revise your savings and/or investments. Don't make hasty decisions if you can help it. However, the circumstances may demand that you do. Relationship life is a little rocky. You may feel the need to be alone during this period.

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

A sudden surprise may strike you early in this week. After the shock wears off, you will eventually recognize that this is the best thing that might have happened. It breaks you away from a rut that has had you jammed tightly into a box.

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

Venus has entered your sign this week and will be traveling "with you" through Dec. 9th. Her presence gives you an air of poise and people will simply like how you look. She is a people attractor. Often when Venus is prominent we become more interested in art forms and things of beauty.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

After an explosion which may have already occurred, you are seeking to become focused again. There are those in your community who can soothe your fevered brow and help you restore calm to your life again. Seek them out.

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

It is possible that you have exploded with material that has come up from the depths of your soul, and probably from out of your past. You may be asking yourself, "Who said that?" Or maybe a secret has just been revealed. Look for grounding within your mind by grounding your body.

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

Events of this week may bring you healing on a variety of levels. This is a good week to connect with an exercise buddy and create a fresh routine that will elevate your spirit. You might also connect to someone on the internet who shares some of your interests.

Turkish-Armenian actor's name given to Istanbul street



The name of veteran Turkish-Armenian actor Nubar Terziyan has been given to his old street in Büyükdere in Istanbul's Sar?yer district, the Hurriyet Daily News reports.

According to Turkish-Armenian weekly newspaper Agos, the executive board of the Büyükdere Surp Hripsimyants Church started working last year to give the actor's name to the street, but the council of the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality rejected the proposal.

The foundation subsequently started a petition campaign and revised the proposal, which was approved a second time by the council.

Büyükdere Surp Hripsimyants Church Executive Board President Murat Süme conveyed his thanks to Sar?yer Mayor ?ükrü Genç, saying the official opening of the street would be organized in the coming days.

Terziyan was born as Nubar Alyanak in 1909 in Istanbul. In 1940 he began his acting career and in 1949 assumed his first major role in an adaptation of Hüseyin Rahmi Gürp?nar's "Efsuncu Baba." After performing in hundreds of films and several TV shows, Terziyan died at the age of 84 in 1994.

The actor won the hearts of cinema lovers as well as the famous artists of Ye?ilçam. He was dubbed "baba" (father) by Turkish cinema's "Ugly King," Y?lmaz Güney, as well as the handsome actor Ayhan I??k



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