

March of Silence in memory of fallen soldiers



Hundreds marched in Yerevan in memory of the soldiers killed along the Nagorno Karabakh line of contact over the past days. The participants of the March of Silence visited Yerablur Pantheon to pay tribute to the memory of the fallen soldiers.

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Germany's Merkel seeks 'lasting' truce in Karabakh



German Chancellor Angela Merkel called for a "lasting ceasefire" in Nagorno-Karabakh after discussing the sharp escalation of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict with Armenia's visiting President Serzh Sargsyan on April 6.

Merkel also offered Germany's "constructive support" to international efforts to stop fighting on the Armenian-Azerbaijani frontlines and brokered the conflict's peaceful resolution. A Karabakh settlement is of "utmost importance," the German DPA news agency quoted her as saying.

"Above all everything must be done so that more blood is not spilled and lives lost, and so the efforts to reach an acceptable and lasting ceasefire are extremely urgent," Merkel told a joint news conference with Sargsyan, according to Reuters.

Saturday's outbreak of the worst fighting around Karabakh since 1994 appears to have dominated Sargsyan's separate talks in Berlin with Merkel and German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier.

With Germany currently holding the rotating presidency of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Steinmeier has repeatedly expressed concern at the bloody hostil-

ities in Karabakh in recent days. He discussed the matter with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov in a phone call on Tuesday.

"The situation right now is very volatile," Steinmeier said after the meeting with Sargsyan, according to the TASS news agency. He warned that fierce clashes along the Karabakh "line of contact" could resume unless the conflicting parties agree to a "long-term renunciation of the use of force," bolster the ceasefire regime and embark on negotiations, under the OSCE Minsk Group auspices, on Karabakh's "future status."

"We would like to see that happen in the near future," said German minister.

A statement by the Armenian presidential press service said Sargsyan and Steinmeier voiced support for specific confidence-building measures advocated by the Minsk Group's U.S., Russian and French co-chairs. Those include withdrawal of Armenian and Azerbaijani snipers from "the line of contact" and a mechanism for international investigations of truce violations there.

Azerbaijan rejects these proposed safeguards against bloodshed, saying that they would only cement the status quo in the unresolved conflict. It has also repeatedly accused the U.S., Russian and French mediators of pro-Armenian bias.

During his official visit to Berlin Serzh Sargsyan praised German support for the mediating troika's peace efforts. He also blamed Baku for the unprecedented escalation that left the two sides on the brink of a full-scale war.

"Once again, Azerbaijan has turned the region into a hot spot threatening European security," he charged at the news conference with Merkel.

"The people of Karabakh do not want war," he went on. "They want a simple and clear thing for which all colonized peoples had always fought. They want to determine their destiny on their own and freely build their future."

Azerbaijan distorts the essence of the Karabakh conflict: Bako Sahakyan

Azerbaijan distorts the essence of the Karabakh conflict, presenting it as a territorial dispute, NKR President Bako Sahakyan told a press conference in Stepanakert.

"We are struggling for our Motherland, not territories," the President said.

Bako Sahakyan said it's impossible to reach a final solution to the conflict without the official participation of Nagorno Karabakh in the negotiation process. He said it's not connected with mistrust in Armenia, which represents Nagorno Karabakh in the negotiations.

"Armenia has a strategic document, which clearly mentions that it is the guarantor of Nagorno Karabakh's security,"

Bako Sahakyan said. He added, however, that there is no conflict in the world that could be solved without the participation of the main role-player.

"Initially there was no conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, it was a conflict between Nagorno Karabakh and Azerbaijan. Armenia was later artificially dragged into it," Bako Sahakyan said.

"I am grateful to the global community for the relative peace that lasted until April 2, but I have expressed my dissatisfaction that the format of the negotiations is flawed and it is not allowing to achieve real progress in the settlement process," Sahakyan said.

The President added that "he would



like to see interest in Artsakh not only during military actions, but also in peacetime. "We have chosen the path of determining our future, committed to the principles of democracy. We want to be a full-fledged participant of the international community," Bako Sahakyan said.

Mediators: Parties to Karabakh conflict demonstrate readiness to observe truce



The OSCE Minsk Group co-chairmen condemned the attacks on civilian targets during last week's savage attacks by Azerbaijan against all fronts of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, during which soldiers and civilians, among them a 12-year-old boy and an elderly couple who were brutally killed and their bodies mutilated.

The Minsk Group Co-Chairmen, Igor Popov (Russia), Pierre Andrieu (France) and James Warlick (the US), as well as the personal representative of chairman in office Andrzej Kasprzyk, held a press conference on Saturday following meetings with Armenian officials in Yerevan.

Warlick said that they have seen the images and videos emanating from the battlefield, which depict the brutality of human rights violations. After condemning these incidents he said that the co-chairmen have met with the representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and delegated them to ascertain all the data. He also noted that they have raised this issue in the capitals, and that it is in the center of their attention.

"We're deeply distressed by the reports

of human right violations, with the photos and videos we've seen. We've asked our partners at the ICRC to investigate what happened exactly. We're deeply troubled by any human right violation," said Warlick.

Popov, the Russian co-chairman, explained that their main mission is to ensure the prevention of reoccurrence of military actions, and said that they have no mandate to investigate who started the recent hostilities.

Popov said one of the most important issues today is the return of the bodies of the killed soldiers, and the ICRC, as well as Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk's team are engaged in the search works.

Referring to the issue on the negotiating table and the so called "Lavrov initiatives," Popov said "it has been mentioned on many occasions that there is a new document on the table. There are proposals of the Co-Chairs, which have been discussed over the past few years. They are based on three principles and six elements," Popov said.

"These principles include non-use of force, the right of peoples to self-determination and territorial integrity. As for the

elements, the two most important ones are related to the determination of the status of Nagorno Karabakh and the return of territories. Other elements are related to return of refugees, determination of the width of the corridor linking Armenia to Nagorno Karabakh and peacekeeping mission," the Russian Co-Chair said.

Popov added, however, that the issue of peacekeepers should be discussed at the final stage, after the conclusion of a peace deal.

As for the prospects for Nagorno Karabakh to return to the negotiating table, Popov said "we've said on many occasions that Karabakh should return to talks at a certain stage. "Conclusion of a framework agreement preceding the preparation of a peace deal could be a starting point," he added.

The French Co-Chair Pierre Andrieu reiterated that they are not authorized to investigate which side was responsible for the resumption of military actions.

"What's important for us is to ensure that the agreement on ceasefire reached in Moscow is maintained as long as possible, and to resume the political negotiations," he added.

As for Turkey's support for Azerbaijan and the possibility of that country's exclusion from the Minsk Group, Warlick said "no changes in the Minsk Group are expected." "As you know we met in Vienna for the first time in years and adopted a strong statement. Turkey joined this statement and endorsed it. We're looking forward to working with all Minsk Group members, including Turkey," he concluded.

Azerbaijan keeps violating agreement on ceasefire



Nagorno-Karabakh's army accused Azerbaijani forces on April 8 morning of continuing to violate the ceasefire along

the Armenian-Azerbaijani "line of contact" overnight, saying that at least one Armenian soldier was killed as a result.

In a statement, the Defense Army said the 32-year-old soldier, Hrach Muradyan, died near the northern Karabakh village of Talish, one of the epicenters of heavy fighting that broke out a week ago.

It said another Armenian soldier, Gevorg Mghdesyan, was fatally wounded at a nearby section of the frontline "in still unclear circumstances." "An investigation is being conducted to establish details of

the incident," added the statement.

According to the Karabakh Armenian army, the Azerbaijani side breached the Russian-brokered truce with small arms and mortars.

Armenia's Defense Ministry said, for its part, that on the night from Thursday to Friday the Azerbaijani army fired rocket-propelled grenades and mortar shells at three Armenian villages close to the Azerbaijani border. "Fortunately, there were no casualties," read a ministry statement.

Armenia complains to Russia over arms sales to Azerbaijan

(Yerevan - RFE/RL) In a stern rebuke to Moscow, President Serzh Sargsyan told Russia's visiting Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev late on Thursday that Azerbaijan used Russian weapons purchased in recent years during heavy fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh that broke out a week ago.

The two men discussed the unprecedented escalation and Russian efforts to defuse tensions in the Karabakh conflict zone when they met in Yerevan.

"Dmitry Anatolievich, I'm sure you know that the fact that the Azerbaijanis used in full weapons that they acquired in Russia recently has had a lot of resonance in Armenia," Sargsyan said in his opening remarks at the meeting. "This is natural because the people of Armenia consider Russia to be our closest ally and friend."

Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan likewise told Medvedev earlier on Thursday that the Azerbaijani army used Russian-made T-90 tanks, TOS-1A flamethrowers and devastating Smerch rocket systems during the fighting. Baku bought these and other weapons as part of defense contracts with Moscow worth at least \$4 billion. They were reportedly signed in 2009-2011, at a time when Medvedev served as Russia's president.

Armenian critics of these deals argue that unlike Azerbaijan, Armenia is allied to Russia politically and militarily. They say that the Russian arms sales to Armenia's arch-foe run counter to that alliance even considering the fact that Moscow has long been providing military assistance to Yerevan.

Medvedev did not react to Sargsyan's complaint at the start of



the talks. It is not clear whether Serzh Sargsyan demanded a halt to further arms deliveries to Baku after the talks continued behind the closed doors.

According to the TASS news agency, one of Medvedev's deputies, Dmitry Rogozin, defended the Russian-Azerbaijani arms deals when he spoke to reporters in Baku on Friday. He hinted that Moscow intends to complete arms deliveries envisaged by them.

Serzh Sargsyan also told Medvedev that Yerevan expects from Moscow "targeted statements and concrete actions" that would keep Baku from again ratcheting up tensions in the conflict zone. He warned that another "large-scale" Azerbaijani attack on Karabakh would result in a full-blown war.

Eurasian Union meeting in Yerevan cancelled

A planned summit in Yerevan of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) has been cancelled after Kazakhstan, one of the Russian-led bloc's member states, refused to attend it in an apparent show of support for Azerbaijan.

The prime ministers of Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan were scheduled to hold a regular session of the EEU's "intergovernmental council" in the Armenian capital on April 8.

Armenian Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan rejected the proposal in a phone call with his Kazakh counterpart on Wednesday. Abrahamian warned that if the other EEU premiers decide to hold the meeting in Moscow he may boycott it.

Presidents Serzh Sargsyan of Armenia and Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan also discussed the matter by phone on Wednesday.

The Kazakh government, which currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the EEU, has publicly given no reasons for its stance. Observers believe it wants to move the summit to avoid the impression that Kazakhstan, which has strong linguistic and cultural ties with Azerbaijan, supports Armenia in the Karabakh conflict.

Nazarbayev, who maintains a warm personal rapport with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev, already used the Karabakh conflict to try to set conditions for Armenia's accession to the EEU in 2014. The longtime Kazakh leader demand-



ed that the accession treaty with Yerevan mention Armenia's internationally recognized borders that do not include Karabakh. The treaty signed later in 2014, contains no such special references.

Armenia, Kazakhstan and two other Central Asian Muslim republics are also part of the Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO). Yerevan has repeatedly criticized them for signing up to pro-Azerbaijani declarations on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Serzh Sargsyan charged in December that their stance undermines the CSTO's credibility.

Serzh Sargsyan, Levon Ter-Petrosyan discuss developments in Karabakh



President Serzh Sargsyan unexpectedly met with opposition leader and former President Levon Ter-Petrosyan on April 9 to discuss Armenia's response to the escalation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

A statement by the presidential press office said Sarkisian visited Ter-Petrosyan's private residence in Yerevan and spoke with one of his most bitter political opponents for about an hour.

The statement said their conversation "solely applied to the recent events on the Karabakh-Azerbaijani border" and "forthcoming developments anticipated in the Karabakh negotiation process." They also discussed the "need for a national consolidation in the face of those challenges," it said.

"The meeting was initiated by Levon Ter-Petrosyan," noted the statement. It gave no other details.

Neither Ter-Petrosyan nor his Armenian National Congress (HAK), a major opposition party, immediately issued any statements on the surprise meeting.

Ter-Petrosyan, who served as Armenia's first president from 1991-1998, has been a harsh critic of Sarkisian ever since he staged a political comeback in 2007. The two men were the main candidates in a 2008 presidential election that was marred by a bloody government crackdown on Ter-Petrosyan's opposition movement.

The hotly disputed ballot formalized a handover of power from Ter-Petrosyan's successor Robert Kocharyan to Sarkisian.

Both Kocharyan and Sargsyan held key posts in the Ter-Petrosyan administration. They were also instrumental in his resignation in 1998.

Outbreak of new tension in no one's interest: Sargsyan talks to Rouhani



Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan had a phone conversation with his Iranian counterpart Hasan Rouhani at the initiative of the Iranian side.

The Presidents discussed the situation at the line of contact between the armed forces of Azerbaijan and Nagorno Karabakh.

President Sargsyan briefed his Iranian counterpart on the military attack of Azerbaijan and the adequate response of the NKR Defense Army.

The Armenian President made a special reference to the violence against civilians, comparing it to the actions of the well-known terrorist organizations.

President Rouhani stressed that against the background of attacks of terrorist organizations and current challenges, the outbreak of new tension in the region is in no one's interest. He said it's necessary to make every effort to resume the process of peaceful negotiations.

President Rouhani said there is no military solution to the Karabakh issue.

The Presidents of Armenia and Iran also discussed issues on bilateral agenda and agreed on the necessity of deepening the friendly relations and the mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries.

Hundreds rally as Minsk Group Co-Chairs are visiting Armenia

Hundreds gathered in front of the Armenian Foreign Ministry on April 9 as the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs were holding a meeting with Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian.

The protesters rallied against the inaction of the international community, and particularly institutions and states involved in the mediating efforts for their "criminal silence" or inadequate reaction to the military actions unleashed

by Azerbaijan against the Nagorno Karabakh Republic.

The protesters demanded recognition of Artsakh, its involvement in the negotiations as a full-fledged party.

Although the protest coincides with the visit of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-chairs to Yerevan, the event was targeted at Russia, the United States, France, Israel, CSTO, EEU, PACE, Council of Europe, OSCE institutions and other countries.



Russia asked to speed up arms deal with Armenia

Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan asked his Russian counterpart Dmitry Medvedev on April 7 to accelerate the planned delivery of \$200 million worth of Russian weapons to Armenia during their talks held in Yerevan following a sharp escalation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The move came amid mounting anger in Armenia over Azerbaijan's use of Russian-manufactured offensive weapons during recent days' heavy fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh, which left at least 36 Armenian soldiers dead. Lawmakers representing President Serzh Sargsyan's Republican Party (HHK) launched unprecedented scathing attacks on Moscow on Thursday.

Yerevan is due to purchase, at substantially discounted prices, Russian multiple-launch rocket systems, heavy flamethrowers, advanced anti-tank missiles and other weapons with a \$200 million loan allocated by the Russian government last summer.

Abrahamyan thanked Moscow for the loan agreement when he met Medvedev. "However, there is a certain slowdown in the process of the implementation of the agreement, and I am therefore asking you to issue instructions [Russia's state arm exporter] Rosoboronexport on concluding the contract," Medvedev's press office quoted him as saying.

In a thinly veiled rebuke to Moscow, Abrahamyan also noted that Azerbaijan used Russian-made T-90 tanks, TOS-1A



flamethrowers and devastating Smerch rocket systems during the fighting.

Baku bought these and other weapons as part of defense contracts with Moscow worth at least \$4 billion. They were reportedly signed in 2009-2011, at a time when Medvedev served as Russia's president.

Many in Armenia have deplored the Russian arms supplies to Baku, saying that they ran counter to the Russian-Armenian military alliance. The criticism sharply intensified following the Azerbaijani offensive launched along the Karabakh "line of contact" on Saturday.

"We have suffered many casualties ... and Russia is also to blame for that," said Vazgen Karakhanyan, a parliament deputy from the ruling HHK. "We can't keep this truth under wraps."

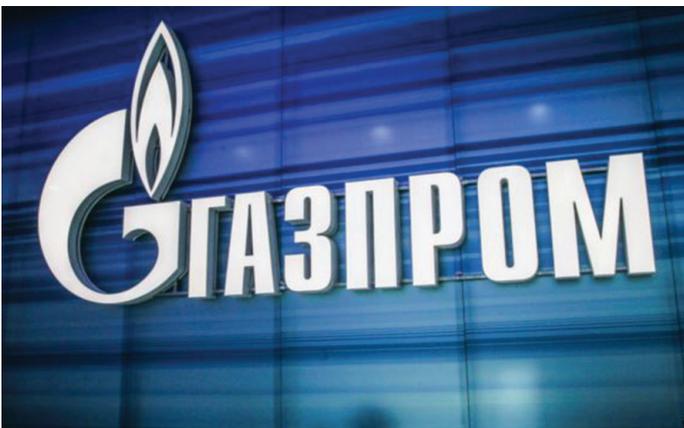
Another pro-government Armenian par-

liamentarian, Samvel Nikoyan, stressed that unlike Russia, the two other mediating powers -- the United States and France -- have not sold weapons to Azerbaijan. "They [the Russians] too understand now that what they did was inadmissible," he told RFE/RL's Armenian service (Azatutyun.am).

"They too see that Armenian soldiers and civilians were killed by weapons supplied by them," said Nikoyan. "And it would be kind of insincere to say after all this that we are friends, brothers, allies and so on."

The Karabakh escalation was on the agenda of Abrahamyan's talks with Medvedev. The Russian premier expressed hope after the talks that the conflicting parties will stick to the ceasefire brokered by Moscow on Tuesday and restart peace talks.

Russia cuts gas price for Armenia



Russia has agreed to a 9 percent reduction in the price of its natural gas supplied to Armenia, it was announced during Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev's official visit to Yerevan on April 7.

The chairman of Russia's Gazprom giant, Alexei Miller, and

Deputy Energy Minister Anatoly Yanovsky signed corresponding agreements with Armenian officials after taking part in Medvedev's talks with his Armenian counterpart Hovik Abrahamyan.

Abrahamyan told reporters afterwards that the wholesale price of Russian gas for Armenia will fall from \$165 to \$150 per thousand cubic meters. But he would not say whether the gas tariff for Armenian consumers will also go down by 9 percent. "We will discuss this issue with relevant bodies and inform our public," he said.

Yerevan asked for a gas price cut early this year, citing the collapse in international oil prices. Gazprom's market-based tariff for European countries has plummeted from an average of \$350 to around \$200 per thousand cubic meters in the last 18 months, making the Russian discount for Armenia much less significant.

President Serzh Sargsyan reportedly discussed the issue with Russian President Vladimir Putin when he visited Moscow last month.

Armenia receives roughly 80 percent of its gas from Russia.

Aiding the Frontlines: Different initiatives in Armenia aim to support servicemen, their families



While different civil initiatives and individuals continue to work towards assisting servicemen who have taken part in the defenses of the borders in Nagorno-Karabakh, businesses in Armenia also show their support for the cause.

On April 7, the ABB Bank Board decided that loan obligations of the families of killed servicemen will be annulled.

As of Friday morning the Karabakh authorities have published the names of 44 soldiers killed in repulsing Azeri forces on April 2-5. About two dozen servicemen are considered missing and over a hundred are wounded.

The statement was made appeals on social networks, where they urged the government to shut down or reset state funds or credit obligations of servicemen and their families.

Republican MP Margarit Yesayan also raised the issue in parliament, suggesting that the government come up with an initiative to allow the families of killed servicemen have their bank loans annulled.

Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan said the issue would be thoroughly considered.

Government statistics show that many families in Armenia and Karabakh have bank loans and the families of servicemen may not be an exception in this sense.

It is noteworthy that earlier social media had also discussed the issue of appealing to mobile phone operators to stop charging phone calls from and to Karabakh by roaming tariffs.

The three mobile phone operators in Armenia, Ucom, VivaCell and Beeline announced that they would charge calls to and from Karabakh by the tariff of 5 drams per minute (the current exchange rate is about 485 drams per US\$).

In its turn, 7,000 employees of Gazprom Armenia donated a month's salary to the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic.

Citizens' initiatives across the country, meanwhile, provided different essentials to Nagorno-Karabakh areas affected by the hostilities.

A fundraiser, "Help Artsakh", is also aimed at providing financial assistance to the families of the military. Different organizations, including the Armenian General Benevolent Union, have been making appeals for donations to be made to special accounts at HSBC Bank:

001-018183-050 in AMD

001-018183-150 in USD

001-018183-152 in Euros

All bodies handed over to the Armenian side mutilated, Deputy DM tells ICRC Rep.



Armenia's First Deputy Defense Minister David Tonoyan met with Mrs. Caroline Douilliez, Head of the ICRC delegation in Armenia

The parties discussed issues related to the search for and recovery of the bodies of the soldiers killed as a result of the military actions unleashed by Azerbaijan.

David Tonoyan expressed gratitude to the Head of the ICRC Delegation for organizing the exchange of bodies with the mediation of the ICRC and OSCE representatives.

The Deputy Defense Minister

informed Mrs. Douilliez that all 18 bodies handed over the Armenian side were mutilated, which not only violates the second paragraph of Common Article 3 of all 1949 Geneva Conventions (...To this end, the following acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to the above-mentioned persons: (a) violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture), the 1st paragraph of Article 130 of the 1949 4th Geneva Convention, the provisions of Article 4.2. of the Second Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions, but also constitute a heavy crime under the criminal jurisdiction of any legal state.

David Tonoyan noted that the Armenian side will pursue the condemnations of the crimes committed by the Azerbaijani armed forces by the international community and specialized bodies.

Bako Sahakyan receives Ralph Yirikian



On 9 April Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh) Republic President Bako Sahakyan received philanthropist, Founding General Manager of VivaCell-MTS Ralph Yirikian.

Issues related to the implementation of a range of charity projects in Artsakh were on the discussion agenda.

Special attention was paid to the current situation in some settlements of the Artsakh Republic in connection with the large-scale combat operations launched by Azerbaijan from 1 to 4 April.

President Sahakyan acknowledged the role of philanthropists in rendering support to those who have been suffering, noting that their contribution would substantially foster successful implementation of the scheduled activities.



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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.
- 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.**, Hambardzumyan 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

- 3090 **Dzorap Newly built**, 190sq.m, 2 bedrooms, study, 2 bathrooms, capitally renovated, parking. Price: 460.000 USD
- 3090. **Busand str./Near Republic Square/**, Newly built, /6th floor, 116sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms one in master bedroom, capitally renovated, open balcony. Price: 350.000 USD negotiable
- 3046. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 9/9, 81sq.m., without divisions. Price: Negotiable.
- 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 repaired, 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

- 2836. **Pushkin str.**, 4/4,5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 460.000 USD.
- 2990. **North Ave.**, Newly built, 11th floor, 295sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: Negotiable.

PREMISES

- 1789. **Charents str.** Land-1270sq.m, 5 storied building, each floor-400sq.m., basement, capitally repaired, parkings. Price: 4.000.000 USD negotiable
- 1598. **Komitas, Nairy Zaryan str.**, 1000 sq.m., working restaurant, 1st line, capitally repaired. Price: negotiable.
- 1603. **Northern Ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 160 sq.m., zero level, window glasses. Price: 2.600.000 USD.

•2035. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: Negotiable

•2013. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 1.300.000\$ negotiable

•2012. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 1.100.000\$ negotiable

•2155. **Mashtots ave.**, 3storied building, 540sq.m., each floor-180sq.m, window glasses, parking. Price: 3.600.000 USD

•2020. **Hr. Kochar str.**, Land-300sq.m, 1st line, 4storied building, 1080sq.m., each floor-270sq.m, h-3.6m., without divisions, parkings, 3 access. Price: 1.400.000 USD negotiable

•1986. **Cascade**, Land 1000sq.m. 3storied building 1200sq.m., unfinished, parking. Price: 1.000.000 USD.

•2167. **Sayat Nova str.**, newly built, 38sq. m, capitally repaired. Price: 200.000 USD

•2175. **Tumanyan str.** Ground and 1st floor of the building, 600sq.m, ground floor 300sq.m, 1st floor-220sq.m, basement-80sq.m, - 1st line, zero level, 2 entrances, facade-15m, 4 window glasses, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, Price: 3500 USD per sq.m,

•2172. **Isahakyan str.**, 92sq.m, 1st line, 7 degrees above zero level, facade-9m, 2 window glasses, h-3.20m, 2 halls, cabinet, bathroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 450.000 USD

LANDS

- 2122. **Davitashen**, 1800 sq.m., water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600 sq.m., and 1200 sq.m. Price: 150 USD per sq.m.
- 2121. **Demirchyan str.**, 1338 sq.m., building permits. Price: 2million USD.
- 2013. **Cascade**. 1000 sq.m. building permits, first line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price 460.000USD
- 1402. **Hr. Kochar Str.**, 1100 sq. m. facade -25 m. Price negotiable.
- 2090. **Lori region**, close to Stepanavan, Gyargyar village, 6 hectares, forest 2 hectare has building permits, 3 water source, electricity. Price: 100.000USD.
- 2406. **Avan**, Mher Mkrtyan block, 1000 sq.m.,

electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30USD per sq.m

•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

•3739. **Nork Marash** Land- 2000sq.m, two separate houses, total bld-600sq.m, capitally repaired, swimming pool, sauna, guard house. 2 car parking, garden. Price: 950.000 USD

•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, heating system, elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.

•3583. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 1.350.000 USD.

•3432. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld.-501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, boiler room garden, swimming pool, sauna, garage, security system. Price: 1.000.000 USD

•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

•3712 **Cascade** Newly built, land-450sq.m, 4 storied bld-600sq.m, zero state. Price: 550.000 USD

NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

•142. **Verin Antarayan str.**, 14 floors, 65-133sq.m, capitally renovated, parking. Price: 900-1300 USD

•74. **Cascade**, Verin Antarayan. 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 Antarayan. 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 services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable

•131. **Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable



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1 ROOM

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

2 ROOMS

- 2302 **North Ave**, Newly built, 11/4, 137sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 1780. **Amiryan str**, Newly built, /13th floor, 82 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD negotiable.
- 942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area**. Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- 1681. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1535. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m, 2bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- 1738. **Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 1951. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- 1406. **Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 2109. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 2243. **Buzand str**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- **Amiryan str**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 2358 **V. Sargsyan str**, Newly Built, 7/4, 145sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, one guest toilet, capitolly renovated, furnished, underground parking. Price: 3000 USD negotiable
- 2353 **V. Sargsyan str. 8/5**, Newly built, 98sq.m, 2bedrooms, capitolly renovated, furnished, Price 1500 USD
- 2347 **Teryan str.** Newly built, 10/8, 320sq.m, 3bedrooms, office, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: Negotiable
- 2277. **Kievyan str.** duplex, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, with or without furniture. Price: Negotiable.
- 2310 **Busand str.**, Newly built, 190sq.m, 3bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD
- 2316 **Northern Ave**, Newly built, 6th floor,

- 227sq.m., 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, guest toilet, capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD
- 2303 **Hanrapetutyun str** Newly built, 9/5, 165sq.m, 3bedrooms, 1bathroom, 1 guest toilet. capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2257. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 2005. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.
- 1723. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4., 170 sq.m 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitolly repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1981. **Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired, climate control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), Price: 3500 USD.
- 1720. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 16/10, 179 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2261. **Hin Yerevantsi**, /North Avenue/, Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD
- 2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2252. **Northern ave**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capitolly repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.



- itally repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 1335 **Baghranyan str.**, Land-200sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 3000 USD
- 1336 **Aygedzor**, Land-1000sq.m, 2 storied bld-240sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- 1337 **Davtashen** Land-406sq.m, 3 storied bld-306sq.m, 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 3900 USD
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str**, Land-400sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitolly repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m ,3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- 1094. **Noy block**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden. Price: 2000USD.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 1195. **Nork, Armenakyan str.**, Land - 2000 sq.m, 4 storied bld.-520 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished, swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.
- 1142. **Djrvej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capitolly repaired, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary /garage for 2 cars. Price: 4 000 USD.
- 1293. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520 sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 7.000 USD
- 327. **Nork-Marash**, Land-500sq.m., 4 storied building-600 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-4000 USD
- 1306. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitolly repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking, with or without furniture. Price: 6000-8000 USD negotiable
- 1288. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 1197. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capitolly repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD
- 1312. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- 1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable.
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str**, Land - 400 sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, each floor-100sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitolly 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** 4 storied building, 1200sq.m, each floor-300sq.m, 2 separate entrances, climate control, 2 elevators, basement, parking. Price: 15USD per sq.m.
- 1526. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- 1408. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghranyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capitolly repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- 1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capitolly repaired, AC, parking. Price: 10.000 USD.
- 1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitolly repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- 1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitolly repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- 1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitolly repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- 2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

French lawmakers, politicians call for Karabakh's return to the negotiating table

A group of French MPs, Senators and politicians have come forth with a joint statement on the recent escalation at the Nagorno Karabakh Line of Contact. The translation of the statement published by French Le Monde newspaper is provided below:

It is now six days that the South Caucasus is ablaze again. Encouraged by international indifference, Azerbaijan under the rule of Ilham Aliyev attempted to regain by force its former colony, the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh. This deadly offensive was concluded by a fragile cease-fire. It must be noted that this attack brought nothing to anyone, since the balance of power and the front line remain unchanged.

The fact remains that again the people of Karabakh paid with their lives for the vengeful impulses of the despot of Baku. Civilians were deliberately targeted by shelling and murdered by commandos, children were killed in the courtyard of their school.

This new aggression carries lessons. Who would dare ask the people of Karabakh to integrate with a regime that wants their physical annihilation? For the people of Karabakh independence and the establishment of the Republic have never been an objective, but a means; the way to live in peace and security, the way to build a democratic state that respects its citizens, open to the world and looking towards the future.

Azerbaijan is in turn a rich country but Azerbaijanis are poor. For the Aliyev clan, regularly cited in the lists of "Swiss leaks" and "Panama Papers," the war against Nagorno-Karabakh remains a good way to divert the attention of his countrymen from his material and moral corruption, which impoverishes its people.

The international community, fully aware of this, must take responsibility. We propose that the Minsk Group of the OSCE develops further negotiations on



the following bases that will certainly be more fruitful.

On the one hand the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh that has over twenty years proven its viability and credibility must now be recognized for Baku not to continue to use the pretext of lack of recognition for attacking civilians.

On the other hand, the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh should be readmitted to the negotiating table: the twenty-first century negotiating the fate of a people with their representatives absent is a meaningless process.

Finally, it's necessary to impose effective measures for monitoring the cease-fire, measures already agreed by Yerevan and Stepanakert, and only Baku stubbornly refusing. In this context and considering the serious events that have just taken place, we call on the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs to initiate an inquiry which will establish the facts and responsibilities. It will become possible to apply a system of political and legal sanctions on warmongers, as is the case in many other regional conflicts in the world.

The signatories: François Rochebloine (UDI), MP (Loire); Guy Teissier (LR), MP (Bouches-du-Rhône), René Rouquet (PS), MP (Val-de-

Marne), Nicolas Daragon (LR) Mayor of Valencia, Luke Carvounas (PS), Senator (Val François de-Marne), André Santini (IDU) deputy (Hauts-de-Seine) Michel Amiel (RDSE), Senator (Bouches-du-Rhône) Roland Blum (LR), Deputy Mayor of Marseille; Valérie Boyer (LR), MP (Bouches-du-Rhône) François Pupponi (PS), MP (Val d'Oise); Hugues Fourage (PS), MP (Vendée); Bernard Fournier (LR), Senator (Loire); Sophie Joissains (LR), Senator (Bouches-du-Rhône) Arlette Grosskost (LR), MP (Haut-Rhin); Jean-Jacques Guillet (LR), MP (Hauts-de-Seine) Christian Kert (LR), MP (Bouches-du-Rhône) Patrick Labaune (LR), MP (Drôme); Philippe Marini (LR), Honorary Senator (Oise) and Mayor of Compiègne; François-Michel Lambert (EELV), MP (Bouches-du-Rhône) Richard Mallié (LR), mayor of Bouc-Bel-Air; Emmanuel Mandon (UDI), Regional Advisor (Rhône-Alpes Auvergne); Christophe Masse (PS), general counsel (Bouches-du-Rhône) Marlene Mourier (LR), Mayor of Bourg-lès-Valence; Jacques Remiller (LR), former MP, honorary mayor of Vienna; Alain Neri (PS), Senator (Puy-de-Dôme) Rudy Salles (UDI), MP (Alpes-Maritimes).

Armenian Americans call on Obama to condemn Azeri aggression, support Artsakh's self-defense

A wide array of Armenian American advocacy, civic, religious, charitable, academic, youth, human rights, cultural, and other organizations have joined together - in a strong show of diaspora-homeland solidarity - to call upon President Barack Obama to stand up to Azerbaijan's aggression as part of a renewed American diplomatic effort to promote peace and foster long-term regional stability.

The community-wide letter specifically asks the U.S. President, in addition to forcefully condemning Azerbaijan's aggression, to support the self-defense of Nagorno Karabakh, the suspension of U.S. military aid to Baku, the deployment of gunfire locator systems, the provision of emergency relief aid to Artsakh, and the organization of a multi-agency U.S. fact-finding mission to investigate reports of Azerbaijani war crimes, look into allegations of Azerbaijan-ISIS cooperation, evaluate the destruction caused by Azerbaijan's aggression, and assess Nagorno Karabakh's humanitarian relief and reconstruction needs.

"We welcome this renewed opportunity to underscore the Armenian American community's enduring solidarity with the Armenian homeland, and - amid this latest escalation of Azerbaijani aggression - to highlight our diaspora's rock-solid commitment to the security, the strength, and independent status of the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh," said ANCA Executive Director Aram Hamparian. "We look forward to engaging with the Administration in support each of the policy priorities set forth in this appeal, and to bringing renewed energy and focus to our leadership in support of full and formal American recognition of Artsakh's independence."

The letter, which was brought together on a short schedule, includes a broad and representative cross-section of groups but does not, due to time limitations, represent the full array of Armenian American organizations supporting Artsakh.

The complete text of the letter is provided below.

Dear Mr. President:

Armenian Americans from across our nation ask you, in light of the worst Azerbaijani attacks since the 1994 Nagorno Karabakh cease-fire, to forcefully condemn Azerbaijan's aggression and - in light of Baku's reckless initiation of hostilities only hours after meeting in Washington, DC with senior members of your Administration - call for principled American leadership for peace and long-term regional stability.

In view of the renewed hostilities by Azerbaijan, which undermine our nation's regional interests, and taking into consideration President Aliyev's open threats to continue and further expand aggression against Nagorno Karabakh, we express our full support for the courageous efforts of the people and governments of Armenia and Nagorno

Karabakh to protect their citizens and encourage the U.S. government to support the self-defense of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic. We commend, as well, the formal recognition of the independence of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic by the U.S. states of California, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. President Aliyev's actions, which represent a direct challenge to U.S. leadership for a negotiated resolution and grave threat to the peace of the entire region, require a strong American response.

In the interest of peace, we call upon you to immediately stop all military aid to Azerbaijan, and enforce Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act. We also encourage you to work with Armenia and the Nagorno Karabakh Republic on the deployment of gunfire locator and other monitoring systems on the Nagorno Karabakh side of the line-of-contact and the Armenian side of the Armenia-Azerbaijan border.

Mr. President, in keeping with the humanitarian spirit of the American people, we urge you to immediately send emergency relief aid to Nagorno Karabakh, including medical equipment and other urgently-needed relief supplies. We are reminded, during this dark time, that it was the generosity of the American people, through the noble work of USAID, that helped rebuild Martakert and Martuni following Baku's 1991-94 aggression, two of the same communities that have come under heavy Azerbaijani fire.

In closing, we encourage you to send a multi-agency fact-finding mission - led by our Department of State - to thoroughly investigate serious reports of Azerbaijani war crimes and other violations of the Hague Convention, to look into allegations that Azerbaijan has engaged ISIS fighters, to evaluate the destruction inflicted by Azerbaijan's aggression, and to assess the humanitarian relief and reconstruction needs of Nagorno Karabakh's civilian population.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

All-Armenian Student Association
 American-Armenian Legion
 Americans for Artsakh
 Apostolic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics
 Armenia Artsakh Fund
 Armenia Fund
 Armenia Tree Project
 Armenian Aintabtzy Cultural Association
 Armenian American Democratic Leadership Council
 Armenian American Veterans
 Armenian Assembly of America
 Armenian Bar Association
 Armenian Compatriotic Union of Ourfa
 Armenian Council of America

Armenian Democratic Liberal Party
 Armenian Engineers and Scientists of America
 Armenian Evangelical Union of North America
 Armenian General Athletic Union (HMEM) - Eastern Region
 Armenian General Athletic Union (HMEM) - Western Region
 Armenian General Benevolent Union
 Armenian General Benevolent Union - Western District
 Armenian International Women's Association
 Armenian Missionary Association of America
 Armenian National Committee of America
 Armenian National Committee of America - Eastern Region
 Armenian National Committee of America - Western Region
 Armenian Relief Society - Eastern Region
 Armenian Relief Society - Western Region
 Armenian Revolutionary Federation - Eastern Region
 Armenian Revolutionary Federation - Western Region
 ARF Shant Student Association
 Armenian Rights Council of America
 Armenian Society of Los Angeles
 Armenian Youth Federation - Eastern Region
 Armenian Youth Federation - Western Region
 Artsakh Development Group
 Baku Armenians
 Birthright Armenia
 Daughters of Vartan
 Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America - Eastern Region
 Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America - Western Region
 Friends of New Julfa
 Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Society - Eastern Region
 Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Society - Western Region
 Iraqi Armenian Family Association
 Kharpert Cultural Association
 Knights of Vartan
 Memory, Dignity, Justice Association of Armenian Refugees from Azerbaijan
 Mousa Ler Association of California - Los Angeles
 National Association for Armenian Studies and Research
 National Organization of Republican Armenians
 Organization of Istanbul Armenians
 Paros Foundation (Berkeley, California)
 Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America - Eastern Region
 Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America - Western Region
 Social Democrat Hunchagian Party
 Tekeyan Cultural Association, Inc.
 United Armenian Council of Los Angeles
 United Human Rights Council

Armenians should do everything possible to ensure this is the last Azeri attack



By Harut
Sassounian

Publisher, *The
California Courier*

The world woke up last Saturday morning to the drumbeats of war from a large-scale assault by Azerbaijan on tiny Artsakh (Karabakh).

This was not a surprise attack! For many years, Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev has had the nasty habit of launching military attacks on the Republics of Armenia and Artsakh whenever international peace talks or Summit Meetings were being held.

Even a casual observer of this long-running conflict could have guessed that Azerbaijan would launch yet another attack during last weekend's Nuclear Security Summit hosted by Pres. Obama and attended by 50 heads of state, including Presidents of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Turkey. Some observers were surprised by the large scale of the Azeri attack which involved tanks, helicopters, missiles, and drones. In fact, the scope of the assault should not have come as a surprise, given Azerbaijan's technological escalation of aggression in recent years. Aliyev's sinister practice of timing military attacks with peace talks or international conferences reflects his intensive efforts to keep the Artsakh conflict as a burning issue at all cost.

Certainly, Pres. Aliyev is increasingly frustrated by his inability to intimidate Armenians into giving up the territory of Artsakh despite Azerbaijan's purchase of multi-billion dollars of modern weaponry. Aliyev is also distressed by his fail-

ure to use his country's vast oil and gas resources as an inducement to pressure world leaders into supporting Azerbaijan in the Artsakh conflict. As a result, the Baku dictator has wasted huge amounts of his country's wealth to bribe foreign officials and purchase expensive but ineffective weapons.

Furthermore, as Azerbaijan's father and son Presidential Dynasty, the Aliyevs have persistently threatened to attack and "liberate the occupied territories of Karabakh" for over 20 years. Since they have cried wolf for far too long, very few Azeris take their president's bravado talk too seriously. Consequently, Aliyev has been desperate to take any and all measures, no matter how reckless, to save face at home and abroad!

It is important to understand the timing and motive of Aliyev's aggressive behavior so that other countries are not blamed for instigating these attacks which would only serve to shift attention from the only guilty party - Azerbaijan! However, there are other countries that have a share of the blame: First among these is Erdogan's Turkey for its direct participation and support of Azerbaijan's military misadventures. The Minsk Group of mediators (France, Russia, and United States) are also guilty for remaining silent during previous Azeri aggressions and blaming both sides each time Azerbaijan attacked Armenia or Artsakh. The international community's shameful silence and doubletalk routinely equated the victimizer with the victim, thereby emboldening the warmongering Aliyev!

One particularly horrifying episode during this latest attack validated the concern of all those who have been warning for years about the risk of genocide threatening Artsakh's Armenians. Over the weekend, when Azeri soldiers temporarily took over the Talish village, just inside Artsakh's border, they not only executed an elderly Armenian couple, but barbarically cut off their ears as souvenirs! Such savagery, at a minimum, is a war crime under international law! Just imagine what these brutal Azeri soldiers would have done if they had overrun the entire population of Artsakh. It would have been a bloodbath of immense proportion - a second Armenian Genocide!

Three firm conclusions should be drawn from the latest massive Azeri aggression:

1. Artsakh Armenians can never go back to live under the despotic rule of Azerbaijan, no matter how many times Aliyev threatens or attacks.

2. Armenians should not just repel the Azeri forces, but inflict such massive destruction that Aliyev would never again think of another attack. Already, thousands of volunteers from all over Armenia have rushed to Artsakh's defense. Azerbaijan is aware that its multi-billion dollar oil fields and pipelines are in easy reach of Armenia's long-range missiles!

3. It is time to declare Artsakh an inseparable part of the Republic of Armenia. On April 4, Pres. Sargsyan told foreign ambassadors in Yerevan that if the hostilities continued and escalated, Armenia would "recognize Karabakh's independence."

Beheaded Armenian Soldier Reburied



An Armenian soldier killed and decapitated by Azerbaijani troops in Nagorno-Karabakh has been reburied after the Armenian military has retrieved his severed head and handed it to his family.

Kyaram Sloyan, who would have turned 20 on April 27, was among dozens of Armenian soldiers who died while fighting back an Azerbaijani offensive in and around Karabakh launched on April 2. A military position in Karabakh's northern Martakert district held by Sloyan's unit was reportedly overrun by Azerbaijani troops but later recaptured by Karabakh Armenian forces.

Pictures of Azerbaijani soldiers holding Sloyan's head surfaced and quickly spread on Azerbaijani social media accounts shortly after the outbreak of the heavy fighting. They attracted numerous "likes" and comments praising Azerbaijan's army.

The headless body of Sloyan was handed to his family living in Artashavan village in central Armenia and buried there on April 4. The family, which is part of the country's Yazidi community, received Kyaram's head on Saturday.

"When they brought the body we didn't know that it's headless," Sloyan's grief-stricken father Kyalash told RFE/RL's Armenian service (Azatutyun.am). "It was very painful to discover that. They brought the head yesterday."

"We took out the [buried] coffin, opened it, put the head there, and again buried it," he said.

A spokesman for Armenia's Defense Ministry said that Azerbaijan handed over Sloyan's head as part of ongoing exchanges between the two warring sides of the bodies of soldiers killed by them during the

hostilities. The mutual handovers facilitated by the International Committee of the Red Cross began on Friday and continued on Sunday.

Citing eyewitness accounts, Sloyan's father said his son would have saved his life had he obeyed his commander's last order. "They stopped the enemy from advancing until they ran out of bullets," he said. "His wounded officer told him to run away but he said 'No, I won't leave you.' They then killed him too."

"They wanted to take him prisoner but they couldn't, he fought on," Sloyan's elder brother Hamik said for his part. "They shot him in the shoulder and in the heart."

"We are grieving but also proud because our boy is a hero," he added, speaking in the impoverished family's ramshackle house.

In the father's words, repairing the house was Kyaram's biggest dream. He was due to complete his military service and return home in May.

In Armenia, the gruesome images of Azerbaijani soldiers posing for a photograph with Sloyan's head have prompted

parallels with videotaped beheadings committed by the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

They have also rekindled memories of the 2004 axe-murder of Gurgen Markarian, an Armenian officer who was undergoing a NATO course in Hungary. Markarian was hacked to death while asleep by an Azerbaijani lieutenant, Ramil Safarov, also attending the course. A Hungarian court subsequently sentenced Safarov to life imprisonment.

Safarov received a hero's welcome at home when he was extradited to Azerbaijan and immediately pardoned by President Ilham Aliyev in 2012. He was promoted to the rank of army major, granted a free apartment and paid eight years' worth of back pay.

Safarov's glorification provoked a furious reaction from Armenia and strong Western criticism.

The authorities in Yerevan and Stepanakert have already accused the Azerbaijani army of committing war crimes during the worst hostilities in the Karabakh conflict zone since 1994. They point to not only Sloyan's decapitation but also the killing of three elderly residents of Talish, a village in northern Karabakh close to the Armenian-Azerbaijani "line of contact." According to the Karabakh Armenian authorities, the villagers were shot dead in their home by Azerbaijani special forces that briefly infiltrated Talish early on April 2.

Although the hostilities largely stopped on April 5 following a Russian-mediated ceasefire, Kyaram Sloyan's grief-stricken father, a veteran of the 1991-1994 Armenian-Azerbaijani war, now wants to rejoin the Armenian troops in Karabakh. "I want to go to Martakert," he said. "My son was killed there."



MEP: Karabakh settlement should be in line with the right to self-determination

The settlement of the Karabakh conflict should be in line with the right to self-determination, MEP Eleni Theocharous said in a statement on the incidents along the frontier of Nagorno Karabakh and Azerbaijan. The statement reads:

"The bloody incidents that erupted along the frontiers of Azerbaijan and Nagorno Karabakh on April 2, 2016, constitute developments that can lead to a wider conflict and blow up the Caucasus regions.

It is obvious that the escalation of the crisis puts stability and peace at a high risk. The EU and the international community in general bear their own responsibility since, for many years, they underestimated how dangerous the dormant conflict in Nagorno Karabakh is. Therefore, the EU should take initiative and diplomatic actions with the aim of mobilizing the international community and thus prevent a further escalation of the crisis.



The current developments with many soldiers and civilians from both sides losing their lives come to prove the need for a comprehensive solution based on the right to self-determination. If international community and particularly the EU do not intensify their efforts towards a democratic solution, a new catastrophic war is to come.

Azerbaijani government should stop violating the agreed ceasefire through provocative military actions, which turn into boomerang not only for its own citi-

zens, but also for the stability and peace within the wider Caucasus region.

The lack of EU strategy in Caucasus region is offering Russia the advantage of having the initiative moves and the diplomatic upper hand. The European Parliament cannot simply watch the parties involved play with fire. Therefore, it should ask the High Representative of the EU Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to play a constructive and active role and thereby avert the escalation of the crisis.

The EU and UN and the great powers through the Minsk Group Co-Chairs' efforts could take such measures in order to consolidate stability and peace among the Azerbaijani and Armenian peoples, regardless of whether they are inhabitants of the Armenian Republic, the Azerbaijani Republic or Nagorno Karabakh. The settlement of the conflict should be in line with the right to self-determination. This is the only fair, democratic and realistic approach, which can lead to a viable settlement of the conflict."

Azeri actions against Artsakh resemble ISIS atrocities

International press compares the actions of Azerbaijan forces in Artsakh to the atrocities done by ISIS.

The involvement of the members of ISIS in Azerbaijan and their participation in the clashes along the Nagorno Karabakh line of contact has become a matter of discussion and great concern in different international media sources.

The Italian Spondasud.it website finds similarities between actions of Azerbaijan against Nagorno Karabakh and the atrocities of ISIS in Syria and Iraq. The Italian website stresses that beheading people or cutting their ears is typical of terrorists, and something members of ISIS tend to boast about.

The cruel death of a soldier of Yezidi decent and the publication of photos and a video of his beheading have also sparked fury. In comments to the article published by Ezidipress.com readers stress that Azerbaijan is not that different from ISIS. Most users label the actions of Azerbaijan military forces as "war



crimes." Azerbaijani users participating in the discussion also accept the atrocities committed by Azeri soldier, but stress that everything is allowed during war.

ISNA agency also confirms the fact of ISIS members fighting against Karabakh. "100 Azerbaijani soldiers who are members of ISIS, have returned to their home country from Syria in order to participate in the war against Nagorno Karabakh,"

the website writes, adding that they're returning to Azerbaijan through Turkey.

In this context, reports in Azerbaijan media that Turkish special subdivisions have arrived in Azerbaijan in a helicopter to move the bodies of the fellow soldiers to Turkey, is critically important.

According to estimates, there are nearly 3,000 Azeris involved in Islamic State.

We should not let Azerbaijan Get on its Feet. Colonel Aida Serobyán

During the last events took place in the contact line of Nagorno-Karabakh - Azerbaijani opposing forces the actions of Armenian soldiers evoke the feeling of pride.

I think, Azerbaijan undertake all this for money laundering.

On April 7 in Noyan Tapan News Agency press center this was announced by freedom fighter, colonel, president of Women Freedom Fighter Union Aida Serobyán.

According to her there have been a lot of shootings during cease-fire but the sudden attack and aggression of Azerbaijan was not surprising, moreover the soldiers serving in the Armenian army were not intimidated.

"During The Nagorno-Karabakh war as well as during this four-day war mercenaries, militants of Islamic State of Iraq



and al-Sham (ISIS) militant group were fighting against Armenian soldiers but Armenian soldier proved that good armament and preparedness are not everything.

The latter said that Armenian soldier has always proved that the demand of Armenians is fair and victory is

inescapable.

"Even God knows that we have much to do in terms of liberating Armenian territories, our captivated lands, Nakhijevan, Western Armenia, Shahumyan, should liberate.

A Serobyán assures, as during The Nagorno-Karabakh war now also Armenian girls and women showed that they are ready to fight against the enemy.

She wished patience, peace and tears of happiness all the mothers who lost their sons:" I think as in Israel in Armenia also girls should serve in the army".

According to woman colonel, we should not let Azerbaijani get on its feet again: " When they lift, we should break their knee as we do during these four days."

*Sarah Melkonyan,
Noyan Tapan*

Deported Talish people call to help them to return to their native village and strengthen it again

On April 1 and 2 at night in northeastern parts of the line of contact in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone as a result of the war unleashed by Azerbaijan mostly affected Talish, Mataghish and Tonashen villages whose residents have been evacuated and moved to Armenia or safer villages of Artsakh.

On April 9 in Noyan Tapan News Agency press center the president for board of trustees of Talish foundation Melita Khalapyan informed that from 550 inhabitants of Talish around 300 migrated to Armenia, 90 of them where children and 30 were elderly people.

According to her, as a result of Azerbaijani's brutal actions all these families have lost everything which they had and now they need financial and psychological support of all Armenians.

As she assures, Talish has a lot of powerful sons who are ready to return Talish and live there but first of all it is vital to reconstruct the village.

Member for board of trustees of Talish foundation Vova Baburyan reminds that Talish is the wound of all Armenians and an open gate towards Artsakh and Armenia.

V. Baburyan claims that Talish people are ready to go back to their village if they have a secure roof and social amenities. "Our request is to help Talish people to return to their houses".

Member for board of trustees of Talish foundation, the president of Patrida organization Eduard Polatov believes that this is a serious alarm for Armenians and for all the world about the threat that militants of Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) militant group and militants trained in Turkey may try to penetrate into Armenia therefore it is necessary to immediately stop the progress of these ferocious and cannibal groups.

"Currently there are a lot of terrorists in Nakhichevan who are



ready to attack",- said E. Polanov emphasizing that these days Armenians should be very alert and attentive.

Witness of the events, the head of Talish's school Tanya Mez Hunts said that on April 6 after evacuating the village she returned to Talish and saw that it is completely destroyed, left without electricity and there are no social amenities for living there.

12-year-old Vardan Khalapyan assures, he is not afraid and want to return his native village as soon as possible.

For supporting Talish people you may transfer money to the following addresses:

11500303610600 AMD,

11500510129601 USD,

11500452455504 EUR,

11500447476958 RUB.

*Sarah Melkonyan
Noyan Tapan*

Over 3,500 protest Karabakh attacks in Los Angeles

Asbarez - More than 3,500 community members heeded the calls from the Armenian Youth Federation on Friday and gathered in front of the Azerbaijani Consulate on Wilshire Boulevard to protest Baku's savage attacks on Artsakh, where civilians and children were also targets of the Azeri aggression.

At one point during the peaceful rally, the protesters, who were huddled on the corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Granville Avenue, began to cross the street northbound and staged a spontaneous sit-in in the middle of the street, blocking eastbound and westbound traffic.

Chanting, "Not One Inch," protesters the protesters sent a clear message to the Azerbaijani authorities that no amount of aggression and gunfire will force Armenians to concede any territory in Artsakh.

The Los Angeles Police Department, which was caught when protesters staged the sit-in, worked with organizers to ensure the safety of the protesters and those around them. The organizers thanked LAPD for their service, as well as the community around the consulate building for understanding the just cause for which the protest was staged.

In fact, the messages delivered by the speakers were loud and resolute. That as long there is a threat to Armenians anywhere in the world-and in this instance to the population of Artsakh-the nation will come together to defend the homeland.

AYF member Verginie Touloumian invited the crowd to observe the moment of silence in memory of the those who lost their lives in defense of Artsakh and proceeded to read the names of those soldiers, civilians and the 12-year-old boy who died during last week's attacks by Azerbaijan.

Areni Hamparian, a member of the AYF Junior Organization, delivered a moving speech, in Armenian, declaring that as long as there was an existential threat on Artsakh, or any other Armenian land, Armenians will continue to fight for justice.

Puzant Berberian, a member of the AYF San Fernando Valley Sardarabad chapter spoke about attempts to distort facts and recounted Artsakh's centuries old history as a bastion of Armenian



culture and heroism.

AYF Central Executive Chairman Gev Iskajian directed his remarks to the Azerbaijani Consulate by delivering a clear message of resistance and condemnation, saying that a nation that won the Artsakh war in the first place, has the resolve and the means to ensure "not one inch" of land is conceded and that the brutal savagery on display by Azerbaijan would not be tolerated.

After rallying the crowd with messages of victory and heroism, Davit Arakelyan informed the crowd that the AYF's "With Our Soldiers" campaign was busy working to ensure that our soldiers and families were taken care of and urged the community to assist in that effort, and encouraged to community to support Artsakh though the Armenian Relief Society's fund that was established after last week's attacks.

His message was clear: Armenians in Los Angeles and around the world will continue to fight until justice prevails and a Free, United and Independent Armenia is established.

The protesters vacated the street peacefully and moved to the front of the consulate building, where after singing the Armenian National Anthem, they collectively pledged their resolve and solidarity to Artsakh.

This was part of the Western US community mobilization effort in the wake of the renewed attacks on the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, with members and activists coming together to voice their unified protest against this, the most large-scale attack on Karabakh since the 1994 cease-fire agreement.

Karabakh conflict about self-determination, not territory: Artsakh FM tells CNN

The CNN listened to the Foreign Ministers of Nagorno Karabakh and Azerbaijan as it presented developments along the line of contact.

"In the early hours of April 2 Azerbaijan initiated an unprecedented escalation at the line of contact between the armed forces of Nagorno Karabakh and Azerbaijan, using military equipment, artillery and aircraft," NKR Foreign Minister Karen Mirzoyan told CNN.

"The Azerbaijani side fired artillery shells not only on the military positions, but also the populated areas, which resulted in many casualties, including

among the civilian population," Mirzoyan added.

Elmar Mammadyarov's stated that "Azerbaijan is most interested in a peaceful settlement," but said "we need a result from the point of view that our territories are under occupation."

In response to the statement, teh NKR Foreign Minister said "it's not a matter of territories, it's a matter of self-determination." "Twenty five years ago these people voted for independence, and now the current regime is Baku is trying to oppress this people not only by diplomatic, but also military means, which is a dangerous

development."

"We are looking for a diplomatic settlement, for a mechanism that will provide us with an opportunity of co-existence in this region," the NKR Foreign Minister said.

Karen Mirzoyan added that "Karabakh highly appreciates the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group, the international community, but added that any "unaddressed calls to both parties are received by Azerbaijan not as a sign of concern, not as a sign that it's time to stop the violence, but as a sign that it could continue its policy."

"We heard opinions from both sides," the CNN host said at the end of the debate.

US Congressmen urge President Obama to stop military aid to Azerbaijan

Speaking on behalf of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues, Co-Chairs Robert Dold (Republican Party) and Frank Pallone (Democratic Party) called on President Obama to forcefully condemn Azerbaijan's military offensive against the Nagorno Karabakh Republic and urged top US House appropriators to zero-out US military assistance to Ilham Aliyev's armed forces, Asbarez reports.

In their letter to Barack Obama, the two Co-Chairs also asked that he "provide emergency relief aid to Nagorno Karabakh, and send a State Department fact-finding mission to both evaluate the destruction inflicted by Azerbaijan's aggression and assess the humanitarian relief and reconstruction needs of Nagorno Karabakh's affected civilian population."

They noted that "Azerbaijan's attacks represent a dramatic escalation in President Aliyev's destructive pattern of aggression, constant threats of renewed war, ongoing incitement of anti-Armenian hatred, and the military targeting of Armenian civilians in both Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia. They also reflect his desire to act with international impunity - as so clearly demonstrated by his rejection of common-sense, cease-fire monitoring and other accountability-oriented initiatives - such as the urgently-needed Royce-Engel peace proposals that

are supported by your Administration."

The Royce-Engel proposals presuppose three certain steps for establishing peace in the Karabakh conflict zone, which are a repetition of the earlier calls of the international community. The proposals include withdrawing snipers, expanding the OSCE monitors' number and deploying sensors along the line of contact and the Armenia-Azerbaijan international border to investigate the ceasefire violations. Armenia and the Nagorno Karabakh Republic have agreed to all three provisions advanced in the Royce-Engel letter. Only Azerbaijan opposes their implementation.

ANCA Executive Director Aram Hamparian supported the Co-Chairs statement. "We join with them in supporting a shift in U.S. policy that challenges Aliyev's aggression and protects American taxpayers from subsidizing an Azerbaijan military that is killing innocent Armenians, destabilizing a vital region, undermining U.S. interests, very likely committing war crimes, and risking the outbreak of an even larger regional conflict. Stated simply: Ilham Aliyev doesn't need U.S. military aid, he doesn't deserve U.S. military aid, and he shouldn't get U.S. military aid," he said.

According to Asbarez, several other Congress representatives condemned Azerbaijan's aggression, as well.

Rep. Judy Chu (Democratic Party)

who has been outspoken in her condemnation of Azerbaijan's earlier attacks against Armenians in Sumgait and Baku from 1988-1990, strongly condemned these latest attacks, stating that over the years, Azerbaijan has resisted efforts to de-escalate the conflict, and this weekend, it turned lethal costing innocent civilian lives. She called on President Obama to suspend aid to Azerbaijan and to work to reach a settlement quickly. "Violence in response to a peaceful independence movement is unacceptable," she said.

Rep. Jim Costa said the latest breach of the ceasefire underscores Azerbaijan's aversion to peace and stability. "Despite attending meetings in DC with Secretary Kerry and Vice President Biden last week, Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev does not appear committed to the peace process and I question his sincerity in trying to reach a resolution," he noted.

According to Rep. Robert Dold, Azerbaijan continues to say one thing and do the exact opposite. He called on the Obama administration to continue to work with the OSCE Minsk Group to come to a peaceful resolution.

Among other representatives condemning Azerbaijan's aggression are Sen. Mark Kirk, Rep. David Cicilline, Rep. Grace Napolitano, Rep. Devin Nunes, Frank Pallone, Rep. Linda Sanchez, Rep. Adam Schiff, Rep. Brad Sherman and others.

Papa visit to Armenia set for June

Pope Francis will visit Armenia at the end of June, the Vatican and the Armenian Apostolic Church announced on April 10.

Citing the press office of the Holy See, Radio Vatican reported that the visit has been scheduled for June 24-26. It said the pontiff will travel to the South Caucasus state at the invitation of Armenia's government, Apostolic Church and Catholic Armenian minority.

The Echmiadzin headquarters of the Armenian Church confirmed this in a separate statement.

That Francis plans to visit Armenia in June was announced by a Vatican spokesman last month. But he said the exact dates of the trip have not yet been set.

The supreme head of the Armenian

Apostolic Church, Catholicos Garegin II, and President Serzh Sarkisian personally invited the pontiff to visit their country in 2014, underlining increased links between the Roman Catholic and Armenian Apostolic Churches. Both men attended his papal inauguration in 2013.

One of Francis's predecessors, John Paul II, and the previous Armenia Church head, Garegin I, laid the groundwork for the rapprochement in 1996 with a joint declaration that put an end to centuries-old theological disputes between the two Christian denominations.

John Paul went on to become in 2001 the first Catholic Church leader to set foot on Armenian soil. During that historic trip, he issued a joint declaration with Garegin I

describing the 1915 Armenian massacres in Ottoman Turkey as genocide.

Francis has publicly reaffirmed the Armenian genocide recognition during his papacy, most recently at an April 2015 mass at the Vatican's St. Peter's Basilica dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the tragedy.

Turkey reacted angrily to his reference to "the first genocide of the 20th century," accusing the pontiff of distorting history and recalling its ambassador to the Vatican in protest. Armenia rejected the Turkish criticism.

A recent global survey conducted by WIN/Gallup International found that Francis is very popular in Armenia, with 75 percent of Armenians having a favorable opinion of him.

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?**Enjoy your leisure****21 March**

19:00. Jazz Connection. Sergey Manukyan (Russia), Vahagn Hayrapetyan (Armenia), Laurent Robin (France), Mathias Allamane (France).// Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall
19:00. Amnesia. Staging: Gor Margaryan. Cast: Luiza Nersisyan, Rafael Yeranosyan.// Yerevan State Chamber Theater

22 March

12:30, 14:00, 15:30. Thumbelina. Musical performance. Hans Christian Andersen. Stage Director: Anna Elbakyan.// State Marionette Theater.
19:00. Karine. Staging: Yervand Ghazanchyan, Conductor: Yuri Davtyan, Director: Shushanik Gevorgyan, Design Artist: Robert Elibekyan, Choir Master: Shushan Hovhannisyanyan, Choreography: Anna Karapetyan. // State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan.
19:00. Anna Karenina. Music: P. I. Tchaikovsky, Decorations: Zinovi Margolin, Costume Design: Vyacheslav Okunev.// National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. It Doesn't Matter With Whom. Original "Butterflies Are Free" by Leonard Gershe., Director: Lusine Yernjakyan.// Yerevan State Chamber Theater

23 March

19:00. Under 44 degrees. Genre: Drama, Author: Astghik Simonyan, Director: Zohrap Bek-Gasparyan, Scenography by: Vanand Shiraz, Musical arrangement/Composer: Ara Torosyan.// Sos Sargsyan Hamazgayin Theater.
19:00. I'm Here. Author: T. Dorst, Director: Tatevik Melkonyan, Animation: Lusine Khandilyan, Cast: Aram Karakhanyan, Samvel Tadevosyan.// State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Flowers Manuscript. Author and Director: Zhirayr Dadasyan, Music by: Vahan Artsruni, Book: Yuri Kostanyan, Little poet: Naira Yedigaryan, Mythical Characters: Man: Margarita Arakelyan, Lion: Shushan Sargsyan, Bull: Inna Hakhnazaryan, Eagle: Meri Klrakosyan.// Yerevan State Pantomime Theater
19:00. Dear Pamela. Author: J. Patrick, Staging: Narine Malyan, Cast: Christina Hovakimyan, Samvel Topalyan, Astghik Abajyan, Hayk Sargsyan, Karen Khachatryan, Ara Sargsyan, Levon Ghazaryan.// H. Malyan Theater of Film Actors.
19:00. Khanuma.// Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski.
19:00. Love Confession. Playwright and Dir.: Ara Yernjakyan, Music Director: Vahe Grigoryan.// Yerevan State Chamber Theater.

24 March

19:00. It Doesn't Matter With Whom. Original "Butterflies Are Free" by Leonard Gershe., Director: Lusine Yernjakyan.// Yerevan State Chamber Theater.
19:00. Love Mess. H. Berger, Crazy hallucination, in 2 parts.// Yerevan Drama Theater after

H. Ghaplanyan.

15:00. The Adventures of Chipollino. A. Mirijanyan, Based on Gianni Rodari's tale, "Chippolino's adventures"...// M. Mkrtychyan Artistic Theater.
17:00. Alice in Wonderland. Staging by Lily Elbakyan.// State Marionette Theater
19:00. Mrs. Ministress. Branislav Nushich, Comedy in 2 acts.// State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan.
17:00. Hovnan. For adults.// State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
19:00. Sexual Chaos in the Hotel. Author: Ray Cooney, Director: Honored Artist of RA, David Hakobyan, Designer: Mary Areyan, Musical arrangement: Armen Margaryan.// State Musical Chamber Theater
19:00. ANPO & Katharina Treutler. Soloist: Katharina Treutler, piano (Germany) Program: Brahms: Piano Concerto No.1 (53-55 min.), Brahms: Symphony No.2 (42-45 min.), Conductor: Eduard Topchjan.// Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall.
13:00. Poor Petros. Genre: Comedy, Author: Sos Sargsyan, Director: Sos Sargsyan, Scenography by: Davit Minasyan, Musical arrangement/Composer: Martin Vardazaryan, Duration: 2 hour 15 min.// Sos Sargsyan Hamazgayin Theater.
19:00. Hamlet. Genre: Tragedy, Author: William Shakespeare, Director: Vigen Chaldryan, Scenography by: Vigen Chaldryan, Musical arrangement/Composer: Vache Sharafyan, Costumes by: Vigen Chaldryan, Duration: 2 hour 30 min // Sos Sargsyan Hamazgayin Theater
19:00. State Dance Ensemble of Armenia.// National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian.

25 March

14:00. Cinderella. Author: Charles Perrault, Staged by: A. Miridjanyan, Music: S. Alexanyan, Designer: M. Areyan, Dances: N. Mirzoyan.// State Musical Chamber Theater.
19:00. Jesus of Nazareth and His Second Disciple. P. Zeytuntsyan, Drama in 2 acts.// Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan.
19:00. Getting Married Is Not Easy. Comedy in 1 act, Staged by Mher Mkrtychyan.// M. Mkrtychyan Artistic Theater.
13:00. The Turnip. Based on Russian Folk Tale. // Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski.
12:30, 14:00, 15:30. The Kid & Karlsson. A. Lindgren, Staging: Lily Elbakyan, 3+// State Marionette Theater.
19:00. Norma. Conductor: Harutyun Arzumanyan, Director, scenographer and lighting designer: Boris Hayrapetyan (Russia), Costume designer: Nina Hovnanian, Chief choir master: Radik Melikyan, Choir master: Zoya Karapetyan, Artistic Director of the Theater: People's Artist of Armenia and Lithuania, Gegham Grigoryan.// National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian.
19:00. Aunt from Paris. Comedy, Cast: Narek Duryan, Zaven Abrahamyan, Ara Deghtrikyan and others.// State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
19:00. Nazar, Nazar, Till the End. Based on D. Demirchyan's "Brave Nazar". Staging director:

Ara Yernjakyan. Cast: Andranik Harutyunyan, Ketrin Manasyan, Rafael Yeranosyan, (Mkhitar Avetisyan, Hasmik Danielyan, Irina Danielyan).// Yerevan State Chamber Theater.
12:00. The Invincible Rooster. Author: H. Tumanyan, Staged by: Y. Manaryan, Painter: Anzhela Galstyan, Music by: Y. Harutyunyan. // State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
16:00. The Sparrow. Author: Maxim Gorky, Staging: Vladimir Bilkov. // State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.

26 March

19:00. Funny War or Dangerous Alienation. Author: Yervand Otyan, Musical comedy in 2 acts.// State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan.
19:00. Love Confession. Playwright and Director: Ara Yernjakyan, Music Director: Vahe Grigoryan, Cast: Ani Grigoryan, Hasmik Danielyan, Rafael Yeranosyan, Senik Barseghyan, Vahe Ziroyan.// Yerevan State Chamber Theater.
12:00. Poor Petros. Genre: Comedy, Author: Sos Sargsyan, Director: Sos Sargsyan, Scenography by: Davit Minasyan, Musical arrangement/Composer: Martin Vardazaryan.// Sos Sargsyan Hamazgayin Theater.
19:00. Hollywood... Hollywood. N. Simon, Comedy in 2 acts.// Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan.
19:00. The Long March of Elephants. Gaspare Dori, Staged by Garnik Seyranyan.// M. Mkrtychyan Artistic Theater.
19:00. Coma Nostra. Author: Narek Duryan, Staging and music design by Narek Duryan, Producer: Kristine Hovhannisyanyan.// State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
17:00. The New Adventures of The Three Piglets. Directed by Samson Stepanyan, Choreographer: Sevag Avakian, Painter: Andre Asatryan, Cast: Nif - Anna Zakarian, NaF - Nelly Ghazaryan, Nuf - Sipan Zadoyan, Wolf - Sargis Rustamyan, Bear - Hrach Mirakyan, Squirrel - Laura Torosyan.// State Musical Chamber Theater.
18:00. Edgar Avetisyan's Dance Ensemble, Housher. Participants: People's Artist of Armenia, Tovmas Poghosyan, Honoured Artist of Armenia, Arus Gulanyan, Vardan Badalyan, Ruzan Avetikyan, Artur Mnatsakanyan, Razzmik Baghdasaryan, Samvel Galstyan.// National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian.
12:00, 14:00. The Dog and The Cat. By Hovhannes Tumanyan, Director: R. Marukhyan, Stage Design: A. Mikayelyan, Music by: R. Amirkhanyan.// State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
16:00. Little Red Riding Hood. Author: Charles Perrault, Staging: Arpi Maghakyan.// State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
12:00, 14:00. Beauty and the Beast. French folk tale, Children's Musical Fun Show, Director: Armen Margaryan.// State Musical Chamber Theater.

*Columnist Sarah Melkonyan
 Responces is welcome to
 hl@nt.am*

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

Aries (March 20-April 19)



You have a long term goal to create something important involving new education, developing a website, legal and/or religious matters. Know that the result will take longer than you expect. Think carefully about the foundation on which

you will build. Now is the time to strengthen your prerequisite actions.

Taurus (April 20 -- May 20)



Make it a point to remain objective and stand aside from over-reacting to slights. You could be feeling a pain that comes from long ago rather than what is right in front of you. That is what causes you to over-react now. Avoid contracts and busi-

ness negotiations at this time because misunderstandings may develop.

Gemini (May 20-June 20)



Negative attitudes or habit patterns of thought may be your undoing this week. Reach beyond them, question your mind, for a meditative place that gives answers to serious questions and encouragement

from your source. Avoid signing contracts at this time because it is possible your thinking is skewed.

Cancer (June 21-July 21)



You may not be feeling quite comfortable with yourself this week. It appears your mind is in conflict with your feelings. Do the best you can to deal with this issue up front, perhaps by journaling or discussing it with a friend. Keep in mind that it is not a mandate for you to settle on a decision right now.

Leo (July 22-August 21)



You have felt handicapped by the Powers That Be. Perhaps it has been related to your job or your health. You likely are experiencing the last straw, the one that causes you to make a dramatic change

in your life direction. Wrench yourself free of a tyrant, even if that tyrant is your own obsession. You have the strength to do so now.

Virgo (August 22-September 22)



There are challenges this week related to home, hearth and family of origin. It is possible there is a legal component as well. You could be studying on what must be done with the "old" things or people

from your history. Tradition is in conflict with the contemporary as you make decisions. You can manage this.



Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22)

For any number of reasons, circumstances may leave you out of the social loop this week. Astrologically this is a time for self-reflection and not self-condemnation. Having a quiet week is appropriate at this time. Don't turn this into a negative belief about yourself. Take the opportunity to enjoy the time to be still.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)



Prepare for a period of scarcity between now and the end of June. This could be due to debt or lack of income. Make every effort to not indebt yourself further. You will need your savings for back up. Otherwise you must work extra hours to manage your resources. Many will have seen this time coming and have already prepared.

Sagittarius

(November 22-December 20)



Please note the lead paragraph because this phenomenon is occurring in your sign.

You may be expecting to start a big project this month. The beginning is fraught with potential errors. Move carefully and check your work for errors along the way. It is especially important to prevent or correct mistakes in the beginning. If you don't, later you may have to unravel the whole project back to this point.

Capricorn (December 21-January 19)



Your natural energy and drive is slowing, for reasons known or unknown to you. It will do little good to beat yourself up over this issue. Consider that Mars is

asking you to slow down, just for two or three months. Your body needs a rest. There may be detours and rocks in the road now. Things will return to normal.

Aquarius (January 20-February 17)



You may need to concentrate in order to avoid critics, whether they are internal or external. Instead of blame, use the energy to tackle a project that requires concentration. Avoid contracts and busi-

ness negotiations right now because misunderstandings may develop.

Pisces (February 18-March 19)



You have your eye on the big picture and it looks grand indeed. Others follow your lead. A word of caution: your optimistic attitude and belief that you are right could cause you to become arrogant. If

you want others to join your ride, give them a special place on the wagon. Share the glory.

Serj Tankian calls for donations to families of deceased soldiers in Armenia and Artsakh

System of A Down's Serj Tankian calls for donations to the families of deceased soldiers in Armenia and Artsakh.

"As you can see families of deceased soldiers in Armenia and Artsakh are economically disadvantaged to carry on. It is for this reason that I have decided to donate to this amazing non-profit organization called the Paros Foundation, who donate 100% of the proceeds directly to the affected families. I encourage those who want to contribute to do so to them," Tankian said in a Facebook post. "And to all the Azeri trolls paid handsomely by Azerbaijan's Ministry of Offense who have been frequenting my page, I want you to know that I really love my ban and delete buttons smile emoticon," Serj Tankian added.

The Paros Foundation has launched a Hero Support Fund to raise funds and pro-



vide them to the families of our deceased heroes. The goal is to provide a minimum of \$1,000 to every hero's family.

"100% of donation will be used to sup-

port this project without any administrative costs. Funds will be distributed as quickly as possible to the grieving families of these heroes," Paros says.



Support Our Heroes



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