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European Parliament Condemns Safarov Pardon



The European Parliament, adopted a resolution on September 13 deploring Azerbaijan's decision to pardon convicted axe-murderer Ramil Safarov and the hero's welcome he received after being extradited from Hungary to Baku on Aug. 31. See below

HIGHLIGHT

Great Britain's Foreign Office Minister for Europe to visit Yerevan

David Lidington, the Great Britain's Foreign Office Minister for Europe, will pay an official visit to Yerevan on 18-19 September.

In Yerevan, the Minister will meet the President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan, Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Edward Nalbandian, the British Embassy informs.

The discussions will focus on the development of the bilateral and business relations between Armenia and the UK; Armenia's progress on EU Association Agreement negotiations; and an exchange of views on regional and international issues.

The situation in Syria and the Turkey-Armenian Protocols

By David Petrosyan

The severe crisis phase in Syria continues for more than half a year which caused thousands of deaths. The number of Syrian refugees reaches a five digit number. However, the end of the crisis is not in sight and there is no common point of view in the international community not only about this whole situation but also about a way out of the situation.

Washington, London and Paris, providing a huge political support to the armed opposition, which mostly consists of representatives of Radical Islamic Groups, see a one way solution, which is the removal of the Syrian President Bashar Al Assad by all means and bringing to power an inhomogeneous conglomerate from Radical Islamic Groups. At the same time, the western online media creates virtual figures of the representa-

tives of the opposition which support the democratic way of development in Syria and fight against the authoritarian regime of Bashar Al Assad.

The aspiration of USA and the mentioned allies to remove Bashar Al Asaad from power created quite an interesting situation. On one hand the Department of State of USA condemned the act of terrorism on July 18 this year, during which the Syrian Secretary of Defense died, on the other hand Washington mentioned that the "guilty died".

At the same time a great amount of information about the participation of "Al-Qaeda" in armed clashes in Syria was found. In the eyes of the observers in Yerevan the situation is the following: USA fights against "Al-Qaeda" in Afghanistan and Yemen with its allies, while "Al-Qaeda", along with the opposition, fights

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European Parliament adopts resolution of release of Azeri axe-killer

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The European Parliament, in a vote of 58-13 with 5 abstentions, adopted a resolution on September 13 deploring Azerbaijan's decision to pardon convicted axe-murderer Ramil Safarov and the hero's welcome he received after being extradited from Hungary to Baku on Aug. 31.

The final text of the resolution, however, relieves Hungary from any responsibility in the matter. Earlier drafts of the bill called on Hungary to urge Azerbaijan, through diplomatic avenues, to adhere to its earlier claim that Safarov would serve the remainder of his life sentence upon extradition.

Below is the complete text of the final resolution adopted by the European Parliament:

Azerbaijan: the case of Ramil Safarov

The European Parliament,

"having regard to its previous resolutions on the situation in Azerbaijan, in particular those concerning human rights,

"having regard to the established practice of international law regarding transfer, namely the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, under which it was agreed that cooperation should be developed in order to further the ends of justice and the social rehabilitation of sentenced persons, by giving them the opportunity to serve their sentences within their own society,

"having regard to the statement issued by its President, Martin Schulz, on 5 September 2012 concerning the pardon granted to Ramil Safarov in Azerbaijan,

"having regard to the joint statement issued by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, and Commissioner Štefan Füle on 3 September 2012 concerning the

release of Mr Safarov,

"having regard to the statement issued by the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, Thorbjørn Jagland, on 4 September 2012,

"having regard to the official letter received by the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice of Hungary on 15 August 2012 from the Deputy Minister of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Vilayat Zhirov,

"having regard to its resolution of 18 April 2012 on the negotiations of the EU Azerbaijan Association Agreement,

"having regard to the statement issued by the Hungarian Prime Minister, Viktor Orbán, on 3 September 2012, in which he gave an assurance that Hungary had acted in accordance with its international obligations,

"having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Azerbaijan, which entered into

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Serzh Sargsyan receives the EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia Philippe Lefort

On September 12, President Serzh Sargsyan received the EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia Philippe Lefort.

The parties discussed issues pertaining to Armenia-EU relations and development of cooperation, the current stage of the NK peace process and the situation after the release of the Azeri murderer Ramil Safarov and the response of the international community to that incident.

Serzh Sargsyan expressed gratitude to various countries, different international organizations, including a number of European structures for the declarations on unequivocal and stern condemnation of the murderer Safarov. At the same time, President Sargsyan assessed as unacceptable and incomprehensible some so called "balanced" while actually absolutely inappropriate responses to that hideous act. Glorification of the criminal by the Azerbaijani authorities, according to Serzh Sargsyan,



calls for the unconditional denunciation, particularly by our EU partners.

The EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus noted that after the meeting with the President of Armenia he will be leaving for Baku and expects clarifications from the Azerbaijani authorities regarding the aforementioned step.

Philippe Lefort underscored that EU condemns this step, which is detrimental for the mutual trust among the parties of the NK conflict and said that in the peace

process EU supports the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group.

At the meeting with the President of Armenia, the EU Special Representative spoke also about the development of EU cooperation with Armenia and readiness to assist Armenia in its efforts aimed at Eurointegration. He noted that works are already underway to organize a donor conference for Armenia with the participation of the representatives of the international financial institutions.

Serzh Sargsyan hosted Luxembourg Deputy Prime Minister

On September 11, Serzh Sargsyan received the Vice Prime Minister of Luxembourg, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean Asselborn.

The parties discussed issues pertinent to the development of Armenia's relations with one of the EU founding members - Luxembourg not only on bilateral level but also in the framework of the European structures. President Serzh Sargsyan and the Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean Asselborn concurred that the two countries can establish close relations also in the framework of the international organization of Francophonie.

In the context of the successful Armenian-EU negotiations, the interlocutors stressed the importance of Luxembourg's assistance to Armenia's Eurointegration efforts.

The President of Armenia and Vice Prime Minister, Foreign Minister of Luxembourg spoke also about the NK peace process, regional problems and existing challenges.

Jean Asselborn presented to Serzh Sargsyan his and his government's view on the release by the Azerbaijani authorities of the Azeri murderer Ramil Safarov and underscored that he has also presented it during his press conference with the Armenian colleague.



European Parliament adopts resolution of release of Azeri axe-killer

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force in 1999, and to the ongoing negotiations between the two parties on a new association agreement to replace the previous one,

"having regard to Rules 122(5) and 110(4) of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas Ramil Safarov had been jailed in a Hungarian prison since 2004 after brutally killing an Armenian colleague during a course sponsored by NATO's Partnership for Peace Programme in Budapest; whereas Mr Safarov had pleaded guilty and had expressed no remorse, defending his action on the grounds that the victim was Armenian;

B. whereas on 31 August 2012 MrSafarov, a lieutenant of the Azerbaijani armed forces who had been convicted of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment in Hungary, was transferred to Azerbaijan at the longstanding request of the Azerbaijani authorities;

C. whereas immediately after Mr Safarov was transferred to Azerbaijan the Azerbaijani President, Ilham Aliyev, pardoned him in line with the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Article 12 of the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons;

D. whereas Article 9 of the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, to which

Hungary and Azerbaijan are both signatory parties, states that a person sentenced in the territory of one state may be transferred to the territory of another in order to serve the sentence imposed on him or her, provided that the conditions laid down in that convention are met;

E. whereas the Deputy Minister of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Vilayat Zahirov, sent an official letter to the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice of Hungary on 15 August 2012, in which he stated that the execution of the decisions of foreign states' courts regarding the transfer of sentenced persons to serve the remaining part of their prison sentences in the Republic of Azerbaijan were carried out in accordance with Article 9(1)(a) of the convention, without any conversion of their sentences; whereas he further gave an assurance that, according to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the punishment of a convict serving a life sentence could only be replaced by a court with a term of imprisonment for a specified period, and that the convict could be released on conditional parole only after serving at least 25 years of his or her prison sentence; and whereas the Azerbaijani authorities subsequently denied having given any diplomatic assurances to the Hungarian authorities;

F. whereas Lieutenant Safarov received a glorious welcome in Azerbaijan and a few hours after his return was granted a presidential pardon, set free and promoted to the rank of major during a public ceremony;

G. whereas the decision to set MrSafarov free triggered widespread international reactions of disapproval and condemnation;

H. whereas on 31 August 2012 the Armenian President, SerzhSargsyan, announced that Armenia was suspending its diplomatic relations with Hungary;

I. whereas Azerbaijan participates actively in the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Eastern Partnership, is a founding member of Euronest and has committed itself to respect democracy, human rights and the rule of law, which are core values of these initiatives;

J. whereas Azerbaijan has taken up a non-permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the 2012-2013 period and committed itself to uphold the values enshrined in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

K. whereas Azerbaijan is a member of the Council of Europe and a party to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) as well as to a number of other international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

1. Stresses the importance of the rule of law and of honoring commitments made;

2. Deplores the decision by the President of Azerbaijan to pardon Ramil Safarov, a convicted murderer sentenced by the courts of a Member State of the European Union; regards that decision as a gesture which could contribute to further escalation of the tensions between two countries, and which is exacerbating feelings of injus-

tice and deepening the divide between those countries, and is further concerned that this act is jeopardizing all peaceful reconciliation processes within the societies concerned and may undermine the possible future development of peaceful people-to-people contact in the region;

3. Considers that, while the presidential pardon granted to Mr Safarov complies with the letter of the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, it runs contrary to the spirit of that international agreement, which was negotiated to allow the transfer of a person convicted on the territory of one state to serve the remainder of his or her sentence on the territory of another state;

4. Considers the presidential pardon granted to Mr Safarov as a violation of the diplomatic assurances given to the Hungarian authorities in Azerbaijan's request for transfer on the basis of on the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons;

5. Deplores the hero's welcome accorded to Mr Safarov in Azerbaijan and the decision to promote him to the rank of major and pay him eight years' back salary upon his arrival, and is concerned about the example this sets for future generations and about the promotion and recognition he has received from the Azerbaijani state;

6. Takes the view that the frustration in Azerbaijan and Armenia over the lack of any substantial progress as regards the peace process in Nagorno-Karabakh does not justify either acts of revenge or futile provocations that add further tension to an already

tense and fragile situation;

7. Expresses its support for the ongoing efforts of the European External Action Service (EEAS), the EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the Member States to defuse tensions and ensure that progress is made towards peace in the region;

8. Supports the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group in their efforts to secure substantial progress in the peace process in Nagorno-Karabakh with a view to finding a lasting, comprehensive settlement in accordance with international law;

9. Insists that the EU should play a stronger role in the settlement of the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh by supporting the implementation of confidence-building measures which will bring together Armenian and Azerbaijani communities and spread ideas of peace, reconciliation and trust on all sides;

10. Reiterates its position that the association agreement currently being negotiated between the EU and Azerbaijan should include clauses and benchmarks relating to the protection and promotion of human rights and the rule of law;

11. Condemns all forms of terrorism and the use of threats of terrorism;

12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the EEAS, the European Council, the Commission, the respective governments and parliaments of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia, the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and counter-terrorism.

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Azerbaijan Unable To Win Back Karabakh, Says Ex-U.S. Envoy

Despite its massive defense spending Azerbaijan still lacks the military muscle to regain control over Nagorno-Karabakh, according to a former U.S. ambassador in Baku and Karabakh conflict negotiator.

"The Azeris can't retake Karabakh now. They are militarily incapable of doing it," Matthew Bryza was quoted by Reuters news agency as saying on Tuesday.

"I don't think they could dislodge the Armenian forces from the high ground. I think that's extremely difficult," Bryza said.

Over the past decade, Azerbaijan has spent billions of dollars of its oil revenues on a military build-up which it hopes will eventually end Armenian control of Karabakh. President IlhamAliyev and other Azerbaijani officials regularly threaten to forcibly win back the disputed territory. Aliyev has repeatedly claimed that his armed forces are already strong enough to accomplish that.

Armenian leaders dismiss and at the same time denounce such threats. Analysts in and outside the region likewise question the Azerbaijani army's ability to defeat the Armenians.

"I think it would be a month or two, that is the amount of time our



armed forces could fight for," YusifAgayev, an Azeri military expert and veteran of the war, told Reuters. "If it drags on longer then it will become a war that society will have to participate in, not just the army," he said. "I don't think the society of my country is ready for war."

Bryza, who currently runs a defense think-tank in Estonia, was closely involved in international efforts to end the Karabakh conflict in 2005-2009 in his capacity as deputy assistant secretary of state

and the U.S. co-chair of the OSCE Minsk Group. He went on to serve as U.S. ambassador to Azerbaijan in 2011.

Bryza was appointed as ambassador on a temporary basis after President Barack Obama failed to secure the U.S. Senate's approval of his candidacy for the post in 2010. Some Armenian-American lobbying groups accused the career diplomat of having a pro-Azerbaijani bias and questionable ties to Azerbaijani officials. Bryza strongly denied the accusations.

Armenia's recognition of Karabakh not to instigate war - opposition member

If Armenia recognizes Nagorno-Karabakh's independence today it will not instigate war tomorrow, member of opposition Heritage Party said.

Stepan Safaryan considers the fact that the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh is under Armenian control is much worse than recognition for Azerbaijan and Turkey.

On the contrary, if Armenia continues discussing the Madrid Principles obediently it will easier lead to the beginning of hostilities, he told reporters on Thursday.

"Azerbaijan is seeking to raise the issue of Nagorno-Karabakh on the international agenda.. Turkey, in its turn, tends to assume more prominent role in the Minsk Group," Safaryan said.

If the negotiation process comes to a deadlock, it can actual-

ly lead to a change in the format of the OSCE Minsk Group. Therefore, he added, careful steps are necessary to rule out possible accusations against Armenia.

"This does not mean that we should refrain from any steps. On the contrary, specific moves should be taken, but they have to be weighted and calculated," he concluded.



Armenian former President's Office: "Ilham Aliyev either deliberately distorts facts or is unaware of the past"

The Office of former Armenian President Robert Kocharyan issued a statement refuting Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev's recent allegations.

The statement particularly reads

"On September 12, news agencies disseminated reports about the meeting of Azerbaijani President IlhamAliyev with the ambassadors of OSCE member states in Gabala. The reports said that at the meeting Aliyev said that in 2001 the President of Armenia allegedly pardoned an Armenian terrorist Karapetyan, who was convicted to life imprisonment in France and was extradited to Armenia on the same year.

The statement doesn't correspond to reality. This story is about Varouzhan Karapetyan, who, being a citizen of Lebanon at the time,

was not extradited but was pardoned by French authorities in 2001 and only after that he moved to the Republic of Armenia for permanent residence. Detailed reports about these events are still available on Internet and it makes no difficulty to find them.

Thus, we can state that trying to justify RamilSafarov's pardoning the President of Azerbaijan either deliberately distorts historical facts or is unaware of the recent past.



International community deals with Turkey, which sponsors anti-Armenianism and racism

The Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia Eduard Sharmazanov reacted to the announcement made by the Prime Minister of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The latter spoke on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict regulation issue at the press conference jointly with the President of Azerbaijan IlhamAliyev in Baku, saying in particular that in Karabakh issue Ankara would continue assisting Azerbaijan. Sharmazanov stated:

"While the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries USA, Russia, France and other international authoritative organizations condemn and criticize the inhuman and immoral step of the Azerbaijani authorities, Recep Tayyip Erdogan stands in support of Azerbaijan and publicly announces

about it.

This announcement of the Turkish Prime Minister, aspiring to the European Union, proves that the international community deals with a country, which openly sponsors anti-Armenianism and racism.

It becomes clear why the perpetrator Ramil Safarov learned to kill people with different kinds of instruments in the North Cyprus military bases, occupied by Turkey.

I think, Turkey and Azerbaijan have not forgotten that notwithstanding that Turkey provided Azerbaijan with serious military and financial assistance during the years of the Artsakh War, the Artsakh Armenians won the battle, proving their determination to live independently and rule the destiny of their own people".

Armenian Parliament urges all countries to condemn Hungarian-Azerbaijani bargain

The Armenian National Assembly adopted the statement by the NA of the Republic of Armenia on transfer of criminal by Hungarian authorities and granting pardon by Azerbaijani President'. The National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Artak Zakarian stated that the text of the statement was discussed with all factions who made efforts to come to an overall conclusion: the draft was elaborated on the basis of the held discussions. Ninety six for, one against and no abstained votes adopted the text of the statement containing the following:

- Dwelling on cruel and inhuman crime perpetrated against Armenian Armed Forces officer Gurgen Margaryan by Azerbaijani Ramil Safarov in 2004 February 19, in Budapest in the course of NATO's " Partnership for Peace "program.

- Pointing out Hungary Government as a host country did no ensure the safety of participants in the course of international events organized in the territory of its country.

- Recording that Armenian officer assassinate was from time to time justified and finally gifted by hero rank at a high level, reportedly Hungarian law making bodies just could not be unaware and could predicate the transfer of life sentenced criminal meant granting him peace and create a precedent encouraging crimes against Armenians on ethnic basis.

- Noting that granting various awards and titles to the criminal by



Azerbaijani President is a manifestation of political cynicism towards the international community, qualifying Aliyev step contradiction to "Extradition of prisoners" Convention's humanitarian universal human rights principles and norms ,National Assembly announces:

1. The Hungarian government also bears responsibility for what happened, condemnation to Hungarian authorities adopted stance and suspension of official relations with Hungary at a Parliament level.

2. Azerbaijani regular step is a threat to regional security and aggravation of further enmity and hatred atmosphere towards Armenians, breach of human rights guaranteed by international instru-

ments, efforts made at drawing failure NKR peaceful settlement, particularly meddling OCSE Minsk Group co-chairmen commissioned consistent policy.

3. Entrenched hatred atmosphere towards Armenians at a state level in Azerbaijan reaffirms the fact NKR cannot be a part of Azerbaijan.

4. Calls on the countries' Governments led by democratic values, condemn deal between Hungary and Azerbaijan perpetrated on August 31.

5. Looking forward to commensurate response by the international parliamentary organizations.

Exchange of point of views on the controversial points of the draft is being held.

Syrian Armenians Killed After Yerevan-Aleppo Flight

Four Syrians of Armenian descent were killed and at least 11 others wounded near Aleppo airport on Tuesday night shortly after the latest flight from Yerevan to Syria's commercial capital.

Syrian Armenian sources said on September 11 that three of them -- Harut Suvarian, Mesrop Ajemian and Hrach Pepejian -- were returning home from the airport after a trip to Armenia. The other victim, Pepejian's father Arsen, was said to have gone to the airport to collect his son.

"The wounded persons were taken to the French hospital in Aleppo and their condition is now good," Raffi Tashjian, a Syrian Armenian man based in Yerevan, told Radio Liberty, citing his contacts in Aleppo.

A spokesman for Armenia's Foreign Ministry suggested that the Armenians were shot by Syrian rebels. However, an unnamed friend of theirs told the AFP news agency, "It's not obvious who opened fire, but the result is that five cars were attacked and four Armenians were killed and 13 or 14 others were wounded."

"Some say it was the FSA (Free Syrian Army), but it's not clear. We don't have proof and we should wait and see. I don't think the FSA would attack random cars in the street."

He said one of those killed "had left his family behind in Armenia, his wife and kids. He had gone

back to take care of some things in Aleppo and then return."

The deadly incident occurred amid fighting between Syrian government troops and rebels reported in the Nayrab area, around five kilometers (three miles) from Aleppo airport. It raised to at least 19 the total number of ethnic Armenians that are known to have been killed in Syria's bloody civil strife so far.

There were an estimated 80,000 ethnic Armenians in Syria, mostly concentrated in Aleppo, when the conflict broke out in early 2011. Hundreds of them have taken refuge in Armenia since fighting reached the city in July.

Around 150 Syrian Armenians arrived in Yerevan on board a Syrian Air commercial jet on Tuesday evening. The plane took about 100 others back to Aleppo.



Both Syrian Air and Armenia's Armavia national airline continue to carry out regular between the two cities despite the worsening security situation. Armavia resumed its weekly flight service on Monday after a one-week pause which it attributed to the FSA's reported threats to shoot down aircraft entering the country.

Some of the newly arrived passengers at Yerevan's Zvartnots airport said on Tuesday that gun battles are moving closer to Aleppo's Armenian-populated neighborhoods. "Things are getting worse now," one man told RFE/RL. "But we still hope that they will improve."

Citing the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, AFP reported that the Syrian army shelled a string of neighborhoods in central Aleppo on September 11.

NATO and EU reports denote that Armenia is extremely reliable

Different international documents denote that the Republic of Armenia is extremely reliable in anti-terrorism actions implementation and is a safe country. It was announced by the Secretary of the National Security Council (NSC) of the Republic of Armenia Artur Bahgdasaryan at the press conference held on September 14, highlighting the fact that the US Embassies had been warned about possible danger.

According to Artur Bahgdasaryan, Armenia is one of

those unique countries, about which in the last two international reports of the NATO and European Union it is stated that considerable progress had been achieved in the struggle against terrorism and cyber-terrorism. "Armenia does nothing to do with terrorism, neither did, and I will say more, notwithstanding the fact that we are too far from it, the struggle against terrorism is considered to be a very serious issue to be highlighted. In this connection we have an interagency commission in Armenia, a

national program, which keep such problems in the center of attention. In this case we have nothing to be worried about", stated the Secretary of the National Security Council.

The Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the United States of America to Armenia John Heffern published in his Twitter webpage, that the US Embassies had been warned about possible terrorist acts not in 7, but 40 countries.

World community unanimous in its response to Azerbaijani murderer's release

The international community's approach toward extradition and pardon of Ramil Safarov was unanimous and it has created favorable conditions for the Armenian side, Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian said in parliament on September 11.

His comments came in response to the Heritage parliamentary group's question whether it is time to recognize Nagorno-Karabakh in the context of Safarov's extradition.

Nalbandian noted that Armenia must continue pursuing its policy which is perceived by the international community and can lead to getting support under such conditions.

"During the last debate, I said

that Armenia will continue its efforts into resolution of the Karabakh conflict, into recognition of Nagorno-Karabakh people's right to self-determination, its implementation and the international recognition. This is the basis and objective of our talks and no one can have a different opinion.

I want to note that in recent days I received dozens of phone calls from the foreign ministers of different countries who expressed support and full perception of our policy. We must continue pursuing our policy carefully as it has led to concrete results and support of the international community. As regards the settlement of the Karabakh con-

flict, our position is in harmony with that of the OSCE Minsk Group. Moreover, the position of the Minsk Group is in harmony with ours," he emphasized.

Responding to the representative of the ARFD group about the steps taken since Safarov's extradition, Nalbandian said that after August 31, the President of Armenia, as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a number of statements telling about the steps which were taken.

"Unanimous response of the international community is the result of diplomatic work of country's leadership and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs," he added.

ANCA Expresses Outrage to Hungarian Ambassador



During a Monday, September 10 meeting at the Hungarian Embassy with Ambassador Gyorgy Szapary, the Armenian National Committee of America shared the Armenian American community's outrage over the Hungarian government's decision to transfer to Baku convicted Azerbaijani axe-murderer Ramil Safarov, despite the clear indications that he would, upon his arrival, be pardoned for his crime and praised as a national hero.

The ANCA delegation criticized the weak response from Budapest regarding Azerbaijan's pardon and promotion of a proud and unrepentant Safarov, who was, until his extradition, serving a life sentence in Hungary for the 2004 brutal axe-murder of Lt. Gurgen Margaryan, in his sleep, during a NATO English language training program.

In calling upon the Hungarian government for an open apology and a meaningful condemnation of Baku's shameful actions, the ANCA expressed, during the course of an hour-long meeting, the full range of the community's concerns, including the following three points:

1. It is not credible for the Hungarian government to argue that it was unaware of the obvious "pardon" loophole in its extradition treaty.

2. It is not credible for the Hungarian government to argue that it was unaware of the Azerbaijani government's public praise of Ramil Safarov as a national hero, or the very high likelihood that this killer would be released by Ilham Aliyev if he were transferred to Baku.

3. It is not credible for the Hungarian government to argue that it was unaware that its actions would contribute to emboldening Azerbaijan to escalate its threats and acts of violence, de-stabilizing the region, and setting back the cause of peace.

Worldwide suspicions that the Hungarian Government knew full well of Azerbaijan's intention to pardon Safarov were confirmed just one day after the meeting with the Hungarian Ambassador Reuters reported Tuesday that Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban stated, "The foreign ministry had forecast precisely what types of consequences this or the other decision [extradition or non-extradition] may have. Nothing happened after our decision that we would not have reckoned with in advance."

Orban's statements come as speculation continues about the connection between the Safarov's extradition and talks between the Orban Administration and Aliyev regarding a possible Azerbaijani buy-out of Hungarian loans valuing over \$2-3 Billion Euros. International financial news outlets reported the possible deal just days prior to the August 31st release of Safarov.

The Hungarian opposition Tuesday condemned Prime Minister Orban's actions as 'morally bankrupt,' and called for his resignation. Thousands of Hungarians protested the Orban decision during demonstrations in Budapest last week.

Despite international criticism from the U.S., France, Russia, and NATO, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev remains defiant about his decision to pardon, promote and financially reward axe-murderer Ramil Safarov for the ethnically motivated murder of Lt. Gurgen Margaryan. Safarov's repatriation "was carried out in accordance with European conventions, and his release in accordance with Azerbaijan's constitution," Reuters quoted Aliyev as stating during a joint press conference with NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen.

Over the past week, Armenians around the world - from Calcutta, India to the United States - have protested the Orban extradition of Safarov with demonstrations in front of Hungarian embassies and consulates.

On September 7, representatives from Armenian organizations met with Dr. Gabor Garai, the Hungarian consul in Boston, to voice their outrage at the Hungarian government's decision to extradite Ramil Safarov. During the meeting, representatives expressed their consternation at the Hungarian government's unremorseful stance, despite being warned in advance of the consequences of the extradition. They stressed that support for Safarov in Azerbaijan is the crystallization of rabid anti-Armenian sentiments there. The delegation included ANCA Eastern Region Chairman George Aghjayan, ANCA Eastern Region Director Michelle Hagopian, Sarhad Karaguezian representing Boston's ARF "Sardarabad" Gomideh, AYF Central Executive Board member Sosse Beugekian, and Armenian Weekly Assistant Editor Nanore Barsoumian.



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- ♦ **1357. Pushkin street**, 8/6 floor, 77 sq.m., 2 rooms, newly built, furniture, techniques. Price 165000\$

3 ROOMS

- ♦ **2474. Koryun Street**, 5/3, 100 sq.m., 3 turned into 4, euro repair , euro windows, permanent gas, balcony, 2 AC, opportunity. Price 160.000 USD
- ♦ **2454. Moskovyan str.**, 5/2, 180sqm, normal state, 3 bedrooms, lavatory, permanent water, gas. Price 370.000USD
- ♦ **2453. Koryun str.**, 6/4, 100sqm, 4 rooms, euro repaired, 2 lavatories. Price negotiable
- ♦ **2429. Ekmalyan street**, 10/9, 178sqm, 3bedrooms, 3lavatories, capially repaired, AC, parking. Price-360.000USD
- ♦ **2393. Moskovyan street**, 5/3. 110 sq.m., euro repair, logha balcony 17 sq.m., permanent hot and cold water, cube 700 l, electric heating system, natural gas, Ariston, 2AC, satellite. Price: 400 000 USD
- ♦ **2335. Mashtots Avenue**, 4/4, 95 sq.m., 3 rooms, 2 bedrooms, stone building, euro repair, euro doors and windows, open balcony, permanent hot and cold water, concrete cover, beech parquetry, h 3 m, closed attic. Price 125000 USD
- ♦ **2348. Abovyan Street**, 4/2, 177.8 sq/m, euro repaired, concreted, laminate furniture in the bedroom, cupboards in the kitchen, tiled, Baxi system, Price: 250000 USD preliminary
- ♦ **2395. North Avenue**, 130 sq.m., newly built, h-3 m, a view to Abovyan street. Price: 1 sq.m.-1600 USD
- ♦ **2682 Arami str.** 13/6 187sq.m, Newly built, 4 rooms,3 bedrooms, alabaster, buckle, nice view, 2 garages, view to garden. Price:1 sq.m - 574000 AMD
- ♦ **2676 Amiryun str.** 16/12 259 sq.m 4 rooms, 3 bedrooms, N - 3 meters, euro repaired, view to the yard, concrete floor, heating, water, gas, AC, underground parking, separate kitchen with furniture. Price: 550.000 AMD, % included
- ♦ **2674 Qeru str.** 17/3 103 sq.m. 3 rooms, 2 bedrooms, N-3 meters, elite building, 2 bathrooms, swimming pool, tennis court, parking(not included in the price) heating, gas, water, AC, sold with and without furniture. Price: without furniture-160000 USD With furniture -175000 USD

PREMISES

- ♦ **1710. Sayat - Nova str.**, 1st floor, 420sqm, 2 rooms, 2 lavatories, entrance from street. Price 1.000.000USD
- ♦ **1727. Baghramyan str.**, 2 storied, 230sqm, capially repaired, entrance from street, garage. Price 350.000USD
- ♦ **1725. Hanrapetutyan str.**, 1storied, 171sqm, 2 entrances, capially repaired, permanent hot and cold water. Price 500.000USD
- ♦ **1703. Northern Avenue**, 9/7, 66sqm, capially repaired, heating, lavatory, 30000AMD service rent, view to Teryan street. Price 220,000USD
- ♦ **1553. Kasyan street**. 170sq.m., working fashion saloon, large windows, facade-15m, 1room+foyer, h=2.80 m, cellar 30 sq.m. Price 500 000 USD preliminary
- ♦ **1598. Nairy Zaryan street**, 180 sq.m., 1st floor, a working restaurant, hall-100 sq.m. 1st line,

repaired, tonir. Price: negotiable

- ♦ **1383. Nalbandian St**, cellar + 1 story, 30 sq. m. cellar, 90 sq. m. story, Euro repair, hall, kitchen, lavatory, 24-hour hot and cold water, gas supply, suitable for a bar or restaurant. Price: 512.000USD
- ♦ **1603. North avenue**, 159 sq.m., 1st floor. Entrance on ground floor also, construction is in process, suitable for a shop. Price: 1 sq.m. 10 000 USD
- ♦ **1588. Tigran Mec street**, 256 sq.m, 5/1.2 , trade area, stone building, euro repair, 1st floor trade area - 210 sq.m., 2nd floor 46 sq.m. residential Area. Price: 600 000 USD

LANDS

- ♦ **1756 H. Qochar str.** 1000 sq.m, 2-storey brick building - 1200 sq m, old repaired. Price: 1.200.000 preliminary
- ♦ **2122. Davtashen**, 1800sqm, water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600sqm, 1200sqm. Price-150USD per sqm.
- ♦ **1869. Cascade**. 720 sq.m. 1st line, permission for construction, suitable for a new building or a business. Price: negotiable
- ♦ **2121. Centre**, land-1338sqm, 1100 sqm has permission for building. Price-2million USD
- ♦ **2107 Monument**, 2400sqm, permission for building, 2 projects to build 3 storied building, possibility of water, gas, electricity, beautiful view of city and Ararat. Price-500USD per sqm.
- ♦ **2033. Tsakhkadzor**, New Quarter, 600 sq.m., 1st line, asphalted road, premises, designed for construction of residential house, with all communal conveniences. Price: 120 USD for 1 sq.m.
- ♦ **1939. Kotayk region**, Aghavnadzor district. Land 5000 sq.m., suitable for building a resort place. Price negotiable
- ♦ **2011. Proshyan street**. Land 400 sq.m. for building a house, privatized, 2nd line/ near the garden/. Price 1 sq.m. beginning from 700 USD
- ♦ **2013. Cascade**. Land 1000 sq.m. For public construction needs, First line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price for 1 sq.m. 580 USD
- ♦ **2028. District of Erebuni**, Anin-Berd street. Land 2 acr. With a 2 storied partially built building, water, electricity plastered.h=4.20m. Price 1 sq.m. 50 USD
- ♦ **1402. Hr. Kochar Str**, 1,100 sq. m, personal plot, front -25 m, privatized, empty, possibility for building communications. Price negotiable.
- ♦ **1351. Monument**, 2,000 sq. m, privatized, front - 17 m, APZ permission, for social purposes: suitable for a restaurant, hotel. Price negotiable.

RIVATE HOUSES

- ♦ **2725. Nork-Marash**, building - 733.25sqm, land-620sqm, semi-basement +2floors, euro repaired, semi-basement is sport room, sauna, summer room, pool, fireplace, 1st floor- sitting room, 1 bedroom, cabinet, kitchen, lavatory, 2nd floor - 4 bedrooms, permanent hot and cold water, gas, Spanish tiles, 2 AC. Price - 500.000USD
- ♦ **3348. Blur, Barbyusi**. 3 floors, land - 800 sq.m, building-700 sq.m, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 1.5 million USD
- ♦ **3059. Vahagni community**, total-1500sqm, building-280sqm, 2.5 storied, newly built, not lived in, 1st floor-living room-44sqm, kitchen, family room-24sqm, 2nd floor-3bedrooms, 3 lavatories, garage for 2 cars, cellar, security system, possible to sell with furniture. Price 490.000\$.
- ♦ **3210 Aygestan community**. 2 storied, land: 480 sq.m, building: 310 sq.m, 1st floor is not repaired, garage, 2nd floor: repaired, kitchen, lavatory-tiled, permanent hot and cold water, Baxi system, a place for barbecue, garden, trees Price: 270.000 USD
- ♦ **3292. Arabkir**, 2 floors, land - 1200 sq.m, building - 340 sq.m, 4 rooms, newly built, repaired, euro windows and doors, sauna, 2 swimming-pools, 5 bathrooms, permanent hot and cold water, heating system, Jacuzzi, fireplace, laundry room, cameras, 2 satellites, garage for 2 cars, basement, fruitful garden, brick fence. Price: 1.2 million USD
- ♦ **3313 Blur, H. Emin**, 3 floors, land - 550 sq.m, building - 450 sq.m, capially repaired, furnished, 6 bedrooms. Price: 1 600 000 USD
- ♦ **2916. Ashtarak highway**, village Nazran. 3 storied building. Land 3500 sq.m., building 760 sq.m., euro repair, 3 tiled lavatories, a sauna, billiard, permanent hot and cold water, gas, heating system, garden, pool, garage.The building is ramparted. Price 50000 USD

NEWLY BUILT

- ♦ **74. Cascade, Verin Antarayin**. electricity, water, gas, euro window, drywall, no exploitation fees, parking - 15.000 USD. 136-315 sq m. 1 sq m - 1200 USD
- ♦ **107. Monument, Verin Antarayin**. inhabited, 8th floor cockloft, gas, window, street view -1 sq m -1000 USD, city looking - 1 sq m -1500 USD, parking - 4 million preliminary, price: started from 40 sq m
- ♦ **100. Leo str.** half basement parking, 1st floor - shops, 2nd floor - office spaces, elevator, equipped kitchen, central heating, water, height -2.80 m, beautiful view, will be ready to for use at the end of 2013. 60-300 sq m. 16 floors
- ♦ **87. Sayat-Nova street**, newly built building Given to the operation in December 2012. Climate control, gas, the fasad sector has 3 bed-

rooms-188 sq.m, 199 sq.m, 1 sq.m- 1900 USD, 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight- 117 sq.m, 120



sq.m, 124 sq.m, 1 sq.m-1700 USD Price: 1 sq.m-1900-1700 USD

- ♦ **93. Kievyan street**, newly built building Given to the operation in October 2011, gajats, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas supply, the second floor has a parking lot, parking is possible for sale. Price 12 000 USD
- ♦ possible with mortgage, for 13 years term
- ♦ **94. Masiv**. Newly built, , coupling, 8 flats, in each cottege 4 flats, totall-2000 sq.m, each flat has 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking: 80 sq.m. Price: 160 000 USD

FOR RENT

1 ROOMS

- ♦ **1109 Teryan Str.**, 4/2 1 room transformed into 2, 47 sq.m, newly euro repaired, euro windows and doors, furnished, equipped, security camera, Ariston. Price: 500 USD
- ♦ **1009. Teryan str.**, 4/3, 1room changed into 2, 50sqm, euro repaired, furnished, permanent hot and cold water, gas, AC, spanish tiles, technique, ariston heating system. Price 800USD per month, 60USD per day
- ♦ **1096. City Centre, Heratsu Str.**, 5/3, 1 room, newly repaired, furnished, equipped, bedroom sheets and dishes, heating, satellite. Price: 400 USD, 15.000 AMD per day.
- ♦ **1005. Lalayanc str.**, 11/5, 1room changed into 2, euro repaired, furniture, permanent hot and cold water, gas, AC, spanish tiles, technique. Price 600USD per month, 40USD per day
- ♦ **853. Amiryun street**, 10/7. 1 turned into 2, 50 sq.m., euro repair, Italian furniture, bed, utensil, techniques, permanent water, gas, antenna, Baxy system. Price 700 USD, 50 USD per day

2 ROOMS

- ♦ **2037. Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, modern furniture, spanish tiles, permanent hot and cold water, gas, baxi, AC, technique. Price 100USD per day
- ♦ **2189 Vardanants str**, 24/12, 1 bedroom, newly built, 90 sqm, repaired, furnished, with elevator. Price: 450 000 AMD
- ♦ **1961. Tumanian street**, 4/2, 86sq.m., 1 bedroom, Euro repair, Euro windows, Furnished, permanent hot and cold water. Price: 1200 USD, 1day: 70USD
- ♦ **2186 Buzand str**, 7th floor, 2 rooms, newly built, euro repaired, furnished, equipped, internet, security system, permanent hot and cold water, gas, heating system, underground parking, beautiful view. Price: 900 USD, 20 000 AMD per day.
- ♦ **2201 Northern Ave.** 10/3 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, climate control, parking, view to the Northern Ave. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **2204 Northern Ave.** (the building where Moskvichka Supermarket is situated) /3 2 rooms, 108 sq.m, 1 bedroom, open kitchen, entrance from the yard, furnished, local heating system, parking, AC, TV.Price: 1200 USD

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- ♦ **2005. Northern Ave.**, 8/8, 3 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD
- ♦ **1998 Buzand Str.**, 9/6 3 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, repaired, furnished, equipped, AC, water, gas, heating, view to Republic Square, parking, no service fee. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦ **2008 Komitas, Vagharshyan Str.**, 7/3, 3 bedrooms, newly built, capially repaired, furnished, heating, 2 bathrooms. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1739. Pushkin str.** 6/5, 3 bedrooms, newly built, capially repaired,2 bathrooms, parking, price: 1600 USD
- ♦ **1723. Northern Ave.** 8/4. 3 bedrooms, 170 sq.m., 3 bedrooms,3 bathrooms, newly built, repaired, furnished , open kitchen, Falkon system. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1942. Teryan str.**, 4/2. 3 bedrooms, 120 sq.m, repaired, furnished kitchen, washing machine, AC, 2 bathrooms, open balcony. Price: 1200 USD
- ♦ **942. Teryan str.** 4/3. 2 bedrooms, 130 sq.m, concrete, Hgt. 3.50, loggia-2, tile/ital., renovation. Price: 1500 USD
- ♦ **1969. Amiryun str**, 12/11. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 180 sq.m, capially repaired, furnished, 2

bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed, climate control. Price: 1700 USD

- ♦ **1970. Vazgen Sargsyan str.**, 10/8. 2 bedrooms, newly built,, 150 sq.m, capially repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦ **1967. Pushkin str.**, 8/6. 2 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1966. Ekmalyan str.**, 10/5. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 170 sq.m, capially repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed. Price: 1300 USD
- ♦ **1951. Buzand/Mashtots crossroad.** /13, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 122 sq.m, capially repaired, 2 bathrooms, furnished, heating system, climate control, usage fee included. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1950. Buzand/Mashtots crossroad.** /8, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 163 sq.m, capially repaired, 2 bathrooms, furnished, heating system, climate control, open balcony, view to the garden, usage fee included. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦ **1137. Moskovyan str.**, 6/1, 2 bedrooms, lavatory, pool, normal state, furnished, technique, DVD, AC, permanent hot and cold water. Price 1100USD, possible daily rent.
- ♦ **1790. Byuzand street**, close to Abovyan st., 7/5, newly built, 2bedrooms, euro repaired, 2 balconies, furnished, baxi, technique, 2 lavatories, garage. Price 1600USD per month.
- ♦ **1787. Koghbaci street**, 13/6, 2bedrooms, newly built, euro repaired, furnished, 2 lavatories, central heating. Price 1700USD per month, 100USD per day.
- ♦ **1793. Teryan street**. 260 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 3 lavatories, capital repair, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), newly built Price: 3500 USD



- ♦ **1564. Tumanyan street**, 7/4. 110 sq.m., euro repair, 2 lavatories, Spanish tyles, permanent hot and cold water, gas, Baxi system, satellite, modern furniture, techniques, garage. Price 1200 USD.
- ♦ **1720. Amirian Street.**, 18/10, 2 bedrooms, 190 sq/m, newly built, euro windows, permanent hot and cold water, gas, central heating, 2 open balcony, nice view to the city, possible with or without furniture, parking for 3 cars. Price 3000USD per month negotiable, for long term - 6 months and more.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦ **327 Nork-Marash str.**, Land 500 sq.m, 4 floors, capially repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, gas, permanent water, furnished. Price: 4000 USD
- ♦ **1191 Aygestan**, 2 floors, land 350-400 sqm, building - 270 sqm, 1sr floor - living-room, kitchen, study. 2-nd floor - 4 bedrooms, bathroom, storage room, partly furnished, summer garden, garage, swimming- pool. Starting Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦ **1218. Cascade, freeway**. 3700 sq m, 3 floors brick building - 1490 sq m, capially repaired, walls - otto chento, 5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, heating, gas, Price: 12.00 USD
- ♦ **999. Aygedzor 1st lane**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors' 310 sqm, capially repaired, 4 bedrooms, living room, hall, 4 bathrooms, new furniture, equipped, 3 AC, Baxi, sauna, swimming-pool, house garden, barbeque equipment. Starting Price: 5000 USD
- ♦ **1094. Noy block**, 2 storied building - 400sqm, garden, permanent hot and cold water, furniture, technique, 1 lavatory, gas. Price 2000USD
- ♦ **1095. Aygestan**, 1 storied building - 105sqm, 3bedrooms newly built repaired, furniture, technique 1 lavatory, garden. Price 1000USD per month, 100USD per day.
- ♦ **1096. Blur**, 4 storied building, each floor-160sqm, total-400sqm, euro repaired, 1st floor-garage, sport room, swimming pool, 4 bedrooms, summer kitchen, 3 lavatories, capially repaired, furnished, gas, permanent hot and cold water. Price 4000USD
- ♦ **1152. Baghramyan**, 3 floors, land - 800 sq.m, each floor - 200 sq.m, 10 rooms, 7 bathrooms, newly capially repaired, furnished, equipped, AC, 3 TV, heating system, garage. Price: 3000 USD
- ♦ **1197. Blur str**, 2 floors, land -779 sqm, building-720 sqm, first floor from the yard, basement on the street side, swimming-pool, sauna, living room, 1st floor - hall, study, dining room, 2 bathrooms, 2ond floor -4 bedrooms, 1 study, 4 bathrooms, bam, no furniture. Price 8000 USD
- ♦ **1096. Blur, Qeru**, 5 floors, each floor 160 sqm, land-400 sqm, euro repaired,1st floor-gym, garage, 3rd floor-4 bedrooms, open balcony, nice view, summer kitchen, fireplace, swimming-pool, 5 bathrooms, Jacuzzi. Price: 4000 USD
- ♦ **211. Ajgedzor**. 2 storied, 3 bedrooms, permanent water, capially repaired, beutifull view.

Price: 1300-1500 USD

- ♦ **721. Blur Qery street**, land 150 sq.m., 2 stories+ a cellar, 200 sq.m., newly built, telephone, refrigerator, washing machine, 3 bedrooms, garage, 2 lavatories, a pool, camin, permanent hot and cold water, a cellar is used as a sport hall. Price : 3000 USD
- ♦ **1117. Aygestan**, land-420 sq.m., building 646 sq.m., 3 storied, 4 bedrooms, open kitchen, euro repair, new tiles, furnished, techniques. Price" 5000 USD
- ♦ **1195. Nork**, Armenakyan str, 4 floors, land - 2000 sqm, building-520 sqm, capially repaired, furnished, basement, 1st floor-1 living room, study, kitchen, bathroom, living room, swimming-pool, sauna, 2nd floor - 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3rd floor - open balcony, 1 bedroom, bathroom, gym, garden. Price: negotiable
- ♦ **1142. Djrvej**, Bagrevand community. 3 storied, land-1000 sq.m., building-700 sq.m., 1st floor-cellar, pantry, playing room, kitchen, lavatory, 2nd floor- a big hall, kitchen, dining room, 4 bedrooms, 3rd floor- resting room, 1 bedroom repaired, each bedroom has its lavatory, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary/garage for 2 cars, parquet, Spanish tiles. Price: 4 000 USD.
- ♦ **1114. Gulakyan Str. in parallel with Baghramyan Str.** 3 storied building 500 sq.m., euro repair, 1st floor: sauna, a pool, kitchen, 2nd floor: kitchen, dining room, 3rd floor 3 bedrooms, lavatories in each floor. Price: 3300 USD
- ♦ **1190. Aygestan str**, 3 floors, capially repaired, furnished. Starting Price: 5000 USD
- ♦ **1203. Blur**, H. Emin str, 3 floors, land - 550 sqm, building-450 sqm, capially repaired, furnished. Starting Price: 6000 USD.
- ♦ **1219. Monument**, Aram Cholakyan str, 3 floors, land - 800 sqm, building - 300 sqm, newly capially repaired, partly furnished, euro windows and doors, 1st floor - 2 rooms, garage, 2nd floor - 1 bedroom, 2 rooms, 2 kitchens, 2 bathroom, 3rd floor- 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, water, gas, heating system. Starting Price: 5000 USD
- ♦ **1085. Aygestan district**. 2 storied stone building, land 500 sq.m., each floor 12 X 14, 3 bedrooms, a cabinet, 3 lavatories, a cellar, a sauna, kitchen with cupboards, Baxi system, AC. Price 3000 USD
- ♦ **1139. Komitas, Sundukyan street**, 2 stories, stone building, land : 700 sq.m, each floor 185 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, cellar 185 sq.m, , capital repair, Baxi system, swimming pool, a place for barbeque, 2 lavatories, garden, 1 cabinet. Price: 3000 USD
- ♦ **333. Nork**, 3 storied, 250sq.m, euro repair, 4 bedrooms, 7 lavatory, permanent hot and cold water, central heating, natural gas, garden, pool. Price negotiable.
- ♦ **1014. Nork Marash district**. 2 storied, a cellar, capially repaired, land 567sq.m., building 551 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 1 cabinet, furnished, a heating system. Price 2500 USD primary.
- ♦ **1076. Nork**, 2 storied, 220 sq.m., euro repair, in the 1st floor 2 rooms, kitchen, lavatory, in the second floor, separate entrance, open kitchen, 3 bedrooms, lavatory, furnished, view to city, garage, garden. Price: 2000USD
- ♦ **990. In Monument, Papazian street**, 2 storied stone building + half-cellar, has mansard, 5bedrooms, 2 kitchens, 2bathrooms, laundry, permanent hot and cold water, gas, plot of land 250sq.m, the size of whole construction is 370 sq.m. Price 2500USD

PREMISES

- ♦ **1694. Komitas, H. Qochar str**, newly built, vitrines, front 20 m, 196 sq m, Price: 3500 USD
- ♦ **1693. Malatia-Sebastia**, 4th floor., repaired, stone building, 2 entries, no artificial walls separating the territory, climate control, 2 elevators, storage space at the ground floor, parking, two-sided parking in the street. 1200 sq.m. Price: 10.000 USD
- ♦ **1525. Hanrapetutyan street**, 1st floor, 3steps up, h-3.20m, repaired, 1 large hall+3 rooms, 2 entrances, kithen, lavatory. Price 1400USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦ **1526. Byuzand street**, 5/semi-basement, 170sqm, 4-5 step down. cellar-50sqm, has 6 rooms, the largest is 30sqm, 2 entrances, 2 lavatories, 6 windows from street side. Price 2000USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦ **1528. North Avenue**, 9/1, 2 floors, total area 159sqm, 1st floor-66sqm, 2nd floor 93sqm, newly built, euro repaired, has the entrance from the street, security system, heating system. Price 7500USD per month.
- ♦ **1482. North Avenue**, 210 sq.m., 1st floor, with 2 floors, h=8m. Price 10.000 USD
- ♦ **1408. Zarobyan street**, parallel to Baghramyan, 2 storied, 300sq.m.construction, 600 sq.m. land, in a first floor hall and kitchen, in a second floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capital euro repair, gas, baxi system, permanent hot and cold water, telephone, garage, fruit garden. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦ **1438. Komitas**, 6 floors, cellar, mansard. Each floor is 120 sq.m., hasa need for cosmetic repair, walls are plastered, floor is leveled, hanging ceilings, permanent hot and cold water, gas, parking for 15 cars. Price: Negotiable
- ♦ **1462. Teryan street**, 3 stored, capital repaired, AC, capital repaired, parking, 800sq. Price: 10.000USD
- ♦ **1897 Hanrapetutyan str.** 2 floors, 1st floor - 3 steps above, cellar 92 sq.m - 3 steps below, front 7 meters, vitrage. 200 sq.m Price: 450000 USD

The situation in Syria and the Turkey-Armenian Protocols

From page 1

against the president Bashar Al Assad in Syria, who is supported by Syrian Christians. The reason of their support is clear: Bashar Al Assad can guarantee their safety and inviolability of their property. Note also that for the first time in the history of Syria, an Armenian woman, Nazira Farah Sarkis, entered the Syrian Government. She has been appointed State Minister of Environmental Protection.

In the current situation, Armenia is worried about the Armenian Community in Syria, estimated about 100 000, the members of which are accepted as refugees more and more often in Yerevan. In the international organizations, particularly in the UN, Armenia abstains on Syria vote being concerned about its compatriots' safety.

Russia, China and Iran believe that the Syrian crisis must be resolved without any external intervention, peacefully, through a dialogue aimed at achieving a national accord.

The US and its allies do not support the Syrian armed opposition by providing massive military assistance. They prefer using special subdivisions and provide the opposition intelligence data.

The main sponsors and allies to the Syrian armed opposition are Saudi Arabia, Qatar (both countries being far from supporting democratic standards) and Turkey. From the territory of the latter, militant

Syrian opposition groups enter the Syrian territory. It is on the territory of Turkey that the recruitment of the militant groups is organized where are located not only the refugee camps but also the training camps of militants.

Though Turkey has agreement with Syria on non-interference in its internal affairs, the activities of Turkey increase the mistrust and condemnation in Armenia. As a matter of fact, Ankara is supporting the armed Radical Islamic militants that are sent to Syria, who endanger all the Christians living in the country, including Armenians. Though Turkey is supported by the US, UK and France, it has an obvious antichristian intentions.

In this situation, these questions are asked frequently in Yerevan:

- How is it possible to have any relations with a partner like Turkey who can ignore its own agreements? (like in case with Syria)

- How can we ratify the Armenian-Turkish protocols signed three years ago in Zurich, when Turkey actually supports violence against Christians in Syria?

- Can we trust the countries that support Turkey in this situation in security matters?

Thus, we can say that in the result of the active involvement of Ankara in the Syrian crisis, the Armenian-Turkish protocols can be considered buried.

The fact that Armenia and Turkey should normalize their rela-

tions is obvious, but not basing on the previous protocols. New negotiations and protocols are needed.

For the present, the population of Syria doesn't support the militants among which there are a lot of foreigners, including militants from Libya, Afghanistan, Somalia, Jordan, Chechnya, etc.

The armed opposition does not have a unified command and it cannot expect a large-scale military intervention by NATO or creation of "no fly zones" on the territory of Syria as Russia and China have blocked all the options of the military intervention of the UN Security Council.

It is very important for the Bashar Al Asaad administration, that the majority of the neighboring countries such as Israel, Iraq, partially Lebanon and Jordan do not support the armed Syrian opposition.

All these countries are secular states and in case the Islamic Radicals come to power in Damascus, they will be uncomfortable.

Thus, among the neighbors of Syria, only Turkey has agreed to be a springboard against Damascus.

However, the current situation for Turkey is ambiguous as it has many problems, including the

Kurdish question.

Also, we should speak of the crisis of foreign policy doctrine of "zero problems with neighbors" of the current Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu. Many neighbors of Turkey embraced the doctrine as unacceptable neo-ottomanism for them. Therefore, Turkey faced many serious problems around the perimeter of its borders.

So the history of the Armenian-Turkish protocols can be represented as one of the non significant problems of foreign policy of Turkey connected with Syrian Crisis.



Two Steps Backwards in the Caucasus

By Peter Rutland,
professor of government at
Wesleyan University in
Middletown, Connecticut.

On Aug. 31 a former Azerbaijan Army lieutenant, Ramil Safarov, flew back to Baku after serving eight years in a Budapest jail for killing Guren Margarian in 2004. The victim, an Armenian officer, had been a fellow participant in a NATO Partnership for Peace exercise. Safarov hacked him to death in his sleep with an axe.

The Hungarian government transferred the prisoner to Azerbaijan on the understanding that he would serve out the rest of his life sentence in his home country. But immediately upon his arrival in Baku, Lieutenant Safarov was pardoned by President Ilham Aliyev, restored to military duties, promoted to major, given an apartment and awarded back pay for his time in prison. These actions drew universal condemnation from Washington, Moscow and European governments.

Apart from the fact that such a step is an affront to basic notions of justice and the rule of law, even more troubling is the message that it sends to the rest of the world: that the Azerbaijani government thinks it is acceptable to kill Armenians. Apparently, the grievances they suffered in their defeat by Armenian forces in 1992-94 are so profound that even murder is excusable. It is hard, then, to ask the Armenians liv-

ing in Karabakh to quietly accept the idea that the solution to their disputed territory is for them to return to living under Azerbaijani rule.

This one single act could undo the patient efforts of diplomats and activists over many years to try to rebuild connections and work toward mutual trust - without which any kind of peace settlement will be a pipe dream.

Compounding the problem was a less significant but still noteworthy gesture. On Sept. 3, Richard Morningstar, the new U.S. ambassador to Azerbaijan, paid his respects to HeidarAliyev, the deceased former president (and father of the incumbent), by laying a wreath at his statue in central Baku. Apparently it is standard protocol for U.S. ambassadors to include this stop in their round of duties when arriving in Baku. Photographs also clearly showed the ambassador bowing his head before the monument, though a State Department spokesman later denied this.

Mr. Morningstar's far from empty gesture sent two wrong signals.

First, it is disheartening to see the United States so cravenly supporting dictatorship as a suitable form of rule, a pattern all too familiar from U.S. policy toward the entire Middle East.

Second, it signals to Armenia - and its principal ally, Russia - that the United States is an unqualified

backer of the Azerbaijani government, warts and all. Strategic interests - Caspian oil, access to Central Asia, containment of Iran - count for more than the niceties of human rights and democratic procedure.

This makes it all but impossible for Armenia to expect the United States to act as an honest broker in the peace process. And if the United States cannot play that role, no one else will.

Diplomacy has long revolved around such symbolic acts. In 1793, the Earl Macartney, British ambassador to China, was thrown out of the country when he refused to kowtow before the emperor. More recently, visits by Japanese government ministers to the Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo, commemorating the souls of warriors, have triggered protests from China and South Korea.

By contrast, when Chancellor Willy Brandt fell to his knees before the monument to the Warsaw Ghetto in 1970 he turned a page in German atonement for its past atrocities. In the same spirit, Vladimir Putin sent a clear message of reconciliation when in 2010 he knelt at the monument to the Polish officers killed at Katyn on Stalin's orders.

What we need in the Caucasus are leaders willing to follow the examples of Mr. Brandt and Mr. Putin, with the courage to show contrition and a willingness to meet with their former adversary and figure out a way to live together. We may be in for a long wait.



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Ambassador Marcela Maria Nicodemos: "Brazilian-Armenian Relationship is Solid, Respectful and Fruitful, but the Better is Yet to Come"

Celebrating Brazilian 190th Independence Day and 20th Anniversary of Bilateral Diplomatic Relations



By Gourgen James Khazhakian
Chief correspondent

It has been said, and also written (among others, by The Highlights) a lot on Brazilian-Armenian relations which are rooted in the depth of many decades, a long before the Greatest Dream of world-spread Armenians including those being proud and hard-working citizens of far, geographically, Brazil, to have Independent Motherland Armenia came true. And the universal sense of those publications has been that those relations are good and, one could say, warm.

And a next very good evidence of very good relations existing between Brazil and Armenia has become a donation from the Brazilian Government to the Armenian Government, through UNICEF Representation in Armenia, in the amount of USD 100,000 aimed at supporting the activities by UNICEF in our country within the framework of the long-term and development assistance to the most vulnerable groups such as children, adolescents, pregnant women and mothers, in partnership with civil society. "Brazil is absolutely convinced that the welfare of children in any country, all over the world, is essential, if we want to build a better future with equal opportunities for all, i.e. for the stable development of the country", said Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federative Republic of Brazil to the Republic of Armenia Her Excellency Mrs. **Marcela Maria Nicodemos** at the symbolic ceremony of donation that took place at the UNICEF Armenia Representation Office on August 24.

RA Deputy FM **Ashot Hovakimyan**, who was present at the donation ceremony, stressed that the Armenian Government is grateful for the donation from their Brazilian colleagues, qualifying it as a sign of good relations between the two countries.

No doubt, such a step from Brazil is very timely as, according to the Head of the UN Children's Fund Yerevan Office **Henriette Ahrens**, during the recent years situation of children's nutrition in Armenia, especially in Marzes, has been deteriorating, and the recent research shows on average 20% of Armenian children have stunted growth. That's why they've decided to use this amount to improve children nutrition, in particular in Syunik, Tavush and Gegharkunik Marzes.

Here we'd like to stress out the following, as we believe it is an important detail.

The above mentioned donation is an **extraordinary** one, moreover, in spite of the difficulties posed by the international economic crises, Brazil is still extending a helping hand, - within the framework of its Humanitarian Assistance Program, to those in need all over the world.

Thus, in response to the request of international assistance by the RA Government concerning the activities of damage containment in the pesticides storage site of Nubarashen, the Government of Brazil donated more than USD 80,000.00 worth equipment for the Laboratory for the Control of Hazardous and Toxic Substances plus an off-road vehicle to the RA Ministry of Nature Protection (March 2011).

Notably, Brazil has become the only participant country that made a donation - in the amount of USD

50,000 to provide refugees who lost their homes during Karabakh War, - at the International Conference on housing issues of Armenian refugees from Azerbaijan held on May 17, 2011, in Yerevan and attended by PM of Armenia Dr **Tigran Sargsyan**, UN High Commissioner for Refugees **Antonio Guterres** and

musicians, master-class on *Capoeira*, unique Brazilian synthesis of martial arts and dance, festival of Brazilian films, an impressive series of events entitled "The

tion center (equipped by unique devices brought from the US) at their own, i.e. personal money, but have been visiting those children not only on special days such as, let's say, December 3, marked as the International Day of People with Disability, but permanently.

So, for those kids, Brazil is no

and the Republic of Armenia", said Ambassador Nicodemos after welcoming numerous guests of honor including, besides foreign Ambassadors and diplomats accredited in Armenia, the Spouse of the Prime Minister of Armenia, Mrs. **Gohar Sargsyan**, representatives of political, business and intellectual/cultural elite of Armenia, - first in Portuguese, for citizens of Brazil, and then in English, in her speech delivered right after performance of the National Anthems of the two countries.

Then Her Excellency continued:

"It is not without a sense of pride that I acknowledge that, despite the geographic distance between our two countries, we managed during the last 20 years to bring our governments and peoples close and to develop friendly relations in several spheres.

Today, both our countries have resident embassies in the other and we have been working hard to strengthen our bilateral relations. Starting with the establishment of a legal framework for the relationship, we came to know each other better, by means of our cultural events, our technical cooperation programs, the efforts to increase bilateral trade, and especially by our common view in matters that are essential in the international sphere.

Our relationship is guided by the principles enshrined in the charter of the United Nations and, therefore, it is solid, respectful and fruitful.

But in historical terms, 20 years does not seem a very long period of time. Thus, we still have a lot to accomplish together and, as the saying goes, "the better is yet to come".

Ambassador Marcela M. Nicodemos proposed a toast "for prosperity of Armenian and Brazilian peoples and countries".

In his response RA Deputy Foreign Minister **A. Hovakimyan** said in particular that it was "high privilege" for him to celebrate this double anniversary, so he congratulated Brazilian people for their 190th Independence Anniversary and said he was "really happy" to celebrate also the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Armenia and Brazil.

The Deputy Minister shared his "special happiness" for being in Brazil for the first some half-year ago, on the occasion of Armenia's joining the Open Government Partnership initiative. "... I can state that our bilateral relations are really very friendly, very well developed, we are looking for more, for some high level visits from Brazil to Armenia, and we hope then in ten years we'll have a big event - celebration of Brazilian Independence 200th Anniversary...", Hovakimyan concluded.

Well, the Noyan Tapan Media Holding entire staff joins the congratulations and wishes all the welfare and prosperity to Ambassador Marcela Maria Nicodemos, Dr. Mario Matus Pavez, their family members and friendly Brazilian people.

Parabens, Brasil!

Photos by Emin Aristakesyan, Jr

Acknowledgement:
Mrs. Nara Melikjanyan,
Assistant to the Ambassador
Many thanks to Anna Asatryan
and Ani Gevorgyan
(Synopsis Armenia CJSC)



Ambassador of China Tiang Chang-Chung Spouse of the RA PM Gohar Sargsyan is a good friend of the Ambassador...



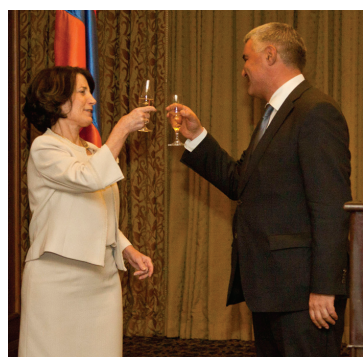
Citizens of Brazil, - the youngest, Mikayel Seferyan, and a venerable one...



Listening National Anthems...



The Ambassador addressing the guests



Cheers! (with Deputy FM A. Hovakimyan)



Ambassador Marcela M. Nicodemos with guests



Mrs. Marcela Nicodemos, Mrs. Gohar Sargsyan and Mr. Mario Pavez with a guest from Kharberd Orphanage

reps of diplomatic missions to Armenia.

...Just a few days ago, on September 4, the Day of Emergency Situations Worker was solemnly celebrated in Armenia, and it reminded your correspondent that a group of Armenian rescuer firemen was trained by their experienced Brazilian colleagues, in 2010, both in Brazil and in Armenia, within the framework of relevant intergovernmental cooperation between the two countries.

So we don't think it would be a big exaggeration to say that within the last three years that coincides with the posting of the Ambassador Marcela M. Nicodemos in Yerevan, Brazilian-Armenian ties have been noticeably energized - to the above mentioned projects, we should also add exhibitions of Brazilian artists, concerts of prominent Brazilian

Armenian Footprints in Brazil" - on Armenians in Brazil (with their own participation) held a year ago...

But even that is not all - even this extensive list of what has been done by the Brazilian Embassy under the leadership of Ambassador Nicodemos is not encompassing all the activities of Marcela Maria Nicodemos and Her Excellency's husband Dr. **Mario Matus Pavez** in Armenia.

...If one God-given day you decide to do something really God-pleasing, you can go to Kharberd Specialized Orphanage having about three hundred 6-18 year-old residents, - to make them feel themselves equal members of society.

And, most probably, you'd be encouraged to do it as soon as possible by the example of Mrs. Marcela and Mr. Mario who not only created a computer room and a rehabilita-

more an abstract far south country with palms, bananas, beaches, football, Rio-de-Janeiro, etc. Thanks to Brazilians like Marcela Nicodemos and Mario Matus, Brazil means a lot more to those kids....

On Thursday September 6, they were celebrating the Independence Day of Brazil (September 7th) in Yerevan, Armenia Marriott Hotel, at a reception given on behalf of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brazil to Armenia, Her Excellency Marcela Maria Nicodemos and her husband Dr. Mario Matus Pavez.

...They were celebrating 190th Independence Day, but that was not the only anniversary marked in that evening.

"This year is a special one since we celebrate also the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Brazil

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Christian Morales, Vice President of Intel: "It is a Matter of Our Social Responsibility to Promote Education in Armenia"

Last week Christian Morales, Vice President of Intel was in Armenia. He talked with members of the RA Government, and, finally, with the Prime Minister Dr Tigran Sargsyan development of collaboration between Corporation and Armenia. The Highlights succeeded to interview Mr Morales just before his depart.

By Gourgen James Khazhakian
Chief correspondent

-Mr Morales, you've just had talks with the Prime Minister of Armenia...

- We'd like to congratulate the Government of Armenia for, first of all, growth of the country's IT/high-tech, which rate is unique for the entire world - while in the developed countries it is 5-6% per annum, in Armenia it reaches 20%.

Also RA Government has been communicating a lot about educational programs - it could be students with devices, - to work in much more intellectual way - in terms of education, creativity, innovation, networking, - because we, in today's world, are communicated to the world in actually all our jobs.

Using IT devices, students are much more competitive in today's environment, and will be competitive in tomorrow's environment ever more, and this is really great...

- The Highlights has got knew that, when talking with the RA Government members Intel-Armenia cooperation, you've touched upon Intel Teach program...

-Intel Teach is a program to work with teachers.

As I said above, computer is very important in education, and today it's impossible to imagine learning without PC, but the most important is the teacher, that's the teacher who is magic...

-...It's interesting that the same words were said by your senior and famous colleague, Dr Craig Barrett, retired Intel chief, - when he was in Armenia as the very first recipient of Armenia President's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Humanity through IT, Global IT Award (GIT)...

-...We are offering to implement this program jointly, and this will be about working with teachers, - how to use modern IT technology, - to develop much more interactive content, to develop, I'd say, more intellectual communication between teachers and students, and we want to contribute with this program here in Armenia, so I think in the next several months we'll have a joint working group with the Armenian Government, - to see what is Armenia's concrete needs, conditions, mentality, as every country has its specific needs...

-...To tailor projects best for those needs...

-...Absolutely...

-Intel Teach is a very successful program worldwide...We felt that the RA Government is eager to develop country's IT industry ever faster, 'cause it is the fastest growing segment of the Armenian economy. So this is a very vibrant segment of your country's economy,

and, naturally, the Armenian Government wants more investments in IT industry, more efforts and contribution from the Intel.

And the fact that we've come to an agreement with the Government of Armenia on forming a working group to work on educational proj-

tem?

-Well, it's a good question.... We have social responsibility, - and the priority for us is educational area...

-...Here I again recollected Dr Craig Barrett who said in reply to a kind of philosophical question from your correspondent "What should be done to provide poorest countries with better life?" immediately: "Nothing but education!"...

-...That's true indeed...

- Senor Morales, how would you assess collaboration between Intel and Armenia, - the Govern-

- ...As we understand, the highest accolade for an integrator partner company of Intel - Intel Technology Platinum Provider in Armenia at the moment has only Unicom...

-...With Unicom we have very strong relationship, for fifteen years already, and they are great in introducing new technologies and new products, manufacturing and assembling a lot here in Armenia, and I also want to congratulate the company and its Founding CEO Armen Baldryan for starting soon a new very advanced product of Intel,

components of infrastructure you need to have competitive Internet - economy, which, again, is the fastest growing segment of Armenia's economy.

E-government, and, moreover, e-society is not something which comes in one nice day itself - a hard work, step by step is needed, - to build infrastructure.

And first of all you should teach people how to operate with IT, how to have access to e-government, so, again, that's why we consider readiness of Armenian Government to implement relevant educational programs including those we the Intel have been offering as a very positive sign.

You know, e-government is impossible without Internet infrastructure, - it's a key, you need PC, you need access of people who has no PC to computers in special centers where people can get access to e-government via those public PCs...

...What I've felt during our meetings with Minister of Economy and Education and Science, Mr Davtyan and Mr Ashotyan, and especially with the Prime Minister Dr Tigran Sargsyan, is that the Government of Armenia wants to make the country more competitive, they want to have better educational system, they want to improve telecommunication, and, again, Mr Prime Minister was encouraging us to do more in Armenia.

As I'm working closely with Governments of many countries within the framework of various programs, I'm ready to share this experience with Armenian specialists and the Government officials...

-Will Intel Corporation participate in the ArmTech Congress to be held on Nov. 14-15 in Silicon Valley?

-Three years ago First Vice President of Intel Corporation John Davies participated in ArmTech Congress held in Silicon Valley, Ca, - he had meetings with the PM Tigran Sargsyan, Armenian managers and delivered a speech. Last year an Intel senior rep participated in ArmTech which was held in Yerevan, and he said it was a great event. We are happy to support this forum which is important for the further development of Armenian IT/hi-tech industry, and at the moment we decide level of our participation in the fifth ArmTech.

-Are you for the first time here in Armenia?

-Yes, but living in Paris, I have got knew lot of Armenians.

And in Moscow we, Intel, has in the staff a fellow, - which is the highest scientific status in Corporation, Mr Boris Babayan, who, in spite of being 80 years old, making R&D for new generation of microprocessors, actually he is one of our best specialists...

Photos by Emin Aristakesyan, Jr

Acknowledgement:
Davit Khazhakyan



Meeting with Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan



Discussing current issues of (15 year-old already) cooperation with Armen S. Baldryan, Founding CEO of Unicom



Christian Morales: "It is very convenient that almost everything is concentrated in the center of Yerevan..."



Uneasy questions from your correspondent to VP of Intel

ment, companies, educational institutions, etc.?

-What is important for us is that the Armenian Government has been starting to create better conditions for development of IT industry, in particular, by easing our activities here, - from receiving entry visa much faster than before to providing us with online access to educational programs...

As to companies, we are quite satisfied with cooperation with them, no doubt...

ultrabook. Unicom is a most advanced in technology. As you might know, Intel mission is to create technology to make people's life easier, and due to Unicom we can implement this principle in the best possible way.

-According to our sources, Intel is interested in cooperation with Armenian Government on realization of e-government in our country... And we know that you talked also issues related to creation of e-society in Armenia...

-...That is also a key-point...

Because when you have access right from your home via Internet to the website of the Government/Ministries, to the data they contain which are necessary for citizens, it significantly improves quality of life.

Here in Armenia there is also an initiative for data centers of next generation, i.e. much more powerful ones, for cloud computing, technology, so I think this all are the

Parliament body details 'Misuse of Public Funds' in 2011



A financial oversight body subordinate to the Armenian parliament said on September 12 that it detected misuse of public funds totaling around 1.5 billion drams (\$3.7 million) during regular inspections of various government agencies last year.

Ishkhan Zakaryan, head of the Audit Chamber, reported the figure as he presented his agency's annual report to the National Assembly. He said government employees were found to have embezzled or wasted the money allocated from the state budget.

Zakaryan said the chamber has already made sure that more than one-third of the sum is returned to the state treasury. The rest of the alleged financial damage will be recovered before the end of this year, he said.

The official did not specify which of those abuses warranted prosecution and were reported to law-enforcement bodies. He complained only that Armenian law is too lenient and vague towards financial wrongdoing by public sector officials.

Opposition politicians have long accused the Armenian authorities of deliberately failing to investigate serious abuses alleged by the Audit Chamber. They say the Chamber itself has done little to bring about such inquiries.

Opposition lawmakers reiterated that criticism during the parliament debate on Zakaryan's report.

"Facts about the embezzlement of millions of drams abound, but there are still no high-ranking convicts," said Gagik Jahangiryan, a former senior prosecutor now affiliated with the opposition Armenian National Congress (ANC). Jahangiryan said the parliament should set up an Ad hoc Committee or hold hearings on the matter.

Artsvik Minasyan, a deputy from the opposition Armenian Revolutionary Federation, suggested that opposition parties be allowed to name some Audit Chamber officials. Zakaryan, who is a staunch backer of President Serzh Sargsyan, rejected the idea. "The Audit Chamber is an independent body that must stay away from any political process," he told RFE/RL.

The most high-profile criminal investigation triggered by the Audit Chamber so far stems from an alleged fraud scam uncovered in the payment of pensions and other social benefits. The parliamentary body claimed in late 2010 that thousands of elderly Armenians received, on paper, pensions years after their death, suggesting that this money was pocketed by officials from the state pension fund. The head of the fund was sacked shortly afterwards.

Criminal charges were subsequently leveled against several mid-level employees of the State Social Security Fund. Two of them were sentenced to three and seven years in prison in July.

Armenian-Luxembourgian ties discussed with PM Sargsyan

Armenia's Premier Tigran Sargsyan received Luxembourg's Deputy PM and FM Jean Asselborn, who was on an official visit to capital city Yerevan.

Welcoming the guest, the PM noted: "We hope your visit to Armenia will enable to reveal the avenues for consolidating the relations between our countries," Armenian Government press service informs.

Subsequently, the interlocutors examined the development of bilateral economic cooperation, specifically the establishment of ties in the financial sec-



tor. Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan and Deputy PM and FM Jean Asselborn also reflected on Armenia's European integration process, and Europe's current political and economic state of affairs.

Government will cover electronic signatures costs of economic entities

By the 30th of November the state bodies, organizations and the reporting staff will be provided with identification cards and electronic signatures. As reported by Armenpress, the Minister of Labor and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia Artem Asatryan stated at the session of the Armenian Government that the economic entities should submit a registration application to the State Revenue Committee. "The economic entities, which are provided with identification cards and electronic signatures by November 30, the service fee for their e-signatures in 2013 will be covered by the state budget", said the Minister.

The Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan noted that thus the citizens' e-signature issue would be settled and the major part of the expenses would be covered by the



Government.

Artem Asatryan informed also that special working groups have been established in the regions to assist the process. A large-scale

works on raising the awareness of the economic entities and their training will be carried out in order to pass to a united electronic reporting form.

25000 migrants leave Armenia every year

According to the researchers, the average annual flow of the Armenian migrants from the state made 20,000 to 25,000 in recent 10 years, Armenian Deputy PM, Minister of Territorial Administration Armen Gevorgyan said in the Parliament on September 11 replying to the question by the ruling Republican Party MP Margarit Yesayan. The MP has asked to provide precise number of people who left Armenia, as it has been speculated by the opposition. However, Gevorgyan said he could mention precise numbers as there is a methodological problem. The only sources from which information is reported include the people leaving Armenia by planes (airports) and those leaving state from Bavra and



Bagratashen checkpoints. At the same time, it is very difficult to methodologically estimate the percentage of migrants in all

those flows. Deputy PM also added that a working group was established to provide precise numbers in the near future.

N.Y. District Court orders \$37.5 million seized from former Environment Minister Ayvazyan

In a judgement dated September 5, 2012, the U.S. Southern District Court of New York ordered the U.S. Marshall of the same district to seize \$37,537,978 from Vardan Ayvazyan to be paid to Global Gold Mining LLC.

Vardan Ayvazyan, a former RA Minister of the Environment, had been sued by Global Gold for exerting undue pressure on one of its subsidiaries that was the license holder for the Hankavan mine in Armenia.

\$25.152 million constitutes compensatory damages and \$10.385 million is for penalties with interest dating back to 2008.

In 2006, according to the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce, the company filed for arbitration in Paris.

In 2008, the U.S. Southern

District Court of New York ordered Ayvazyan to appear before the ICC for arbitration.



Later that year, the ICC's International Arbitration Court decided that Ayvazyan must be recognized as a litigant as per the 2008 District Court's verdict.

In March of this year, Global Gold Mining filed a brief with the N.Y. Southern District Court demanding that it issue a ruling regarding Ayvazyan based on the prior ruling of the same court.

This new decision will probably not impact Ayvazyan since the United State and Armenia have no treaties regarding the seizure of assets.

The only practical implication is that Ayvazyan will be barred from entering the States.

Global Gold's attorney told Hetq that the decision and Marshall's writ have been forwarded to Ayvazyan at his addresses in Yerevan and Charentsavan.

French-Armenians Should Welcome Aliyev in Paris as 'Chief Hatchet Man'

By Harut Sassounian

When President Ilham Aliyev arrives in Paris on Sept. 18, thousands of French-Armenians should greet Azerbaijan's leader with posters depicting him as the "Hatchet Man-in-Chief" - Bash Baltaji-holding a bloody axe. Interestingly, in all three languages-Azeri, Hungarian, and Turkish-balta means hatchet or axe.

During the protest, French-Armenians should not waste their energy yelling out meaningless slogans, such as "Shame on Baku" or "Shame on Hungary." Instead, they should deliver the crucial message that Artsakh (Karabagh) be recognized as an independent state, because its Armenian population cannot survive under a despotic regime that glorifies axe-wielding murderers.

Inadvertently, Hungary and Azerbaijan have done a huge favor for Armenians in extraditing and pardoning Lieutenant Ramil Safarov, who bludgeoned to death his sleeping Armenian classmate at a 2004 NATO course in Budapest. Numerous countries and international organizations have condemned Hungary and Azerbaijan for their unsavory actions. Armenians should capitalize on this sordid affair by holding demonstrations in every major city around the world, raising it in every international meeting, and filing lawsuits in European courts against Hungary, Azerbaijan, and NATO. Now that the axe-man's release has generated worldwide sympathy for Armenians, and clear antipathy for Azerbaijanis, Armenia should take advantage of this narrow and fleeting window of opportunity to recognize Artsakh's independence and urge others to follow suit. A Google search reveals that thousands of articles were written on this subject in the last 10 days, the overwhelming majority favoring Armenia and criticizing Azerbaijan.

Armenians should explain to the world the futility of holding peace negotiations with Azeri leaders who treat international agreements as toilet paper! The most recent example is the Aug. 15 letter by Azerbaijan's deputy justice minister to his Hungarian counterpart, assuring him that Safarov would not be released if extradited to Baku. Two weeks later, the axe-man was not only freed, but promoted and rewarded by the Chief Baltaji, who is taking his cues from Turkish leaders on glorifying criminals and treating protocols as meaningless pieces of paper!

Turkish officials, however, are not too anxious to link their names to the odious behavior of Aliyev Jr. A spokesman for the Turkish Foreign Ministry issued a statement claiming that Turkey had nothing to do with Safarov's extradition from Hungary, despite the murderer's expression of gratitude for Turkey's support after his arrival in Baku. Independent of its accuracy, the



Turkish statement does confirm that Azerbaijan is isolated from the rest of the world and abandoned by the major powers-the United States, Russia, and France-all of which have condemned Safarov's release.

In desperation, Azerbaijan's intelligence services concocted a fake ASALA (Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia) letter that threatens Azeri officials, so that Aliyev could regain the sympathy of world public opinion. The forged letter included statements that no Armenian would make, claiming, for example, that only 600,000 Armenians were killed during the Armenian Genocide-a false figure circulated only by denialist Turks and Azeris. No Armenian would ever minimize the enormous death toll from 1.5 million to 600,000! In response to this forgery, ASALA issued a statement rejecting the authenticity of the letter. Such fraudulent Azeri actions give credibility to rumors that Azerbaijan may consider "eliminating Safarov," its "national hero," in order to blame Armenians for his murder!

Ironically, Armenia defeated Hungary last Sunday to win the World Chess Championship held in Istanbul. Azerbaijan was in 10th place, while Turkey came in 48th. Armenians should be genuinely proud of this incredible accomplishment (for the third time!), but they should refrain from making disparaging remarks about people in other countries. There are good and bad individuals in every nation. Rather than harbor ill feelings toward the people of Hungary, Azerbaijan, or Turkey, Armenians should confront those who deny the Armenian Genocide, extradite a convicted criminal, or glorify an axe-murderer.

Tomris Azeri, the president of the Azerbaijan Society of America and co-founder of PaxTurcica Institute, suggested in an interview posted on News.az that rather than criticize Turkey, I should help resolve the Artsakh conflict! Mr. Azeri stated: "I sincerely wish that before authoring another Turcophobic ode, Mr. Harut Sassounian analyzes what can be done to resolve the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict." My advice to Mr. Azeri is to not deny past crimes and to not commit new ones - with or without an axe - and then pursue peaceful solutions, instead of whipping up racist anti-Armenian mass hysteria by the Bash Baltaji and his cohorts.

Members of US Congress continue to express outrage over Safarov release

The Azerbaijani pardon, promotion and compensation of convicted Azerbaijani axe-murderer Ramil Safarov, and its harmful effects on the Nagorno Karabakh peace process, continue to be a source of considerable concern for members of the U.S. Congress, with new statements condemning the actions being released on nearly a daily basis, reported the Armenian National Committee of America.

Congressional Armenian Genocide resolution lead sponsor Robert Dold (R-IL) today called the Hungarian government's extradition and President Aliyev's glorification of Safarov "deeply disturbing," noting that "rather than work to reduce tensions, this act shows a blatant disregard for the reconciliation and peace process."

Those remarks come on the heels of a weekend statement by Maryland Congressman John Sarbanes (D-MD) who called Aliyev's actions "without justification" and argued that, "Azerbaijan has acted to undermine justice and further strain its relationship with Armenia to the detriment of all, and to the benefit of no one but a self confessed murderer."



Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ), who has been an outspoken critic of Azerbaijan's threats of war and attacks against neighboring Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh, said he was "aghast" at the extradition and pardon of Safarov and "outraged and disgusted by the reception that Safarov was given upon returning to Azerbaijan." Senator Menendez called on the Hungarian government to "demand Safarov's return to Hungary to complete the remainder of his life sentence. It is clear that the Azeri government cannot be counted on to adhere to its international or bilateral obligations with respect to this matter."

All three U.S. Congressmen from California's Central Valley - Representatives Jim Costa (D-CA), Jeff Denham (R-CA) and Devin Nunes (R-CA) - have also con-

demned Azerbaijan's actions.

In statement sent to local constituents, with portions quoted in The Fresno Bee, Rep. Costa was explicit in his denunciation of the Azerbaijani government action. "This injustice of international law committed by the government of Azerbaijan is an outrage, plain and simple. This illegal pardon glorifies a heinous crime committed against an innocent Armenian soldier and does a severe disservice to the peace process in the region. I believe Hungary was complicit in this action."

In a joint statement issued by Representatives Denham and Nunes, the Congressmen noted that "Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev's decision to pardon Ramil Safarov, who was convicted of killing Armenian officer Guren Margaryan in 2004, undermines respect for the rule of law, and sets back efforts for a fair and lasting peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The action is highly disappointing and will undermine efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution of the Nagorno Karabakh issue."

Members of Congress who have condemned Azerbaijan's

surrounding the extradition and pardon of Azerbaijani Army Lieutenant Ramil Safarov, who was convicted of brutally axing to death Armenian soldier Guren Margaryan in his sleep, during a 2004 NATO English-language training course.

The U.S. was among the first to comment on the travesty on August 31st, with a statement issued by The White House in the name of National Security Council Spokesman Tommy Vietor, underscoring the President's view that, "This action is contrary to ongoing efforts to reduce regional tensions and promote reconciliation." Vietor went on to note that "The United States is also requesting an explanation from Hungary regarding its decision to transfer Safarov to Azerbaijan."

The Department of State, through a formal announcement issued by Acting Deputy Spokesman Patrick Ventrell, also took a stand against Hungary's extradition and Azerbaijan's pardon, explaining that: "The United States is extremely troubled by the news that the President of Azerbaijan pardoned Azerbaijani army officer Ramil Safarov, who returned to Baku today following his transfer from Hungary. . . . We are expressing our deep concern to Azerbaijan regarding this action and seeking an explanation. We are also seeking further details from Hungary regarding the decision to transfer Mr. Safarov to Azerbaijan."

The issue has been brought up repeatedly at State Department press briefings since the scandal broke.

On the international front, France, Russia and a host of nations have condemned the action, with reports that the European Parliament may take up a resolution on the topic as early as this week. NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, during a joint press conference with Pres. Aliyev in Baku on September 7th, stated: "I am deeply concerned by the Azerbaijani decision to pardon Ramil Safarov. The act he committed in 2004 was a crime which should not be glorified, as this damages trust and does not contribute to the peace process."

Meanwhile, Hungarian PM Viktor Orban's decision to extradite Safarov was roundly criticized through protests and strong statements in his own country. After Orban admitted, during a press conference, that "the foreign ministry had forecast precisely what types of consequences this or the other decision [extradition or non-extradition] may have," and that "nothing happened after our decision that we would not have reckoned with in advance," opposition forces called the government "morally bankrupt" and urged the prime minister's immediate resignation.

Aleppo: The End of Armenian Dream

By Vahagn Keshishian,
hetq.am

The killing of four ethnic Armenians on the Aleppo airport road, the several killings by snipers in the Armenian neighborhoods and the army casualties from one side, and the escalation of the conflict in these neighborhoods from the other, brings the Armenian community into an unprecedented security situation. Not only the fate of the Aleppine Armenians is concerned, but also the whole of the Armenian communities in the Middle East, starting from Aleppo, passing to the other Syrian-Armenian communities in Kessab, Qamishlo and Damascus, passing to Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Palestine, already devastated Iraqi communities and finally reaching Iran, Georgia and Armenia proper itself.

In other words, the Aleppo community is now in the delicate position of being the castle, that if it is fallen, the Armenian existence throughout Middle East and Caucasus will be threatened. This is not only because of certain strategic position that the Aleppo



This reveals the deep structural and ideological weaknesses that the Armenians as communities suffer from. This fact is surfaced under the inability of the Armenians to act and organize to support the Aleppo community: There is a clear ideological bankruptcy of at least showing any position regarding the fate of the community.

The influx of the refugees to the neighboring Lebanon and the Republic of Armenia, was too poorly organized – if any organized at all – that many of the refugees

representation of Armenian solidarity was proven to be nothing more than nominal emotional condition associated with so and so sentiments.

It is now a fact that the Armenian communities of the developed world are incapable to guarantee the well-being of the Armenian communities of the Middle East, starting from the Iraqi, and now the Syrian. The lobbying mechanisms that are well developed proved to be for the sole purpose of the genocide recognition, and useless under other conditions. This puts the whole national strategy of concentrating on one sole issue under serious consideration.

Although there are attempts of fund raising in the United States, but till now no tangible contribution or project is developed, same as the Republic of Armenia tried to develop several policies concerning the issue, but all of them deemed to be irrational and impossible to implement. The policy of honoring the choreographer from Aleppo during the Dance Festival of the Ministry of Diaspora, is nothing but a farce when the streets in Aleppo are cut from internet, telephone, electricity and water.

The circumstances and developments of Aleppo events are in escalation. Currently the

Emergency Central Body is still able to distribute emergency packages to the economically most deprived. The AGBU and the Evangelical Church have additional package programs, but as the crisis continues and the lower strata of the community widens, these organizations will be unable to continue with their programs, especially that their resources remain local, and their budgets are not in important figures.

Another reality is that the nucleus families themselves are being partitioned, as the households are deciding to split, with usually the elder male sons and the fathers staying in Aleppo to protect the properties, while the children

themselves inside Syria. This actual and moral abandonment from both religious and political authorities clears the path for the Aleppo Armenians to develop the feelings of not belonging.

Both authorities are under the impression that if the community is weakened their respective seats will be weakened, because historically Aleppo has been providing the most important Western-Armenian speaking youth masses, but the reality is that if the current conditions continue, both authorities will not only lose their standings in Aleppo, but their whole existence in the Middle East will be futile. The denial of the mentioned two authorities that the crisis is too



and women are taking refuge out of the country: the demographic effects of a prolonged mass separation will be devastating with no doubt, just to mention a single problem.

The absence of proper leadership in Aleppo, and the sour reality that most of those personalities that were considered to be of leadership positions have left the country brings the hopes of proper organization to an end. Collective leadership and authority strength is also recording its absence. The two most important power centers of the Middle East Armenians, the Holy See of Cilicia and the Armenian Revolutionary Federation both have decided that it is best for the Armenians to help

deep to be neglected, and their self-centered ideology-oriented positioning, rather than pragmatic decision-making endangers the Syrian-Armenian communities. The mentioned authorities are in front of serious responsibility for the lost souls, property and any unfortunate events that the community might face in the near future.

Nor Kyugh is the first domino, that if falls, the last domino might fall on the flag of the clock-tower of the Republic Square. The Armenian nation as whole is under the threat of losing its reliability in the eyes of its constituencies forever. In existential times like these, Aleppo might become a point of no return for the nation.



Community enjoys, neither because of the financial or human resources that it provides, but because its current conditions, and the incapacity of the Armenians to provide the necessary support it needs.

prefer going back to Aleppo, despite the horrible conditions there, which means that they are either not received well, or they are left alone in places that supposedly should have been able to receive them. Apparently, the mythical

Turkey Allows al-Qaeda to Move Over Border into Syria

By Kurt Nimmo,
Infowars.com

Syria's Foreign Ministry has written a letter to the U.N. Security Council and Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon accusing neighboring Turkey of allowing thousands of al-Qaeda and "Takfiri and Wahhabi terrorists" to cross the border to "kill innocent Syrians, blow up their properties and spread chaos and destruction."

A man wearing a black shirt bearing an al-Qaeda flag (L) speaks with a UN observer as monitors meet with rebels and civilians in the village of Azzara in the province of Homs in Syria on May 4, 2012.

The letter confirms earlier reports of al-Qaeda jihadists moving into Syria.

In February, the U.S. Director of National Intelligence James R. Clapper said al-Qaeda has "infiltrated" Syrian opposition group and is likely responsible for a num-

ber of terrorist attacks. Two bombings in Damascus in December and attacks on security and intelligence buildings in Aleppo "had all the earmarks of an al-Qaeda-like attack," Clapper said, according to the Washington Post.

In July, German intelligence confirmed Clapper's remarks about al-Qaeda. It estimated that "around 90? terror attacks that "can be attributed to organizations that are close to al-Qaeda or jihadist groups" were carried out in Syria between the end of December and the beginning of July.

More importantly, the West is overtly funding and arming al-Qaeda's attacks inside Syria. "France has announced that it will be funding and arming terrorists operating along Syria's borders, offering them heavy weapons, just as they did in Libya last year," Tony Cartalucci wrote earlier this month.

"In fact, the US-British and UN-listed terrorists assisted into

power in Libya, are now leading death squads currently ravaging Syria – disingenuously portrayed as 'indigenous' 'freedom fighters' by the Western press."

As the Guardian noted in July, the Free Syria Army (FSA), supported by the West, is indistinguishable from al-Qaeda.

The FSA is directly supported by the CIA, according to the New York Times. CIA "officers are operating secretly in southern Turkey, helping allies decide which Syrian opposition fighters across the border will receive arms to fight the Syrian government, according to American officials and Arab intelligence officers," the newspaper reported in June.

Also in July, the U.S. Treasury admitted that al-Qaeda in Syria – often operating as the "Al Nusra Front for the People of the Levant" – are securing "routes through Turkey and Iraq for foreign fighters, most of whom are from the Middle East and North Africa. A



growing number of donors from the Persian Gulf and Levant appear to be sending financial support."

The United Nations has determined that other FSA affiliates are linked to al-Qaeda, including the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group that has actively armed, funded, and commanded entire FSA brigades.

"This means that the United States, the UK, NATO, and the

Gulf State despots of Saudi Arabia and Qatar are knowingly and willfully funding, arming, and politically backing designated affiliates of Al Qaeda contrary not only to US and British anti-terror legislation, but contrary to numerous UN resolutions as well. Western and Gulf State support of the FSA constitutes state sponsorship of terrorism," Cartalucci wrote in August.

CSTO Collective Rapid Reaction Force "Cooperation 2012" Joint Military Exercise Has Begun

"The Exercise Has No Connection with the Current Situation in the [South Caucasus/Middle East] Region", Says Gen. Yakovlev

By Gourgen James Khazhakian
Chief correspondent

The official opening ceremony of the CSTO Collective Rapid Reaction Force "Cooperation 2012" joint military exercise took place at "Marshal Baghramyan" training ground on September 15.

After rapport of the Commander of the joint forces Major General **Kamo Qochunts** of the Armenian Armed Forces on the readiness of the units **Seyran M. Ohanyan**, Minister of Defense of Armenia made an opening speech. Welcoming the participating national units, the Minister underlined the uniqueness of the military trainings in the military history of Armenia and added that it contributes toward the further development of the military cooperation and mutual understanding in the framework of CSTO. Seyran Ohanyan emphasized the projects implemented and the ones to be implemented in the framework of the CSTO, noting that the organization plays a serious role in the security of the member-states.

"I open the military exercise with great satisfaction and a sense of responsibility," the Minister stated and added that the maneuvers are being conducted in compliance with the joint action plan.

In his words, these drills are the CRRF's most important development this year and a platform for designing a CRRF interaction.

In Ohanyan's words, "CRRF is a regional force which is capable of neutralizing potential threats."

He also recalled that 2012 marks the 20th anniversary of the Collective Security Treaty and the 10th anniversary of CSTO.

"Our partnership has rich history. All divisions are ready for the military exercise," Armenia's Defense Minister concluded.

Mr Minister wished success to all participants expressing hope that the joint efforts will enable them to cope with all the tasks during the trainings.

After that the national anthems of the participating member states were performed and the flags were raised, after which, the representatives of the national units made speeches. **Anatoly Timoshenkov**, Co-uncellor of the Department of Military Security of the CSTO, Major General **A. Yakovlev**, a representative of CSTO United Staff and other reps of the member states made speech-

Emergency Situations, Ministries of Interior, other.

During the exercise which will continue until September 19, the CSTO CRRF units will work out on the use of force and means of

Notably, in accordance with the relevant intl conventions, for the first time for CSTO exercise, reps of the International Committee of the Red Cross are taking part in the maneuvers. And another novelty is use of the drones, - unmanned airplanes, which, to note, are made in Armenia.

At a press conference held just after exercise opening ceremony, in reply to a question from your correspondent whether current exercise will contribute to the raising of the defense capacity of Armenia, especially if take into account the current situation

the year past, but they were rescheduled.

These military drills are aimed at raising the combat readiness of each member country and, at the same time, to coordinate operations by the CSTO CRRF divisions, Gen. Yakovlev said.

"The adversary is provisional, so as not to link with any country, [and to] cause problems," Yakovlev noted.

To the query as to how much time will be needed for CSTO CRRF to start operations in case of a real threat, General Yakovlev stated that in each case the operations will depend on the given situation.

"The country's leadership reaches a decision. Starting quickly depends on the number of divisions taking part in the operations," he said.

According to General Yakovlev, there is no need to compare the CSTO and NATO standards.

"We have our standards, and NATO has its own," Anatoly Yakovlev said in his reply to a question.

"We see to it that we have common requirements for readiness. Naturally, they will not be inferior to NATO's", he stressed.

To note, just in the eve of the exercise on September

7, **Davit Tonoyan**, the RA First Deputy Defense Minister met in Moscow his counterpart **A. Antonov**, Deputy Defense Minister of the Russian Federation.

At the meeting they discussed issues regarding bilateral military cooperation including issues concerning CSTO Collective Rapid Reaction Force "Cooperation 2012" joint military exercise to be held in Armenia.

Photos by News.am and PanArmenian Photo



es. And, most probably, the most attractive and colorful episode of the opening ceremony was a show by parachutists of the Russian Airborne Troops who made landings carrying the national flags.

At the end of the official opening ceremony the national units marched in front of the commanding staff.

About 2,000 troops from Armenia and other CSTO states participate in the maneuvers, with use of tanks, armored vehicles, 50 units of artillery, fighter jets, helicopters as well as units of the Ministries of

collective security in the Caucasus. From September 15 to 17, Chiefs of the Exercise will also hold a development and planning of joint operations.

in South Caucasus as well as Middle East, CSTO Joint Staff Department Chief Major General **Anatoly Yakovlev** stated that holding of the Collective Security Treaty Organization Collective Rapid Reaction Force's (CSTO CRRF) "Cooperation 2012" military exercise in Armenia has no connection with the situation in the region and aimed at raising of the defense capacity of not only Armenia, but also of all member states of CSTO.

In his words, these maneuvers were planned to be conducted in

Armenia's Leading Telecom Operator Continues its Support to Education and Culture

VivaCell-MTS is the exclusive seller of the new "ABBY Lingvo x5 Armenian Edition"

On September 14 VivaCell-MTS informed that thanks to exclusive cooperation between VivaCell-MTS and ABBYY the renowned "ABBY Lingvo x5" is now equipped also with electronic versions of the Armenian-English, English-Armenian, as well as Armenian-French and French-Armenian dictionaries.

During a joint press conference held at VivaCell-MTS headquarters on the same day, VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian** and the Vice President of ABBYY **Aram Pakhchanyan** presented the details of the cooperation.

Within one year starting from the day of the official sale, the "ABBY Lingvo x5 Armenian Edition" DVD will be available exclusively at a number of VivaCell-MTS service centers.

"ABBY Lingvo x5 Armenian Edition" multilingual dictionary is a great tool especially for those who



learn European languages - English, French, Russian, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Greek and Finnish.

The Armenian-English, English-Armenian as well as the Armenian-French and French-Armenian dictionaries offered in the "ABBY Lingvo x5 Armenian Edition"

reflect all the specifics of the modern usage of these languages. "Once again VivaCell-MTS offers its customers the most innovative products and services on an exclusive basis. Thanks to cooperation with ABBYY, Armenian-speakers also will benefit from the ability to search and translate words or phrases and to study foreign languages", commented VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**. He added that by this project Armenia's leading telecom operator supports education area.

In turn, **Aram Pakhchanyan** said this was rather charity than business.

And... "VivaCell-MTS sponsors another celebration of genuine art in Yerevan", - on September 10 the Company announced that on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic

relations between Italy and Armenia, the Italian Embassy in Armenia, with the patronage of the RA Ministry of Culture, had organized a "Gran Concerto" that was performed by the Italian Orchestra



"I Solisti Veneti". The sponsors of the concert were VivaCell-MTS and Festa Tour Avia.

"VivaCell-MTS, as a friend of culture, contributes to the activation of cultural life in Armenia, encourages the performance of the masterpieces of world culture in our country and promotes cross-cultural contacts. Our rich national culture, which is a part of European culture, enriches through cross-cultural

contacts. Today our demanding audience will get a chance to once again enjoy the masterpieces of Italian art", - noted VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**.

The "Gran Concerto", in fact, was dedicated to the first "start" of the Italian-Armenian official relations - which trace back their origins from the Protocol signed on March 17, 1992 - with a view to enhance the strong feelings of friendship and deep cultural links that both Countries and Peoples have always shared in their long history, Company's press release said.

"I Solisti Veneti" is a group of well known artists specialized in the performance of Venetian Baroque Music under the direction of the famous Conductor, Maestro **Claudio Scimone**. The program of the "Gran Concerto" included, among others, pieces from the repertoire of **Gioacchino Rossini, Antonio Vivaldi, Girolamo Salieri, Niccolò Paganini, Amilcare Ponchielli and Giuseppe Verdi**.

Armenian philatelists are looking forward to Turkish Olympic Champion stamps

Turkish post service is going to issue special stamp, envelope and postcard in connection with Armenian victory in Istanbul Chess Olympiad. In the briefing with Armenpress, Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute Director Hayk Demoyan stated Turkey is set to issue those stamps regardless the attitude towards Armenians. "Those official postal cards are going to depict the champion country name and the photos of the winners" Demoyan noted.

According to the interlocutor, Turkey will make regular efforts to evade the step, yet cannot help issuing the stamps as Armenian chess players victory is already covered by international catalogues, which will reportedly make Turkey to comply with international rules. Thus, for the very first time "Armenia" name is going to be depicted in Turkish stamps as a winner state and I hope the stamp will be included in my collection and Armenian Genocide Museum "Hayk Demoyan noted. Other countries jointly with the host country are also issuing stamps. "Turin and Dresden are also issuing them. Turkish refusal to issue the stamps



will be conditioned by political context" Armenian Philatelists Association head Hovik Musayelyan told reporter.

Armenian men chess team for the third time became World Chess Olympiad Champion on September 9.

Ancient apartment found in Armenian Sotk Village

An ancient apartment was found during archeological excavations in Sotk Village in Gegharkunik Region, Armenia. Here people conducted an active life in early, mid and late Bronze, as well as early Iron Ages (from the second half of the 4th millennium to the beginning of the 1st millennium BC). The excavations were carried out by the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia in cooperation with the Universities of Halle and Tübingen (Germany). The expedition was headed by Arsen Bobokhyan.

As Armenpress was reported by the head of the expedition, in general the apartment had about four hectares and the fenced upper territory had one hectare area. It was basically a cave and there were separate structures on the rocks.

In the central part of the apartment a mausoleum was excavated, where supposedly a very prominent or a well-born person was buried. During the excavations the archeologists found earthen things, bronze arms and jewelry, bones of animals, barley and wheat grains, glass and turquoise beads and rings. Discovery of the glass ring was exclusive, as its making dates back to the 16-15th centuries BC, which is unique in the context of the ancient world archeology. The excavated things state that the people, living in Sotk Village, farmed and bred cattle and developed crafts



(metal and ceramics development) since ancient times.

The expedition excavated an early Bronze Age mausoleum also in Norabak Village in Gegharkunik Region, which is in several kilometers distance from Sotk. The mausoleum had four rooms, where 5 people were buried. The archeologists found about 40 pieces of bronze and iron things there (mainly jewelry and power symbols). The archeological studies in Sotk and Norabak Villages will be continued in 2013.

ARMENIAN POETRY

Walt Whitman (1819 - 1892)

A child said, What is the grass?

A child said, What is the grass? Fetching it to me with full hands;
How could I answer the child? . . . I do not know what it is any more than he.
I guess it must be the flag of my disposition, out of hopeful green stuff woven.
Or I guess it is the handkerchief of the Lord,
A scented gift and remembrancer designedly dropped,
Bearing the owner's name someway in the corners, that we may see and remark, and say Whose?
Or I guess the grass is itself a child. . . .the produced babe of the vegetation.
Or I guess it is a uniform hieroglyphic,
And it means, Sprouting alike in broad zones and narrow zones,
Growing among black folks as among white,
Kanuck, Tuckahoe, Congressman, Cuff, I give them the same, I receive them the same.
And now it seems to me the beautiful uncut hair of graves.
Tenderly will I use you curling grass,
It may be you transpire from the breasts of young men,
It may be if I had known them I would have loved them;
It may be you are from old people and from women, and from offspring taken soon out of their mother's laps,
And here you are the mother's laps.
This grass is very dark to be from the white heads of old mothers,
Darker than the colorless beards of old men,
Dark to come from under the faint red roofs of mouths.
O I perceive after all so many uttering tongues!
And I perceive they do not come from the roofs of mouths for nothing.
I wish I could translate the hints about the dead young men and women,
And the hints about old men and mothers, and the offspring taken soon out of their laps.
What do you think has become of the young and old men?
What do you think has become of the women and children?
They are alive and well somewhere;
The smallest sprouts show there is really no death,
And if ever there was it led forward life, and does not wait at the end to arrest it,
And ceased the moment life appeared.
All goes onward and outward. . . .and nothing collapses,
And to die is different from what any one supposed, and luckier.



Zodiac Weekly Forecast

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

A significant relationship or a creative venture that began in Aug-Oct of 2010 is arriving at a point of full ripeness. If it has been good, you can review it now with a sense of satisfaction. This is the time in which you cultivate the soil for future growth, or let it begin to shrink naturally.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19) :

You have arrived at another turning point with respect to one or more significant relationships. Think about what you started in the fall of 2010. It may have been a new relationship or a fresh creative plan. Now is a time of full maturity of that relationship or new beginning. You can now see clearly what you have learned.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

Prepare yourself for surprises and "off the wall" events. If you feel ungrounded, go to the gym or exercise in some other way. This kind of electrical energy can send people reeling, feeling as though the ground has given way. Attending to your body is the antidote.

Cancer (June 21--Jul y 21) :

You are in a reasonably good place with yourself at this time. Your heart and mind are flowing together. You have no conflict between your feelings and your thoughts about those feelings. This is a time for reflection on important subjects. You can make good decisions now.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21) :

Surprising news, related to finances or relationships, may tilt you on your ear this week. You will need to take time to consider it. However, in your high spirited way, you will find a way to rebalance the situation. You just didn't expect it right now. Dig deeply into your psyche. You probably already knew this change was coming.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

You have been aware through the summer that you need to make some changes in your life. Somehow you have become tied in knots by everyone's expectations. You may just declare your freedom in some areas, and it is time that you do. Some honesty is necessary in your life.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22) :

Your energy is high and your mind is busy at this time. You want to enjoy things of beauty and romance now. It could be hard to concentrate upon mental work that requires attention to detail. If you must do so, then check everything twice. This is a week for the arts, for love, and for fun!

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

In the fall of 2010 you brought one relationship cycle to an end and made a vow to yourself not to repeat the errors again. You began at that time to move forward in your world seeking a new sense of self. Now you are ? to completion and you can see the results of that new cycle. This is about your education, not the Others in your life.

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

Forward motion may be hard to accomplish this week. It seems as though there is a blockade in many directions. Do what you can and take a few naps while you wait for the dust to settle. Your unconscious mind, and thus the world, is preventing you from doing something premature.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

Forward motion may be hard to accomplish this week. It seems as though there is a blockade in many directions. Do what you can and take a few naps while you wait for the dust to settle. Your unconscious mind, and thus the world, is preventing you from doing something premature.

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

During the next two weeks surprises and sudden shifts of circumstances will be prominent in your life. You may decide it is time now to make a change you have considered, but no one else knows about. Or you may be surprised by the twists and turns of others in your life.

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

Your imagination could go overboard this week and you might be overly reactive to imagined slights. Double check on facts, data, and directions that come your way. Misunderstandings may go either way. Make a special effort to keep up with keys, tickets, and other small items.

HUMOR

You might be Armenian if....

You think that the Armenians invented everything
You feed your grandchildren when they are not hungry
You can pronounce "gh" and "kh" and are proud of it
You believe that the most important people in history must have Armenian blood in them....
At meetings, you MUST state your opinion, even if it is EXACTLY the same as someone else's who just spoke
You were overjoyed when you learned that Principal Skinner was Armenian
You are over 30, male, and still living at home
Your make up rhyming words that start with the letter "M" like "oosh, moosh" or "duhkegh, muhkegh"
Someone in your family sells carpets or jewellery

Quote of the week

The greatest lesson in life is to know that even fools are right sometimes.

Winston Churchill

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Enjoy your leisure

MEZZO

classic house club

CLUBS

MEZZO CLASSIC HOUSE CLUB

28 Isahakyan

September 18 at 9:30 p.m.

"Imagine" Band

September 19 at 9:30 p.m.

CHIGAPO & THE GENIUSES Band

September 20 at 9:30 p.m.

Anushik Alaverdyan & Karen Mamikonyan BAND

September 23 at 9:30 p.m.

"Marina and City Project" Band

THE CLUB

40 Tumanyan Street

September 18, at 8 p.m.

Film Screening

September 21, at 9 p.m.

Bard Club

September 24, at 7 p.m.

Tea Master invites to tasting Chinese teas

STOP MUSIC CLUB

Moskovyan Str., 37

September 19 at 9 p.m.

Imagine Band

September 19 at 9:30 p.m.

Imagine Band Instrumental

Septemeber 23 at 9 p.m.

Alexandropol Gipsy-Ska orkestar

WALL STREET PUB

September 19 at 8 p.m.

Crayfish Day

ARMENIAN NATIONAL SHOW

*Republic Square,
Government House 2,
(Restaurant Ararat)*

Every Day at 7:30 p.m.

BOURBON ST.

Teryan 19

September 20 at 8:30 p.m.

Hayway Band

CAFESJIAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Cascade Complex

September 21 at 8 p.m.

Music Cascade: Los Locos Flamenco Band

September 22 at 8 p.m.

Music Cascade: Karen Mamikonyan Jazz Band and Anushik Alaverdyan

HAVANA COMPLEX

September 22 at 8 p.m.

Water Dance Floor Party

TORTUGA PUB

September 20 at 7 p.m.

Crayfish Day

THEATRES

G. SUNDUKIAN NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

*Grigor Lusavorich st.,
house 6*

September 19, 20 at 7 p.m.

The Adventures of Masha and the Bear

September 21 at 7 p.m.

*A Streetcar Named Desire.**Author: Tennessee Williams*

September 23 at 7 p.m.

Don Quijote. Ludwig Minkus

H. TUMANIAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

Sayat-Nova av., house 4

September 18 at 7 p.m.

Madagascar. Puppet Show

September 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Aunt from Paris. Comedy

September 21 at 2 p.m.

Adventures of the Wolf and the Little Goats

September 22 at 12:00, at 2 p.m.

*That Same Huri. Author:**Hovhannes Tumanian*

September 22 at 7 p.m.

Cherchez la femme

September 22 at 12:00, at 2 p.m.

*Invincible Rooster. Author:**Hovhannes Tumanian*

STATE MARIONETTE THEATER

September 23 at 12:30,

2 p.m., 3:30 p.m.

*King Chakh-Chakh.**Hovhannes Tumanian*

September 16 at 12:30,

2 p.m., 3:30 p.m.

The Tailless Fox

CONCERTS

ALEXANDER SPENDYARYAN STATE

ACADEMIC STATE

OPERA AND BALLET

THEATRE

September 18 at 7 p.m.

*79th Season Opening:
Gala Armenia*

ARAM KHACHATURIAN CONCERT HALL

September 19 at 7 p.m.

*Barekamutyun Troupe.
Barekamutyun Armenian
State Dance Troupe*

September 20 at 7 p.m.

*Concert dedicated to the
21st anniversary of the
Independence of RA*

September 23 at 7 p.m.

*Chamber Music Concert**Program: Vagharshak**Zakaryan, Babajanian,**Brahms, Dvorak*

*Soloists: Boris Brovtsyn, vio-
lin (UK), Vagharshak*

*Zakaryan, piano, Ashley**Wass, piano (UK),**Alexander Chaushian, cello**(UK), Polina Leshchenko,**piano (Belgium), Ani**Ghazaryan, violin**(Armenia), Samvel**Barseghyan, viola**(Portugal), Mario Brunello,**cello (Italy)*

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Ռիտա Սարգսյանի
բարձր հովանու ներքո
Under the high patronage of the spouse
of the President of RA
Mrs. Rita Sargsyan

Փառատոնի
գերադասարանական ղեկավարներ
Ալեքսանդր Չաուշյան
Էդուարդ Թոփչյան
Artistic Directors of the Festival
Alexander Chaushian
Eduard Topchjan

ՀՀ Ազատության և Դեմոկրատիայի
Ֆիլիսոփայության
Գերադասարանական ղեկավար
և գլխավոր ղեկավար
Էդուարդ Թոփչյան

ՀՀ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ
ՖԻԼՀԱՐՄՈՆԻԿ ԵՎԱԳՐԱԽՈՒՄԻ
Գերադասարանական ղեկավար
և գլխավոր ղեկավար
Էդուարդ Թոփչյան

ARMENIAN
PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Artistic Director & Principal Conductor
Eduard Topchjan

Երևանյան միջազգային
երաժշտական
փառատոն

6

Yerevan International
Music Festival

10 Սեպտեմբեր
September 2022 20 Քոկտեմբեր
October

Արամ Խաչատրյան համերգարան
Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall

ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ
ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ
ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ

Տոմսեր (անվճար) և «Համաձայնագրի» համապատասխան ցուցանակներ / Tickets are available from the Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall's Box Office / Տոմս / Թե: 54 57 42

Conductors: Eduard

*Topchjan, Vahan**Mardirossian (France)**Program: Shostakovich,**Vache Sharafyan, Liszt,**Glazunov, Ravel**Soloists: Suren Bagratuni,**cello (USA), Yerevan State**Chamber Choir/Speghani**Choir,**Polina Leshchenko, piano**(Belgium), Boris Brovtsyn,**violin (UK)*

ARAM KHACHATURIAN HOUSE MUSEUM

September 23 at 7 p.m.

*Khachaturian trio presents**Natalie Aroyan*

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