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Letter dated 15 March 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you, herewith, a statement issued by the Press Service of the Ministry of Defence of Nagorno Karabakh on 8 March 2005 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 163, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dziunik **Aghajanian** Deputy Permanent Representative Chargé d'affaires a.i

^{*} Reissued for technical reasons.

Annex to the letter dated 15 March 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Russian]

Statement of the Press Service of the Defence Ministry of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic

On 7 March 2005, at 11 a.m., an Azerbaijani intelligence-diversionary group attempted to penetrate the rear of the Defence Army of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic in the north-east section of the contact line between the armed forces of Nagorno Karabakh and Azerbaijan, near the settlement of Seysulan in the Martakert region of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic.

The servicemen in the Karabakh forces who were on duty noted the actions of the Azerbaijani intelligence-diversionary group and took the necessary steps to neutralize it. As a result of a skirmish, the adversary had to retreat. There were no losses on the Karabakh side.

The Press Service of the Defence Ministry of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic draws attention to the fact that the Azerbaijani party continues to take steps to destabilize the situation on the demarcation line, attempting diversionary actions in the rear of the armed forces of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic and advancing its positions to the front lines of the Defence Army of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic.

The Press Service of the Defence Ministry of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic warns once again that any actions of the Azerbaijani party that threaten the security of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic and can lead to the destabilization of the situation in the Azerbaijani-Karabakh conflict zone will be resolutely suppressed.

The Press Service of the Defence Ministry of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic appeals to the Azerbaijani side to strictly follow the ceasefire regime and not to threaten the peace and security in the region.

Stepanakert 8 March 2005