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Letter dated 14 July 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, Nikol Pashinyan (see annex I), and the comments of the Spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry of Armenia regarding the provocative actions on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border, ceasefire violations by the Azerbaijani armed forces in the direction of the Tavush region and shelling of cities and villages (see annex II).

I kindly request that the present letter and its annexes be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mher Margaryan Ambassador Permanent Representative





Annex I to the letter dated 14 July 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Remarks of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, Nikol Pashinyan, at the Government's extraordinary meeting of July 13 regarding the military incident on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border

[13 July 2020]

Yesterday, on July 12th, the Azerbaijani Armed Forces carried out provocative actions on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border, attacking our border positions in the direction of Movses village, Tavush region.

We strongly condemn the provocative actions of the Azerbaijani armed forces, which resumed this morning.

With their resumption, the political-military leadership of Azerbaijan will bear all the responsibility for the unpredictable consequences of undermining regional stability. By the same token we are deeply concerned about Turkey's attempt to undermine regional stability, which is best illustrated in the official statement of the country's Foreign Ministry, where the latter unconditionally supports Azerbaijan's actions, within its explicit and traditional anti-Armenian stance.

This military incident did not occur in a vacuum. For a while the Azerbaijani leadership has been trying to play the anti-Armenian card for their well-known reasons. It is possible that we are dealing with the situation wherein the political-military leadership of Azerbaijan tries to respond to the domestic challenges with instigating escalation on borders and undertaking meaningless actions, in disregard towards the human lives, including the lives of Azerbaijani soldiers.

The fact that Azerbaijan did not join the call of the UN Secretary-General to declare a global ceasefire during the pandemic is a point in case. It turns out that the more the pandemic spreads in Azerbaijan, the more the socio-economic situation worsens, the more the political-military leadership of Azerbaijan intensifies its anti-Armenian and belligerent rhetoric.

Instead of calling on its own people to abide by the preventative healthcare measures against the spread of the pandemic, the Azerbaijani leadership issues war threats, as if the anti-Armenian rhetoric is the best remedy against the coronavirus.

I assure you that no provocative action goes unanswered.

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Annex II to the to the letter dated 14 July 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Comment by the Spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry of Armenia on the ceasefire violations by the Azerbaijani armed forces in the direction of the Tavush region

[13 July 2020]

We condemn in the strongest terms the ceasefire violations by the Azerbaijani armed forces in the direction of the Tavush region of the Republic of Armenia starting from the afternoon of July 12, accompanied by the attempts to infiltrate into Armenian positions with the use of artillery. As a result of the proportionate actions of the Armenian side, these provocative actions have been effectively suppressed.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia, in coordination with the Prime Minister of Armenia and the Minister of Defense, is in constant contact with the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs and the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, presenting the situation on the ground and the consequences of further escalation.

Recently, the Azerbaijani side, in contradiction to the calls of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs to refrain from provocative actions and warmongering rhetoric, to strengthen the ceasefire, constantly resorts to the threats of use of force and military escalation. The political-military leadership of Azerbaijan bears full responsibility for the consequences of the provocative action undertaken amid these threats.

Comment by the Foreign Ministry Spokesperson on the escalation of the situation in the northeast direction of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border

[13 July 2020]

We strongly condemn the constant attempts of Azerbaijan to maintain escalation in the northeast direction of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border, and the deliberate targeting of civilian infrastructure and population of Chinari and Aygepar villages in the Tavush region, which is an explicit violation of international humanitarian law.

Azerbaijan must unconditionally cease such actions and take the necessary steps to prevent further escalation, for which it bears full responsibility.

Comment by the Foreign Ministry Spokesperson on the shelling of the city of Berd by the Azerbaijani armed forces

[14 July 2020]

The Azerbaijani side continues its aggression on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border, deliberately targeting civilian infrastructures and population, and expanding the geography of escalation. Today the civilian infrastructure of the city of Berd was shelled by unmanned combat aerial vehicles.

These aggression against the security of the civilian population of Armenia will receive a proportionate response, for which the Azerbaijani side bears full responsibility.

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