Azerbaijani side opened fire against the Armenian combat positions

Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense · 12 August 2023 (0814 hours)

On August 11, from 9:25 p.m. to 10:25 p.m., Azerbaijani AF units opened fire against the Armenian combat outposts in the vicinity of Verin Shorzha.

Azerbaijan Army positions were subjected to fire

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense · 12 August 2023 (0909 hours)

On August 11, starting from 21:10 to 21:30, the Armenian armed forces units from the positions in the direction of the Yukhari Shorzha settlement of the Basarkechar region using small arms subjected to fire the Azerbaijan Army positions in the directions of the Bazirkhana and Zaylik settlements of the Kalbajar region.

Moreover, on August 12 at 07:43, illegal Armenian armed detachments in the territory of Azerbaijan, where the Russian peacekeepers are temporarily deployed, using small arms subjected to fire the Azerbaijan Army positions stationed in the direction of the Aghdam region.

The Azerbaijan Army Units took adequate retaliatory measures in the mentioned directions.

Azerbaijan Army positions were subjected to fire

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense · 12 August 2023 (1805 hours)

On August 12 at 15:00, members of illegal Armenian armed detachments in the territory of Azerbaijan, where the Russian peacekeepers are temporarily deployed, using small arms subjected to fire the Azerbaijan Army positions stationed in the direction of the Khojavand region.

The Azerbaijan Army Units took adequate retaliatory measures in the mentioned direction.

[Transcribed from originals by the Parley Policy Initiative]

Azerbaijan Army positions in the Kalbajar direction were subjected to fire

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense · 13 August 2023 (1843 hours)

On August 13, at 16:20, the Armenian armed forces units from the positions in the direction of the Yukhari Shorzha settlement of the Basarkechar region using small arms subjected to fire the Azerbaijan Army positions in the direction of the Mollabayramli settlement of the Kalbajar region.

The Azerbaijan Army Units took adequate retaliatory measures in the mentioned direction.

The MoD of Azerbaijan spread disinformation

Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense · 13 August 2023 (1900 hours)

The statement disseminated by the Ministry of Defence of Azerbaijan as if on August 13, around 4:20 p.m., units of the Armenian Armed Forces opened fire against the Azerbaijani combat positions located in the eastern part of the frontier zone, is another disinformation.

Units of the Azerbaijani armed forces fired towards Verin Shorzha

Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense · 13 August 2023 (2150 hours)

On August 13, from 8:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m., the units of the Azerbaijani armed forces discharged fire from small arms at the Armenian combat outposts nearby Verin Shorzha.

Azerbaijan Army positions were subjected to fire

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense · 14 August 2023 (0825 hours)

From 22:45 on August 13 to 07:05 on August 14 Armenian armed forces units from the positions in the directions of Yukhari Shorzha settlement of the Basarkechar region and Arazdayan settlement of the Davali region using various caliber weapons periodically subjected to fire the positions of the Azerbaijan Army stationed in the directions of Mollabayramli settlement of the Kalbajar region and Heydarabad settlement of the Sadarak region of Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic.

The Azerbaijan Army Units took retaliatory measures.

The MoD of Azerbaijan spread disinformation

Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense · 14 August 2023 (0900 hours)

The MoD of Azerbaijan has come up with the usual kind of disinformation.

The statement of the Ministry of Defence of Azerbaijan as if from 10:45 p.m. on August 13 to 7:05 a.m. on August 14 the units of the RA Armed Forces fired against the Azerbaijani combat outposts located in the eastern and southwestern parts of the border, does not correspond to reality.

Azerbaijan Army positions were subjected to fire

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense · 14 August 2023 (1318 hours)

On August 14, starting from 09:20 to 12:35, the Armenian armed forces units from the positions in the direction of Yukhari Shorzha settlement of the Basarkechar region using various caliber weapons periodically subjected to fire the Azerbaijan Army positions in the direction of the Mollabayramli settlement of the Kalbajar region.

The Azerbaijan Army Units took retaliatory measures in the mentioned direction.

The MoD of Azerbaijan continues to disseminate disinformation

Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense · 14 August 2023 (1327 hours)

The statement issued by the Ministry of Defence of Azerbaijan that on August 14, from 9:20 a.m. to 12:35 p.m., the units of the RA Armed Forces discharged fire against the Azerbaijani combat outposts located in the eastern part of the frontier zone, is another disinformation.

No:434/23, Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Foreign Affairs · 14 August 2023

Today, the efforts for durable peace between Azerbaijan and Armenia have become a hostage to Armenia's policy of deliberate tension and revanchism, and face serious challenges.

Despite its first failure in December 2022, Armenia once again attempts to instrumentalize the UN Security Council for its political, military and informational manipulation campaign.

Moreover, Armenia is a country that had for almost 30 years brazenly disregarded the four resolutions of 1993 and series of Presidential Statements of the Security Council demanding full, immediate and unconditional withdrawal of occupying forces from the territory of Azerbaijan.

Armenia's appeal to the Security Council on groundless allegations of "worsening humanitarian situation" and "continued blockade" in the region yet again comes at a time when Armenia itself deliberately and intentionally obstructs all the efforts made through international partners to find a balanced, law-based and reasonable solution on the ground.

As it is well-known, wide-range abuse of the Lachin road by Armenia over past three years necessitated Azerbaijan's legitimate and legal action of establishing a border check-point to ensure security and order on its border. While Armenia attempted to portray these efforts as a "blockade" and requested the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to issue an order on removal of the checkpoint, the ICJ in its order of July 6 has unanimously rejected this request.

Armenia did not reconcile with the reality of being deprived of the means to supply and sustain its not fully withdrawn armed forces in the territory of Azerbaijan, and to illicitly extract Azerbaijan's natural resources. Therefore, Armenia has started propaganda campaign worldwide, imposed series of military and other obstructions for the normal functioning of the border check-point, as well as for the use of other routes, such as Aghdam-Khankendi road for the delivery of goods to the Garabagh region of Azerbaijan.

Recently, following the series of intensive consultations and shuttle diplomacy efforts, agreement was finally reached with respect to delivery of humanitarian cargo to the Garabagh region through various routes, as well as the organization of the meeting between the Special Representative of Azerbaijan and representatives of local Armenian residents.

On the first case, concrete blocks and all other physical barriers imposed by the Armenian side on the use of Aghdam-Khankendi road should have been removed to allow the delivery of humanitarian cargo by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to meet the needs of local residents. This should have been followed by intensification of usage of the Lachin road by the ICRC within 24 hours. All the involved parties, including the Russian peacekeeping contingent and the ICRC, were prepared to realize this deal in practice.

On the second, a meeting between Azerbaijan's Special Representative and representatives of local Armenian residents was agreed to take place in Yevlakh.

Regrettably, on August 5, 2023, Armenia, through its illegally installed puppet regime, backstepped from both agreements at a last moment by introducing politically motivated and illegitimate preconditions and various pretexts.

In other words, what Armenia cynically seeks from the international community in general, and the UN Security Council in particular, was indeed days ago within reach as a result of active support of partners, including the members of Security Council. This did not materialize only due to the rejection by Armenia itself.

Had Armenia and its subordinate illegal structure honored the agreement, the situation would have been solved in early August providing a reasonable framework for the delivery of humanitarian cargo to the residents of the Garabagh region, and facilitation of routes for the passage of persons, goods and vehicles.

Therefore, there should be no doubt that notwithstanding the intensive engagement by Azerbaijan with the Russian Federation, the United States, European Union and ICRC for finding ways out of the situation, Armenia is deliberately obstructing diplomatic efforts.

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Appeal to the Security Council is a part of this campaign and is a serious blow to the efforts being made by involved actors, among them the members of Security Council.

In addition to this pattern, over past weeks, the Armenian armed forces illegally deployed in the territory of Azerbaijan in a blatant violation of international law, as well as Armenia's commitment under paragraph 4 of the Trilateral Statement of the leaders of Azerbaijan, the Russian Federation and Armenia of 10 November, 2020, have intensified the military-engineering works and other military build-up.

The use of radio-electronic warfare equipment illegally deployed in the sovereign territory of Azerbaijan is of particular concern. Not only civilian aircrafts of the Azerbaijani Airlines, but also those of foreign countries have been target to radio-electronic interference over past weeks, posing serious risk for their safety.

In parallel to illegal military build-up and activities in the sovereign territory of Azerbaijan where the Russian peacekeeping contingent has been temporarily deployed, large-scale accumulation of weaponry and other military equipment and personnel along the undelimited state border has been also observed over past days in an apparent effort to go into another military adventure.

The above-mentioned fully resembles the pattern that had been typical to Armenia throughout almost 30 years until September 2020 to imitate talks, escape from previously undertaken commitments at the last minute, and commit political, military and other provocations at every stage of negotiation to shy away from taking concrete decisions.

Moreover, such actions of Armenia testify to the fact that Armenia didn't cease its territorial claims against Azerbaijan and her verbal recognition of Azerbaijan's territorial integrity contradict her deeds on the ground.

Following the 2020 war, Azerbaijan offered a peace to Armenia based on equal and reciprocal respect for legitimate interests of both sides through mutual recognition of and respect for each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders. On another track, Azerbaijan pursues the policy of reintegration of ethnic Armenian residents of the Garabagh region as equal citizens guaranteeing all the rights and freedoms envisaged in the Constitution of Azerbaijan and all relevant international human rights mechanisms to which Azerbaijan is a signatory. At the same time, Azerbaijan's adherence to both these tracks is without prejudice to its right to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity by all legitimate means safeguarded in the UN Charter and other universal international law instruments.

At this critical juncture, sober apprehension of existing risks and adequate response by international community to Armenia's brazen provocations are more necessary than ever to overcome the challenges facing the inter-state Armenia-Azerbaijan

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normalization process and the reintegration of local ethnic Armenian residents into Azerbaijan's political, legal and socio-economic framework.

It is important to ensure that the historic opportunity for durable peace is not missed.

The statement released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan does not correspond to reality

Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense · 14 August 2023 (1345 hours)

The statement released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan that the Armed Forces of the Republic of Armenia have concentrated a large number of weapons, military equipment, and personnel near the Armenian-Azerbaijani border does not correspond to reality.

In addition, regarding another false allegation mentioned in the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia once again declares that the Republic of Armenia does not have an army in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia on disinformation spread by Azerbaijan

Republic of Armenia Ministry of Foreign Affairs · 14 August 2023

In recent days, Azerbaijan has significantly increased the dissemination of false information concerning the Republic of Armenia which does not correspond to reality.

The most recent example is the disinformation regarding the accumulation of troops and ammunition along the Armenia-Azerbaijan state border by the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia. The spreading of this false information indicates Azerbaijan's intention to aggravate the situation in the region.

Despite several refuting statements by the Republic of Armenia, Azerbaijan continues to spread false claims about the presence of the army of the Republic of Armenia in Nagorno-Karabakh, which absolutely do not correspond to reality.

We draw the attention of the international community to the fact that the proposal of the Republic of Armenia to send an international fact-finding mission to Nagorno-

Karabakh to clarify this issue has been repeatedly rejected by Azerbaijan. In the context of Azerbaijan's ongoing assertions, such a mission is clearly becoming more urgent.

It is also evident that one of the objectives of Azerbaijan's disinformation campaign is to divert the international community's attention from the escalating humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh, which is intensifying day by day, and from its steps to implement ethnic cleansing in Nagorno-Karabakh through provoking a humanitarian catastrophe.

The humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh resulting from the illegal blockade of the Lachin corridor is clear proof of Azerbaijan's violation of the Trilateral statement of November 9, 2020. In past years, Azerbaijan has violated almost all the provisions of the Trilateral statement, in particular, its 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 8th and 9th points.

As it has already been recorded by international partners, by illegally blocking the Lachin corridor, Azerbaijan also violates the legally binding Orders of the International Court of Justice of February 22 and July 6, 2023 on ensuring the unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo in both directions through the Lachin corridor.

Azerbaijan also continues to violate numerous agreements reached during the negotiations. In particular, contrary to the Brussels agreement of May 14, 2023, until now, Azerbaijan has not made a clear statement on the recognition of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Armenia in 29,800 square kilometers, refuses to implement the agreements reached on the resumption of the Yeraskh-Ordubad-Meghri-Horadiz railway.

By all possible means official Baku also hinders the dialogue with Stepanakert within the framework of the international mechanism.

In the conditions of the illegal blockade of the Lachin corridor already lasting 8 months, it has been 3 weeks since Azerbaijan blocked the entry to Nagorno-Karabakh for about 400 tons of humanitarian cargo which is stranded at the entrance to the Lachin corridor.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia emphasizes that the peace agenda has no alternative in our region. We reiterate that, despite all the difficulties, there is a possibility of achieving a long-term, stable and lasting peace, and we call on Azerbaijan to refrain from all steps aimed at reducing this possibility. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia reaffirms the commitment of the Armenian Government to the peace agenda and the agreements reached during the negotiations and calls on all actors of the international community interested in establishing peace and stability in the region to use all the instruments at their disposal in order to bring the Azerbaijani side to a constructive track.

[Transcribed from originals by the Parley Policy Initiative]

Information of Azerbaijan Defense Ministry

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense · 14 August 2023 (1822 hours)

In recent days, the activity of illegal Armenian armed detachments and the remains of the Armenian armed forces in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, where the Russian peacekeeping forces temporarily stationed has been observed.

Strengthening of combat positions in terms of military personnel and ammunition, as well as the preparation of new defense lines, trenches, long-term fortification equipment, and planting of mines in the area by the illegal Armenian armed detachments and the remains of the Armenian armed forces were observed.

Moreover, the facts of deployment of various military equipment, in particular air defense and radio-electronic means of struggle in several settlements of the Karabakh economic region, and mass armament of the civilian population by Illegal Armenian armed detachments were also known. Planned firing positions are often located near residential buildings.

Despite the fact that the demands of the Azerbaijani side on the cessation of these activities have been repeatedly communicated to the Armenian side through the Russian peacekeeping contingent further activation of illegal Armenian armed detachments and preparatory work for new provocations by carrying out intensive combat training measures in the territory of Azerbaijan is observed.

Considering the fact that such illegal provocative actions have led to an increase in tension in the region, we inform that all responsibility for any incident that may occur lies with the military-political leadership of Armenia.

Units of the Azerbaijani armed forces fired towards Verin Shorzha

Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense · 14 August 2023 (2151 hours)

On August 14, at around 7:50 p.m., the units of the Azerbaijani armed forces discharged fire from small arms at the Armenian combat outposts nearby Verin Shorzha, in the wake of which a serviceman S. D. was wounded.

The health condition of the wounded is assessed as critical.

The provocation of the opposing side was suppressed

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense · 14 August 2023 (2253 hours)

On August 14, at about 19:25, the Armenian armed forces units with the support of firing positions located in the direction of Yukhari Shorzha settlement of the Basarkechar region attempted to carry out engineering works for the purpose of sabotage in front of the positions of the Azerbaijan Army deployed in the direction of Mollabayramli settlement of the Kalbajar region.

Urgent measures were taken by the units of the Azerbaijan Army in order to immediately stop the work carried out and neutralize the weapon emplacements.

Azerbaijani AF units discharged fire from fire arms targeting the EU observers

Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense · 15 August 2023 (1457 hours)

On August 15, at around 12:20 p.m., Azerbaijani AF units discharged fire from fire arms targeting the EU observers patrolling in the vicinity of Verin Shorzha and their vehicle.

There are no casualties.

Information of Azerbaijan Defense Ministry

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense · 15 August 2023 (1541 hours)

The information spread in Armenian media resources that on August 15, at about 12:20, Azerbaijan Army Units allegedly opened fire in the direction of the European Union observers and their car in the Yukhari Shorzha settlement of the Basarkechar region, does not correspond to reality, but is another disinformation disseminated by the opposing side.

We inform that the time of the European Union observers' visits in the direction of the conditional border in Armenia, their movement route, coordinates in the area, as well as the brand and vehicle registration plates of the cars, are presented to the Azerbaijani side in advance.

For this reason, it is theoretically and practically impossible for such a situation to occur as claimed by the Armenian Ministry of Defense.