



Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

PRESS-RELEASE

March 10, 2011

No. 3

8 YEAR OLD BOY SHOT BY ARMENIAN SNIPER

On March 8, 2011, as a result of a cease fire violation by the Armenian Armed Forces on the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 8 year old boy Fariz Badalov was shot by an Armenian sniper. The boy was playing outside his house on Tuesday in the village of Orta Garvand in Azerbaijan's Agdam District when was wounded in the head by a sniper from the Armenian-occupied territory and died on the way to hospital.

This outrageous violation of international human law occurred three days after President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and Armenia Serge Sarkysyan met in Sochi, Russia under the auspices of Russian President Dmitriy Medvedev to discuss a peaceful resolution of the Armenia-Azerbaijani conflict.

On March 9, 2011 Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, Ambassadors Bernard Fassier of France, Robert Bradtke of the United States, and Igor Popov of the Russian Federation, dealing with the negotiation process between Azerbaijan and Armenia, released the statement, expressing deep concern over cease fire violations after March 5 Sochi meeting. "Such senseless acts, - said in the statement, - would contravene the commitment of the parties to refrain from the use of force and to seek a peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict."

This brutal assault on a civilian life once again proves that the unpunished aggressor will continue to violate and ignore the norms of international law. The Armenian Armed Forces, which committed the massacres in Khojaly, on February 25-26, 1992, killing 613 civilians, are again on spree of violence and murders. Such an act of aggression against a child must be widely and unequivocally condemned. Azerbaijan urges the international community to double its efforts to put the Armenian aggression and occupation to an end.