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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD

Letter dated 23 April 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the address of the representatives of the community of the occupied Kalbajar district of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Security Council, United Nations Commission on Human Rights and the Committee on Legal Issues and Human Rights of the Council of Europe.

I would highly appreciate the circulation of the present letter and attached information* as an official document of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights under agenda item 9.

(Signed): Murad N. NAJAFOV Chargé d'affaires a.i.

GE.03-13990 (E) 250403

^{*} Reproduced in the annex as received, in the language of submission only.

Annex

ADDRESS

of the representatives of the community of the occupied Kalbajar district of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Security Council,

UN Commission on Human Rights and Committee on Legal Issues and Human Rights of the Council of Europe

The participants of today's meeting would like to state that 10 years have elapsed since the occupation of Kalbajar by Armenian military units. Armenians who claim on Azerbaijani lands have perpetrated terrible genocides against our people, committed ethnic cleansing, tried to implement their plans of establishing "Great Armenia" stage by stage at the expense of our eternal and perpetual lands for more than 200 years as soon as they got a chance with the help of their adherents. Occupation of Kalbajar at the end of March – beginning of April of 1993 is the continuation of the genocide policy against Azerbaijanis.

Since the February 1988 separatist Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh rebelled with the aim to annex Nagorno Karabakh - permanent and eternal land of Azerbaijan with the help of Gorbachev regime and instigation of Armenia to this country.

During 5 years - since the February 1988 till the March 1993 Kalbajar district and its population of 52 000 people have lived in the situation of blockade, defended the boundaries of Azerbaijan with Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh from the Armenian aggression, and have not allowed even the smallest part of the district to be occupied by the enemies.

In order to expel Kalbajar people from their ancient lands Armenians used all the instruments and brutalities, made ambushes and mined the roads, destroyed the bridges, electricity and communication lines exploding them. Since 1990 Autoroute Yevlax-Istisu was entirely blocked. As a result the district was in the situation of blockade. The only ways linking Kalbajar with other parts of the Republic were through Murovdag, 3800 m high from the sea level and auto-roads built at the expense of Kalbajar people and passing from the Yeligedik mountain gate from the Lachin direction. These roads were covered with snow in winter months and the traffic was impossible. Communication with the district was possible only by the helicopter. As a result of shooting of helicopters by Armenians since November 1989 the connection was impossible even by air route. In spite of all of these difficulties and hard blockade situation none of the citizens of Kalbajar left their land, repulsed attacks of the enemies at their own expenses and lived in Kalbajar.

In the night from 7 to 8 April 1992 Armenian fascists as the continuation of Khojaly genocide destroyed village Agdaban which consisted of 130 houses, burning it entirely in order to intermediate people living in the blockade situation, to disperse them from their houses. 779 civil people living in the village were subject to carnage

perpetrated by Armenians, 62 civil and military people were killed, of which 8 were old people of age 90-100, 2 were children, 7 were women. 5 persons were taken hostages, 2 persons are still missing, 12 persons were severely injured. There was not precedent of brutality and savagery committed by Armenians who had been trying to be known as a suffering and oppressed nation in the world. Armenians who did not have any mercy on anybody and anything burned 4 old men and women in the fire lively. While leaving village Agdaban they plundered all the precious objects, cattle that had belonged to Azeri people.

We are sure that, some day will come when the present leaders and previous heads of the occupied Nagorno Karabakh region of Azerbaijan people who lead Armenia at present time will account for this massacre as the military criminals in front of the Justice Court of Azerbaijan and International Court of Justice.

At the end of March – beginning of April of 1993 Armenian Armed Forces started open military aggression and large scale attacks against Kalbajar, "castle gate" of Azerbaijan. In a short period more than 52000 people were expelled from the lands of their ancestors as a result of brutal aggression.

Kalbajar district with the territory of 1936 square kilometers and population of 50000 people, as well as Kalbajar town with the population of 10000 people, resort "Istisu", 129 villages were occupied. More than 500 industrial, building, trade, public catering establishments, 96 general education schools, 48 clubs, 124 libraries, 12 culture houses, 12 hospitals, 56 stations of doctor's assistant, 8 ambulance stations, 13000 dwelling houses, 54 collective and state farms were plundered and taken away to Armenia. 100000 cattle, 500000 ship and goats, 5000 horses, 1 million domestic birds, 50000 bee families, 1300 cars of different types, 59000 sets of furniture, 26000 domestic objects (refrigerator, TV set etc.) were seized by the enemy.

Generally, the result of Armenian aggression caused the material damage to the state and the people estimated in 761 million US dollars according to the prices of 1961.

As a result of the occupation of Kalbajar 220 civil citizens were killed, 321 were missed or taken hostage and altogether 511 people from all over the district became martyrs of whom 265 people were militants and 246 people were civil citizens. 6 of 125 missing civil citizens were minors. There is no information on their whereabouts up to now. Armenian fascists keep and cover-up those terrible genocide acts from the world community, heartily speak about artificial genocide of Armenians in the world, as well as scream and present themselves as destitute people. But they try to stay calm on and hide their crimes against mankind.

On 6-7 April 1993 an immediate order was given to the head-quarter of Armenian armed forces occupied Kalbajar and all the commanders of the occupying forces in the district from the head-quarter of Armenian armed forces in Vardenis (Basarkechar) in order to kill immediately hostages, including old people, women and children and to bury them. Thus they tried to hide the brutalities committed against Azerbaijanis from the international delegations and journalists visiting battle region then.

These bloody acts, brutality, terrible crimes of Armenians against humanity will never be forgotten. It will not be erased from the memory of our nation and will be

branded as a bloody page to our history. We are sure that those who were guilty of this terrible tragedy, military criminals whose hands became dirty of the blood of our nation, the then and contemporary heads of the occupied Nagorno Karabakh region of Azerbaijan and Armenia by all means will be accountable in front of history and mankind.

On behalf of 59000 people whose rights were violated as a result of Armenian aggression and who found asylum in the 56 districts and 707 residential districts the participants of today's commemoration meeting call for and demand of the UN Security Council, UN High Commission on Human Rights and Committee on Legal Issues and Human Rights of the Council of Europe unconditional provision of UN Security Council Resolution No822 concerning the occupation of Kalbajar and the resolutions No 853,874 and 884 concerning the occupation of other areas of Azerbaijan and ensure withdrawal of Armenian armed forces from the occupied territories and implementation of the resolutions by aggressive and occupant Republic of Armenia, to assist in return of Azeri displaced persons expelled by armed way to their homes. We hope our voice of justice will be heard by powerful International Organisations and occupants, aggressors and people who committed terror acts against our lands will be subjected to their deserved punishment.

Since 10 years lose of native land, Motherland, hard and unbearable life of internally displaced people have not managed to overcome Kalbajar people. To the contrary, we work and live with the hope to return to our native lands overcoming all the difficulties and hardships.

We request you to help Heydar Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the peaceful solution of the most painful and long lasting Nagorno-Karabakh conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, to stand for protection of oppressed rights of Azeri people and assist in provision of our rights to live in our own territories.

Address was adopted at the "Commemoration" meeting devoted to the 9th anniversary of Kalbajar tragedy, 02 April 2003

On behalf of the participants of the "Commemoration" meeting:

Head of Executive Power of Kalbajar district of the Republic of Azerbaijan

S.I.AKBAROV (Signature)