



AGBU ARMENIA NEWS BULLETIN

Tuesday, August 31, 2010

TRANSLATIONS FROM YEREVAN NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER NEWS AGENCIES

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POLITICS

1. Sergey Manasaryan appointed RA foreign deputy minister [Armenpress, 08/30/10]

RA President Serzh Sargsyan signed today a decree on dismissing Sergey Manasaryan from the office of RA Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Bulgaria. The Presidential press service told Armenpress that according to another decree of the President, Sergey Manasaryan was appointed Deputy Minister of RA Foreign Affairs Ministry. Sergey Manasaryan was born in 1959 in Yerevan.

He graduated from Yerevan State Agricultural Institute, faculty of mechanics in 1981. From 1981 to 1988 he worked at the scientific-research institute of agriculture mechanization. He entered upon office at the State Plan in 1988. Afterwards Sergey Manasaryan was appointed assistant to RA vice Prime Minister. He worked as an assistant to RA Prime Minister, as well as chief of the staff of RA Prime Minister and secretary-minister of RA Government. Sergey Manasaryan got into office at RA Foreign Ministry and was appointed deputy Foreign Minister in 1996. He worked as RA Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt from 1999 to 2005.

Sergey Manasaryan simultaneously represented Armenia in Morocco, Libya, Ethiopia, Sudan and Oman. He worked as RA Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Bulgaria from



2005 to 2010. Sergey Manasaryan is a candidate of technical sciences. He was awarded with the highest order of Bulgaria – ‘Stara Planina’. Sergey Manasaryan is married, has two daughters.

2. Naira Zohrabyan Azerbaijan does not see an opportunity of Karabakh conflict settlement within the framework of the OSCE Minsk group in its favor [Armenpress, 08/30/10]

Azerbaijan does not see an opportunity of Karabakh conflict settlement within the framework of the OSCE Minsk group in its favor, Naira Zohrabyan, chairperson of the Armenian National Assembly’s European Integration Standing Committee, member of the Armenian delegation to PACE told Armenpress, adding that that is the reason why Azerbaijan does not spare any effort to transfer the NK issue to UN, PACE or other international instances.

“I think that the OSCE Minsk group co-chairs must correspondingly respond to this kind of actions by Azerbaijan,” Ms Zohrabyan noted, adding that the Armenia’s stance in this issue is firm and the NK issue must be regulated within the framework of the Minsk group and the change of the mandate may take place only with the consent of the negotiating parties.

“I hope that the countries interested in the peaceful settlement of the NK issue will vote against the resolution Azerbaijan forwards at the UN,” Zohrabyan said, commenting on the voting of the “The Situation in the Azerbaijani Occupied Territories” resolution forwarded by Azerbaijan at the UN General Assembly. According to him, the CSTO, EU, Minsk Group countries which stated that the peaceful settlement of the issue must take place within the framework of the Minsk group, may probably vote against the resolution, but the countries of “Islamic Conference” which traditionally support Azerbaijan will assist that country.

“Very often we underestimate the role of the propagating war and must pick up lessons from such cases when Azerbaijan spreads lies as the 21st century is a century of propaganda war,” Zohrabyan said, adding that the Armenian side must carry out a coordinating work for presenting the truth to the international community.

3. Fethiye Cetin: Murder of Hrant Dink organized beforehand [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

Fethiye Cetin and Arzu Becerik, the lawyers of the Hrant Dink family, the chief editor of the “Agos” newspaper published in Istanbul, assassinated by the Turkish nationalistic circle, stated that Dink’s murder has been organized beforehand. “Armenpress” reports citing Turkish Zaman that the lawyers made that statement in response to the recent statement of the former chief of the police of Eskishehir Hanef Avj that “The murderers of Hrant Dink are known and the crime has been completely revealed”.

“There are many proofs that all the state officials were aware of the preparing of the assassination against Hrant Dink and till now no forensic case has been evoked against them. After the arrest of the assassinator the police have not kept his gun and the mobile phone cards. The murdered - Ogun Samast - confessed that till murder he did not know Hrant Dink which is the proof that he was not alone during the murder. The images fixed by the camera of the nearby bank have been erased on purpose by someone,” they have stated, pointing out that the reports over all that have been presented to the court.

Pointing out that all the documents acquired till now reject the false statements of Hanef Avj, Fethiye Cetin reminded that President of Turkey Abdullah Gul has recently made statement that the Turkish police and gendarmerie did not prevent the murder of Hrant Dink. Fethiye Cetin said they, as well as the National Intelligence Organization, had been informed that an assassination attempt is being organized against Hrant Dink and there are reports proving it.

4. RA Defense Ministry: ‘The document, signed between RA and RF, corresponds to the strategic interests of two sovereign states’ [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

‘Some mass media started a stormy discussion about the signed protocols on amendment to the agreement of locating of Russian military bases in Armenia. Figures and commentators of various levels express their opinions and mention that the balance of forces in the region will be lost and the security of the peaceful regulation of the NK issue will be endangered. And the Azerbaijani responses to the protocols are just morbid,’ the statement, provided to Armenpress by the press and PR department of RA Defense Ministry, mentions.

According to the statement, Mr. Sabiroghlu, head of the press service of the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry, commented on the protocols and stated that ‘Armenia cannot be considered an independent state any more’. ‘Such expressions are just the next ravings of the Defense Ministry Spokesman of the



neighbor country and are results of illiteracy and stupidity. It is quite clear why the signing of protocols on prolonging of the agreement on location of Russian military bases in Armenia made Azerbaijan come off balance: the agreement ensures balance of forces and strengthens the position of Armenia in the region and hampers the possibility of restarting the Armenian-Azerbaijani war.

It makes the warlike statements of the Azerbaijani military-political authorities, intended for inner-consumption, senseless. We consider it proper to remind the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry Spokesman and several mass media that the Russian Federation is the strategic ally of the Republic of Armenia and the signed document corresponds to the strategic interests of two sovereign states and is driven by the regional interests for ensuring of security and stability.

As to the opportunity of making independent decisions, the Armenian army is defending the borders of Armenia and is ready to withstand and give proper response to any encroachment against the sovereignty and national security of the Republic of Armenia at any moment,' the Defense Ministry of Armenia states.

5. Gregory Ayvazyan, "The independence of Artsakh is one of the biggest achievements of Armenian people" [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

The independence of Artsakh is one of the biggest achievements of Armenian people, and we must preserve and defend it from the Azerbaijani encroachments. Chairman of the Assembly of Azerbaijani Armenians Gregory Ayvazyan told Armenpress that every Armenian must make his/her contribution to preservation of independence of Artsakh.

"If we keep silence about truth, lie and falsification will occupy its place. We must do our best so that the justice takes victory," the chairman of the assembly said, stressing that the independence of Karabakh is a sign of renaissance of Armenian people. "We have continuously lost our historical territories over centuries, and this victory brought to rebirth of the Armenian soul, the Armenians believed in their power and believed that can make positive changes in destiny through their efforts and through justice," Mr. Ayvazyan said, underscoring that the existence issue of Armenians was being solved in Karabakh.

The Karabakh liberation fight, according to the chairman of the assembly, was the "big patriotic war" of Armenian people. Azerbaijan apparently pursued the goal of annihilation of Armenian people, and goes on pursuing that goal. "Now the war is going on in the field of propaganda, where the winner will also celebrate the victory in a true war," Mr. Ayvazyan said, stressing that Azerbaijan does its best to defame Armenian people.

"The Azerbaijani Armenian community is always ready to defend our rights and achievements," the chairman said, expressing confidence that the keys to a favorable solution of the Karabakh conflict for Armenians are concealed in correct presentation of the history of that community to international community. "The coexistence of the Azeri and Artsakh-Armenians is impossible within the borders of one state," Gregory Ayvazyan stressed, noting that all their efforts are directed toward presenting the above mentioned.

6. Hrant Melik-Shahnazaryan: The possible deployment of the Turkish military base in Nakhichevan is not of essential danger for Armenia [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

The possible deployment of the Turkish military base in Nakhichevan is not of essential danger for Armenia as far as there is Armenian-Russian military cooperation, Hrant Melik-Shahnazaryan, director of "Mitq" analytical center, told today at a news conference, adding that with the agreement on deployment of the Russian military base in Armenia the former is to ensure the security of Armenia which means that any military action is a challenge first of all for Russia.

"Today in case Turkey undertakes any military action from Nakhichevan it risks its relations with Russia and it is not beneficial for it, as Turkey already has tensed relations with Israel and still fails to acquire trust in the Arab world, besides, it has serious issues with Kurds and lately controversies with the West," he said, adding that Nakhichevan is being de facto headed by Turkey: its social development, economy are closely tied with Turkey thus Azerbaijan cannot initiate any military activity there.

The political analyst considered the launch of military activities in the South Caucasus in near future less possible.



7. The RA Ministry of Diaspora will be holding a Reunion of Diaspora Armenian Graduates of Armenian Universities in Yerevan from September 20th to the 22nd [Noyan Tapan, 08/28/10]

The RA Ministry of Diaspora will be holding a Reunion of Diaspora Armenian Graduates of Armenian Universities in Yerevan from September 20th to the 22nd.

The purpose of the reunion is to discuss the role of Diaspora Armenian graduates of Armenian universities in the development of the Armenia-Diaspora partnership and to create a Pan-Armenian Association of Diaspora Armenian Graduates.

The participants are scheduled to visit Armenian universities where they will take part in meetings, lectures and seminars.

We call on all Diaspora Armenian graduates to participate in the reunion and we look forward to receiving suggestions for organizing the reunion and discussing the issues soon. For more information about the reunion, please visit the official website of the RA Ministry of Diaspora at www.mindiaspora.am.

To participate in the reunion, please send your application forms to the RA Ministry of Diaspora to the following addresses: 26/1 Vazgen Sargsyan Street, 5th floor E-mails: hmekv@mindiaspora.am, hay_shrjanavart@mail.ru, arm.shrjanavart@gmail.com

8. New office of Armenian Assembly of America in New York [Armenpress, 08/30/10]

Armenian Assembly of America (AAA) is expanding its activity. Yerevan office of the Armenian Assembly of America told Armenpress that the new eastern regional office in New York will be headed by Bianca Kadya-Dodov.

He will be responsible for spreading the activity of the AAA in New York and in 3 neighboring states, as well as will be focused on the developments in the region and on membership. Working with the central office of the AAA in Washington, Bianca Kadya-Dodov will also contribute to expansion of ties with the government, paying a special attention to the New York delegation of the government.

"The works implemented in 2007 and 2010 Armenian Genocide resolutions, the direct experience of Bianca in governmental relations, as well as his active involvement in community works are highly appraisable and will be useful in fulfillment of his new commitments," Executive Director Braia Arduni said.

Together with his new role assumed in New York, Dodov, who was the responsible authority of relations with the Congress in Washington, will also be a representative of the AAA in the UN Commission on Regulation of People's Issues.

"The AAA is a leading organization, which contributes not only to competence increase on the Armenian genocide and its reconfirmation, but to formation of a stronger and more democratic Armenia as well," Bianca Kadya-Dodov said.

"It is a great honor for me to expand the primary role of the AAA in the Armenian community, in the U.S. government and United Nations.

9. 5th round of "Come Home-2010" program to kick off September 3 [Armenpress, 08/30/10]

The fifth round of "Come Home" program will kick off September 3 with participation of nearly 50 representatives of 6 countries. Head of the working staff of the Armenian Diaspora Ministry Firdus Zakaryan told Armenpress that the majority of the participants involved in this round are from Georgia, particularly, from Javakhk, Tbilisi, Batumi and Akhalkalaq, there will be Diaspora Armenians from Turkey, Iran and Russia as well.

"The main program has remained unchanged, only the visit to Noravanq has been taken out from the agenda, as in the current round we have put the stress in teaching of Armenian studies," Mr. Zakaryan said, adding that the program is expanding little by little, and next year more visits to cultural sites are intended.

The fifth round of "Come Home-2010" program will continue till September 17, during which the Diaspora Armenians will take part in classes of dancing and Armenian studies, will visit Armenian cultural establishments, as well as will watch familiarization films.

10. Agreement of Cooperation between the Caluste Gulbenkian Foundation and Yerevan State University [Armenpress, 08/31/10]



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The Caluste Gulbenkian Foundation and Yerevan State University (YSU) signed today an agreement of cooperation, according to which, book publishing activities will be extended and 12 books with a total print run of 4500 will be published within a year.

The agreement intends implementation of a number of projects – financing of scientific and educational traveling of young scientists of YSU, support to 'Herald: University of Yerevan' scientific magazine, financing of works on development of Osmanology, regulation of issues of the researches of the YSU Armenology Institute.

An official from the press and PR office of Yerevan State University told Armenpress that the foundation will sponsor those Diaspora-Armenian and RA citizen BA, MA students, who study at YSU with the paid system. The foundation will provide educational materials and dictionaries for those students of the YSU Romance-Germanic Faculty, who study Portuguese. Over 110 books on Armenology have been published by the funds of the Caluste Gulbenkian Foundation since the 90s. The YSU Guest House is operating under the sponsorship of the foundation.

ARTS

11. Results of the Jivan Gasparyan international duduk competition to be concluded October [Armenpress, 08/30/10]

The Jivan Gasparyan International Duduk Competition, which started upon the initiative of the 'World Armenian Congress' NGO and 'Armenians Union of Russia' All-Russian NGO, still goes on. The results of the competition will be concluded October during the award ceremony.

Vladimir Aghayan, deputy president of the 'World Armenian Congress' and 'Armenians Union of Russia', told Armenpress that junior and young duduk players from Armenia, Artsakh and the Diaspora are eligible for partaking in the competition. He said the number of applications is not clear yet, as the data will be concluded in the middle of September.

'Our goal is to reveal and support talented young people, as well as organize exchange of pedagogical practice in the teaching of young duduk players,' Vladimir Aghayan said.

The Jivan Gasparyan International Duduk Competition is being held in association with RA Diaspora and Culture Ministries.

12. Photo exhibition at the YSU dedicated to the Day of Independence of Artsakh [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

Exhibition of photos dedicated to the Day of Independence of Artsakh will take place September 2 at the Yerevan State University. The organizer of the event is ARF Nikol Aghbalyan Students' Union. Michael Khosrovyan, the leader of the students' union, told Armenpress that the main goal of the exhibition is to present to the first-course students the value of Artsakh's independence. "During the exposition explanatory works will be conducted by a historian who also will present Artsakh's history, national-liberation fight, Artsakh's role in that fight," Khosrovyan said, noting that in parallel to it, the political developments of that time will be presented.

The exhibition will last for a day and 20 photos will be presented.

13. "ReAnimania" to have participants from 35 countries [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

This year "ReAnimania" international film festival has maintained the same program structure, but more extensive works have been carried out in the direction of their improvement, Director of the film festival Vrezh Kasuni said today at a meeting with journalists, noting that there are some innovations, particularly, "The Armenian Palette", within the frameworks of which the works of Armenian animators will be exhibited, and a greater number of people will get acquainted with masterpieces of the animation world.

"The geography of our festival is expanding," Vrezh Kasuni said, stating that these participation applications have been submitted for over 400 films. "ReAnimania" is expanding its borders and goes on remaining an international festival," Mr. Kasuni said, stressing that this year, too, "ReAnimania" will host authoritative representatives of the animation world. This year their number is 23, including chairman of "ReAnimania" council Max Haduard. And the total number of the participants is 35.

An award will be defined for the best film music as well. There will be other awards too, by the selection of the jury – "the Best Debut", "Good Citizen". Yerevan premiers, a contest program will be held within the frameworks of the festival, as well as "Armenian Palette", a junior program, "Ansi program,



special exhibitions, master classes, lectures, open-air exhibitions, “MarAni” (animation market) will be held.

The evenings of “ReAnimania” will be rich in open-air exhibitions, the initiative of “The Midnight with Guest” will be of special interest.

“Our festival can be considered succeeded thanks to the people who stand beside “ReAnimania”, V. Kasuni said, noting that they have received support by the Armenian Culture Ministry.

“ReAnimani a” Yerevan international animation film festival has been established in 2008 and has a goal to restore the reputation of the Armenian animation.

This year the festival came forward with a number of new initiatives - “MarAni”, “Hunting of Talents” contest, “Armenian Palette” program, open-air exhibitions were held, which have a goal to bring the Armenian spectator close to the films, as well as to convey a new quality to the festival.

14. Armenian Artists’ Union plans to organize 12 exhibitions by the end of the year [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

The Armenian Artists’ Union is planning to organize 12 exhibitions by the end of the year. Karen Aghamyan, chairman of the union, told Armenpress that particularly September and October will be rich in exhibitions.

He said September 3-14 about 80 paintings of Knarik Hovhannissyan will be exhibited at the union. From September 24 till October 6 the personal exhibition of the rector of Academy of Fine Art Aram Isabekyan will be conducted. November 15 exhibitions of figurative art, works of professors of the Academy of Fine Art, etc. will be held. In October-November it is also intended to conduct exhibition of works of RA President’s prize holders.

15. Large-scale program on renovation of historical-cultural monuments and churches in Armenia [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

“Miasin” movement is going to implement a large-scale program on renovation of historical-cultural monuments and churches within the frameworks of “Clean Armenia” program. Head of the movement Hakob Hakobyan told Armenpress that a relevant agreement on that issue has already been reached with Catholicos of All Armenians Karekin II, and together with the Mother See of Holy Echmiadzin the monuments and churches will be specified which need renovation the most. Afterward a timetable of works will be designed and specified, and then the works will start.

“The works will be very extensive, as the historical-cultural monuments and churches of all the regions needing renovation will be cleaned,” he said, noting that the works will kick off in September and will last about a year.

“The main goal of the program is to make the cultural heritage of Armenian people more introducible and to encourage the patriotic spirit of young people,” Mr. Hakobyan said. According to the head of the movement, the number of the wishers to be involved in the works is large; about 500 young people will take part, which will promote the work efficiency.

SOCIAL

16. 70 disabled children had a rest in “Blue Sevan” by financing of President’s fund [Armenpress, 08/28/10]

Seventy disabled children of the republic have had a rest in “Blue Sevan” health resort of Gegharkunik province by financing of the President’s fund. “The camp was surely efficient, children spent a fine time,” Chairman of “Pyunik” union of Armenian disabled people Hakob Abrahamyan said, noting that specialists carried out relevant works with children.

“We have a program, thanks to which we try to integrate disabled children into the environment of their contemporaries, in order they keep pace with life,” Mr. Abrahamyan said, expressing confidence that suchlike camps enable to develop the sport capabilities of children as well. Suchlike camps, according to the chairman of the union, are annual and are implemented every year from 1989, and from 1996 have been financed by the President’s fund.

17. Series of workshops for Armenian and Turkish journalists [Armenpress, 08/30/10]



Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) together with Istanbul-based Global Political Trends Center (GPoT) and with funding from USAID will hold a series of workshops for Armenian and Turkish journalists covering history, culture, and political and social structures of modern Turkey and Armenia. The launch of the first set of workshops focusing on modern Turkey will take place on September 2 at 14:00 in Picasso Hall of the Congress Hotel in Yerevan. Following a brief opening ceremony, two invited Turkish experts, Zafer Yörük, Lecturer of Media and Politics at Izmir University of Economics, and Behlül Özkan, Lecturer of Foreign Policy at Bogazici University in Istanbul, will deliver a lecture titled 'Nuts-and-bolts of Turkish domestic politics: the mechanisms, the power, the party system'.

On September 2-5, 15 Armenian journalists from leading news agencies, TV, radio, print and Internet-based outlets will have an opportunity to listen to ten thematic lectures on Turkey delivered by the Turkish experts. Then on September 20-22, Armenian experts Heghine Manasyan, Country Director for Caucasus Research Resource Centers, and Hovhannes Hovhannisyian, Associate Professor of Theology, Yerevan State University, will travel to Istanbul to conduct similar workshops on Armenia for a group of 15 Turkish journalists representing leading Turkish media outlets.

The aim of these exchange workshops is to increase the awareness of the Armenian and Turkish journalists of the 'other' country, which will ensure a higher degree of objectivity in covering issues pertinent to Armenian-Turkish relations. The workshops are part of the USAID-funded Days Two and Three in Armenia-Turkey Rapprochement project, which seeks to build ties and develop mutual understanding among Armenian and Turkish peer groups in the non-government, media, and business sectors. EPF has been implementing Armenia-Turkey initiatives since 2005, most notably cross-border partnerships between Armenian and Turkish peer groups, helping them to contribute strategically to state efforts to build relations between the two countries.

18. RA President Serzh Sargsyan attends closing ceremony of Baze-2010 youth gathering [Armenpress, 08/30/10]

RA President Serzh Sargsyan attended today the final events and closing ceremony of the 'Baze 2010' youth gathering, which kicked off August 23 in Tsakhkadzor. The Presidential press service told Armenpress that the President talked to the participants of the gathering. They told the President about their impressions from the Baze2010, about the traditional meetings with representatives of the social, political, spiritual, cultural spheres and their daily life in Tsakhkadzor.

The participants mentioned that during the gathering they had an opportunity to display their skills, talents and knowledge, to communicate with each other, get a number of friends and learn a plenty of things. Over 300 young people from Armenia, Artsakh and Javakhk partook in the 'Baze 2010' youth gathering, which was held by the Armenian Youth Foundation under the slogan of 'Joint Youth – Stably Developing Future'. Since 2002 over 6000 young people partook in the youth gatherings of Baze.

19. Punishing of lawbreaking directors of secondary schools of Armenia to continue [Armenpress, 08/30/10]

Like in the previous academic year, this year too the lawbreaking directors of the secondary schools of the republic will be punished, Armenian Education and Science Minister Armen Ashotyan said today in a briefing with journalists, adding that the lawbreaking directors of the ministry-subordinated schools have been dismissed from the office on the basis of their applications, and the applications of directors of the schools which are not subordinated to the Ministry have been sent to corresponding governor offices, where the punitive measures must be chosen and realized by governor offices.

"The lawbreaking directors of the ministry-subordinated schools have already been punished, and the applications on 6 cases have already been sent to the prosecutor's office of Armenia," he said, underscoring that the unprecedented revisions, carried out in the system, have given positive results. "Suchlike revisions will be conducted in the next academic year, too," Education and Science Minister Armen Ashotyan said.

20. Gagik Beglaryan says all the public schools of Yerevan ready to start new academic year [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

All the public schools of Yerevan are ready to start the new academic year, according to Mayor of Yerevan Gagik Beglaryan. He said at today's briefing, held at the 'House of Moscow', that preparatory works are being implemented in this period before each new academic year.



'The Municipality will follow the law and order in schools, as well as the proper teaching of children. A basis for new approaches should be created, and each teacher and principal of the schools should follow it,' Gagik Beglaryan said. He also mentioned that construction of 6 schools kicked off this year. 'We have always been adopting a policy, according to which school construction is a priority for the Municipality's operation,' he said.

The Mayor also congratulated the children, who are going to school September 1. 'It is one of the best events for our state and each Armenian family. Let our children be the most educated and have the best knowledge,' Gagik Beglaryan said.

21. 550 wheelchairs for disabled people of provinces [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

"Pyunik" Armenian union of disabled people will get 550 wheelchairs from the USA by the International Wheelchair Foundation for free. Chairman of the union Hakob Abrahamyan told Armenpress that the wheelchairs will be delivered from October 1.

"The first ones will be provided to disabled people of provinces," Mr. Abrahamyan said, pointing out the high quality of the wheelchairs and stressing that in case of any disorder the union will repair them. "This will be a big support for people with movement problems of our republic," the chairman of the union said.

The state provides free wheelchairs to disabled people, but, according to Mr. Abrahamyan, not everybody knows about that, and the efforts of the union will be exerted toward finding people who need them. In that issue the union will be assisted by local province organizations.

The chairman of the union said that the International Wheelchair Foundation intends to deliver 20 million wheelchairs throughout the whole world. This is the first cooperation of "Pyunik" union of disabled people with the foundation. Hakob Abrahamyan expressed hope that the cooperation will be continued in future as well, which will bring to desirable results.

22. Russian school of Fioletovo village repaired on the initiative of Russian Embassy in Armenia [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

The Russian school of Fioletovo village of Lori province has been repaired on the initiative of the Russian Embassy in Armenia by the funding of "South Caucasus Railway" company. This educational establishment has been constructed in 1969 and has been repaired for the last time in 1988 after the Spitak earthquake by constructors arrived from Volgograd. This year the technical workers of the school, 10 residents of Fioletovo and neighboring Margahovit village have partook in the repair, and in some works – even the teachers of the school.

The roof has been repaired, the gym hall has been partially repaired, a computer room and a sanitary point have been added. Director of the school Valerie Mirzabekyan told Armenpress that the school has an independent heating system thanks to the funding of the USAID. Only the absence of educational laboratories and lack of sport inventory remain concerning issues. About 197 pupils will attend the repaired school in this academic year.

23. YSU has completely passed to the credit system [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

No major changes are expected during the coming academic year in the Yerevan State University, Aram Simonyan, the rector, told today at a news conference. According to him, the university will operate according to the "New Strategic Program of the YSU Development" adopted by the YSU Board December 2009.

"It is a program involving all the spheres of activity for the coming ten years. It is a special timetable and intends oversight mechanisms connected with the implementation of each point," Aram Simonyan said. According to him, the YSU has completely passed to the credit system. "The probation period given to universities for organizing education with the credit system has turned into a common process and we do not have any specialization where the teaching will not be through the credit system," the YSU rector said.

Mr Simonyan also pointed out the circumstance that the students will welcome the new academic year with a quite improved evaluation system which will allow to more objectively assess the knowledge and skills of students.

24. Reconstruction in Armenian National Archive [Armenpress, 08/30/10]



The results of the tender announced for reconstruction of the 3 archive reserves of the Armenian national archive, for placing of moveable shelves and for inserting an air conditioning system in a sub-building at the address of Baghramyan 59, will be summed up from September 10.

Director of the archive Amatuni Virabyan told Armenpress that afterward the works will kick off, which will wrap up December 31.

"Thanks to the implemented works we will solve the issue on the place of new documents, as the overloading has reached 100%," Mr. Virabyan said, noting that the reserves will constantly have 18-19 grades of temperature, by which the preservation regime of the documents will be regulated. One hundred million Drams will be spent for the works, the 80 of which from the state budget and 20 – from the archive means.

25. Hamlet Petrosyan: Azeris are nervous over the excavations in Tigranakert [Armenpress, 08/30/10]

Azeris are nervous over the excavations in Tigranakert. Their character of discriminating, owning, not being frank with history and culture continues, head of the Artsakh's archeological excavation group of the Archeology and Ethnography Institute of the Armenian National Academy of Sciences Hamlet Petrosyan said speaking to Armenpress. According to him, this is the biggest flaw of the Azeris. Petrosyan assured that what is being done in Tigranakert is being done frankly, truly without any sign of hatred.

"I have always been stating that I do not accept the approaches according to which the works in Tigranakert have been done to punish the Azeris," he said. Referring to the false responses of the Azerbaijanis, Mr Petrosyan said that initially when the excavations started several newspapers were writing that Armenians are liars and "as always it is an Armenian legend", afterwards articles were published that it is not Tigranakert: after watching the photos of the town they could not have rejected it any more but they started writing that it is not Armenian Tigranakert. "It is obvious that the more our proofs succeed, the more they have to admit the existence of Armenian Tigranakert," Mr Petrosyan said, pointing out that they have serious proofs that the mentioned town is the Armenian Tigranakert.

Five archeologists, two architects, tens of students of the Yerevan and Artsakh state universities and more than 40 workers are participating in the excavations of Tigranakert. The excavations are taking place in the territory of the Citadel. The monument has 40-70 visitors daily.

26. Serzh Sargsyan awards progressive pupils [Armenpress, 08/31/10]

President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan awarded today at his resident the prize holders of the 2009-2010 academic year and winners of "Kangaroo 2010" contest. Thirty four graduates of the Armenia's secondary schools got gold medals and the two winners of "Kangaroo" contest and the best pupils of the each province received certificates. Both they and the winners of medals at international Olympiads received books.

Congratulating all the students and pupils, Serzh Sargsyan pointed out that without them it is impossible to have firm state and good society.

"I want to thank all of you for your patriotism. Having knowledge, learning is really patriotism. It is the first serious success in your lives, and I am sure that each of you is planning to develop this success. You enter a mature life with a serious store of knowledge which is a great advantage. You deserve not only special attitude! , respect and love but forwarding of greater demands. I am thankful to all those who managed to keep high Armenia's image," the president said, adding that it is obvious that a generation is growing in Armenia which will continue the work of the ancestors with dignity.

He expressed special gratitude to those small children who reached success at "Kangaroo" contest.

The president also congratulated all on the Day of Knowledge, noting that each owes its homeland and must use the achieved knowledge effectively.

The present managed to get from the president answers to the issues they were interested in which were mainly connected with prospects of development of the state as well as dreams of the president, his hobbies.

27. Cultural communication and management – new profession at French University of Armenia [Armenpress, 08/31/10]



AGBU ARMENIA NEWS BULLETIN

Tuesday, August 31, 2010

A new profession – cultural communication and management – will be available at the French University in Armenia (UFAR). Rector of UFAR Joelle Le Morzellec said at today's press conference, held at the press club of Armenpress, that the new profession will arouse a keen interest in Armenia.

'We give an opportunity to get Master's Degree in a year to those, who got French-oriented education,' UFAR's Vice-Rector for Foreign Relations Arayik Navoyan said. He added that the graduates will receive 2 diplomas – Armenian and French. Arayik Navoyan informed that they received a plenty of applications, so they had to admit students for the next year as well.

This year is the tenth anniversary of establishment of the French University in Armenia. Mr. Joelle Le Morzellec says the surveys showed that 70% of the UFAR graduates work in Armenia, and 5-10% continue their education abroad.

'Providing job to the 70% of our graduates each year – this is the niche of our success,' Joelle Le Morzellec said.

Produced by AGBU Armenian Representation

Established in 1906, AGBU (www.agbu.org) is the world's largest non-profit Armenian organization. Headquartered in New York City with an annual budget of \$36 million, AGBU preserves and promotes the Armenian identity and heritage through educational, cultural and humanitarian programs, annually touching the lives of some 400,000 Armenians on six continents.