

---

## **AZERBAIJAN DENIES ARMENIAN MEDIA REPORTS OF MILITARY LOSSES**

-

30.12.2016

---

29 December 2016

Apa.Az

Azerbaijans Defense Ministry has rejected Armenian media reports alleging that seven Azerbaijani servicemen were killed in an armed incident on the Azerbaijan-Armenia state border on Dec. 29. The leadership of Armenian army, in order to justify their failed diversion on the Azerbaijan-Armenia state border, disseminated information about the death of seven Azerbaijani servicemen, the Defense Ministry told APA.

This information is false and baseless. Armenian essence once again proved itself, the ministry said, confirming again that an Azerbaijani soldier is missing as a result of the shootout.

Some local media reports suggesting that a private house in Ahmadaghali village of Aghdam district was shelled by Armenian armed forces have not yet been confirmed, the defense ministry added.

A reconnaissance group of the Armenian Armed Forces tried to violate the Azerbaijan-Armenia state border on Dec. 29 morning. The Armenian group found itself in the ambush of the Azerbaijani army while violating the borders. The enemy suffered losses in the ensuing clash and had to retreat.

A soldier of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces, Gurbanov Chingiz, is missing as a result of the shootout. He is being searched for.

The Nagorno-Karabakh conflict entered its modern phase when the Armenian SSR made territorial claims against the Azerbaijani SSR in 1988.

A fierce war broke out between Azerbaijan and Armenia over the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. As a result of the war, Armenian armed forces occupied some 20 percent of Azerbaijani territory which includes Nagorno-Karabakh and seven adjacent districts (Lachin, Kalbajar, Aghdam, Fuzuli, Jabrayil, Gubadli and Zangilan), and over a million Azerbaijanis became refugees and internally displaced people.

The military operations finally came to an end when Azerbaijan and Armenia signed a ceasefire agreement in Bishkek in 1994.

Dealing with the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is the OSCE Minsk Group, which was created after the meeting of the CSCE (OSCE after the Budapest summit held in Dec.1994) Ministerial Council in Helsinki on 24 March 1992. The Groups members include Azerbaijan, Armenia, Russia, the United States, France, Italy, Germany, Turkey, Belarus, Finland and Sweden.

Besides, the OSCE Minsk Group has a co-chairmanship institution, comprised of Russian, the US and French co-chairs, which began operating in 1996.

Resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884 of the UN Security Council, which were passed in short intervals in 1993, and other resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly, PACE, OSCE, OIC,

and other organizations require Armenia to unconditionally withdraw its troops from Nagorno-Karabakh.

---

Kaynak/Source: