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The French, Russian and U.S. mediators hope to organize a meeting of the Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents soon in a bid to prevent another escalation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, a French diplomat reportedly said on Tuesday.

“We have met with the presidents of the two countries and are now trying to organize a meeting of the presidents,” the RIA Novosti news agency quoted Pierre Andrieu, the French co-chair of the OSCE Minsk Group, as saying in Baku.

Andrieu accompanied France’s State Secretary for European Affairs Harlem Desir on a visit to Yerevan and Baku aimed at defusing tensions after the April 2-5 heavy fighting between Armenian and Azerbaijani forces around Karabakh.

Desir voiced strong support for the confidence-building measures after his talks in Yerevan. The French official said the OSCE should deploy observers and gunfire-locator systems on the Karabakh “line of contact” that “would allow us to verify compliance with the ceasefire regime.” (azatutyun.am)

However, overnight on April 27-28 23 ceasefire violations were registered on the northeastern section of Armenia-Azerbaijan border .

The Azerbaijani side, in particular, used various caliber firearms and sniper rifles to open random bursts of fire towards Armenian positions.

Showing restraint, the Armenian Armed Forces' frontline units retaliated only in case of extreme necessity to continue controlling the situation on the border.

18 ceasefire violations were registered on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border on the night of April 26-27.

The Azerbaijani troops, in particular, opened random bursts of fire, using various caliber firearms and sniper rifles.(panarmenian.net)