

AFP SPECIAL ENVOYS TELL THE HUMAN STORY OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH WAR

When heavy fighting pitted Azerbaijani soldiers against Armenian-backed separatists from Nagorno-Karabakh on September 27, AFP was the only agency to send multimedia teams of special envoys – photographers, [videojournalists](#) and text reporters – from Moscow, Paris, Istanbul and Beirut to both sides of the front line. They reported from the cellars of the Karabakh capital Stepanakert, the ruined streets of Azerbaijan’s second city Gandja, and from the roads where civilians were fleeing the bombardments.



A testament to the quality of the coverage, the Agency’s production, especially in [video](#) and photo, has been used by our media clients at unprecedented levels for this usually underreported conflict that has smouldered in the Caucasus since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The coverage demonstrated the uniqueness of AFP: telling the story of the war on a human level, showing daily life under the bombardments, offering exclusive angles such as life in the cellars and basements of Stepanakert, how local people do their shopping in deserted stores and leave their money on the counter, and the bombing – twice – of the city’s cathedral, a symbol of hatred between the two sides.

Beyond the necessary analysis pieces, beyond institutional coverage of the propaganda war waged from the two capitals, we give a voice to the inhabitants, to the fighters from both sides, to provide a balanced, vivid coverage that relies on the Agency’s journalists in the field using their own sources.

About AFP

AFP is a leading global news agency providing fast, comprehensive and verified coverage of the events shaping our world and of the issues affecting our daily lives. Drawing from an unparalleled news gathering network across 151 countries, AFP is also a world leader in digital verification. With 2,400 staff representing 100 different nationalities, AFP covers the world in six languages, with a unique quality of multimedia storytelling spanning video, text, photos and graphics.

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