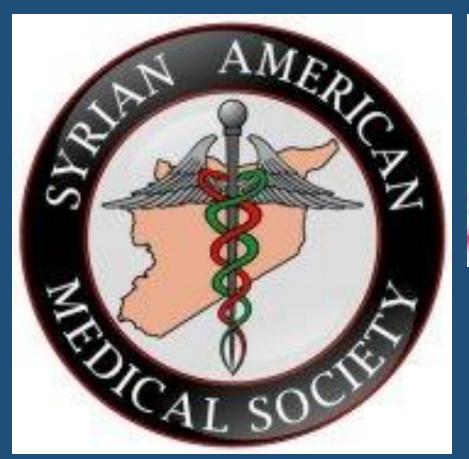
War Surgery: Aleppo, Kyiv, Kharkiv





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DISCLOSURES:

I have no conflicts of interest in relation to this program



"Killing one doctor is like killing 100 soldiers"

WAR SURGERY

WORKING WITH LIMITED RESOURCES IN ARMED CONFLICT AND OTHER SITUATIONS OF VIOLENCE VOLUME 1



2.7 Reality check: some people do not follow the rules

Given what the law dictates, what is the reality on the battlefield? Whether in conflict situations or in peacetime, and whether national or international law is applicable, laws are violated and crimes committed. There are many examples of violations of IHL: surrounding a military objective with medical units so that it will not be targeted; hiding weapons in a hospital; transporting able-bodied combatants in an ambulance; using an aircraft displaying the emblem for reconnaissance missions; not respecting the non-combatant status of sick and wounded soldiers – on the contrary, all too often their survival is seen as an invitation by some to "finish the job", and atrocities are the result. All too often hospitals and medical personnel are the target of attack, or are prevented from doing their duty of caring for the sick and wounded, which is perceived by some as giving "succour and aid to the enemy". All these violations have three things in common: they seriously weaken the system of protection embodied in IHL, they divert people and objects displaying the red cross, red crescent or red crystal from their humanitarian purpose, and they put lives in danger by fostering mistrust.



Figure 2.12
Unfortunately, hospitals are not immune to attack: this photo shows a blatant contravention of IHL.

Red Cross and Red Crescent personnel are not immune to this lack of respect for IHL. Mussolini's air force bombed a Swedish Red Cross ambulance during the invasion of Abyssinia on 30 December 1935, and 28 people were killed and 50 wounded. More recently, masked gunmen entered the residence of the ICRC hospital in the village of Novye Atagi, Chechnya (southern Russia), in December 1996 and assassinated five nurses and the construction engineer in cold blood. The authors of this text have all too often been threatened, prevented from reaching and treating the victims, or seen their hospital attacked or bombed. The world over, colleagues, both civilian and military, are time and again made to suffer "simply" because they want to fulfil their humanitarian, ethical, and legal duty to care for their patients.

2









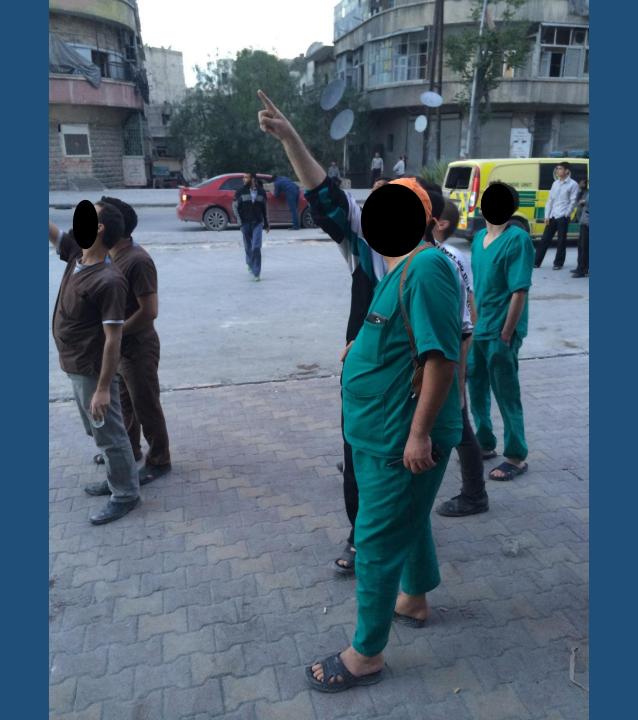


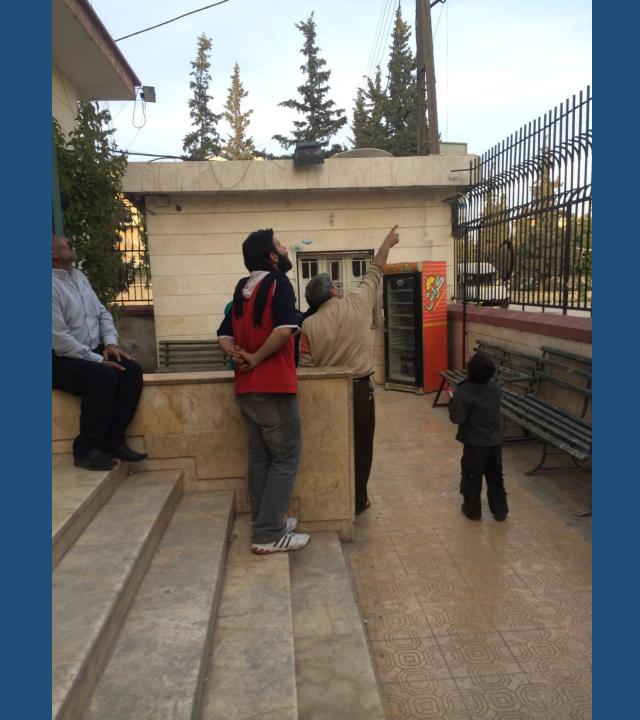
















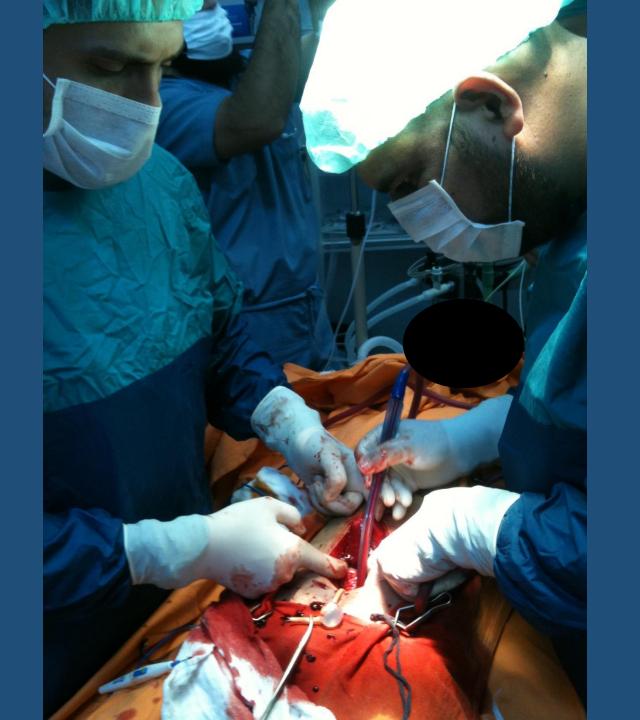


SNIPERS







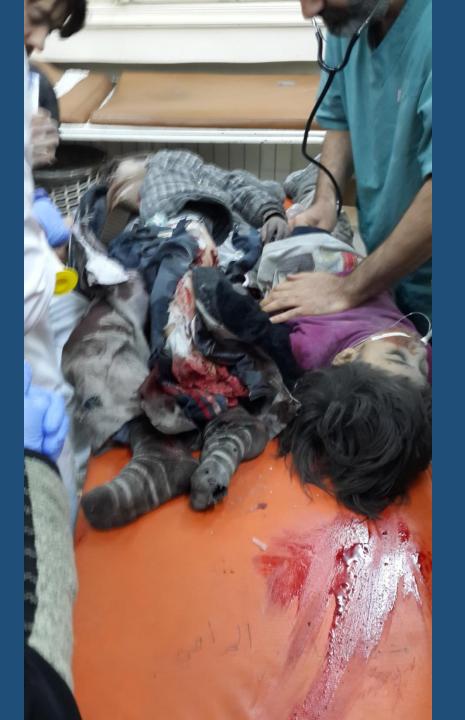












Aleppo City Medical Council





Aleppo City Medical Council













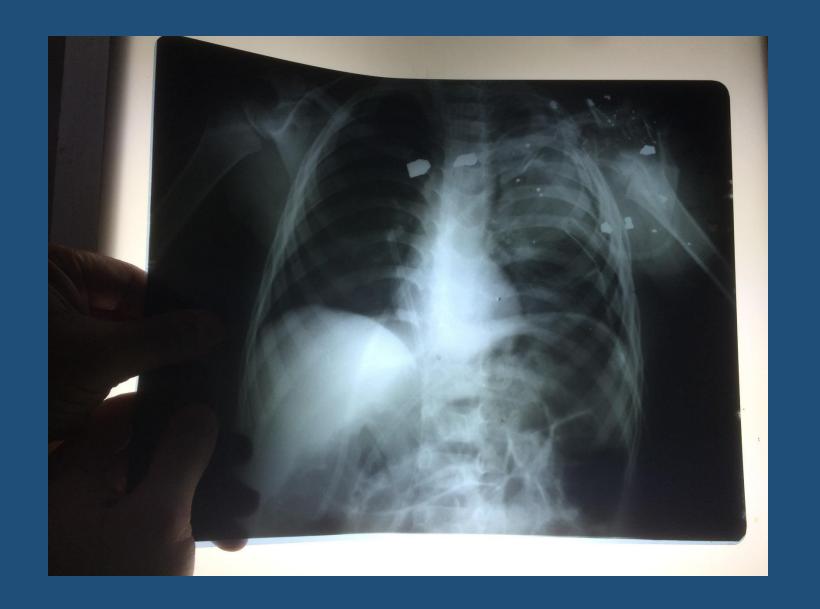














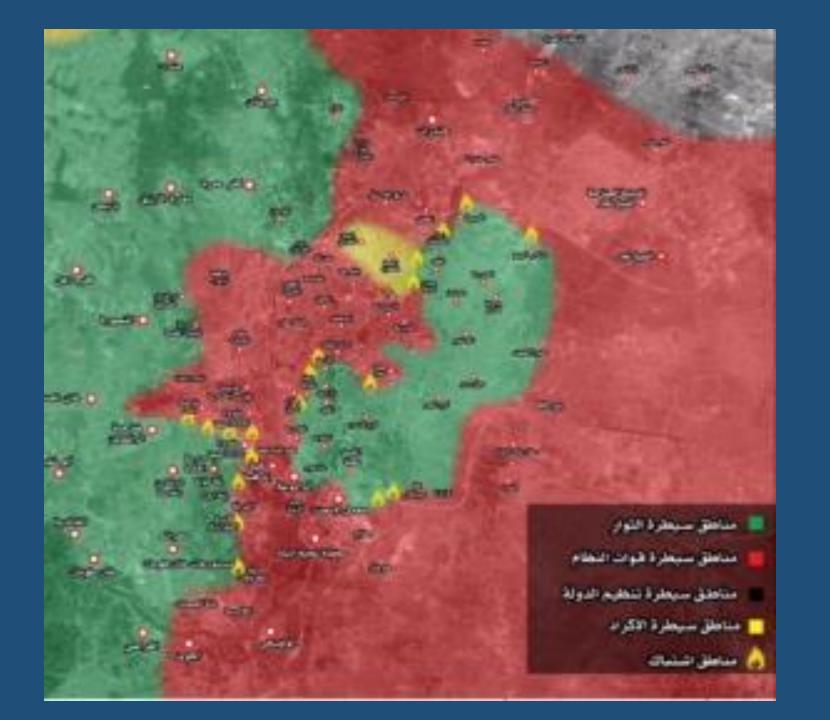




last seen today at 3:59 AM

Every day has been the same since
i last spoke to you except worse
Mutilated limbs
Dismembered bodies
Dead children
Screaming parents
People literally bleed to death in
front of you and there is nothing
you can do about it
I'm close to running on empty on a
diet of coffee with a few hours
sleep here and there

We are flooded with patients
We are doing procedures in the without anesthesia on children as they scream for their missing



How to be a war surgeon?

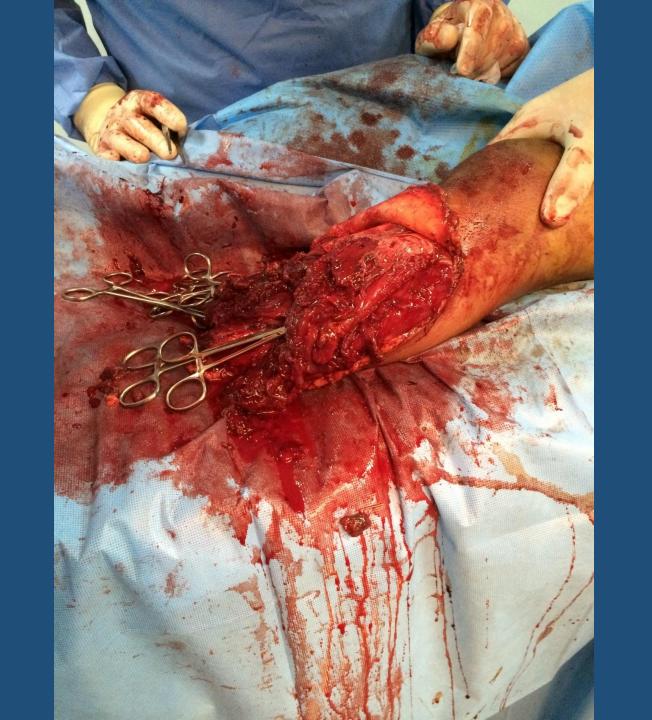
Keep it simple

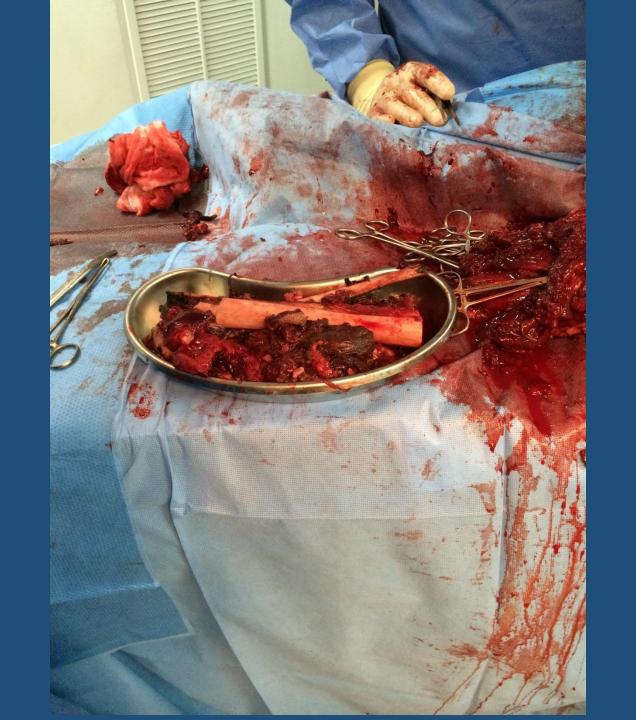


14 year-old male

traumatic left BKA after barrel bomb









2 DAYS AFTER INJURY



5 DAYS AFTER INJURY



8 DAYS AFTER INJURY









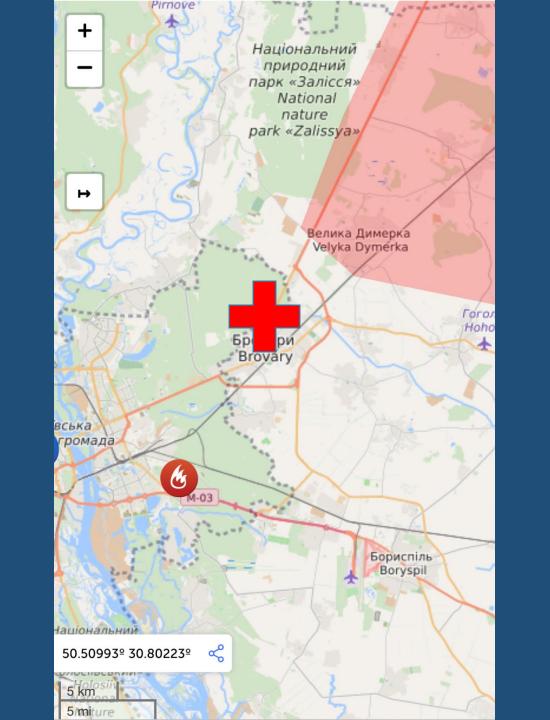




WHAT WAS IT LIKE IN UKRAINE?

DEJA VU





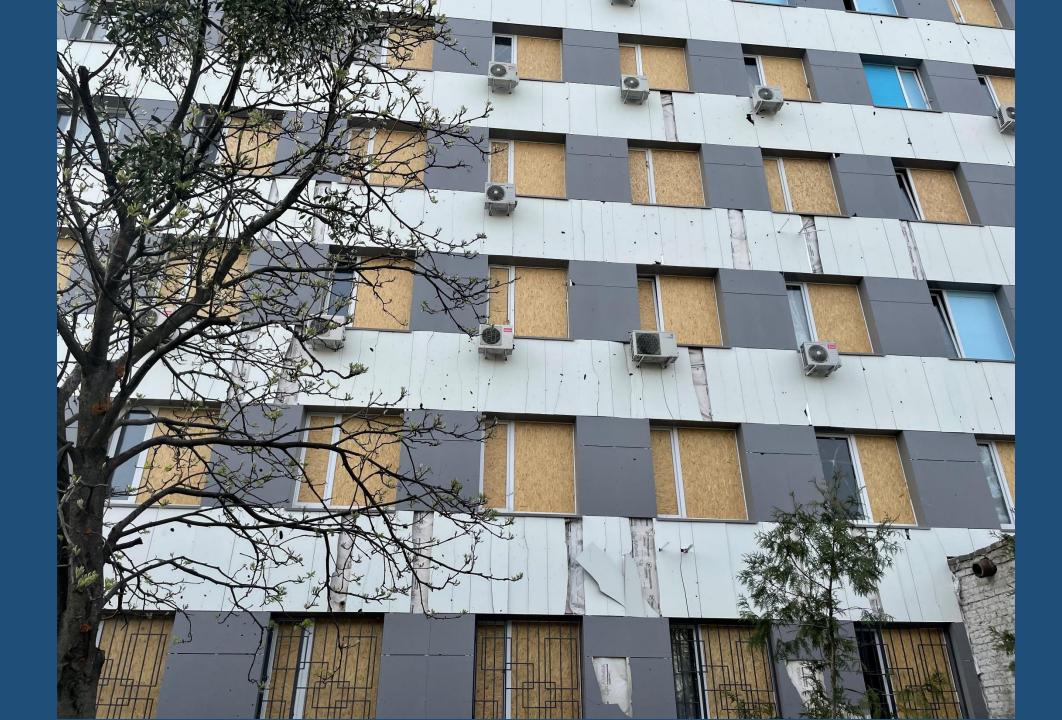






















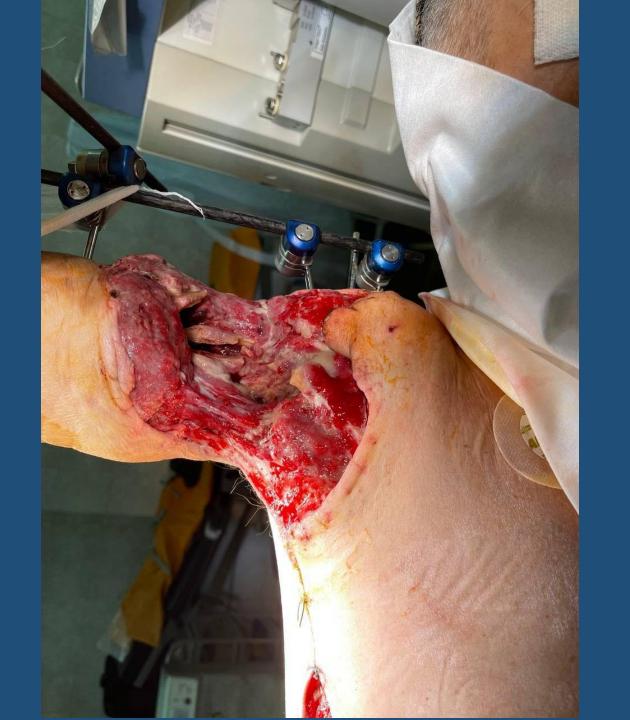
































ALEPPO



KHARKIV



CHICAGO



