#NotATarget



Attacks on health personnel and infrastructures

48th Middle East Medical Assembly First Global Conflict Medicine Congress

> Sebastian Spencer MD MSc CEDE Medical Director MSF-OCB

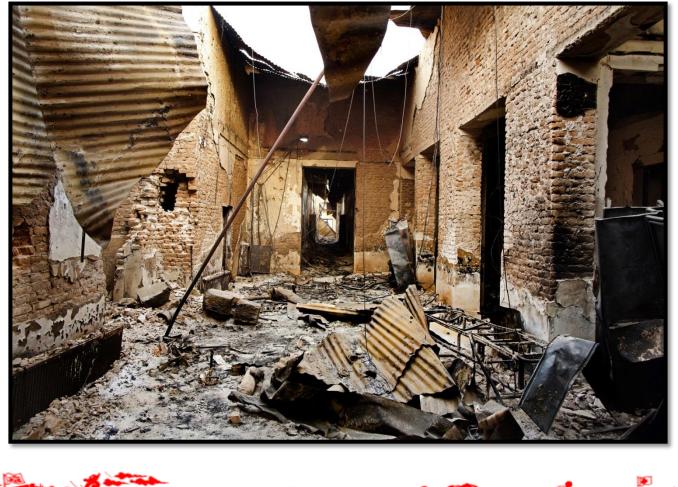
Françoise Bouchet-Saulnier MSF-International Legal Director



MSF Trauma hospital – Kunduz September 2015



MSF Trauma hospital – Kunduz October 2015





MSF TRAUMA HOSPITAL KUNDUZ, AFGHANISTAN

#INDEPENDENTINVESTIGATION CHANGE.ORG/EVENWARHASRULES

8 October 2015



MSF TRAUMA CENTRE 36°43'4.91"N 68°51'43.96"E

BEFORE

MSF OFFICE 36°43'3.29"N 68°51'42.62"E

MSF compound





3 October 2015 Kunduz Afghanistan

42 people killed

24 Patients

14 MSF staff

4 Caretakers

No more trauma care for the population



Why?

- No protection or consideration for civilians
- No respect of the "No Strike List"
- No warning
- No application of the principle of precaution & proportionality under the International Humanitarian Law



What to do after?

- Supporting the victims and the families
- Request an independent investigation
- Humanitarian MoU with all actors of violence
 - Identification
 - Location
 - Communication
 - Key contacts
 - Warning mechanisms
- Get support to continue the work



MSF request for independent investigation of attacks

- Following the attack on Kunduz in the "fog of war":
 - MSF asks for investigation by the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission
 - MSF engages in an in-depth internal review of the incident
 - MSF refuses the mistake explanation and requests access to the results of the internal US investigation
 - > 721 out of 3000 pages released

MSF incidents and context

- From collateral damage to mistake
- Accusation of sheltering terrorists

- 82 MSF or MSF supported facilities attacked in 2015-16
- Kunduz, Afghanistan: October 3rd, 2015
- Yemen, 4 major attacks on MSF hospitals by the Saudi-led international military coalition
- Syria: attacks on hospitals = major pattern in the conduct of hostilities by the government and international military coalition

Attacks on MSF facilities: the figures

Afghanistan:

- 3 October 2015, *Kunduz* 42 killed and over 30 injured
 Yemen:
- 27 October 2015, Haydan, 2 injured
- 3 December 2015, *Taiz*, 9 injured
- 10 January 2016, Razeh, 6 killed, 8 injured
- 15 August 2016, Abs, 19 killed and 24 injured

International Humanitarian Law Protecting Medical Mission

- **1864** first Geneva Convention (GC)
- 1949 Geneva Conventions (I,II,III, IV): protection of wounded and sick (civilians and combatants "out of combat")
- 1977 Additional Protocols I and II, global protection of medical services in international and non international armed conflicts (IAC, NIAC)
- 2005 International Humanitarian Customary Rules (IAC, NIAC)





Is this a new norm?

- **One common outcome:** staff, patients, caretakers killed or injured; facilities stop functioning; civilians deprived of care.
- Perpetrators include members of the United Nations Security
 Council or allies of the UNSC or forces trained by UNSC members.



How to react?

- Investigation of each incident
- Reaffirmation and clarification of the rules





UNINT OF ATATO CAND October 2015

SUBJECT: Summary of the Airstrike on the MSF Trauma Center in Kunduz, Afghanistan on October 3, 2015; Investigation and Follow-on Actions Available att.https://publicintelligencenet/centcom-kunduz-homital-attack/ aded that this "The comprehe invest gation tragic incident was nation of human sed errors, compounded and equipment failures. Tatis ue and ational tempo also contributed to the ip brs contributed fact to "the fog of wa nich s the tainty often encountered comb t op(

