



Un jour, dans une mission,
on aimera à n'en plus finir...

SOUVENIR

issue 7 avril 2007

Croix Rouge
Kornet Chehwan



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Editorial

Only one year has passed since the last editorial of "Revue Souvenir". A year which seems more like an eternity, so full it was of events that none of us could have possibly foreseen. A year during which we witnessed more instability, suffering, death and destruction than we could have ever imagined, even in a country that has been in constant turmoil for so long.

We started publishing "Revue Souvenir" eight years ago on every 27th of April to pay homage to the 12 Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) volunteers of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) department who have fallen in service of humanity. To remind us of the importance of keeping the Red Cross spirit alive in spite of all the difficulties we might face, and to keep track of the progress of our national society. We never expected however that we would have to write about LRC ambulances and volunteers being purposefully targeted by missiles, and we never imagined – or we always feared – having to write about another LRC volunteer making the ultimate sacrifice in service of humanity.

Those fateful months of July and August 2006 saw our worst fears come true.

Michael Jbeily, LRC EMS volunteer in the Zahlé sector, husband and father of two, became the 13th martyr of the Lebanese Red Cross on the night of July 11th 2006, just two days before the end of 33 days of violence during which the LRC EMS personnel constantly exposed themselves to danger in order to assist the thousands of victims, by providing not only an ambulance service to evacuate the killed and wounded, but by evacuating civilians from stranded villages, delivering food, medicine and other necessary supplies, transporting much needed blood units, and accompanying humanitarian aid convoys to war torn areas. Even after it became obvious that the aggressors purposefully targeted Red Cross ambulances and completely ignored basic humanitarian law, the LRC volunteers continued to defy the bombs and missiles in order to assist the victims.

During this violent conflict, we were often asked why we do what we do, why do we insist on carrying with our humanitarian mission no matter the odds or the personal costs. Even after Michael was killed, even when it became obvious that there were no limits to the price that could be paid by a humanitarian volunteer, our convictions remained intact, and our spirit, although deeply shaken by Michael's death, will recover and grow even stronger.

To all those who wonder about the motivations of a Red Cross volunteer, we say to them that Michael gave his life out of love for humanity, a love that all of us, his brothers in the Red Cross, share.

We will honor him and all the Lebanese Red Cross martyrs by keeping the flame of the Red Cross spirit alive.

The Volunteers of Kornet Chehwan

War on Lebanon



Introduction

We as a Lebanese Red Cross society pride ourselves on always being in constant readiness for any eventuality, and we usually are, because the instability and the tragic events of the last two years have taught us that the worst things can happen suddenly, without any prior warning. However, nothing could have prepared us for the sudden outburst of death and destruction that rained down on the country for 33 days. None of us would have imagined at the beginning of this fateful summer of 2006 that we would have to pick up the scattered remains of entire families, mostly children and women, until this horrific task seemed almost like a normal, everyday duty. In a country where the longest patient transport takes no more than a couple of hours, we would never have imagined having to evacuate victims who were covered by burns, missing at least one limb, and hanging on to life by a thread, on secondary, bombed out roads for more than six hours. We would have been shocked if someone had suggested stacking three, four or even five critical patients in a single ambulance! We would have probably laughed if someone had suggested that we remove all non-critical equipments from an ambulance and replace them with heaps and heaps of bread.

Full of Red Cross idealism, proud of our neutrality, we imagined that the big bright red crosses painted on our ambulances and stations would protect us and our humanitarian mission. We imagined that our strict adherence to the 7 principles of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement for more than half a century would have convinced everyone that the

Lebanese Red Cross exists only to fulfill a humanitarian role, to decrease the suffering of our fellow human beings regardless of race, color or creed. In a world where information is shared at the speed of light, we imagined that the Geneva conventions and international humanitarian laws could not be so blatantly ignored.

We were wrong.

On July 12 2006, Lebanon was once again attacked by Israel in what turned out to be one of the most violent and murderous wars that this country has ever seen:

More than a thousand persons died, almost all of them civilians, and more than one third of them children. Thousands of injured, more than 900,000 people displaced. Dozens of villages stranded without food, water or medical assistance. Families stuck under the rubble of their collapsed houses for days. Dozens of roads and bridges demolished.

And in the midst of all that chaos and destruction, the Lebanese Red Cross, with the precious help of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of the Red Cross/Red Crescent (IFRC), dedicated all of its human and material resources to help the victims of that tragic conflict.

Knowing full well that the magnitude of the violence, the suffering of the victims and the selflessness and courage of the volunteers cannot be expressed on a few pages, we will do our best to relate the major events of July and August 2006, and to record them on the pages of "Revue Souvenir".



During the first days of the war, most of the roads and bridges in South Lebanon were destroyed, isolating tens of thousands of people. The Beirut suburbs were bombed relentlessly, and hospitals were overwhelmed with hundreds of casualties, most of them being women and children.



Throughout the conflict, all of the LRC EMS volunteers were mobilized to accomplish their normal first-aid and evacuation duties. Also, the fact that the LRC, supported by the ICRC and IFRC, was the only organized service to remain operational in high risk areas, imposed exceptional missions on its volunteers: escorting and guiding humanitarian convoys, delivering food, water and medicines to stranded villages, evacuation of civilians...



LRC and ICRC personnel offloading food supplies.



LRC nurse providing medical care to displaced victims.



ICRC ship offloading humanitarian supplies in Beirut harbor.



Delivering humanitarian supplies to the stranded population in the South.



Searching for victims trapped under the rubble.



Patient evacuations from overcrowded hospitals in the South to Beirut.



Volunteers performing the gruesome task of transporting burnt corpses to appropriate facilities.



Aftermath of bombing of Beirut suburbs.



Evacuation of foreigners.



LRC convoy departing to the South.





Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), 8 June 1977. Art 11. Protection of medical units and transports 1. Medical units and transports shall be respected and protected at all times and shall not be the object of attack (...).



Ambulances 777 and 782 after being attacked by Israeli drones.



Ambulance # 782 in front of Tebnine station after the conflict.



Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), 8 June 1977. Art 11. Protection of medical units and transports.

Medical units and transports shall be **respected and protected** at all times and shall **not** be the object of attack (...).



Volunteers injured by missile blasts.

* Third Geneva Convention «relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War» (first adopted in 1929, last revision in 1949)
* Fourth Geneva Convention «relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War» (first adopted in 1949, based on parts of the 1907 Hague Convention IV)

This is the most controversial section of Protocol I. More specifically the paragraphs 3 through to 5. It is the primary cause for US administrations not adopt this protocol.

3. In order to promote the protection of the civilian population from the effects of hostilities, combatants are obliged to distinguish themselves from the civilian population while they are engaged in an attack or in a military operation preparatory to an attack. Recognizing, however, that there are situations in armed conflicts where, owing to the nature of the hostilities an armed combatant cannot so distinguish himself, he shall retain his status as a combatant, provided that, in such situations, he carries his arms openly.

(a) During each military engagement, and (b) During such time as he is visible to the adversary while he is engaged in a military operation preceding the launching of an attack in which he is to participate.

4. A combatant who falls into the power of an adverse Party while failing to meet the requirements set forth in the second sentence of paragraph 3 shall forfeit his right to be a prisoner of war, but he shall, nevertheless, be given protections equivalent in all respects to those accorded to prisoners of war by the Third Convention and by this Protocol. This protection includes protections equivalent to those accorded to prisoners of war by

The most basic dispositions of international humanitarian law and the Geneva conventions were blatantly and savagely violated during this war. Not only were civilians regularly targeted, but for the first time in such a conflict, Lebanese Red Cross ambulances and personnel were routinely and purposefully attacked while carrying out their humanitarian missions.

[edit] Article «4» - «Combatants and prisoners of war»

The Geneva Conventions consist of four treaties formulated in Geneva, Switzerland, that set the standards for international law for humanitarian concerns.

They chiefly concern the treatment of non-combatants and prisoners of war. They do not affect the use of weapons in war which are covered by the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907 and the Geneva Protocol on use of gas and biological weapons of 1925.

* First Geneva Convention «for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field» (first adopted in 1864, last revision in 1949)

* Second Geneva Convention «for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea» (first adopted in 1949, successor of the 1907 Hague Convention X)

[edit] Article 35-Basic rules

paragraph 3. states It is prohibited to employ methods or means of warfare which are intended, or may be expected, to cause widespread, long-term and severe damage to the natural environment. In the case of threatening to retaliate in kind to weapons of mass destruction, this would seem to limit the use of atomic weapons to nuclear boms.

The United Kingdom, one of the declared nuclear powers, in a «Declaration made upon signature» (1) stated «(b) That the new rules introduced by the Protocol are not intended to have any effect on and do not regulate or prohibit the use of nuclear weapons.»

Geneva Conventions by the Parties to the conflict. Before this article was introduced the Geneva Conventions implied that this should be done, but there was no explicit treaty obligation for the parties to allow monitoring.

[edit] Part II: WOUNDED, SICK AND SHIPWRECKED

* Section I - General protection
* Section II - Medical transportation
* Section III - Missing and dead persons

[edit] Part III: METHODS AND MEANS OF WARFARE COMBATANT AND PRISONER-OF-WAR STATUS

[edit] Section I-Methods and means of warfare

For the purposes of this Protocol (a) «First Convention», «Second Convention», «Third Convention» and «Fourth Convention»... (b) «Rules of international law applicable in armed conflict»... (c) «Protecting power» means a neutral or other State not a Party to the conflict which has been designated by a Party to the conflict and accepted by the adverse Party and has agreed to carry out the functions assigned to a Protecting Power under the Conventions and this Protocol.

Article 5. states that parties to the conflict must make sure that there is supervision by a «Protecting Power». This article makes sure that in a conflict there are people, not part of the conflict, to monitor the implementation of the

The international community outside of the U.S. generally accepts that the additional Geneva Conventions protocols are obligatory on all parties worldwide, as they have become part of customary law. The U.S. main objection is that the protection to those it regards being «unlawful combatants» (see Part II, Article 44).

[edit] Part I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Paragraph 4... in which people are fighting against colonial domination and alien occupation and against racial regimes... could cause legal problems under international law.

* It does not state that the people who are fighting, have to be fighting within the laws and customs of war and/or having military occupation (includes that of UN mandated occupations) are seen as occupying powers.

* As there is no definition of what constitutes a racist regime, personnel to the party to the conflict which is later defined as a racist regime by an international court, may have followed orders in good faith with no coercion, which they at the time thought to be within international law, that turn out not to be. For example if a person is arrested and treated as a common criminal under the jurisdiction of a racist regime for bearing arms against that regime, then the people involved in the imprisonment of that person will have broken international law, because they have not treated that person as a prisoner of war under this protocol.

Article 2-Definitions

In one of many attacks on LRC personnel, two LRC ambulances from Tyr (777) and Tebnine (782) stations were fired upon. Although both clearly marked ambulances were parked with their rear doors open and the orange-clad volunteers were obviously transferring patients, both ambulances

were struck by missiles right in the middle of the red cross painted on the roof. As a result of this criminal and savage aggression on humanitarian personnel, six volunteers were wounded and the 3 patients they were evacuating were severely wounded for the second time.

LRC EMS Volunteers wounded during the July-August 2006 war:

Nader Joudi • Mouhamad Hassan • Kassem Chaalan • Hussein Aayad • Mouhammad Berry
Hussein Farhat • Mohammad Yassine • Ahmad Fawaz • Nayef Mekanna • Ali Farhat • Abbas Ahmad
Charaf Hassan Kheir El Din • Jamal Hammoud • Mohammad Al Riz

Protocol I is an amendment to the Geneva Conventions.

Adopted on June 8, 1977 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law applicable in Armed Conflicts, presided over by Pierre Graber of Switzerland. The protocol entered into force on December 7, 1979 (six months after its adoption by the conference) and is binding for a country six months after it has ratified it. As of 14 January 2007 it had been ratified by 167 countries, with the United States, Israel, Iran, Pakistan and Af-

ghanistan. Later conferences have added provisions prohibiting certain methods of warfare and addressing issues of civil wars. Nearly all 200 countries of the world are «signatory» nations, in that they have ratified these conventions.

Clara Barton was instrumental in campaigning for the ratification of the First Geneva Convention by the United States; the U.S. signed in 1882. By the Fourth Geneva Convention some 47 nations had ratified the agreements.

Introduction

been ratified by 163 countries.
* Protocol III (2005): Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem. As of 12 January 2007 it had been ratified by nine countries and signed but not yet ratified by an additional 75 countries.

All four conventions were last revised and entered in 1949, based on previous revisions and partly on some of the 1907 Hague Conventions, the whole set is referred to as the «Geneva Conventions of 1949» or simply the «Geneva Conven-

In addition, there are three additional amendment protocols to the Geneva Conventions:

* Protocol I (1977): Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts. As of 12 January 2007 it had been ratified by 167 countries.

* Protocol II (1977): Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts. As of 12 January 2007 it had

the Field» (first adopted in 1864, last revision in 1949)

* Second Geneva Convention «for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea» (first adopted in 1949, successor of the 1907 Hague Convention X)

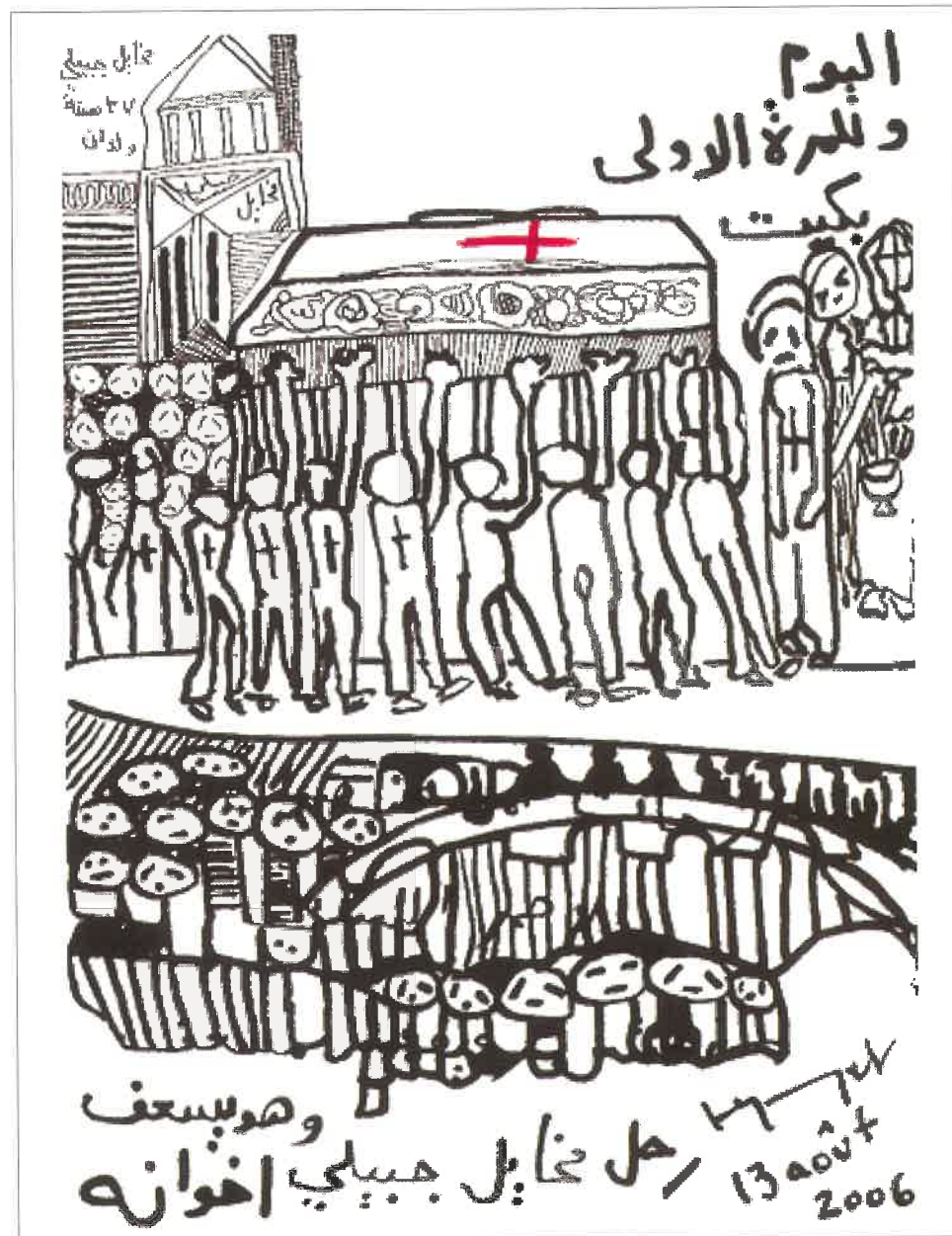
* Third Geneva Convention «relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War» (first adopted in 1929, last revision in 1949)

* Fourth Geneva Convention «relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War» (first adopted in 1949, based on parts of the 1907 Hague Convention IV)

The Geneva Conventions consist of four treaties formulated in Geneva, Switzerland, that set the standards for international law for humanitarian concerns.

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* First Geneva Convention «for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in



Laure Ghorayeb

“مهمة صعبة بين الحياة والموت”

(حكاية من تبين خلال حرب تموز ٢٠٠٦)

حقيقة عشناها وعاشناها ولكن كانت مختلفة هذه المرة. لقد تعودنا ومنذ البداية أن تكون حياتنا محفوفة بالمخاطر لحظة توجهنا لمساعدة أي إنسان. إن كان إسعافاً، أو إنقاذاً أو إخلاءً لا سيما وأننا عرفنا وأمنّا والتزمنا بمبادئنا السبعة والتي هي الأساس لعملنا ومنطلقنا. وهي تعني المدنيين والعسكريين على حد سواء ومعنية بها كل الدول التي وقعت على اتفاقيات جنيف والتي نعرف جميعاً على ماذا تنص ومن ضمنها “احترام وتحييد حياة المدنيين والعزل ولا سيما الشيوخ والنساء والأطفال...”

فكيف إذا أصبح العكس وأصبح المدنيون هم الهدف وهم الطرف المهاجم وكل من يحاول مساعدتهم أو إنقاذهم يصبح عدواً مستهدفاً.

وخير شاهد على ذلك سيارتنا الإسعاف من قانا. فماذا كان سينقل الجنود المجهولون سينقلون في سياراتهم؟ عنيت طبعا المسعفين. سؤال يبقى بدون جواب: من يحاسب من؟ ومن يوقف من؟

فيما كنا في السابق ولأننا نعمل تحت لواء وشعار ومبادئ جمعية الصليب الأحمر، نعتبر أنفسنا غير مستهدفين إلا عن طريق الخطأ. أما بعد تلك الحوادث التي حصلت في الحرب الأخيرة والتي كانت تستهدفنا، ولأكثر من مرة، على مرأى ومسمع الجميع، لم يوجد من يضع حداً لذلك ومع هذا بقينا وصمدنا وضحينا بكل ما أوتينا من قوة.

ومن هنا كانت كل مهمة إسعافية نقوم بها وفي أي وقت نسميها: “مهمة صعبة بين الحياة والموت...”

جمال حمود
(703)



The Red Cross flag flying above the Tebnine LRC station while artillery shells explode all around.



A piece of shrapnel from a bomb that hit the Tebnine station's roof.



في ١٢ حزيران ٢٠٠٦. وبصورة مفاجئة غير منتظرة وجد اللبنانيون أنفسهم مجدداً في وسط كرة النار الحارقة. قام متطوعو الصليب الأحمر اللبناني، مرة جديدة، رغم إدراكهم لكل أنواع الأخطار التي يمكن أن يتعرضوا لها (خطف أو إصابة أو إعاقة أو موت) بترسيخ شعارهم: **«إلى ما وراء الواجب»**

نحتفل اليوم بإحياء الذكرى الثانية والعشرين لشهادتنا. لقد كانوا اثني عشر شهيداً ومخطوفين، وباستشهاد ميخائيل الجبيلي ارتفع عددهم إلى ثلاثة عشر، وأصيب أربعة عشر مسعفاً بجروح.

في هذا الجو العام الذي نعيشه، حيث نشعر أن كل إنسان لا يفكر إلا بمصلحته الشخصية ولا يهتم بالمصلحة العامة إلا بمقدار ما تتناسب مع مصلحته الخاصة. نجد شباباً في مقتبل العمر، بعضهم رب عائلة، يتفانون في أداء واجبهم الإنساني ويضحون بكل شيء في سبيل آخر لا يعرفونه شخصياً، غير أبهين بالمخاطر والنائج.

ان ميخايل الجبيلي، آخر شهيد خطّ بدمه شعار المسعفين: **«إلى ما وراء الواجب»** عندما سمع جريحاً يستغيث، شعر أن هذا الشقيق في الإنسانية بحاجة إليه في هذه اللحظة أكثر من زوجته وأطفاله فقفز من سيارة الإسعاف تحت القصف وأنقذه، ولكنه أصيب هو بقذيفة أودت بحياته.

العالم بأجمعه، نتيجة العولمة التي نعيشها، كان يتابع مباشرة هذه الحرب وشاهد بإعجاب وإحترام شجاعة وتضحية مسعفيننا الأبطال، الذين يمثلون وجه لبنان الحقيقي، وأصبحت هذه البذلة البرتقالية رمز العطاء والتضحية. فكان السؤال يتكرر وبشيء من الإستغراب: ما الذي يدفع هؤلاء الشباب للتطوع؟ ما الذي يجعلهم يتفانون بهذه الطريقة؟

إنه الحس الإنساني، إنه الشعور بأن الآخر أياً كان، هو أخ ويجب مساعدته بأي ثمن ومهما كانت النتيجة، فثقوا أيها الشهداء الأبطال أنكم أحياء بيننا ومثال لرفاقكم.

روزي بولس
رئيسة قسم
فرق الإسعاف الأولي

Tribute to Michael

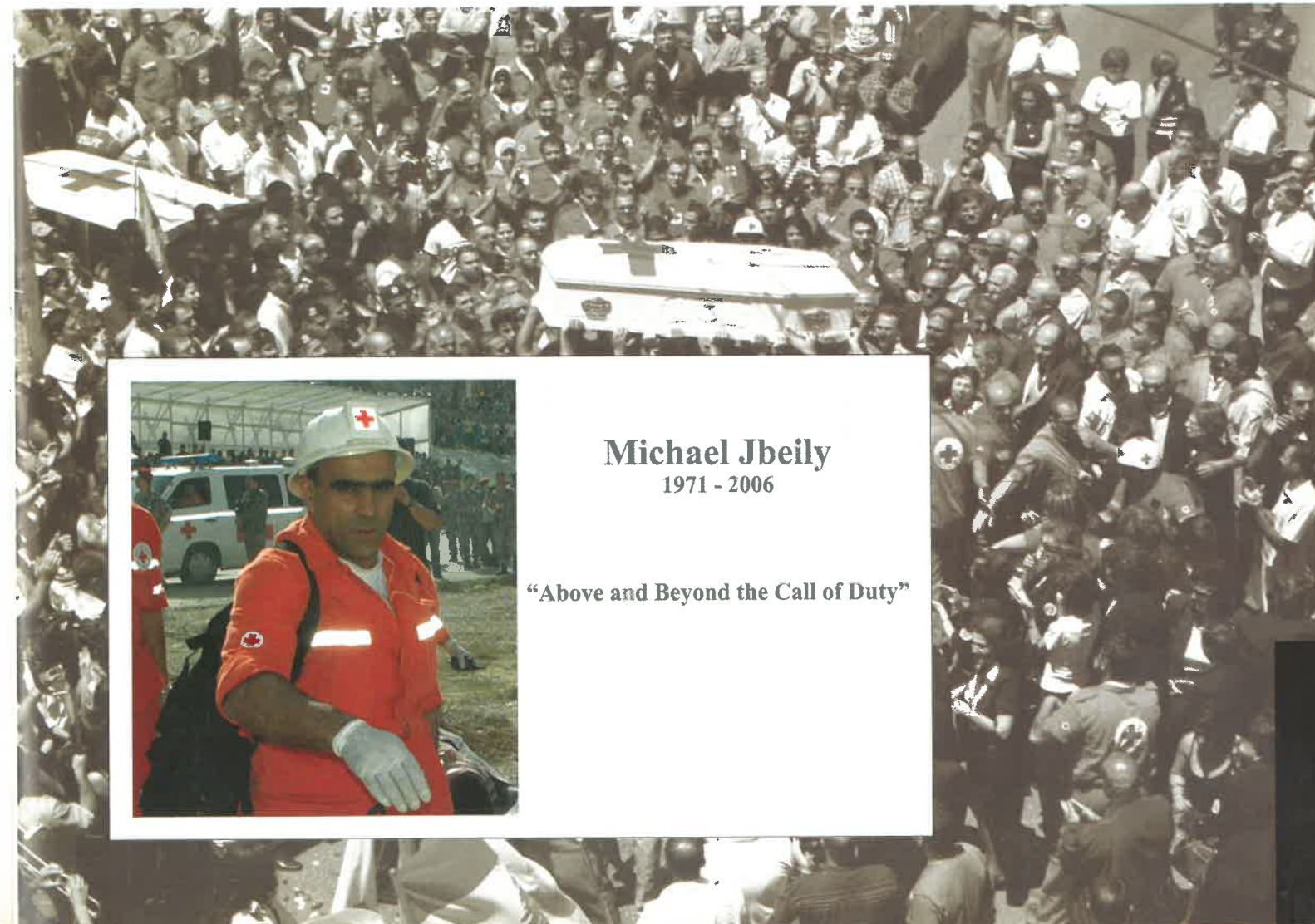
A few hours before the ceasefire that ended the July 2006 conflict the LRC EMS lost its 13th martyr in tragic circumstances:

On the night of 11 August 2006, Michael was in an LRC vehicle accompanying a convoy of around 1000 civilian cars escaping the occupied South Lebanese town of Marjeyoun. The U.N had assured the Lebanese government that this convoy had been cleared with the Israeli army, and that it would not be attacked. U.N vehicles escorted the convoy up until the limits of their area of operations. It was then left to slowly progress through the Bekaa valley towards Zahlé.

When the convoy reached Kefraya village in the Bekaa valley, about 15 Kilometers away from Zahlé,

it was attacked and bombed by Israeli drones. While volunteers and civilians rushed amidst terrible chaos to take shelter in the neighboring buildings, Michael stayed back to try and help a man whose leg had been injured by rocket shrapnel. His colleagues, hearing the planes coming back for a second strike, screamed for him to leave the injured man to one of the clearly marked Red Cross ambulances. However, as he made his way back, a rocket exploded near him, the blast throwing him in the air and shrapnel hitting his head, killing him instantly. Michael leaves behind a wife, Jumana, and two sons, Nicolas and Charbel.

On the coming pages, his Red Cross colleagues say their goodbyes to him in their own words...



Michael Jbeily
1971 - 2006

“Above and Beyond the Call of Duty”

على خطى المعلم الأول حتى الشهادة

خطفك الموت، يا مخايل، وأخذ معك الكثير..
أخذ معك الفرح، أخذ معك الأمل، أخذ معك
الحلم الصغير، أخذ معك الإيمان... أخذ معك
اليقين...

رحلت يا مخايل، وتركتني في ضياع... تركتني
أتأرجح بين اليأس والرجاء، بين الشك واليقين، بين
القوة والضعف، بين الإيمان والكفر، بين الأوهام
والحقائق، بين الأحلام والوقائع..

تركتني حائراً غير قادر على أخذ قرار... ضعيف
أشك بقدرتي على الاستمرار...

لا أرى سوى ظلام فكيف أعترف بالنور؟ لا أشعر إلا
بالحزن والألم فكيف أعطي الفرح؟
لا أرى سوى الظلم فكيف أقرّ بالعدل؟ لا وجود إلاّ
للشر فكيف أؤمن بالخير؟

لا أرى سوى نفوس يملأها الحقد والكراهية
والتعصب والأناية، فكيف أعيش المحبة
والتسامح والغيرة؟
أيّها الصديق،

لقد كنت صديقاً غيّوراً تبذل ذاتك قبل
الغالي والنفيس، ناعم المعشر، لا تساوم في

كلّما سُفِحت دماءٌ...

كلّما سُفِحت دماءٌ زكيةٌ فاحَ عَرَفُها في أرجاءِ الوطنِ وأزهرتِ محبةٌ
وأمنًا سلامًا.

إلى رفيق درينا في الخدمة والتفاني وشهيد الصليب الأحمر اللبناني
”مخايل جبيلي“، الذي أهرق دَمَهُ لِيُطَيَّبَ ثرى لبنان ويفتدي أبناءه.

سهيل أفرام

(301)

المقدّسات، وطدّت العلاقة بالخالق تتأمّله
وتعبده. تراه في مخلوقاته فتحبّها وتخدمها
حتى الاستشهاد، إنسانٌ، جسّدت الإنسانية
بفضائلها وميزاتها السامية. تصارعت مع الموت،
فخسرت جولة لكنك ربحت المعركة.

أن أنام يا ”مخايل“ تلك باتت مشكلتي... وإنِ أراك
في الحلم تلك باتت أمنيّتي.. كم أتمنى نومًا لا
أستيقظ منه وحلمًا بك لا ينتهي... رحلت عنا
واقعا وستعود إلينا مثالا...

رحلت عنا جسدا يتحرك بيننا وستعود إلينا فكرياً
بتفاعل فينا...

رحلت عنا وما اكتملت الرسالة بلسانك... فوعدي
لك أن أكملها بلساني...

فيا شهيدنا الكبير، لقد استشهدت ببطء
ورباطة جأش وبطولة. استشهدت خدمة وتربية
وتنشئة وطنية، وفجّعت مؤسسة الصليب
الأحمر اللبناني بمن فيها الصغير والكبير، ولم
يكونوا الوحيدين:

” الله يعلم إن يكن في قلبهم سهم
ففي أحشاء فرق الإسعاف الأولي سهام“

صديقك وأخوك عزيز حنا الفحل

(301)

شهداء ما وراء الواجب

للمرة الثانية والعشرين نحّي ذكرى شهداء
الصليب الأحمر اللبناني، شهداء ”ما وراء
الواجب“. لكن ذكرى هذه السنة لها طابعها
الخاص، إنّه المسعف الشهيد مخايل جبيلي.
لسنين خلت، كنتّ تجتمع معنا لنحي ذكرى
شهداءنا. وها نحن اليوم نجتمع في ذكرى
الشهداء وأنت في مصافهم، إنّه القدر، إنّه قدرنا
أن يسقط لنا رفاق وأخوة واحد تلو الآخر.
أراك اليوم حاضراً بيننا وأنت لم تفارقنا في الأصل.
أراك كل مرة أدخل فيها إلى المركز أسلم عليك
وأنت الغائب الحاضر أبداً. اشتقنا إليك وأنت كنت
المحرّك لكل نشاطٍ تدريبي وترفيهي. لم نكن

أخي مخايل

لقائنا في الصليب الأحمر كان فرحاً دائماً. فرحاً
في العطاء، فرحاً في تحمّل المسؤولية الملقاة
على عاتقنا لإسعاف مريض أو لأنقاذ جريح من
بين برائن الموت ما خطر ببالي يوماً أننا سنفترق
هكذا. أجل إيماننا كان أقوى من المصاعب
والمصائب والمخاطر. تعلمنا أن أرواحنا رخيصة
فداء الآخر، فداء الإنسان بكل ما تحمل هذه
الكلمة من معنى. لكن شاء القدر أن يخطفك
من بيننا ونحن ما زلنا في أمسّ الحاجة إليك،
إلى اندفاعك العفوي، إلى عطائك الذي ينبض،
إلى همتك التي لا تفتّر، إلى بسمتك الحلوة
وطاقتك البهية. ما أقساك أيها القدر وما أصعب
ضربانك المبرحة. كيف لا واشتياقي إليك كبير
قدر عواطفني. فافنى ما شئت يا صديقي لأبقىك
في الأحداق ما دام فيّ عرق ينبض. عهدي إليك
أن أستمّر في تحمّل المسؤولية التي عاهدنا الله
عليها وإني على يقين أن هذا يفرحك ويسعدك

لنتصوّر يوماً، أن نقف موقفاً كهذا، وتقع حرب
جديدة، ويسقط شهداء وأنت واحد منهم. فبئس
الحروب وما تحدثه.

هذه السنة لتربة ودوالي كفريا نكهة خاصة لأن
تلك الأرض المعطاء ارتوت حتى الثمالة من دماء
الشهداء ودمائك، فجاءت خمرتها مميزة. نغمّد
الله شهدائنا الأبرار وكان رفيقا لهم وألهم أهلهم
الصبر والسلوان.

الجنة والخلود لهم التقدّم والتطوّر لجمعية
الصليب الأحمر اللبناني.

عشتم، وعاشت ذكرى شهدائنا فينا أبداً.

المسعف أنطوان السكاف

(301)

ويهنّئ روحك الطاهرة حتى لو كان مصيري
كمصيرك. فطيفك يلازمني من منزل إلى منزل،
ومن غرفة إلى غرفة، وأحسّ أنك تسير بجانبني في
شوارع زحلة، أشعر أنك في كل مهمة إسعاف
أقوم بها، صوتك وضحكك يدويان في المركز
وهذا يجعلني مرّداً:

يا ربح قولي حيثما وُجدوا
قلبي هناك حتى لو بَعُدوا

شوقي إليهم كبير قدر عاطفتي
فكيف أعيش لا مرأى ولا وعدٌ

هنيئاً لك جنة الخلد يا أغلى وأعز إنسان على
قلبي. فارقد بسلام في جوار ربك الذي اختارك ربما
لأنه بحاجة إليك هناك أكثر من هنا.

صديقك المخلص

سليمان الفحل

(301)

رسالة إلى السماء

إن قدر الأبطال أن يموتون وهم واقفون: إلا أنهم لا يموتون فعلاً بل هم خالدون كترانيم الملائكة.
يا زميلي المسعف، يا شهيداً ليس ككل الشهداء، يا صوتاً صارخاً في الضمائر النائمة المتعفنة، ماذا يقول لك زملائك المسعفين في ذكرى الإنسانية؟؟؟ ماذا يقول لك أولئك المسعفون الذين يحملون وبكل لحظة في طيات نفوسهم المشعة ذكراك الباقية إلى الأبد؟؟؟

- إنهم يقولون الكثير الكثير:
- باستشهادك جددتنا وقويت التزامنا أكثر فأكثر
- باستشهادك عمقت القضية التي استشهد من أجلها اثني عشر شهيداً من الصليب الأحمر اللبناني قبلك
- باستشهادك أحبيت وأحببت من كنت تسعف
- باستشهادك نفخت الغبار والوسخ عن مذابح الإنسانية
- باستشهادك انتشلت من الظلمة والنسيان، كرامة وعزة الإنسان، كل انسان
- باستشهادك أصبح عدد شهداء الصليب الأحمر اللبناني ثلاثة عشر
- باستشهادك صنت المبادئ التي لأجلها استشهدت

فيا صاحب الإنجازات والتضحيات التي لا تحصى، هنيئاً لك باستشهادك العظيم، هنيئاً لك يا محققاً شعار قسمنا: "إلى ما وراء الواجب". فتم قرير العين لأنك وقد أصبحت اليوم في سجل خلود الإنسانية ستعيش وفي كل لحظة من كل يوم في وجداننا نحن المسعفون زملائك ولك منا أوفى وأعظم وأصدق تحية إنسانية، نعم إليك أنت يا شهيد الإنسانية.

Baby
(203)

إلى أخي، الذي حوّل رائحة البارود بخوراً على مذبح الرب.

إلى أخي، الذي لم تلده أمي، إليك يا مخايل.

تحية تختصر في حناياها كل الشوق والمحبة والإكبار لك، يا من اختصرت شعار قسمك: "إلى ما وراء الواجب" بالشهادة حيث الموت عرس وشرف للأبطال. وأخيراً مهما طال الزمان كن على ثقة بأننا سوف نلتقي في مكان أفضل وأعانتك على هذا الرحيل المبكر بالجسد طبعاً، لأن روحك لا تزال ترافقني وترافق الجميع مع كل شروق شمس وكل بزوغ فجر.

أخيك الصغير كما كنت تناديني
رولان أبو ناضر
(301)

إلى أخي الذي رسم البطولة

إلى أخي، الذي رسم البطولة والقدااسة بدمه الأحمر، لا بل بصليبه الأحمر على تراب كفرناح.
إلى أخي، الذي ارتفع من بيننا بسرعة البرق إلى السماء.
إلى أخي، الذي روض الموت ببسمته المعهودة وروحه المرحّة.
إلى أخي، الذي أبكى غيابه وجدان وجدان مركز زحلة، لا بل زحلة بوجدانها وجدانها.
إلى أخي، الذي ملأ نهر الرجال "نهر البردوني" دموعاً يوم وداعه.
إلى أخي، الذي حجب نور الشمس عن عيون محبيه يوم رحيله.
إلى أخي، الذي تدافع الرجال مواكباً خلف نعشه.

Adieu Mikhael, Adieu Conventions de Genève

« Puisque c'est impossible faisons-le » **Henri Durnand - fondateur de la croix rouge**

Mikhael,
Hier tu nous quittais pour rejoindre tes 12 frères
Tu nous quittais parce que tu voulais vivre ton engagement jusqu'à l'ultime fin...
Au Delà devoir nous disait-on ? Tu l'as bien vécu.
Ton départ héroïque cher frère nous laisse aujourd'hui consternés.
Continuer pour qui, pourquoi ? Pour mettre nos vies en danger... pour endeuiller nos familles encore plus... pour ce pays qui ne sait plus comment renaître ?
Assurer nos permanences pour qui ? Pour ce peuple qui déprime ? Pour ces orphelins, ces veuves démunies ?

Samedi, au lendemain de ton départ, au moment de la minute de silence que tous les secouristes du Liban ont observé en ta mémoire à 18h00 (heure

symbolique du début des permanences de nuit) l'esprit n'y était plus... les larmes au bout des yeux, la haine dans le cœur, la tristesse dans nos esprits, bref pour quelques-uns c'était la fin d'une vocation. Fallait-il s'y résigner ?

Tu l'aurais voulu autrement. Quelques secondes ont suffi aux 2400 secouristes pour se rappeler de ta leçon. Plus loin que le devoir. Et voila que les ambulances se mettent en marche tous feux allumés, sirènes retentissantes, brandissantes fièrement leurs étendards bien éclairés, quelque part pour toi. Pour que tu sois fier autant que nous le sommes de cette association !

« L'Expérience qui ne tue pas fortifie »
Mikhael, l'expérience qui tue...glorifie

Adieu,
Et pour la dernière fois, au nom de tous frères,
Au Delà du devoir.

Ton frère
Hani Aoun
(601)

Ta mort ne cesse pas de s'accomplir, de s'achever
Pas simplement ta mort.
Mort tu l'es.
Il n'y a pas à en dire. Et quoi ? Inutile
Inutile l'irréel du passé, temps inqualifiable.
Mais ta mort en nous progresse lente, incompréhensiblement
Nous nous réveillons toujours dans ta voix, ta main, ton odeur
Nous disons toujours ton nom, ton nom en nous
Comme si tu l'étais
Comme si ta mort n'avait gelé que le bout de tes doigts
N'avait jeté qu'une couche de silence sur nous,
S'était arrêtée sur une porte
Nous derrière, incrédules

Joseph Hannouche
(301)



Splashing Lebanon!

The daylight rising over Lebanon brings endless opportunities of fun. Beach, nature and outdoor activities; you'll never know what to choose. Whatever it will be, an unforgettable time awaits you under the shiny Lebanese sun!



وزارة السياحة
Ministry of Tourism



Sparkling Lebanon!

When night falls on Lebanon, party time begins. Endless concerts and festivals brighten the enchanting Lebanese night leading you through an amazing experience that stretches till the first lights of dawn.



وزارة السياحة
Ministry of Tourism

Mémoires de Guerre...

Le 12 Juillet 2006. Je me réveille au son de la télé annonçant le début de la énième guerre contre le Liban. Je me lève en sursaut, incrédule, regardant les images défiler devant mes yeux. J'avais l'impression de vivre un cauchemar debout devant l'écran. La guerre??? Dans ma tête, mes projets d'avenir se bousculaient et s'entrechoquaient avec les horreurs que je voyais devant moi. Que faire? Ou en étais-je? Quelle partie de moi devait réagir? Celle de l'étudiant qui avait prévu un stage à l'étranger? Celle du fils bien aimé qui resterait confortablement chez lui en prenant soin de ses parents? Ou bien le secouriste que le devoir appelle? Le bénévole qui court aux secours des autres en temps de crise?

J'avais peur. Une angoisse infinie m'étreignait. A mon âge, étais-je capable d'affronter la mort? Pouvais-je prendre autant de risques? Sauver les autres alors que ma famille pourrait aussi être en danger? J'étais incapable de faire la part des choses. Le téléphone sonne. Appel d'urgence de mon centre de Croix-Rouge. « On a besoin de toi ». Tout d'un coup, mon sac de secouriste pris des dimensions démesurées dans mon esprit. Je réalisais à quel point ma mission était importante, à quel point mon devoir de secouriste donnait un sens réel à ma vie. Aller jusqu'au bout de son choix sans hésitation me donna tout d'un coup la force d'affronter cette phase difficile que traversait mon pays. J'ai vécu 33 jours de ma vie parmi les

corps mutilés, l'odeur étourdissante des canons, les gémissements des blessés, l'inertie des cadavres, les cris des sinistrés, les pleurs d'enfants, et le désespoir des familles jetées dans la rue, affamées.

Durant les opérations de secourisme, j'étais presque confiant que nous serions toujours épargnés des attaques et qu'on nous laisserait accomplir notre mission médicale et humanitaire sans entraves, tel que le dicte le droit humanitaire. Or, il s'est avéré que la violence et la haine sont aveugles, que la guerre n'a pas de loi, qu'elle touchait non seulement les combattants et les militaires mais aussi les civils, les innocents, les sans défenses et nous aussi malgré nos drapeaux et nos grandes et visibles croix rouges.

Le bilan de la guerre est toujours désastreux. Une immense perte en vies humaines. La Croix-Rouge a payé très cher le prix de sa présence continue et massive sur le terrain : 14 secouristes blessés, 3 ambulances détruites et plusieurs centres endommagés. Dans ce monde fou, ceci aurait peut-être été un prix raisonnable en contrepartie des centaines de blessés sauvés par les secouristes. Mais quelques heures seulement avant la fin des hostilités, le prix est soudain devenu inacceptable....démesuré. Pour la 13ème fois, un secouriste de la CRL a donné sa vie à l'autel de l'humanité.

International Committee of the Red Cross

A summer under the bombs...

When the war broke out last summer, the dramatic turn of events and the devastating effects it had on the civilian populations in Lebanon shocked everyone at the ICRC. The first ones to respond to the terrible events were the Lebanese Red Cross first aiders. They immediately mobilized their volunteer teams to go to the most affected areas and evacuate the sick and the wounded.

The ICRC President requested all parties to show restraint and respect for civilian lives, and the ICRC started mounting a major operation, as there was only a small team in the country. Funds were immediately made available for the LRCS teams to be able to operate. As sister National Societies mobilized to show their solidarity and to support the relief effort, ICRC, the LRCS and the Federation set up a Movement Coordination group to handle the incoming donations.

Every delegate from the ICRC who worked with the LRCS during those intense and difficult days speaks of the First Aiders with admiration and respect. Our joint missions to the hardest hit areas saved lives and showed people that they were not forgotten. The bravery and dedication of the volunteers impressed us deeply, and we have the highest respect for all EMS volunteers.

It was an amazing time for all concerned, one we shall not forget. We can but express our sadness at the tragic loss of lives, and in particular at the First



ICRC and LRCS personnel working hand in hand to unload humanitarian supplies.



An ICRC vehicle crossing a river during the July 2006 war.

Aider Michael Jbeily who died whilst fulfilling the most noble of duties, that of helping others.

We salute him and all the other First Aiders who lost their lives on duty, those who were injured, and those who are missing. We shall not forget them. We encourage you all to continue your outstanding work..

**ICRC Head of Delegation
Mr. Jordi Raich Curco**

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent

The Lebanese Red Cross once again placed at the forefront of its daily activities the alleviation of the suffering of the most vulnerable population in Lebanon in 2006. The events of the summer of 2006, in particular, broadcast around the world the dedication of its network of volunteers. The immense courage of the volunteers throughout the conflict, coupled with the abilities of the Emergency Medical Services, was highlighted in the exceptional assistance provided to the population in the most demanding operational environment.

At this moment of reflection on the events over the past year, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies wishes to particularly voice its respect for the ultimate sacrifices made by the Emergency Medical Services volunteers who risked their lives for others and as such represented the very essence of the principles of the Red Cross Movement.

The effects of war, unrest and political instability have marked Lebanese society for more than three decades. Throughout all the operational and contextual challenges, the Lebanese Red Cross has continuously developed its capacity and activities to address the needs of the whole society. Over the past two years in particular, the National Society managed operational challenges as well as reorganized its structure to reflect the volunteer base it represents.

The Federation has, since 1992, aimed at assisting the National Society to achieve its objectives, whether through support to the development of the organization as a whole or through support to activities implemented by the emergency medical services, youth, blood bank, medico-social, logistics, communications, planning and development and internal affairs departments.

The Federation of the Future

There are many global challenges facing the International Federation and its National Societies. Programme support over the past few years has been guided by Strategy 2010, which sets a clear direction for National Societies and identifies four core areas of activity: health, disaster management, organizational development and humanitarian values.

However, a mid-term review in 2005 of Strategy 2010, identified the lack of an explicit map on how to function as a Federation. This Federation of the Future review process led to the identification of additional steps to increase the impact of the global Red Cross and Red Crescent network. The General Assembly of the Federation held in 2005, endorsed three additional elements to achieve a more effective network:

- through a global agenda to scale up the quality, reach and impact of activities for vulnerable people;*
- through a framework of action which identifies ten areas for improvement to build the capacity and performance of the Red Cross/Red Crescent network;*
- through a new operating model which allows for operational alliances and membership services to mobilize resources.*

The Lebanese Red Cross as a member of the Federation endorsed these elements with the ultimate goal of aiming higher and delivering results. The Federation Delegation in Lebanon within its mandate will continue to assist the Lebanese Red Cross to achieve the objective of addressing human suffering wherever possible and through all challenges.

Anne-Katherine Moore Karlsen
Head of Delegation
IFRC Lebanon Delegation - Beirut



Towards a Five-Year Strategy for the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department of the Lebanese Red Cross (LRC)

"What doesn't kill you makes you stronger". Some will perhaps find this saying a cliché, but it is definitely quite true in the case of the LRC EMS:

From the newest volunteer recruit to the upper management, the belief in humanitarian values and the adherence to the 7 Red Cross Principles has never been higher in spite of all the difficulties faced and all the suffering witnessed during this past year. Instead of raising our arms in frustration and giving up in desperation, we will move forward and do whatever is necessary in order to constantly improve the humanitarian services that we provide to the population, be it in times of peace or in times of strife and conflict.

The urgent need for a clear and well defined long-term strategy

The LRC EMS is the main ambulance service provider in the country, and as such, carries a huge responsibility towards all and any persons who may require its services. The department, through its dedicated volunteers and staff has, according to all local and outside observers, provided exceptional service for more than 30 years. However, as the demand for a more professional, more efficient and better equipped ambulance service increases, and as the internal situation of the National Society improved drastically since the last elections, it was time for the department – as for the national society as a whole – to set clear goals for the future and elaborate a strategy that would allow it to reach those goals within a realistic time frame.

Right after the July-August 2006 war, with the added benefit of international support, the EMS Director Mr. George Kettaneh immediately reinitiated plans to develop the five-year strategy. During these past few months and with the precious help of the ICRC and IFRC staff in Lebanon, a detailed five-year strategy started taking shape and is still being actively developed every day.



LRC EMS Statistics - 2006

64,597	First aid & Emergency Medical Transports
8,013	First Aid in Homes
87,868	First Aid in Station
5,694	Miscellaneous Transports (blood units, civilians, deceased)

EMS Strategy

Mission, Vision and Value of the LRC EMS

Mission: To provide effective and efficient Emergency Medical Services, with care provided to current international best practices, throughout the country of Lebanon.

Vision: To attain and maintain an Emergency Medical Services system that leaves no call unanswered.

Value: That all lives have equal value and therefore all Lebanese deserve access to Emergency Medical Services.

The tangible objective to be reached:

The Lebanese Red Cross will be able to respond to 80% of emergency calls within 9 minutes of receipt of the call for assistance, and provide care according to current international best practices.

Main components of the strategy:

Training: establish an LRC EMS training division in order to train and regularly certify all volunteers in basic trauma and life support courses according to international best practices. Also, eventually introduce paramedic-level care.

Operational readiness: improve conditions for volunteers and day-team EMS workers, and gradually increase the number of day teams in order to respond quickly and efficiently to all calls.



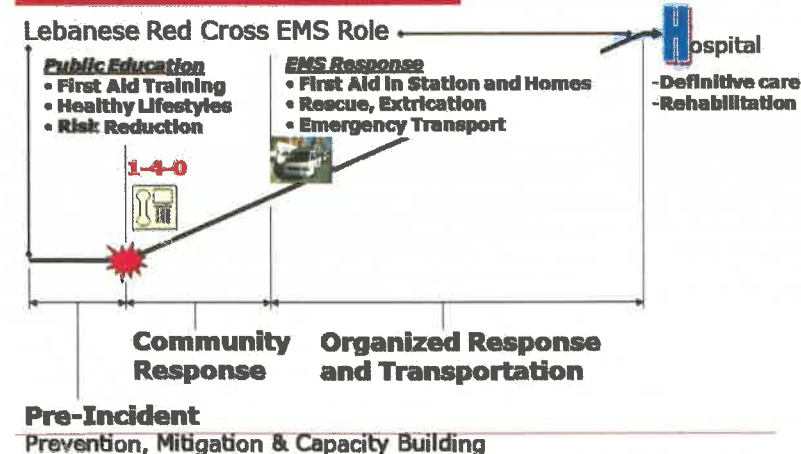
Fleet Management: set standards for all types of vehicles used by EMS, renew and properly maintain the ambulance fleet.

Equipments: standardize and improve all EMS equipments, and acquire consumable equipments to eliminate the practice of reusing medical disposables.

Infrastructure: repair and rehabilitate present stations, and progressively open new stations.

Human Resources: reorganize and increase EMS staff and management structure in order to increase efficiency of the trained and motivated volunteer corps.

Pre-hospital Health Sector



Fleet Management

The LRC EMS currently has more than 15 different brands and makes of ambulances in service. This situation decreases efficiency and increases costs in time, effort and money.

After a lengthy process, 2 types of brands were identified as standard ambulances for the department: Nissan and VW. A third brand will also be chosen as a standard rescue vehicle (4*4).

The ICRC has already donated 16 new Nissan ambulances, which will all be converted according to detailed specifications, and will be equipped according to newly set LRC EMS medical and first-aid equipments standards.



Currently, the EMS ambulance fleet includes more than a hundred obsolete ambulances and several inadequate models.



The new Nissan standard ambulances will be equipped with self-loading/roll-in stretchers, second stretcher capability, and a multitude of basic and advanced first-aid and medical equipments.



Roll-in Stretcher



Extra battery



Portable monitor

Interview with ICRC

The ICRC has supported the Lebanese Red Cross EMS teams for many years, from the dark days of the civil war until the most recent conflict last year. On request of the EMS Director, the ICRC agreed to support the preparation of a 5 year strategy to develop the LRCS EMS. The strategy is vital for the future of the first aid teams and to ensure the best possible service to the population. In an interview, Sandrine Tiller, the Cooperation Coordinator for the ICRC in Beirut explains the ICRC perspective on the EMS strategy.

Why should the LRCS EMS have a 5 year strategy?

It is important that the LRCS shows it is thinking ahead to the new challenges in the country, both for times of crisis and peace time. The LRCS EMS is famous for responding immediately, but not so much for planning ahead!

What are the main problems you identified in the assessment of the EMS?

1. Funding! The service has been severely underfunded for many years now, and much of the equipments and infrastructure are in a terrible state. Not to mention the ambulances! But I think you know this...
2. Training.... Many stations have their own training programmes and run rather independently. This is a strong point in that you are able to have locally adapted solutions to issues like volunteer recruitment and training.
The weak point is that first aiders receive different types of training and there is no standardization. The best would be to have LRCS run internationally accredited courses.
3. Support staff. The EMS requires a strong team at management level to provide support. At the moment most of the senior managers are volunteers or overworked!

What are the strengths of the EMS first aiders?

1. Their independence and neutrality
2. The commitment to the job, even when working in difficult conditions, without much recognition, they are determined and serious.
3. Their discipline and respect.
4. Their spirit (lots of fun too!)



Presenting the strategy to donors in March 2007.



How is the ICRC supporting the development of a strategy?

First we have provided technical support with an EMS Specialist to assist the EMS Director and all the Committees to identify their problems and needs and to find solutions. Mr. Dana Banke is an ICRC delegate with a long experience in ambulance services and he is currently working as an ICRC EMS Specialist in the Palestinian Occupied Territories. He came to Lebanon at the request of the ICRC, Norwegian RC and the Federation in June 2005 to carry out an assessment of the LRCS EMS.

He returned to Lebanon in January 2007 to review and update his assessment and to work with the EMS Director and the different Heads of Committee to formulate the main objectives of the EMS Strategy, and he came back in March to assist the EMS Strategy Committee to finalize the strategy and to present it to international donors.

Secondly, ICRC is providing funding to support various aspects of the strategy from its own budget: new ambulances, new stations, maintenance of vehicles...

Thirdly, we are mobilizing other donors. The funding required by LRCS EMS is substantial, and it is good to have a wider donor base. That is why ICRC is lobbying other donors to provide support to the EMS Strategy and encouraging them to set up long term partnerships with LRCS.

What is the ICRC's support to EMS in 2007?

We provide funding for the Visa 1 and 2 training camps, and for the team leaders' courses. We also contribute to the maintenance costs and consumables purchasing. This year we are proud to



ICRC EMS specialist Dana Banke collecting information from LRCS personnel.

be purchasing 16 of the new Nissan ambulances, fully converted and equipped to the LRCS standard. And we will be rehabilitating 2 EMS stations: Spears and Tibnine. Finally, we will be rehabilitating the new EMS National Headquarters in Hazmiyeh.

Will donors be interested?

Of course! You have a fantastic reputation, and your work is known world-wide! However, most donors think that you received lots of donations after the war, and they don't know that you are running the service on a shoe-string. The other problem is that many donors have limitations to their donations, and they may not be able to give you what you need. It will take time, but I am confident that you have a strong case with the 5 year strategy to interest donors and to help them to give you what you need...

Souvenir XXI

"They sacrificed their lives to save another...and their sacrifice continues to save lives more than 20 years later."

This phrase summarizes the shift in the objective of Souvenir in recent years. From a ceremony meant to keep the memory of the 12 martyrs of the LRC alive, recent "Souvenirs" had the added ambition of honoring the sacrifice of these 12 volunteers by organizing campaigns to improve our department: a recruitment campaign in 2004, "140" national



awareness campaign in 2005, and in 2006, a fund-raising campaign to acquire as many automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) as possible, and distribute them to the stations according to the results of the Souvenir Competition.

11 of these life saving devices were acquired through the generosity of donors as well as the valuable support of Mrs. Rosy Boulos, and most of these AEDs have already been used to successfully save lives.



Hilda Khalifé hosting the ceremony.



The head of Tripoli sector receiving the first prize award from the President of the department

Souvenir XXII

This year the unimaginable happened and the LRC EMS suffered another tragic loss when Michael Jbeily died during the waning hours of the July war. The sad and sober ceremony will be held in Zahlé to honor Michael and the 12 other martyrs. And the Souvenir XXII organizing committee wishes to express its immense gratitude to renowned actor Ammar Chalak for his precious contribution to this year's ceremony.

أول ما يتبادر إلى الأذهان عندما تسبق
كلمة "شهيد" اسم أحد
أنه ينتمي إلى حزب عسكري. قد يكون دينيا
وقد يكون سياسيا
إلا أن أهم الشهداء هم شهداء "حزب الإنسانية"
فبوركتكم يا أهم الشهداء

عمار شلق



"Étoile Filante"
Souvenir de la "Croix Rouge" 2007.
Galet noir de la mer libanaise.

Art Statement

Dans les coins de l'inconnu...
Dans les maux du perdu...
Au delà du parcours,
A l'extrême du secours,

Elles sont des âmes parmi les larmes,

Comme des cailloux aux bords du rêve,
Taillés par des milliers d'étincelles aquatiques
Jusqu'à l'arrondi,
Rebondi sur rebondi, sur les sables des astres.

Un jour, les foudres des vagues ont appelé,
Et les galets, des étoiles filantes deviendront...

Nabil Hélou.



Nabil Hélou
Sculpteur

Né en 1969 à Beiteddine, il est diplômé en Sculpture de l'Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts (ALBA). Deux fois boursiers du gouvernement français, il a poursuivi une spécialisation en sculpture ainsi qu'en sculpture virtuelle sur ordinateur, à l'ENSAC, Paris. Il enseigna la sculpture à l'ALBA de 1995 jusqu'à 2000. Il est détenteur de nombreux prix pour son œuvre dans des concours et biennaux internationaux, et aussi créateur de plusieurs trophées de festivals. A son actif plusieurs expositions individuelles et collectives, et des symposiums au Liban, France, Syrie, Canada, Maroc et Chine. Il a de nombreuses œuvres monumentales réparties dans des places publiques au Liban.

نبيل الحلو نحات

من مواليد بيت الدين عام ١٩٦٩. هو حائز على دبلوم دراسات عليا في النحت من الأكاديمية اللبنانية للفنون الجميلة الألبا. حصل على منحتين متتاليتين من الحكومة الفرنسية، فتخصص في النحت في باريس، وتعلم النحت النظري في جامعة إنساك، باريس. علم النحت في جامعة الألبا بين عامي ١٩٩٥ و ٢٠٠٠. هو حائز على جوائز عديدة عن أعماله في بينالات ومسابقات عالمية. كما أنه مصمم جوائز ومهرجانات عديدة. أقام العديد من المعارض الفردية، واشترك في الكثير من المعارض الجماعية والسمبوزيومات في بلدان عدة منها لبنان، فرنسا، سوريا، كندا، المغرب والصين. له العديد من المنحوتات النصبية في الساحات العامة اللبنانية.





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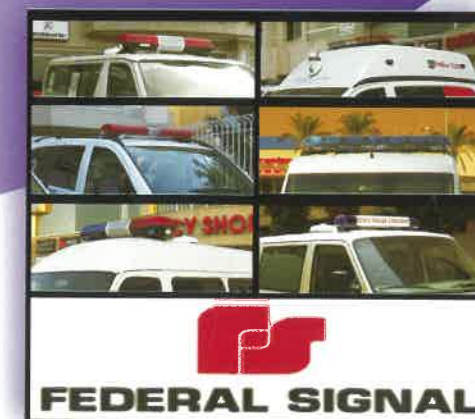
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L'équipe de secours en montagne

Le développement de l'écotourisme et des loisirs de montagne, ainsi que le relief escarpé du Liban, exposent sportifs et habitants à une multitude de dangers.

De jour comme de nuit, les quarante volontaires de l'équipe de secours en montagne, doivent pouvoir intervenir à la moindre alerte et en un

temps record. Secouristes engagés et dévoués à la cause humanitaire, amateurs de plein air, ces jeunes ont accumulé formations et entraînements sur neige auprès de la croix rouge Norvégienne qui finance le projet via FICR (Fédération internationale de la croix rouge et croissant rouge) et assure l'équipement.

Plan d'action sur 3 axes : entraînement, intervention, expansion.

Le but de l'équipe de secours en montagne est de parvenir à former une équipe nationale complète en personnel et en équipement.

Cette équipe répond aux demandes d'intervention et d'entraînements pour les différents centres. Au programme d'expansion:

ouverture de 5 stations refuge sur les sommets des cèdres, Laklouk, Ouyoun al Siman, Barouk, et sur le versant Békaa. Augmentation des volontaires permanents (80), formation des entraîneurs (15) et collecte d'un matériel spécialisé ; Cordes, piolets, lampes, scooters de neige et ATV.

Pour devenir secouristes de montagne

Il faut d'abord avoir passer le visa II et réussir le test d'endurance et de vie de groupe. Il faut pouvoir parcourir 70 km à pied chargé d'un équipement, escalader des sommets et rappel, traverser des ravins à 200m du sol, séjourner dans des grottes, marcher 35 km sur de la neige et pouvoir improviser tous les moyens de survie (igloo, abris, cave). Après ces étapes de pré qualification, le programme d'entraînement nécessaire pour être certifié en secours de montagne peut être résumé comme suit :

- Techniques de base (initiation à l'alpinisme)
- Rappel, escalade, sécurité en montagne
- Secours alpin hivernal et estival
- Pilotage et entretien des motos de neige
- Spéléo-secours
- Evacuation par air
- Techniques de pilotage des 4x4 (pour les ambulanciers)



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EAGER FOR DETAILS?

HAVE A LOOK
IN PAGES 28 - 29

EVEN MORE!!
VISIT THE SHOP



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Our heartfelt thanks to:

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"Revue Souvenir" is dedicated to:

Michael Jbeily, his wife Jumana, and his two sons Nicolas and Charbel.
The 12 martyrs of the Red Cross and their families.
All the volunteers and staff of the Lebanese Red Cross, whose everyday actions speak louder and reach farther than any words.
All the victims of the senseless violence that fell upon the country.
The International Committee of the Red Cross and their delegation in Lebanon and The International Federation of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement and their delegation in Lebanon for their tremendous efforts and valuable support throughout this difficult period.
All the benefactors who helped the Lebanese Red Cross get through these hardships.

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