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THE ATROCITIES OF THE KIEV REGIME IN THE KURSK REGION

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on the Crimes of Ukrainian Neo-Nazi)

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INTRODUCTION

The report presents first-hand direct testimony from victims of Ukrainian war crimes. In the Kursk region, the Ukrainian armed forces shot civilians, including women, children and the elderly, both in their own homes and while attempting to evacuate them in civilian vehicles, with full understanding of the non-military status of the victims, according to survivors, sometimes looking them directly in the face.

The words of the victims are direct accusations of the Ukrainian regime, which, with the support of Western countries, systematically and purposefully killed Russian citizens with small arms, unmanned aerial vehicles (both kamikaze UAVs and the dropping of grenades and various explosive devices from them are used), by shelling peaceful private homes with artillery and multiple rocket launchers.

For example, a 75-year-old resident of the village of Kazachya Loknya Galina Samborskaya, describes how a Ukrainian armed forces serviceman shot at their car and the car of her friends. She was clear that he shot at the first car and killed a woman there. Galina Samborskaya was shot in the thigh by a Ukrainian armed forces serviceman. She said that she had a very deep wound. Artem Kuznetsov, resident of the town of Sudzha, testified how his pregnant wife was killed and his two-year-old child was wounded while a Ukrainian fighter shot at him looking him straight in the face. 'There was a Ukrainian armed forces soldier on the roadside. We looked at each other in the face, and he shot me in my cap. My pregnant wife was driving another car behind me about seventy metres from me. I heard a soldier firing at her. Nina was already unconscious. Matvey is one year and nine months old. He has shrapnel from metal in his back and one deep shrapnel in his shoulder.'

Viktor Kabantsov from the village of Malaya Loknya told us how on the road to Sudzha he was driving around mines and came under Ukrainian shelling. 'I was in the car, and my son and my daughter-in-law and her mother were driving in the car behind me. Behind the sand there were Ukrainians sitting in clusters. They started firing at us from small arms. They fired through the side door and wounded me in the arm. My son drove round me and managed to get away too. He was wounded in the arm, but managed to get away'. Slavik Aloyan, resident of the village of Blagodatnoye, spoke about how his car was shot at by the Ukrainian military when he was travelling from the village of Blagodatnoye to Rylsk. First his *Neva* car was shot at with automatic rifles, then they fired another shot from a grenade launcher. Fortunately, the car itself was not hit the second time, and S. Aloyan managed to escape across the field. He said, 'The Ukrainian armed forces shoot everyone. I don't know why. During the evacuation of Sergey Voroshilin's family from Sudzha, two Ukrainian servicemen fired at them. They killed his uncle, and he was miraculously saved. He said, 'I blame the Poles more. From time to time, people from those districts come out and tell horror stories.'

The Ukrainian armed forces systematically targeted civilians with kamikaze drones. They fully understood their civilian status, as well as the vehicles they were in while attempting to evacuate.

Anna Lyushnaya, 61 years old, resident of Sudzha, who was injured by a Ukrainian drone attack as she and her husband were driving out of town. She said, 'At first I thought I had driven into a puddle. Then my knee started to burn. There was a man sitting in the front, a neighbour. He got hit too.'

Nikolai Golodkov told us how a Ukrainian drone hit him: 'A red drone with white stripes and a big black box with blue tape wrapped around it. It was right in front of me. And I got an explosion below the windscreen of my car.' A resident of Sudzha, Svetlana Verkhodomova's car was first fired at with machine guns by Ukrainian soldiers and then hit with another drone. As a result of these attacks, she received concussion and shrapnel wounds, and a 10-year-old child was hit in the face and leg by shrapnel. She said, 'The Ukrainian armed forces, honestly speaking, you can't even call them people, they are not human beings.' Natalia Shelekhova from the village of Cherkasskoye Porechnoye told us how a Ukrainian drone

dropped grenades on her car. In the car there were Natalia and her husband as well as her daughter, her son-in-law and two-year-old granddaughter. Ukrainian drones dropped grenades several times. As a result, Natalia received shrapnel wounds. She said, 'Two times there were like fireballs. Well, we managed to get away from the drone after all. The Ukrainians just wanted to kill us.' A Ukrainian drone attacked Nikolai Dzyuba, resident of the village of Guevo, near his home despite the fact that he was in civilian clothes. As a result of the attack, a neighbour's car was burnt down and he himself received shrapnel wounds. He said. 'I was dressed as an ordinary villager. The Ukrainians saw that I was a civilian.'

The civilians trying to escape from the Ukrainian armed forces saw a horrific picture. Zoya Ananyeva, resident of the village of Kurilovka, recounts how she saw bodies in the destroyed civilian vehicles: 'I looked into the UAZ truck, and there were two charred corpses sitting there. I looked into the other side of the UAZ truck and saw a man lying there with no arm on the right side. In the distance there was another body without legs and without a head. Five more steps away there was a wrecked red car.'

Irina Morozova told us how the Ukrainian armed forces killed civilians in her village: 'People tried to drive their cars out of the village, but they were shot at point-blank range with machine guns. Five cars drove out, and all of them were shot. Not a single person was left alive. People from the Korenevo village said that when the Ukrainian armed forces came in, they just shot them with machine guns, machine-gun bursts, regardless of who was there - old people, children or adults.'

The Kiev regime also purposefully shells and destroys Russian civilian buildings, hospitals and Orthodox churches.

The Ukrainian armed forces destroyed an ambulance that was supposed to transport Irina Shurupova and her elderly mother from the village of Zaoleshenka. She said, 'I was waiting for the third ambulance to come and take me and my mother away. My mother could not walk. Just half an hour later the Head Doctor said that the third ambulance had been smashed by the Ukrainian military. It was the ambulance where the paramedic and the driver were killed'.

Alexander Grinenko from the village of Kurylovka, told us about the Ukrainian strikes on the hospital: 'At first a shell did not reach the hospital. But finally they set fire to the hospital anyway. The third floor, the surgery was burnt down'. Sergei Zherdev from the village of Bolshoye Soldatskoye testifies about similar shelling: 'The Ukrainian armed forces started shelling Bolshoye Soldatskoye. They hit the hospital first. I came out of my house, and they hit the road, and then hit my house'.

Such actions of the Kiev regime are massive war crimes and gross violations of the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols. These conventions and protocols set out the obligations of countries to provide mandatory protection to civilians and explicitly state that 'at all times and in all places, attacks on life and physical integrity, in particular all forms of killing, will be prohibited'. Under the international humanitarian law, women and children are also to be given special protection. The 'taking of measures likely to cause physical suffering or destruction' of the civilian population is also prohibited.

The testimonies of victims presented in the report prove that the Kiev regime has systematically and flagrantly violated the Geneva agreements and committed war crimes on a massive scale, which, according to international law, has no statute of limitations.

DELIBERATE KILLINGS OF RUSSIAN CITIZENS BY THE ARMED FORCES OF UKRAINE

Geneva Convention IV defines the need to provide protection to civilians. To this end, 'attacks on life and physical integrity, in particular all forms of murder, will be prohibited at all times and in all places'. Article 147 IV of the Geneva Convention also states that wilful killing constitutes a grave breach of the Convention.

Under international humanitarian law, certain categories of persons, such as women and children, should be accorded special respect and protection. Children should receive the care and assistance they need.

The testimonies of direct victims and witnesses collected by the International Public Tribunal on the Crimes of Ukrainian Neo-Nazi (chaired by Maxim S. Grigoriev) and the Foundation for the Study of Democracy, fully incriminate the Armed Forces of Ukraine in the systematic and targeted killing of Russian citizens, including children, women and the elderly, by means of small arms and unmanned aerial vehicles, both using kamikaze drones and dropping a variety of explosive devices from drones of other designs.

In particular, the Armed Forces of Ukraine used small arms to shoot Russian civilians, including women and children, in the Kursk region, both in their own homes and while people were evacuated in civilian vehicles, with full understanding of the non-military status of the victims.

1. Galina Dmitrievna Samborskaya, 75 years old, resident of Kazachya Loknya village (Kursk region)

How was I injured? We drove down our street to the crossroads. There was a *Vasilek* shop there with a table and two benches by the entrance. Near the shop stood a military man in the camouflage uniform of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and a machine gun. He stood with one foot on the bench and another one on the pavement.

Suddenly he fired at the first car. Our friends were in it. The Ukrainian soldier fired his machine gun in one direction and then in the opposite direction. Our friends got hit higher in the car, we got hit lower. His wife was killed. She was hit in the chest. She only had time to repeat twice: I was hit, I was hit. And that was it, she died.

Our car got hit in the wheel. I was covered in blood. My hands were completely red. In addition to the fact that the wheel was shot through, the fuel oil was leaking. We drove off, but the car drove about 400 metres and warmed up. So we drove to the village slowly little by little up to the Bolshoi Soldier village. There we found a medical centre. Luckily for us, our military medics were there. They gave first aid to me and my husband.

My thigh was completely shot through by the burst bullet. There is a very deep wound. The first operation was done here on arrival. They took out the shrapnel. The second operation was to remove the dead tissue. And then two days ago they did the final operation. They wanted to do a tissue transplant, but the wound was so bad, they couldn't do it. They say the transplanted tissue won't take root there. My husband was shot below the knee and up to the groin.

We moved here permanently years ago. My husband is Ukrainian by nationality and was born in Kirovograd region, so he always wanted to be closer to his homeland. Since the (Soviet) Union was divided, we moved closer to his homeland.

When the Ukrainians were shooting, I was probably not even scared, but rather surprised that they were shooting at us. I was so shocked that I did not feel any pain at all until the moment I came here, although I was bleeding. It was scary. And when we learnt that Tanya had been killed, then....

2. Alexander Grigorievich Grinenko, resident of Kurilovka village (Kursk region)

My son-in-law was killed by the Ukrainian armed forces. There were four arrivals from the Ukrainian side. From the side of the motorway, Czech MLRS '*Vampire*' fired four missiles at Goncharovka on Novaya Street and Bolnichnaya Street. My son-in-law and my daughter were going to work. They went out from the house in order to drive to work and there were three shellings: two shellings at Novaya Street and one at Bolnichnaya Street. A shell dropped into the dentist's yard. My son-in-law entered the house and told my daughter to get ready to go. At that moment shells dropped into the yard and the tarmac road. Splinters blew the whole house apart and shattered a huge tree. The force was terrible.

As a result, my son-in-law was heavily wounded. We brought him to the hospital and he died on the operating table. My daughter had a concussion.

The Ukrainian armed forces shelled Kurilovka back in July. They burnt four vehicles at the complex in Kurilovka. One of them was Kostya Ivanenko's truck. In our village they dropped explosives from a drone at night. The owners ran outside to put it out, then the car caught fire. The Ukrainian soldiers threw another drone. On the following day they burned down a refrigerated truck at a pig farm. There was a guard's car next to it. He came to work and his car was damaged. They burnt Kostin's GAZ-53 in Kurilovka in July. They shelled Plekhov, Makhnovka and the town Goncharovka.

There were no military nearby at all. Our military were there, on the front line, near the border. And here there was a civilian hospital nearby, which they shelled. It was the Sudzha Central Hospital. At first the Ukrainian fighters did not reach the hospital, but in the end they set fire to it anyway. The surgery on the third floor burned down.

The Ukrainian soldiers came in from the direction of Yunakovka. There is a signpost two kilometres to the 'Kurilovka' turn. They blocked that post and just shot at all the people who tried to leave.

Here is the first woman from my village Nina Kuznetsova. She left at about 11 o'clock with her husband and her family. Her husband drove forward in his car '*Niva*', and she was driving behind with her child and her mother. The husband managed to drive through, but they were shot at. Nina was immediately killed.

Lena is my in-law. How did she get to the hospital wounded? A two-year-old boy and Lena were wounded. They got to the hospital on their own. At one or two o'clock my fellow countryman Lyosha Trubitsyn was on his way to pick up his mother. He called his mother saying, 'Mum, I'll come and get you.'

Ukrainian military stopped all the cars. My neighbour drove at about three o'clock. They opened fire at him, but he didn't stop. He speeded off. The radiator and the passenger door of his car were hit. One bullet went under the car seat. He rushed home, grabbed his son, who is four years old, in his arms, and his sick mother. They waded across the river.

They tried to stop Lyosha, but he wouldn't stop. So they laid mines. Lyosha drove through the mines and blew up. His car was burnt. Lyosha was burned and his leg was torn off. It was after one o'clock.

Irka went to that place where they were. She took Lyosha and dragged him into her car. She found his torn off leg. You can imagine how horrible it was there. She brought him home and our guys buried him in the vegetable garden. That was on 6 August in the evening. Ukrainians haven't let anyone through since.

My fellow countryman and my classmate drove with his family. They were wounded. He drove to Soldatskoye village and was treated there.

Yurka Kuznetsov had a son in Kurilovka. He is older than me. He drove to his son in a four-wheeler car. He saw a column of Ukrainian tanks coming on the road, so he took to the roadside to give way. The Ukrainians shot him from a machine gun straight from the tank. He turned back and by some miracle managed to reach our hospital.

Nikolai Pavlovich Kuznetsov stayed in Kurilovka because of his mother. She is 84 years old and has painful legs. In the morning the guys found him killed. We had one hand pump left there, so I don't know whether he went to fetch water or what. They found him killed. He was shot in the eye. This bloke and my brother found him. They buried him there.

The second woman of 72 years old was found near that hand pump as well. Those two corpses were shot in the eye for some reason.

The Ukrainian armed forces are fascists. They are simply sadists.

3. Yury Ivanovich Maklakov, resident of Zaoleshenka village (Kursk region)

On 7 August I was shot at the ring road in Sudzha. I went to the right. I stopped where civilian cars stood with lights on. There were not any military vehicles. I went to look. All the passengers were dead. There were more than ten cars, all damaged by small arms fire. You could see that the wings and wheels were punctured. Ukrainians shot at them.

There was only one wounded person, he had bullet wounds. Everything below the waist was shot up. I went to see him at night. It was opposite the petrol station. We walked slowly. When he was about 300 metres away, there was a shot. He was probably killed.

The Ukrainian soldiers are engaged in genocide. They kill. They must have had such an order, or they're just inhumane.

4. Artem Aleksandrovich Kuznetsov, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

On 6 August 2024 at 15:30 shelling of our town Sudzha began. The shelling was at the city, exactly on ordinary houses, not on the military. The sanitary epidemiological station was completely demolished. The Ukrainian fighters did not care where they fired.

We left the town in two cars. When driving out I saw Ukrainian soldiers. When driving out on the side of the road I saw a UAF soldier. He opened fire from his machine gun at my car. Seventy metres away they started shelling. I felt as if my car was being pelted with stones. At first, I did not understand at all what was going on. A bullet flew into the interior of my car. I turned my head and I saw a soldier looking at me. He looked at me and I looked at him. He wore glasses, a balaclava, a blue stripe on the helmet made by a duct tape. I saw his machine gun. We looked at each other and he shot me in my cap. He simply aimed at me on purpose. A few more bullets hit the car, but I managed to drive away. I was lucky.

And my pregnant wife was driving behind me, about seventy metres away. I waved at her from my car window: hurry up, hurry up. Then I heard that she was being shot at. I drove through and stopped to make sure that she was driving. I saw her car drive out from behind the corner. My mother-in-law sat on the back seat with a child, Matvey, in her arms. She shouted, 'Nina, Nina, Matvey is wounded.'

And Nina was already unconscious. She crashed into my car. Matvey is one year and nine months old. He has metal shrapnel in his back, one deep splinter in his shoulder. And one shrapnel in his bottom, a little short of a kidney. The wounds are serious.

I know a story about a guy three houses down from where we lived in Kurilovka. He lived three houses down from where we lived. They just took him into the house and shot him dead there. His mum buried him in the yard of her house.

I met a guy who drove out around five o'clock in the evening. Right at the exit, where there was a bypass road from the city behind the roadblock, a UAF soldier pulled out a gun and started shooting. They shot at the cars and people. That man managed to escape. There were a lot of abandoned cars. It meant that the people were killed. They did not let peaceful, ordinary people leave. I don't know what kind of troops they have in Ukraine. They just came in to clear the city from the people, to kill everybody.

A woman at the train station was trying to get into her car to leave. She was blown up by a Ukrainian drone. Her legs were torn off, she was lying there screaming, and no one could approach her. She stayed there.

Let all of Russia know that the Ukrainian armed forces tried to kill all of us, ordinary Russian people. I think this is just Nazism, genocide. I still can't get it into my head. I'll tell you honestly, I saw someone who came to kill. They came to exterminate the Russian people, just kill people.

5. Zoya Ananyeva, resident of the Kurilovka village (Kursk region)

I was on the night shift at work, it was half past seven. I worked in Kurilovka, which is very close to the Sumy border. I heard explosions and a machine-gun burst. The security guard and I drove away from our place of work. The security guard said, 'A drone is flying at us.' I said, 'where is the drone?' He said, 'Look straight ahead.' I saw it getting closer. The security guard said, 'Quickly get out of the car and rush to the field.'

We ran off and the drone hovered for maybe a minute or so, and then flew further. Then there was an explosion.

The explosions were non-stop. Just an explosion, followed by another explosion, and another. The houses were exploding. It was scary to go out in the yard.

Then I couldn't stand it any longer. I took my bag and went out. Near the crossing on one side is Novaya Bondarevka, and on the other side a settlement called Mirny. I saw an *UAZ* truck and a man lying near it. His shoulders and upper body were on the roadside, all this on the motorway. Drones were flying overhead. I walked and thought that it was about to drop something.

When I was coming up to that man, I thought that he was lying on his side, one leg straight, his arms spread out unnaturally, and the other leg half bent. I thought that if he was feeling unwell, he would have moved somehow, bent his leg. When I got closer to him, I did not see his head.

I looked inside the *UAZ* truck and saw two charred corpses sitting there. I looked on the other side of the truck and saw a man lying there. On the right side there was no arm and leg, and in the distance there was a body without legs and without a head. Five more steps away there was a wrecked red civilian car.

I am telling you, I don't know how I came back. There were explosions, splinters were flying, rubble was underfoot. Drones were circling overhead. I just kept my head down and could hear that the drones were not over my head. I walked and thought, it would explode now, now. I was 100 per cent sure I wasn't going to make it.

When I came, they put me in a car. Stas drove me, God bless him. On the way he said, 'Hold on tight, looks like they found us. We drove in a civilian car through forests and fields, and the Ukrainian armed forces fired at us. I heard that something clicked behind us, and there were explosions on both sides. The Ukrainian armed forces fired at us, but we managed to get away.'

They say, that Ukrainians are angry and inadequate. But when Poles and Georgians came in, they were real natural beasts. Especially Poles were shooting, and Georgians as I heard rumours, were fond of slaughtering. There were a lot of slaughtered people with cut throats.

There were cases when cars were stopped with old people. A husband and wife were shot dead at once. As for old women, the Ukrainians took their money and documents, shot at their phones, let them out into a field, and told them to go. Those old women could barely walk.

Absolute beasts they were. There were boys of 10-12 years old. They tried to leave, but were shot dead. The Ukrainian soldiers fired at all civilian cars. They are beasts, aren't they. They shoot indiscriminately. On Goncharovka they came in, opened the basement and didn't look whether there was a person or not. They threw a grenade in there. That's all.

When I was with our military, I said, 'Please take revenge for our fate and for those boys who stayed there.'

6. Valentina Ivanovna Zolotaryova, 71 years old, resident of Zaoleshenka village (Kursk region)

The Ukrainian Armed Forces soldiers entered the house of my acquaintances, a woman and her husband, and killed them. Her house was near the village council of Zaoleshenka. She worked in the village council. They stayed there as they couldn't get out, and they were killed. She was about 80 years old, and so was he. The Ukrainian military just shot them dead.

In the neighbouring village a son came to visit his mother. The Ukrainian forces came in and killed them both, him and his mother. His mother was younger than me, about 55 years old. A man came on holiday and was killed.

What the Ukrainian Armed Forces did was scary. People recounted what they had seen. What they saw, how corpses lay there and how they were abused. Now these Ukrainians show videos how they shot civilians.

7. Viktor Kabantsov, resident of the village of Malaya Loknya (Kursk region)

I was travelling to the town of Sudzha. My son's father-in-law remained there. He and his family wanted to be taken away from there. We brought him something to eat and drink and I drove. My son, my daughter-in-law and her mother were sitting behind me. There were mines on the ring-road which I was first to drive around.

Behind the sand there were Ukrainians sitting in clusters. They started firing at us from small arms. All was covered with glass.

I fell down, then got up and saw a mine in front of me. I drove around it. Fell down again, and the Ukrainian fighters fired through the side door and wounded me in the arm. My arm was shattered, my elbow was shattered with a bullet. To cut it short, two operations were performed and I was put together. My hand doesn't work now, my fingers do not move.

My son drove around me and managed to drive away. His car was shot and he was wounded in the arm, but managed to drive away. He was wounded in both arms. Shrapnel is still there in his arms. I got shrapnel in too, one or two left. The doctors said, 'Let it heal for now.'

And then my car stalled. I looked and saw that there was a smoke in the back, a black smoke. The Ukrainian armed forces saw that I was leaving and tried to kill me. They missed and I fell down. They fired, even mowed the grass, but I managed to hide.

Two civilian cars drove by. A guy and a girl, very young, almost children, ran into a mine. Probably they hit it, and there was an explosion. The second car was with two guys and a girl. The Ukrainian military shot them dead.

I went to my son's house to find out if there were any survivors. The police met me on the road, picked me up and gave me a lift. We started driving towards Bolshoye Soldatskoye. There were people lying on the road. A lot of dead there. I was bleeding as I walked. I didn't have time to count. They were lying there.

We walked for over three and a half hours. Then our soldiers picked us up, brought us closer to the hospital and directed us to Kursk to the hospital. I was in the hospital for almost a month, two operations were performed and my elbow was repaired.

In our village my in-law's wife was shot. In general people say that the young Poles and Ukrainian armed forces are monsters. They do not count anything; they kill, intimidate, do all sorts of things. They shot people dead for nothing.

This is what people say. In one place a Ukrainian tank drove in. A woman was sitting by the window. A tank driver pointed its cannon straight at her and fired. The house was demolished and the woman's head was blown off. It is horrendous.

Who knows why they kill. They're so set in their minds. We treat them like family. Anyway, something changed in their heads, something has been rewired.

8. Vladimir Petrovich Maksin, 75 years old, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

I was travelling along a bypass road. When I reached the turn to Kursk, I noticed that there were four people wearing helmets standing ahead of me. There were two on one side of the road and two on the other side of the road. They had automatic rifles. Their outfit was Ukrainian, not like our guys. They had blue rims on their helmets and their sleeves. A little further, higher up, there was a machine-gun point.

I turned to the right towards the railway station. I thought I would skip through. Well, I couldn't get past and they opened fire. I got up on the side of the road, and lay down on the right seat. In short, I was shot from a machine gun.

When I started to bleed, I decided to get out of the car, go into the slope there and hide behind the road. When I opened the door, the light in the cabin turned on, and then I received another automatic machine gunfire. I heard the car hit and the rear window shattered. Ukrainians were shooting at the light. The cars behind me were also hit. They were civilian cars, there were no military people there.

Before that, another car drove passing me probably thirty metres to the right. I was driving towards the railway station on the right, and he was driving from the railway station that way. There's a monument to the MIG-29 there. They smashed the monument, fired at it from tanks. That car stopped somewhere there, I heard a scream of pain. There were women there, I heard their moans. There was another burnt-out car opposite me. It was completely burnt.

The women found me and dragged me out. Their driver was wounded in his spine. He was moaning and lying there for a long time. He died before morning. Most likely he was shot at from a machine gun.

We started to drive out and saw a Ukrainian drone above us. The road was straight, we must have done more than 160 kilometers an hour. Before morning the fog sticks to the optics. If the weather was clear, he would have caught up with us. Although the drone's speed was high, maybe 120-130 kilometers. He chased us, but we drove away. Then my son met me just before Kursk and immediately took me to the regional hospital straight to the operating table. They took out the shrapnel and all the bullets. That is what happened here, how things were.

One priest was driving out before a Ukrainian drone hit him and smashed his car. He survived, but the car was wrecked. Everywhere you look around, cars are smashed and burnt out.

My neighbour came back to pick up his stuff. Another kid from the asphalt plant came with him. They started driving down the motorway. His son was killed by a machine gun. The father got out of the passenger seat saying, 'Sonny, sonny.' There was another fire from the machine gun and he was killed as well. The guy who was sitting with them, opened the door and crawled to the roadside, and escaped. He was with us in the hospital. My neighbour's mother came to see me in the hospital. I couldn't tell her that both her son and her husband had been killed.

So many cars were beaten up, and you could see that there are people there in the cars. When we were leaving, we saw in the ditch burnt corpses in those cars. It's horrible.

9. Slavik Surenovich Aloyan, resident of Blagodatnoye village (Kursk region)

On 12 August, I went from the town of Kurchatov to the village of Blagodatnoye in Korenevsky region to pick up my belongings. I loaded everything into a trailer, driving towards Rylsky region. Between Kornevo and Rylskoye a man in military uniform came out, raised his hand and stopped about sixty or seventy metres away. I stopped as I thought, that he was our military and we should stop to let the military equipment pass.

As soon as I stopped the car, they started shooting at me. A group of Ukrainian terrorists and reconnaissance soldiers were shooting at me.

I was wounded in my arm and my leg. There was a shot from a grenade launcher. It missed the car by about half a metre. I looked up in the car and there was a smoke. I opened the door and jumped out of the car. When I jumped out of the car, there was another shot from a rocket-propelled grenade launcher towards the trailer. They missed and hit a sunflower. Thanks God, it was a sunflower field. I ran through the sunflower field and they fired at me.

Yeah, I was lucky. I walked for ten hours through the fields. I crawled in the field so they wouldn't see me. I got to the village. On the next day I was taken to the hospital. They could not take me out to the hospital because Ukrainian terrorist groups worked around.

The Ukrainian armed forces shoot everyone. I don't know why. They shoot everyone. Civilians are dying. On that day a lot of civilians were shot in the village and in Korenevo.

Andrei was in the hospital with me. He was taking out civilians. He saw how people were shot dead. He survived by a miracle, the terrorist groups (DRG) was also shooting at him and other peaceful citizens. That day the Ukrainian armed forces shot a lot of civilians on the bridge.

10. Roman Aleksandrovich Yatsenko, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

On 6 August the heavy shelling started. I talked to my wife, she jumped out of the basement, but then I made the last call and she told me that there was a heavy shelling. After that there was no connection anymore. The next day I decided to go after her.

I was warned that civilians were being killed there, that the city was occupied. I thought, well, what will be will be. When I reached the ring road, I heard machine gun fire. Just as I came there, a car turned around and got shot at. The second car came out and got shot at. I decided to go around the edge of the field.

I saw dead bodies in a red *Neva* car. Then I saw another dead body in a white car. They both were civilian cars. A Ukrainian soldier started shooting at me. I sat down and then realised that he was not following me. I stayed where I was and moved on.

I approached the house and knocked. We quickly packed, took comfortable shoes, mobile phones, power banks and documents. I instructed my family to walk in an extended line, so as not to be too close

to each other. I explained to the kids, 'We are one big ear, we walk and listen to the drones.' All the children obeyed.

We approached the field again. The Ukrainian military started shooting again, although he saw that there were five children.

We ran, then crawled, then walked along the landing. The grass was covered in blood, people were killed there. There were eight or nine cars near the ring road, plus three more on the motorway. They were shot and burned by drones.

11. Alexander Sergeyevich Fisenko, resident of Kurilovka village (Kursk region)

About three weeks before the Ukrainian invasion into the Kursk region I was in Kurilovka. Drones were flying constantly on the motorway from Kurilovka to Goncharovka. They were hitting my car. In general, it was just scary to drive.

It was a nightmare; drones were flying and hitting everyone. They hit cars. A drone hit Pavel Timofeyevich's *Gazelle* car. They also shelled the city.

The Ukrainian armed forces wanted to intimidate us. They shot at our petrol stations. We did not have petrol, the lights were turned off. They wanted all our citizens to be shaking, pounding from this horror, which they caused.

On Thursday I went out to the crossroads in Kurilovka, and a hundred metres away there stood a *Bradley*. When I told my relatives that I would be leaving, there was already an armoured car at the crossroads, firing from the machine gun indiscriminately. It was a bit scary.

If you go up the hill from Kurilovka, there the Ukrainian military settled down. They caught one of our people, who wanted to leave by car, and put him on his knees. He told this to me himself. He arrived all wet and shaking. He said, 'Take me to the crossing, I can't go there at all. So he left the car and Kolya Kuznetsov took him to the crossing. Then we learned at once that the took everyone's cars and mobile phones, and threw away their SIM cards.

Ukrainian soldiers looted everything. I had a dead dog under my table. They shot it right in the kitchen under the table.

12. Inna Vladimirovna Gavryushova, resident of the village of Tetkino (Kursk region)

The village of Tetkino is near the border, three hundred metres from it. On 16 August 2024, I myself personally was riding away on a bicycle for fourteen kilometres. Ukrainian shelling continued constantly, then there were drones. They hit people, the settlement and houses. Shrapnel flew at me and the house was smashed. A neighbour's house across the street had its wires cut. Then just two houses away my neighbour's garden was hit. There was a man-sized pit in the ground.

We saw a car smashed by a drone in the centre. There were two wounded people lying there. Two doors were blown out and windows smashed. A man was dead and a woman was still alive. I could see that the woman's leg was torn. She was lying with her jacket on. A man was covered in blood. He was covered by a rug. All his insides were visible in his stomach.

13. Elena Valentinovna Galeva, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

We left Korenevo village on Saturday on 10 August. We have an ordinary small blue car *Oka*. When we drove onto the bridge, there was a sharp buzzing and explosions. The only thing I had time to shout to my child and my Dad, that they lay on the floor. My daughter was 20 years old, just turned 20 on 2 May. She was killed. My Dad was killed. My husband was also killed.

When I came to my senses, my husband was lying there dead. My daughter had been thrown out of the car. It seemed like she was still alive. I started screaming, calling for help.

I had a head injury, fractured collarbone and scapula. Doctors were pulling shrapnel out of my shoulders.

14. Tatyana Ivanovna Bogdanova, 74 years old, resident of Kolychevka village (Kursk region)

Ukrainian shelling has been taking place at our place for over a month. It was the Ukrainian armed forces. Our military were not in the village at that time, they were outside the village. But the Ukrainian armed forces shelled us constantly, methodically every day.

We are civilians, we don't understand what it is. Destruction of houses of the residents. There was no military close by at all, just civilians' homes. A lot of houses were burnt down both in the village of Korenevo and in the village of Kalychevka, where I live.

Ukrainian drones dropped explosives constantly. For example, we leave the house: at first we open the door and listen whether it crackles or not. Only then, when it's quiet, we can at least go out into our courtyard. So drones dropping their shells or something on peaceful houses where there were no military at all.

One day a drone flew over and dropped a projectile on a good nice-looking house. The house caught fire instantly. Literally twenty minutes later another drone flew in, turned around, flew over, turned back and dropped a projectile on the houses at the end of our village. On the following day another drone flew to our side on the other side of the road.

We are all now affected psychologically, we don't sleep at night. From eleven o'clock onwards the daily shelling started. When we arrived at the temporary accommodation centre, I couldn't sleep during the first night. I was lying there counting the hours. It is now eleven o'clock so it should start shelling now. It's not, thank God. In two hours again, there should be shelling now. No, thank God. I couldn't sleep, I only slept last night.

We had very many burnt civilian cars. They were out there on the side of the road. Civilian cars were all battered.

The Ukrainian armed forces are Nazis. They are fascists. They are not people, they are not people. We grew up in the Soviet Union. We were all people of the Soviet Union. We all lived amicably, whatever nationality we were. I do not want to say that he is a Ukrainian. I want to say that this is just a fascist. These are not people.

15. Anna Ivanovna Lyushnaya, 61 years old, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

I was wounded on 7 August late in the evening. We were driving out of Sudzha and were attacked by a Ukrainian drone. We had a side impact. We were driving, my husband was at the wheel. Then such dirty crumbs flew around. At first I thought that we drove into a puddle. At first one, then another. Then my knee started burning. I saw blood. My leg was cut across. There was a man sitting in the front. He was my neighbour. He got hit, too. Then an ambulance picked me up and brought me to Kursk to this hospital.

16. Anatoly Sergeevich Marganov, 70 years old, resident of Bolshoye Soldatskoye village (Kursk region)

The Ukrainian armed forces shelled my neighbour's yard. I think they did it with a mortar. In one car people were killed and two men were wounded. A woman was killed and a child was wounded. Volunteers were also shot dead in a car.

17. Valentin Ivanovich Lyushny, 62 years old, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

I saw a flash and felt one blow on the left side. I heard that my wife said that it hurt. My neighbour Vasily was sitting in front of the car. I was taking them out, him and my wife. We were the last ones to leave Sudzha. Afterwards I heard another explosion and a flash. I saw the car start to lurch to the left side, then the right front wheel was hit. I saw that the tank the empty. I drove maybe another five kilometers from Sudzha. My wife said, 'I'm bleeding. The car tilted and we called 112.

There was another shelling. In front, right in the middle of the road, a car burnt out, there were flames. I have all the photos in my phone; of the radiator which was completely smashed, of the washer tank; how the panel was blown through, the doors and the taillights were smashed, the indicator and the brake light destroyed. It was the shrapnel that came with the second flash on the back of the car.

18. Alexander Ivanovich Pridubkov, 65 years old, resident of Ulanok village (Kursk region)

I was in the basement and decided to go and get some water to drink. I went to my house, got a drink and stood by the window. And then there was shelling. There are craters there by my home. Ukrainians were shooting people all the time.

Ukrainians just want to destroy everything. They destroyed villages. They start with drones. The Baba Yaga drone hits and that's it, no house. There are only five houses left on my street. They are mocking us.

19. Nikolai Pavlovich Golodkov, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

I was given a task to drive crushed stone to Sudzha to the asphalt plant. We loaded up and drove to Sudzha. When we were driving close to Sudzha, I looked up into the sky and I did not see anyone. I looked down and there it was, the drone.

I remember it like I see it now. It was a big black box with red with white stripes, wrapped in blue tape. Right there in front of me. There was an explosion below my windscreen. I crawled out of the car. It was dark in my eyes and I could not hear anything. My head was buzzing. My seat started on fire. They got me into the car and brought me to the hospital. Thanks to the medics, they anaesthetised me immediately, cleaned me up and did everything. I have lacerations. They pulled out a piece of shrapnel.

The Ukrainian soldiers hit us on purpose. They had an order to destroy Russians. They attacked us for that. There were other cars on fire, too. The Ukrainians hit them with drones. Those were cars of ordinary people. When we were driving, we got a little higher up, and two cars were burning there. There were people there.

One guy told us that they were driving out and were stopped by the Ukrainians who were Nazi. They brought them back and said, 'No, we won't let you out'. That guy had his father and mother in the car. He said, 'I am going to Sudzha, I want to go around the field.' The Ukrainian fighters opened fire to kill him. He and his father were wounded and the car was battered. Then a Ukrainian sniper worked. He even saw how that sniper's bullet went through the bonnet. Well, he jumped out.

There were many cases like that. There's a guy here in the hospital from the village of Pogrebki. A Ukrainian tank shot him. He was driving his family. All his family were killed instantly. He has been wounded heavily, also a shrapnel wound.

20. Vladimir Vasilyevich Shevtsov, 69 years old, resident of Zhuravli village (Kursk region)

When the Ukrainians came in, they didn't walk calmly, they were firing. At first came the APCs and you could hear the sound of machine guns firing. They were hitting at the windows. A bullet flew into my kitchen. The gates were punched, there were holes in the gates. My neighbour's roof was punched. They must have been fighting civilians or wanted to frighten them.

On 12 August at about 11 o'clock in the afternoon I was standing. My wife and my kid were sitting on the sofa. A shot was fired through the window, the window was pierced, then there was a strong click and something glittered. A bullet or shrapnel tore a piece of metal out of the fridge door. I was wounded in my shoulder. There was a deep wound in the back and below the elbow. The doctors pulled out a small piece of shrapnel. And there is another shard in my shoulder. It is deep, so the doctors did not take it out. The body needs to loosen the muscles a little.

21. Dmitry Vasilyevich Dyachenko, resident of Pogrebki village (Kursk region)

I personally saw a Ukrainian armoured vehicle firing from mortars towards the village. And our people were driving also; Sashka was in the first car. There were two of them. Their son with Sashka's wife and Ilyushka was driving in the second car. A Ukrainian column was moving along the road. The first armoured cars pulled aside and a tank fired at the cars. It was exactly the tank that was coming behind, it was exactly the tank that fired. And after that a machine gun fired at the car right on the move. Sashka's son said that he found Uncle Vitya, but he couldn't find his father. And as it turned out, he was found about two days later and was picked up. Natalya was wounded, and her husband was killed.

22. Sergey Mikhailovich Voroshilin, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

I evacuated the families and everything was calm at first, but on 11 August we drove along the side of the forest. We had just passed a street and at a bend two Ukrainian machine gunners started shooting at us from the bushes.

They shot my whole side of the car and shot another car behind mine. After twenty metres the third machine gunner started shooting. The car stalled and I quickly jumped out of the car. My uncle said that I had to run away, but he was already wounded. When I got out of the car, he had a mouthful of blood already. I jumped into the bushes. When I turned back, my uncle was already lying in the bushes with closed eyes.

How did I manage to get out? Miraculously, I heard three machine guns in bursts. Then I went out through the swamp, through the forests and the fields. It was scary. I went to the motorway, because I had no strength to walk through the thorns and the forest. A car was coming towards me. I stopped it and they picked me up.

It is possible that it was not Ukrainians who shot at me. I'm more inclined to think that they were Poles. From time to time people come out of those regions and tell horror stories. They say that the Ukrainian armed forces rape and kill civilians. People hide in basements. The Ukrainians take them out of the basements. If people do not have weapons on them, they are shot in the legs.

23. Elena Vladimirovna Maklakova, resident of Tetkino village (Kursk region)

There was terrible shelling. On 6 August there was a very heavy shelling started very heavily. The Ukrainian military started killing the people. Thanks to our Head of the settlement, he helped people to evacuate.

The Ukrainian armed forces hit everything, they had no targets. They hit where it went. They didn't care about civilians or children. There are many killed and wounded people. They fired wherever they wanted. As they say, they wanted that there were fewer Russian people. At first, they shelled the factories, and now they started destroying the civilian population. Where a drone saw a movement, that's it. If they saw movement, they hit, they tried to hit civilians.

24. Viktor Vasilyevich Krivosheev, resident of Korovyakovka village (Kursk region)

We were hit from the Ukrainian side. We were shelled by a tank from the hill. There was mortar shelling practically every day. The village is within two or three kilometers from the border. The tank fired very brutally.

My parents' house suffered a lot from the shelling of our street. The shock wave blew out all the windows. And the houses standing next door were also damaged. One house burned down completely. In the neighbouring street a man perished. He went to the shop. There was shelling and he came under fire. He was shot in the abdomen and died instantly.

25. Ivan Yuryevich Kovalyov, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

There were a lot of attacks by Ukrainian drones. They attacked petrol stations in front of my eyes for about a month before the general attack. One petrol station near my work was blown up by a drone. And then when the fire brigade and the EMERGENCIES came, the UAF hit a fire truck right before my eyes. This was in the centre of the town.

As I was coming out of town, I saw a first civilian car that was burned out. And my mate who was driving me, told me that a Ukrainian drone had dropped a charge right before his eyes. You could see the wrecked civilian cars from the drone drops. There was blood there. One of the cars had a bloody bandage on the back seat, and the boot was opened.

When I went back to the town to pick up my mum, there was a constant buzz of drones. I had to hide under a bus stop or a tree. It would fly by, buzz, and then literally minutes later you'd hear an explosion. And then it would buzz again, one minute, then the explosion.

There is one family. I met them at the temporary accommodation centre. They are from Gogolevka. It is practically the closest to the border settlement. They had to walk through the swamps because they couldn't drive out on the road. They saw Ukrainian tanks. They were crawling through the swamp and through the forest. They had to walk thirty kilometers to get out of there. Ukrainian forces were shooting at them.

26. Dmitry Ilyich Lavro, resident of the village of Korenevo (Kursk region)

My family and I left the village on the night of 6-7 August. On 11-12 August me and my mate went to pick up the stuff. When we drove out to the road fork, we saw off the road a lot of shelled civilian cars. There were dead people in them. There was a man and his wife in one car. The Ukrainian armed forces fired at them. The wife was apparently still alive. She was probably trying to crawl out of the car. They must have been in their 60s.

When my friend and I were driving out, there was a small bridge there and my car also came under fire. My friend was wounded twice in the leg. When the Ukrainian soldiers started firing we started zigzagging along the road.

The Ukrainian armed forces are not human beings. What are they? To fire at old men and women and ordinary people without weapons? They are not human beings. Many people told us that when the UAF entered villages, they abused and humiliated old women. We have a village council in Lyubimivka. One old woman lives alone in the village. The UAF came with their flag. They took away our flag and hang up theirs. The old lady came up and started talking to them. One of the UAF started firing from the Kalashnikov just under her feet.

27. Evgeny Viktorovich Motorykin, resident of Plekhovo village (Kursk region)

I was taking people to a neighbouring village. My car is an ordinary civilian three door car. The first time the Ukrainian drone did not catch up with us, the second time it did. It caught up with my friend, hit him

also in the bonnet. He also has his own civilian car and he was also involved in evacuating people. We evacuated an old woman from a neighbouring village and also those who swam across the river. We helped them.

If the Ukrainians fired at civilians, it meant that they did not care who to shoot.

28. Svetlana Sergeyevna Verkhodomova, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

When we were driving out at the crossroads of Zamostye village, we were shot at from the Ukrainian machine gun. When we drove, we saw a smashed car, targeted by Ukrainian fighters, at the crossroads. It was a civilian car, a red *Zhiguli*. The doors were open. It, too, had been smashed by machine-gun bursts.

We travelled in a *Lada* car. It was an ordinary civilian car as well. We had my mum in the car, my husband was driving. I sat next to my husband. My mum was sitting behind my husband and our 10-year-old child, the girl Xenia, was sitting behind me.

Here at the crossroad we were fired at. Then we got through in some miraculous way. The Lord must have saved us, thank you. We passed a mine stretch, my husband somehow got through.

The mine stretch was two lanes wide. There was one span a little bit bigger than a car, so we got through. When we saw the railway crossing and started driving down the hill, we saw military columns ahead. My husband drove off on an unpaved road and quickly figured out what was going on.

And then we drove a little bit more and a Ukrainian military drone caught us. The front windscreen and the right side of the window was completely cut; the back of the boot was cut. Well, my husband hit the gas and we drove on. The child's face, arms and her leg were hit. She was badly hit. And it turns out, that when the glass was broken, my ear went deaf, I still can't hear. And I also was cut by shrapnel on the whole body.

The Ukrainian armed forces, honestly speaking, you can't even call people, they are not people. Shooting at peaceful people like this, well, it seems to me, they are not people at all.

We were told that the guys who were travelling, were stopped by drunken Ukrainian armed forces soldiers and forced to bury our people. They said, 'Come on, bury the corpses.' The people said, 'we won't'. The Ukrainian soldiers said, 'Do you want us to kill you? Drink vodka and recite prayers.' It was an intimidation like the way the Nazis behaved. The Ukrainian military are not human beings.

You know, I can't even give a logical explanation for this. Because I don't know how much hatred they have for us. We have always lived as brothers and sisters. I don't know if they have been turned against us so much. You know, it seems to me that if a person is told that he is a pig, in the end he will grunt. How can you hate the same Slavic people so much? It's all set up by the West.

29. Natalia Viktorovna Shelekhova, resident of Cherkasskoye Porechnoye village (Kursk region)

On 6 August my husband and I decided to drive our granddaughter away to my friend's. We drove; my husband sat at the front, and two of my daughters, my son-in-law and my little granddaughter were sitting behind. My granddaughter is two years old. We left the village because of my granddaughter, we were saving her.

We almost reached the village behind the bridge, when we were attacked by a Ukrainian drone. It dropped bombs on my car. Twice there were kind of fireballs. Well, we managed to get away from the drone after all. I felt hot in my side. A back tire was flat when we arrived in the village. My sister was already there. She hugged me, and when she stretched out her arm, she had blood on her arm. She said, 'Natasha, you are wounded.' I was given medical assistance. I was wounded in the side. I was hit in my liver. I had an operation. It was long. Well, then they put some bags on my body to drain the blood. The Ukrainian military just want to kill us. They're beasts.

30. Oksana Nikolaevna Karpenko, resident of Popovo-Lezhachi village (Kursk region)

We took the children to school and took a shuttle bus back. There were about six or seven people there. There was a drone drop. The driver pulled over to the side of the road and said, 'I'm not going there, there are drones flying there.' We got into the car, and a Ukrainian drone hit us from behind. There were four people in the car.

It was an ordinary passenger car. The drone dropped an explosive and hit the car. The car crashed. I jumped out of the car. Alina was without her head. Tanya said, that she wanted to ask where Alina was. Alina's head came off.

I have moderate wounds in the thigh. I had five big splinters, the rest were small ones. The small ones are still coming out. Tanya also had a lot of splinters in her back, but she had less. But Grandma Masha had heavy ones. She had burns, a lot of burns. And, of course, a lot of splinters. Grandma Masha is about 70 years old.

The Ukrainian armed forces trained on civilians. They destroyed three vehicles in one day.

31. Tatyana Vasilyevna Kolesnik, resident of Pushkarnoye village (Kursk region)

Our village is 8 kilometres from the town of Sudzha. When the Ukrainian forces came, we didn't even know that they had come, because on 7 August we had no communication.

We evacuated on 12 August. When a shell hit my house, it cracked, and we realised that it was dangerous to stay there. We untied the dog and I opened the doors for the animals to go into the house. We walked towards the school. Also a group of ten people passed by. There was a boy in that group, two women, an old man and other people.

There was no direct road from Pushkarnoye, because the Ukrainian armed forces were entrenched everywhere. They were shooting cars completely. They forced people to bury the killed people in rubble, there are still people buried in rubble there. They forced people to bury the killed people in rubble. The whole road is full of dead bodies. There are many burials along the road.

People said that the Ukrainian soldiers disguised themselves in our military uniforms. And they stopped people. It was right in front of their eyes that men cut off a man's head. They were Georgians and Poles. They shot people dead. A man and his wife were shot dead. He was probably over 50 and his wife was probably under 50. They were killed.

32. Valery Pavlovich Moiseyev, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

The shelling by the Ukrainian armed forces of our border territory Sudzha, began with the start of the Special Military operation, but it was with varying intensity. Sometimes they were very heavy, and sometimes there was a lull. In 2023 there was shelling in Makhnovka, a house was burnt down there. They hit the house, there were six attacks. But especially shelling and drones started this year and the most intense about three months ago. Since May drones have often dropped explosive charges on villages around Sudzha. There was shelling in Goncharovka. I think, that 14 houses were damaged there. It was shelling of civilians. There are no military units there. It is just a residential area, suburbs of Sudzha.

Yuri Netkach picked up his 11-year-old daughter Polina from the sanatorium and asked his friend for a lift home. They drove and literally were about twenty metres away from home when a Ukrainian shell hit them from behind. The car was pierced by shrapnel like a sieve. Netkach was killed on the spot. His half leg was torn off. The chauffeur had a part of his leg torn out by shrapnel, and the girl Polina had multiple shrapnel internal hits and hits in her neck. The shelling was on the station part of the town of Sudzha. A fire started, the house was completely destroyed. It cannot be restored. The woman was pulled out with burns. Her husband had experienced such horror that he had a stroke. Why did the civilians deserve such sufferings?

On 6 August there was a mass shelling. There has never been such a brutal and massive shelling through all the time. Shell bursts sounded across the city. They hit the laundry next to the kindergarten, there was smoke from there. Tanks, *Grads* and drones were firing there. It was not just a charge from a drone, but firing from a tank. Before that, we had a drone attack on petrol stations. There was a hit in the hospital area, a man was killed when he was coming out from his car to go to work. He was killed near his car.

It felt like year 1941. As a child I watched a lot of films about the war, when the Germans entered a city. This picture came to my mind, and I understood that it was my destiny to experience this day as the Soviet people did on 22 June in 1941.

Next to it was an apartment building. It was windowless and with corroded balconies. Behind it was a very beautiful, recently commissioned apartment building. There the balconies were distorted, the windows broken, and the roof had moved off the building and was hanging over it.

My neighbour's son came running and shouted, 'Dad, Mom, get the documents quickly, take the child, I give you three minutes, the Ukrainian tanks are already on Goncharovka, it's the suburbs. Here I realised that the matter was very serious. I went home and I told my wife not to bother with the bags she had prepared, but take only the bags with documents, and we are going out now. We will walk to the Goncharovka road. We went out and walked three and a half kilometres. I also told my wife and son, 'Look at the sky, if we see drones, we jump into the bushes on the side of the road.' The exit from Sudzha was on fire, a long-range car was on fire as well. The drone hit the car window. The field was on fire, the car itself and the grass around was on fire. We drove around that car, there was a burnt bus behind it.

33. Vera Yegorovna Levchenko, 77 years old, Korenevo settlement (Kursk region)

I had all the piles, all the piles of documents. I said to my son, 'Yes, son, I've got everything packed. Well, take the bag, run to the car.' My son said, that the people who left are alive, and those who stayed were shot by the Ukrainian armed forces.

My son said, 'Mum, you know, Slavka was killed. They both worked in Moscow. Slavka said to him, Pasha, I'll go home and see what's going on there.' And Pasha said to Slavka, 'please don't go, why do you need a house? The main thing is that we'll be alive in Kursk, in the flat.' A drone, the one that flies, killed him. Slava was travelling by car.

34. Galina Vladimirovna Molokoyedova, resident of Snagost village (Kursk region)

We left Snagost early in the morning. As soon as we almost reached Korenevo, we saw corpses lying there. We drove straight through the corpses. There were a lot of smashed cars and people lying around. So many dead people lying around, and cars smashed up. We passed them and saw some shells on the road. It's good we didn't hit them. We thought we'd hit them and blow up.

We reached Korenevo village and the Ukrainian soldiers began shooting at us. When we started turning the car, I was hit in the shoulder. I saw that I was bleeding. Then I felt that I was bleeding through my cardigan. The car was also hit, it is a blue *Zhiguli*. There were three of us in the car plus my husband was driving.

35. Elena Viktorovna Terekhova, Kursk (Kursk region)

On 10 August my grandchildren and I were already asleep as we went to bed early. Then we heard bangs. After the third bang I thought I would go upstairs and close the balcony, otherwise my grandson will be scared. It was the first time when he stayed at my place. I went up to the balcony, stretched out my hand and looked at my watch. Here I noticed that something was flying at me. I didn't even understand what it was. I came back. My grandson was already screaming, crying, 'where's daddy, where's mummy'. He looked at me and became scared. I did not see myself. Shrapnel's cuts were all over my face. There was so much glass around.

My daughter-in-law Valya called. She said, 'Mum, what is going on there?' I said, 'Valya, all the window glass had blown out.' She said, 'Take the kids and go to the toilet, cover up with them.' I took my grandson's sandals and put them in the toilet. Then I thought, I'll go and see how my mum was. My mum was in my bedroom, she is a second-grade invalid. I tried to open the door, but it was jammed. I pushed it open and went out to the apartment door. Suddenly there was noise on the staircase. I went to the front door. God, I couldn't open it as it was stuck. In the end I managed to open it and saw the neighbours with their kids. There were more than ten wounded people.

Ukrainians probably want to enslave us, or destroy us altogether. Why do they hate us so much? Later the door was repaired and glazed. The government, local authorities and our Russian Federation helped us at once. However, the child now is scared. He said, 'I'm scared to walk'. I said, 'don't be afraid. The door was repaired and windows have been put in.'

36. Vladislav Igorevich Voskoboynikov, resident of Sudzha (Kursk Region)

On 6 August there was an attack of Ukrainian drones, then the shelling started. After the shelling they started shelling Goncharovka village with *grad*. In the city three buildings were destroyed. Ukrainians were firing and shelling from everything they could.

My brother and his friend went to Sudzha to pick up his family. They drove in normally, picked up the family and started driving out, when their car was shelled. Three bullets hit the windscreen. They were so lucky, it was a miracle they got out.

37. Sergey Mikhailovich Tishakov, resident of the village of Kulbaki (Kursk region)

I was on my way to visit my grandfather in the village of Kulbaki. A Ukrainian drone was following me. I drove over a hill and at that moment there was a hit on my *Neva* car. There were projectiles from drones on cars and on everything moving. Any cars and any transport are being hunted.

A year ago, there was Ukrainian mortar shelling in the village of Elizavetovka. The strikes were directed at hangars, at warehouses and at everything. At that time people worked there.

38. Valentina Grigorieva Khudyakova, resident of Martynovka village (Kursk region)

It was very loud and scary. On Tuesday morning I went to work, there was shelling. I said, 'Let's get ready'. Somehow it got scarier and scarier, and more and more loud. We ran down to the basement a few times and stayed in the basement. On Tuesday about four o'clock in the morning I got up. There was no gas already. It turned out that they had blown up a gas line and shut off the gas. About 10 o'clock on Tuesday the lights went out. I went to work again. The Ukrainians were purposefully hitting the base first. The base is our organisation. At Novo-Ivanovka an agro-firm had KamAZ trucks and tractors there. In general, there was machinery and warehouses with grain there. So the Ukrainian forces shelled there.

At work me and the girls were managing the farm. Suddenly we saw a drone flying over. I shouted: 'Girls, look, a drone!' We were hiding under the bushes. A Ukrainian drone flew by. It flew somewhere towards the village. We heard an explosion from there. They detonated something there. Everything was burning black.

On Wednesday I said: 'Girls, let's go home and take shelter somewhere in the basement.' I ran home. I didn't know that cars were burning on the road. I ran along the landing. Although there was already a rumour, 'don't run, don't drive on the track, drones are hitting and cars and people are burning'.

When I came home, it turns out that we were the last ones to leave from our street. We jumped in the car and left for Martynovka. We just arrived and did not get out of the car, when drones started flying one by one, as if they were waiting for us and hunting after us. And then again that sound 'gook, gook', and '*grads*' with shrapnel flew. Everything flew, we heard only 'bang' in the yard. My husband said, 'Let's get out of here'.

A house further away caught fire. We heard an explosion. Something's flying again. We shut everything down and jumped in the car. Drones were flying around, so we could not drive away. We saw that there was fire on the motorway. We took a chance.

Ukrainians were hunting us. They saw that it was a civilian car. My husband said, 'They probably spotted our car.' We drove it into the woods and hid under a tree. We hugged the tree and stood there without breathing and without moving. A drone circled around and around us and then flew away. Our neighbours left their car outside the house and left.

I said, 'Drive the car as fast as you can, squeeze all power out of it, and we will pray. He said, 'Watch drones. If you notice something, run in the corn field or in any field somewhere'. I said, 'We will be out in time. We drove past and saw, that there was a car on fire. We kept going and there was another car burning. There were probably six cars on fire.

We passed by that smoke and those cars, everything was on fire. Maybe people burned there too. We drove past as fast as we could and arrived in Bolshezholdatskoye village. I couldn't get out of the car, I felt very bad and my legs and arms felt numb. On 22 August the Ukrainians fired at Kozyrevka. The houses were destroyed, walls and fences blown up.

39. Natalia Aleksandrovna Ivannikova, resident of Gochevo village (Kursk region)

Ukrainian drones started flying very often. My husband went out to fetch a cow and heard that something was buzzing in the sky. He raised his head and saw a drone. My husband tried to run away, but the drone chased him. It was already low and flying towards him. My husband hid in a gazebo that stood in the middle of a meadow. The drone spun round and round, and flew away. On that day a drone exploded near the church.

40. Mikhail Ivanovich Chudinov, resident of Giryi village (Kursk region)

The Ukrainian armed forces entered the village and we decided to leave immediately. We packed our things, loaded them and drove off.

A Ukrainian APC was coming towards us. We had a civilian car, a *Hyundai Solaris*. We drove towards the forest belt and ran into the forest. The APC came up and shot the car at point-blank range. They apparently wanted to take out their anger on the civilians. Then they fired at the forest belt and drove away. We recovered a little and walked towards home through the forest belt.

My comrade, who was working with me, was attacked by an enemy drone. He was driving and the drone caught up with him and hit him. He had multiple shrapnel wounds in his legs. His car was burned up.

41. Elena Nikolaevna Tyukina and Sergey Aleksandrovich Lukyanchikov, residents of Belitsa village (Kursk region)

On 14 August, my husband and I were driving out of our village. A drone flew into our windscreen. My husband said, 'That's it, we're dead.' He managed to turn steering wheel a little, and the projectile from the drone hit the bonnet.

My husband said, 'Come on, hurry up.' He already realized, that he had been hit in the legs. He kept saying, 'My legs, my legs'. We were saved, probably, by the fact that there were good deep ditches. There were trees so big, that you could hide.

I was shocked and panicked. My husband was covered in blood. We started moving somehow. There was a car coming, people saw us, stopped and picked us up. At that moment when we were picked up there was another clap, and we realized, that the Ukrainian military fired at the car once again. Apparently, they probably followed that car for some time. Then a man and a woman already in old age

picked us up in their car. We drove to the village of Kommunar, My husband got first aid there, His legs were bandaged. He has already been in the hospital for a fortnight.

Why do the Ukrainian armed forces need civilians? Why do they shoot and burn our houses, ruin our households? People have lived all their lives and earned it all. What does this have to do with civilians and Russia? We helped them all their lives, and now they bully and intimidate us. Let more people learn and write about it.

42. Nikolai Ivanovich Kobozev, resident of Plekhovo village (Kursk region)

Even before 6 August civilians were shelled. The Ukrainian armed forces hit substations, water towers and the village. On 6 August, when they started shelling Sudzha, our village Plekhovo was hit at once.

Every five to eight minutes a drone flew through our village Plekhovo towards Sudzha, then we heard a cannonade. We received the information that Sudzha citizens were being evacuated. We also decided to leave our village. Before leaving I was in the house. A mortar shell or a drone shell hit my yard. The corner of the house was damaged and the windows and doors were blown out. I jumped into the bathroom in the house and stayed there for a minute or two or three. Then I rushed out of the house in what I was wearing. The car was parked near the house under a tree. I got in and drove to Kursk.

Sergei Glomozdin was concussed. A Ukrainian drone dropped a projectile on two civilians, Sergei and Zhenya, they both had a concussion. On 7 August, they were under a tree and a drone swooped down on them. It was purposeful. The Ukrainians saw that those two men were civilians, but still attacked them.

Directly in our village our military were not present. They were stationed around the village; in the forests and the fields. The Ukrainian armed forces simply shelled civilians. Probably to make us afraid and panic. I think, that they wanted to destroy us.

I am the Head of the Peasant Farmers Household. I had agricultural equipment. As of today, I know for sure that the Ukrainian military stole four tractors from my village. On the video that was shown I looked at the equipment in my hangar and there was nothing there. Everything was taken away including the cars, which were parked near the people's homes. We had four farmers there on our territory. They are in a similar situation, their equipment was stolen too. We will sort it when we come back.

43. Natalia Popova, resident of the village of Guevo (Kursk region)

The village of Guevo is 18 kilometres from Sudzha. The UAF started driving jeeps. They put up their own flags, those rags. My grandmother lived during the war, and I read the history. They're not human beings. Who would leave you alive? Now they write for foreign countries that they feed people with bread, but they actually rob people. Fascists also fed people with chocolate at first, and then put them to the stake.

Although people have already called from there, saying that they killed this one and that one. We don't even know the truth now.

When we were leaving, we all gathered in one house - twenty-five people. We went, and the nightmare had already begun. When people saw a drone, they all ran under a tree. Or you sat very quietly and then do short runs to the forest. We walked for two days. And so did the kids. The kids were very good, they didn't make a sound. There were two girls, the twins, fourteen years old. Altogether there were ten children walking. The youngest, I think, was two and a half years old, a girl Arina.

Drones made walking worst. If they spotted us, they released bombs and blew up. You see, there were a lot of them, especially lately. They didn't let us live, even in the village. There's a car in the yard, they burned and threw it. They shelled us for two years in the beginning. Those drones flew from Ukraine. But there were not so many drones.

So the ukrainian drones were flying. A car stood smashed. Then they started ruining the house. It's like a game for them. They burnt down one car and burnt down another one.

In general, the Ukrainian armed forces are beasts. We must beat them.

44. Sergey Nikolayevich Zherdev, resident of the village of Bolshoye Soldatskoye (Kursk region)

On 10 August the Ukrainian armed forces had already captured and started shelling Bolshoye Soldatskoye. At 6 am. they started. To cut it short, we could hear incoming shelling. At first they hit the morgue in the hospital. I came out of the house, and they hit the road, and then hit our house.

The Ukrainian military hit the hospital first, then started hitting the road. I live there not far from the administration of the hospital. They started bombing the police office, and hit near my house right in front of my window. I received shrapnel wounds; my knee, then at my back, my rib was broken, my lung and liver were hit as well.

A friend of mine was killed by Ukrainian shelling. He was at school with me, a year younger. His name was Igor Dementiev. And also Sasha Dolzhenko. He studied two years younger and then worked in the fire brigade. He and his wife went to feed their farm. They fed them and were driving back through Goryanka. A drone dropped a grenade on them. His wife was in a very serious condition, her face was torn all over. Igor's head was almost torn off. He died on the spot, and his wife was sent to a maxillofacial hospital in Moscow.

He was travelling in an ordinary civilian car and was driving short trails as he was afraid to go on a motorway. The Ukrainian armed forces got him there anyway. There were already burning cars on the motorway. Civilians who had evacuated were shot.

45. Sergey Borisovich Bezruchko, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

On 5-6 August a heavy shelling started. I walked around the town in the morning: the building of the prosecutor's office was completely smashed, the hotel had no roof, neighbouring houses were badly hit, windows were shattered by shrapnel.

Ukrainian troops were shelling a peaceful city. They were pursuing their criminal goals. If the regular army wages war on civilians, this is terror. There is no other way to call it.

On 7 August we woke up in the morning. I heard a gun battle, a heavy machine gun was firing hard. At that time there was no communication and it was impossible to find out what was going on. There was no electricity or Internet. I concluded that I had to get out of the city on my own. Together with my mother we collected two packages of documents and went to the exit from the city. A car picked us up and drove us at high speed to Bolshezheldatsky. At that moment there were cars already on the road, burnt by Ukrainian drone strikes. They were civilian cars. I did not see any military vehicles hit. We drove at a very high speed, it was raining, and clouds in the sky were very low. As far as I know drones do not fly much at this time, because Ukrainian soldiers they don't launch them. I guess that was probably what saved us.

And a week before that, a Ukrainian drone hit a car, a civilian one, parked outside a private house. I hid behind a tree. The drone flew up to the centre of the road and hit it. The car was completely smashed.

46. Nikolai Nikolayevich Zazelensky, resident of Kurilovka village (Kursk region)

On 6 August at 3 am. a heavy shelling started. We did not sleep until dawn. At about 7 am. my son-in-law and my eldest daughter and a little child of 4 years old, decided to leave the village. They did not take the motorway, but drove through the fields, through a cornfield and a sunflower field. The shelling was increasing and we went too.

We didn't take the motorway because Ukrainians had already shot several civilian cars there. We also decided to go through the fields. We stopped at Chekhovo. And here again there was heavy Ukrainian shelling. These were clusters, because they were exploding in a staggered pattern all the time. My wife said, 'you're bleeding, your shirt is all in blood.' I didn't realise that. I didn't even feel the blow. Then, when they bandaged me up, I decided to run away somewhere.

Civilian cars were on fire on the side of the road and in the fields. All people were civilians. I pressed on the gas to drive faster. Before the village I almost lost consciousness, but I made it. They gave me first aid there. They put a drain in me, transferred me to an ambulance and took me to the Kursk Regional Hospital. It turned out that I had a shrapnel wound. It went through the lung.

The Ukrainian armed forces are fascists. Only fascists can do such things. They are just like in safari, shooting everyone. And they get, you know, pleasure out of it. They are no longer people, they are just beasts, they should be destroyed like that. I would destroy them myself.

47. Mikhail Fyodorovich Vorontsov, resident of the village Zamostye (Kursk region)

On 7 August in the evening I was driving out of Sudzha on the bypass. Two men with blue armbands on their heads and on their sleeves were climbing up the road. One of them raises his gun. I accelerated and heard that my car was hit. Windows broke down and I got hit in the head. I drove out on the bypass road. Then I lost consciousness for a while.

I slowed down. Then I heard like peas started dropping on the wheel, it was very strong. I accelerated and accelerated, switched from the third to the fourth speed and crossed the railway crossing. Then I crossed the bridge, drove to the bypass and drove away.

On the way I saw a shelled and burnt out car. Then there were a few more cars. A Honda was parked. It was also shelled, but not burned. Two more cars were burned. All the shelled and burned cars were civilian ones.

When I arrived here in Kursk, people called me an ambulance. I was brought to the hospital. There was a girl of 7 years old. She was telling all the way that Ukrainians had killed her father, Her mother was badly wounded. This girl was badly cut.

Then a woman of 74 years old was brought from Kurilovka. Her son had been shot. She was heavily bruised. Ukrainian military beat her.

There was a man called Nikolay. A drone flew in and his car was shot. Another man called Maxim had a bullet wound. He drove his car, a Volkswagen, and the UAF fired at him from the tyre shop.

All this was to intimidate us. But it is useless.

48. Vyacheslav Viktorovich Larin, resident of the town of Sudzha (Kursk region)

On 6 August, about 2.00am. shelling started in the town of Sudzha. Everyone went downstairs in the basement. We hid there until about 7 am. When it started to subside a little, we came out.

I was leaving the territory and a drone flew under my truck. I've got a 20-tonne DAF truck and a trailer. I drove out of Sudzha and at one point the drone flew under my truck. My truck engine compartment covered me.

I got shrapnel wounds in the right shin of my leg. I had three tapes tied around my leg to stop the blood. My veins were torn. I couldn't get through to anyone as there was no communication. My brother took me from Sudzha to Bolshezheldatsky district to the hospital.

When my brother and I were driving out, civilian cars and lorries were already on fire on the way to Martynovka from Sudzha at the exit from Sudzha. There were already smashed cars.

In one word, Ukrainians are Nazi. They exterminated people.

49. Irina Grigorievna Morozova, resident of Korenevo village (Kursk Oblast).

On 5 August in the evening, the shelling started. Our gas was initially cut off, then the light and water. On 6 August the shelling started literally from the very morning. It was so heavy that made windows in the houses shake. There were no military in the village. The military stood between the village and the settlement.

My mum is elderly, 82 years old. We thought it wouldn't last long, however on 9 August shelling went all day, it was scary to go outside. We sat in one room practically motionless. We had our dogs with us. There was no light and nothing to eat.

The shots were indiscriminate. It was not clear if they had any targets or not. Projectiles came into vegetable gardens and damaged houses. One house burned down. One time a projectile flew in and knocked a piece off a house. The second time it flew in and a house burst into flames like a match. There were a lot of damaged roads and huge craters on the roads.

They shot in periods; they would shoot off and it would be quiet for a while. The silence, to be honest, was even more frightening than the gunshots, because you sit there and wait, where it will hit next time.

This guy, Ivan, arrived, waited for us to drop the essentials. We took our documents and left in what we were wearing. Ivan drove us out.

At the exit from Korenevo village, before reaching the bridge, Ukrainians shot at cars. The cars, of course, were civilian. People tried to leave the village on their own cars. The UAF military had already entered the village.

People tried to leave the village on their own cars. They were shot at point-blank range with machine guns. Five cars were leaving, and all of them were shot. They did not leave a single person alive. The families were in five cars. The Ukrainian soldiers killed at least fifteen or even more people. They said, there was no one left alive.

People from Korenevo village said that when the UAF came in, they just shot people with machine guns, regardless of who was there, old people, children or adults. This was where Baranovka Street and the *Gigant* centre are. They burned houses and shot people dead.

50. Alla Fedorovna Levchenko, 75 years old, resident of Zhuravli village (Kursk region)

We were sitting in a temporary house and suddenly everything was lit up. We fell on the floor. We got up from the floor and Volodya was already covered in blood. He got four wounds. A small splinter was pulled out, but a big one was not pulled out; his right arm was wounded, and there was a wound under the heart. The gas boiler was broken, the gas cooker was completely broken, the pipe burst and the refrigerator was broken. Ukraine was shelling. The neighbour Vasya came in. Their windows were broken; the bathhouse was all battered, everything was shelled and the dog was killed.

One woman told me that Ukrainians drove and shot straight at the fences, wherever there were civilians. Such shells flew right through the houses. They drove and shot.

TARGETED DESTRUCTION BY THE UKRAINIAN ARMED FORCES OF RUSSIAN CIVILIAN OBJECTS, PRIVATE HOMES, HOSPITALS AND ORTHODOX CHURCHES

In accordance with article 48 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, 'In order to ensure respect for and protection of civilians and civilian objects, parties to a conflict must always distinguish between civilians and combatants, and between civilian objects and military objectives, and accordingly direct their actions only against military objectives', and under Article 51, 'The civilian population as such, as well as individual civilians, shall not be the object of attack'. Under Article 51(4) of the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts, 'Indiscriminate attacks - attacks which are not directed against specific military objectives - are prohibited'.

The testimony of direct victims and witnesses collected by the International Public Tribunal for the Crimes of Ukrainian Neo-Nazi (chaired by M. S. Grigoriev) and the Foundation for the Study of Democracy fully exposes the Ukrainian armed forces as having deliberately and continuously shelled civilian homes and civilian infrastructure, including hospitals and clinics in the Russian regions, which, under international humanitarian law, qualifies as non-prescriptive military attacks

51. Lyudmila Fyodorovna Kovaleva, 64 years old, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region)

We evacuated from Sudzha on 7 August. In the morning around 10 o'clock we left the house for the last time. The Ukrainian armed forces were purposefully shooting civilians. There was shelling back in June. They also entered our territory and shelled from our territory. Netkach, I don't remember his name, died in a car. He was a civilian. He died in the car, the driver was wounded, his girl, his daughter was wounded.

Now on 6 August we lost communication, Internet, we had no phone reception, there was no light, no water, only gas. A shell hit the prosecutor's office, a shell hit Karl Libknecht Street at the crossroads.

My son went to Goncharovka. There was a house of his acquaintances on fire. My son went to see whether it was their house. There he heard a terrorist group coming in. He heard them and realised that Ukrainian armed forces were already in the town. He ran home and said, 'That is it, let's go quickly, very quickly. We have to leave.

Shells were whistling over our heads. It was somewhere in the station area on the dam that connects the station part and the city centre.

We had to somehow get out on the ring-road in order to get out of the city. Our Head of the District was driving people out. We set off. I sat in the car. Vanya put in all our belongings, and stayed behind. He needed to go to his office. Of course, all the time it was whistling and projectiles were coming down. We have two bridges on the dam. We passed the first bridge all right. We passed the second bridge, and a shell dropped on the bridge right behind us. We still were driving out of Sudzha. There were broken cars and trucks on the roadsides everywhere.

52. Anatoliy Ivanovich Slobodchuk, resident of Krupets village (Kursk region)

On 24 August, a Ukrainian incendiary shell hit the house I was in. The house went up in flames because the weather was dry and hot. I barely had time. I jumped out in what I was wearing. I had light house slippers on my feet, and they burned quickly. And I had to jump out onto the hot coals. That's why my feet and soles got burned. I could hardly move out.

Ukrainians were shelling civilians. When we were liberated, on the night 25 August, there were only three whole houses left in our street. And there were more than half a dozen of them destroyed.

53. Valentina Viktorovna Skorikova, 65 years old, resident of Sudzha (Kursk region).

The Ukrainian armed forces were firing cluster weapons. They fired once or twice. The bombs were flying and whistling. They were scattered in different directions, and then we found them. We found plastic, iron and aluminium parts. There were a lot of them lying around. The Ukrainian army fired cluster weapons at our village and at our houses.

We came up to see what was going on in our yard. Chickens were lying around. We picked up a whole sack of chickens. All the windows were broken. The veranda was all battered. The new tarmac was hit. Everything was broken. My brother walked further and saw a pothole from which a tail of a rocket was sticking out.

We wanted to celebrate birthday, and this is what happened to us. We stayed for a fortnight in someone's abandoned basement in Khitrovka village of the Sudzhansky District. We practically did not leave it all the time. Then on 21 August I went to my cousin across the road, two hundred metres away. I was in her house when there was an explosion. My brother said that it was a cannon. It came down on us. My cousin's sister was sitting behind the stove when the ceiling fell. I started to climb out. This side of the house was set on fire. If I lost consciousness, I would have been burned. I was all covered in dirt, my mouth was full of dust and dirt. I was bleeding, my chest burst and I couldn't breathe. I almost fell on my knee. I got out of there and walked. I still cannot breathe and my chest is injured.

I don't know why Ukrainians do that, I can't say. They stabbed a woman there. She was older than me, and their son was a disabled child. They blew him up. I heard that Ukrainian soldiers abused and raped a 14-year-old girl.

We went to the church on the river, where Ukrainian military killed a man and did not let us to bury him. We just wanted to take him to the cemetery, but drones were flying, and we had to return. We dug a pit near the house and buried him. We could not even take him to the cemetery. That's how it was.

As soon as the Ukrainians broke through the defence, they settled there. There was a meadow, where they had tanks. They killed two old men there. Those old men were lying there. The Ukrainian armed forces went around the village, took cars from the people's households and yards and drove around. They cleared houses, took everything. In the village Khitrovka of the Sudzhansky District all the houses were looted. That's what they did. They also drove around the Pogrebki village on the local people's cars which they grabbed.

The Ukrainian fighters dropped drones on us. I was sitting in my cousin's house when the garden kitchen and the house started burning. All the dogs burned. The ducks, the chickens and the rabbits burned. Everything burned. The house burned down completely. The drones picked up somebody's movement and hit. We do not know whether our house is burned or not.

54. Nikolai Dmitrievich Dzyuba, resident of the village of Guevo (Kursk region)

On 6 August I went out to the yard to consult with relatives and neighbours as to what we were going to do. A Ukrainian drone turned up. It flew over, hovered, flew off and started attacking me. I bounced or rolled away from the place. The drone exploded and a neighbour's car exploded in the blast. I was concussed, and wounded in my leg, back and neck.

I was dressed as an ordinary villager. Ukrainians saw that I was a civilian, dressed in civilian clothes. There were no military in the village at all. Ukrainians military shelled and intimidated the local population. They tortured us with shelling. There were mortars, then drones.

On 8 August our neighbours came and said that Ukrainian soldiers had taken all of the village. They were hanging their flag on the House of Culture and shooting. We took everything we could, and went on foot through the forests. The central streets were cut off. Twenty-one persons came out on that day; old people and children.

The International Committee of the Red Cross review of Customary International Humanitarian Law cites norm No. 25: 'Medical personnel assigned solely to medical duties shall be respected and protected in all circumstances.' This norm first appeared in the Geneva Convention 1864, and was repeated in the subsequent Geneva Conventions 1906 and 1929. It is enshrined in the First, Second and Fourth Geneva Conventions of 1949. Article 15 of Additional Protocol I extended this norm from military medical personnel to civilian medical personnel as well.

Additional Protocol II to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 prohibits hostile acts against places of worship, hospitals, hospitals as well as their personnel. Article 9 states that 'medical personnel shall be respected and protected', while article 16 emphasizes that 'it is prohibited to commit any hostile act against places of worship'.

In violation of international humanitarian law, Ukraine has repeatedly attacked hospitals and clinics, shot ambulances, churches and temples.

55. Valentina Ivanovna Zolotaryova, 71 years old, resident of Zaoleshenka village (Kursk region)

My village is closer than Sudzha to the border, so we felt it all on ourselves. Ukrainian troops only hit civilians. The hospital was destroyed first. In the beginning there were shelling attacks. They smashed roofs of the houses and windows. The windows were glazed, the roof was patched up a bit. The hospital was still working.

When we evacuated, we passed cars on fire. Those were civilian cars. I closed my eyes and prayed to God to get to the place somehow and not to see this horror. It was frightening.

For 71 years I've been earning money and built it all. I thought, 'Oh, how good it is, I have everything I need to live happily. Now everything is abandoned. This is my bag, this is what I came with; my dress, and that's it. I didn't have time to take anything else. Nothing, nothing. Just these flip-flops and nothing more. That is all that's left. We don't know about our houses. I live in a private house, I don't know what happened there, whether something is left or not.

We have been in the hospital in the therapeutic department from 3 August. Before that Ukrainian drones set fire to the roof of the Sudzansky Central Regional Hospital. It was burning. Therefore, they moved the therapeutic department, where my mother and I were lying, in the former infectious disease department; and surgery was moved to the gynaecology department.

When the Ukrainian armed forces came in, they demolished the hospital. We have only civilians, elderly and sick people here. I went to the hospital to change dressing.

On 6 August the shelling started. In principle, everyone had more or less got used to it. It was a little stronger than previously. But since 6 August, there was very serious shelling. The Ukrainian military have been hitting the hospital probably for two hours. We were lying in the corridor, because all the glass shattered in the wards. The hospital was prepared and all the windows were covered with sandbags, but it didn't help. When they started shooting, the windows shattered because the plaster started falling down. For two hours we lay on the floor.

On 7 August a nurse came in the morning and stayed with us. A car arrived with a man, a murdered woman and her mother. Apparently, a woman was hit straight in the heart, the whole seat was riddled with bullets. Her husband was a little wounded, his arm was bleeding and he had some shrapnel on his

side. Our nurse bandaged him and gave him an injection. He drove off with his dead wife. Her mum was still alive in the back seat and they drove home. The man said that the mother was 95 years old and the daughter had been shot.

When we got to the surgery, we were told by the staff that a pregnant woman had been brought in. She was shot in the first days, on 6 August, I think. They took her to the hospital, tried to help her, but she died.

We left the hospital on 8 August. The Marines came, our dear Marines. They evacuated us.

56. Irina Alexandrovna Shurupova, resident of Rubanshchino village (Kursk region).

I came on holiday to visit my mother on 25 July. I was with her, she lives with me in the village of Rubanshchino, three kilometres from Sudzha towards the border. A Ukrainian shell exploded in our village and from the 3rd of August we were in hospital. On the night from the 5th to the 6th the shelling started. In principle, everyone was more or less used to the shelling. But it was a bit stronger than all the others. But on 6 August a very serious shelling started. The Ukrainian army were hitting the hospital probably for two hours.

We were all lying in the corridor, because the windows in the wards were broken and the glass shattered. The hospital was prepared and half of all the windows were covered with sandbags, but it didn't help, because when the Ukrainians started shooting, the glass flew out and the plaster started falling down.

A few days before Ukrainian drones had set fire to the roof of the Sudzhansky Central Regional Hospital. All the hospital was on fire, water and electricity were cut off. The building was damaged by Ukrainian shelling. It felt like they were hitting the hospital all the time. It was well built, so we were lucky. The grass was burning nearby. We could see it outside the window. We were afraid that the hospital would catch fire, but it didn't, we were very lucky.

We called three ambulances, two ambulances came and picked up everyone except me and my mother. We waited for the third ambulance to come and take me and my mum away. She was very poorly. Literally half an hour later the Chief Doctor said that the third ambulance had been shot at and could not drive. It was the ambulance where the paramedic and the driver were killed. They drove to the hospital to pick us up.

Then a car with civilian people arrived. In the front seat there was a man and on the back seat there were his murdered wife and her mother. They were driving to Sudzha. The Ukrainian military fired at them. His wife was killed. The whole seat was riddled with bullets. The husband was slightly wounded, his hand was bleeding and he had shrapnel on the side of his chest. He arrived at the hospital with his dead wife. Her mum was alive. That man said that her mother was 95 years old. His pregnant wife was shot dead by the Ukrainian armed forces.

In the evening the Ukrainian armed forces hit at the hospital therapeutic department where my mum and I were lying. The surgery, which was on the third floor, was also hit. All the windows were broken. A Ukrainian soldier fired at them.

57. Ivan Mikhailovich Gritsenko, resident of the village of Spalnoye (Kursk region)

About ten private houses in our village were hit by Ukrainian shelling. My house was damaged. A shell hit and everything caught fire. The door of the cellar caught fire. I ran through the fields and nearby land. It was difficult. It took me all day yesterday to get here.