CONVENTIONAL WARFARE
BALLISTIC, BLAST, AND BURN INJURIES
The Coat of Arms
1818
Medical Department of the Army

A 1976 etching by Vassil Ekimov of an original color print that appeared in *The Military Surgeon, Vol. XLI, No. 2, 1917*
The first line of medical defense in wartime is the combat medic. Although in ancient times medics carried the caduceus into battle to signify the neutral, humanitarian nature of their tasks, they have never been immune to the perils of war. They have made the highest sacrifices to save the lives of others, and their dedication to the wounded soldier is the foundation of military medical care.
Textbook of Military Medicine

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Be slowly lifted up, thou long black arm,
Great gun towering 'ward Heaven, about to curse

— Lieutenant Wilfred Owen
Royal Army
Killed in action in France, 1918

American soldiers, members of the Third Field Artillery, stand by as an M-198 155-mm howitzer is fired during the multinational joint service exercise "Bright Star" in Gabel Mamza, Egypt, in 1985.
CONVENTIONAL WARFARE
BALLISTIC, BLAST, AND BURN INJURIES

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