Yodis in Ukraine Eric Yodis on Facebook

On a trip to the eastern city of Zaporizhia, I was jolted out of a deep sleep two nights ago by a brilliant flash and a simultaneous noise of a nearby Russian rocket and the impact of the shockwave as it rocked the building in which I slept, causing a broken window and door, and minor damage to the contents in the place. The explosion was followed by nine more in rapid succession, which were not as close.

When the attack was over, I slipped some clothing on over my pajamas and took a short walk. An ambulance had arrived remarkably quickly and they were pulling a man about my age out of some rubble and loading him in. His legs were clearly wounded and I did not see signs that he was conscious. I poked around hoping to be helpful, but with just a cellphone flashlight there was not much I could do to help, so I decided to stay out of the local's way and picked up a broom to finish sweeping a sidewalk that someone else had already begun sweeping.

I took a few pictures then, and in the morning, before leaving I went to see in the daylight what I was not able to see five hours earlier. A Russian GAB had landed between a few houses just 80 meters/yards away. All of the houses in the vicinity had been damaged or destroyed. Some of the houses had roof damage and all had their windows blown out. Fences and wires were down. A broken gas pipe hissed as the high pressure of the gas spewed out. Under our feet, as we walked, was the crunch of broken glass and shards of bricks. Previously, this was just a peaceful little neighborhood of single-family housing. Now it is the victim of terrorism and the scene of destruction. Their only crime is that they are Ukrainians on Ukrainian land.

Thank you so much for your prayers. Experiencing God's protection when a 1 - 1.5-ton bomb lands less than a football field away strengthens my resolve to stand with Ukraine and my trust in God to continue pursuing His mission no matter the cost.

