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An Examination of Guard Detainee Relations in Guantanamo Bay

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PRESENTER:

Samantha DeProspo

In 2004 photographs were released to the public showing detainees in Abu Ghraib being put in compromising sexual positions, dogs snarling at detainees as well as pain and stress positions. These images led to widespread questioning of what exactly guard detainee relations are like in detention facilities. Even with Abu Ghraib, there are accounts of guards being seen as a helpful figure to detainees.



https://www.vice.com/en_uk/article/xd588d/guantanamo-bay-is-kafka-on-the-caribbean

Former Guards

A myriad of guards have often come back from deployment to overseas detention centers and struggled to reintegrate into society. Former guards will often become diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder following deployment.

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Former Guantanamo detainee Mohamedou Ould Slahi reunited with his guard Steve Wood

<https://www.npr.org/2018/08/12/637932193/a-guantanamo-guard-and-a-detainee-reunite-in-mauritania>

Depending on the time there can be roughly 40-45 workers to each inmate at Guantanamo. These workers have the ability to decide everything when dealing with detainees.

Guard Detainee Relations

Slahi and Wood were able to forge an unlikely friendship during the time they spent together at Guantanamo Bay. They have reconnected since and even work on professional projects with one another. When reflecting on why Slahi believes they connected he said they were two relatively young people who found themselves in the same place and noticed similarities with each other.

Standard Operating Procedures

Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) are meant to be a uniform way of acting when working in a detention center with detainees. SOPs range anywhere from guidelines on incoming and outgoing mail to how different teams are meant to respond to situations.



<https://tcf.org/content/commentary/guantanamo-bay-a-disaster-that-just-keeps-getting-worse/>

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