

# The Least Worst Place: Guantanamo's First 100 Days

The first 100 days of Guantanamo Bay were a chaotic and confusing time. The camp was quickly overwhelmed by the number of detainees, and the staff was ill-prepared to deal with the challenges of running a prison for suspected terrorists. The detainees were subjected to harsh conditions and interrogations, and many were tortured.

The camp was established in January 2002, in the wake of the September 11 attacks. The Bush administration decided to hold suspected terrorists at Guantanamo Bay because it was outside of the United States and not subject to US law. This meant that the detainees could be held indefinitely without charge or trial.

The first detainees arrived at Guantanamo Bay on January 11, 2002. They were mostly young men from Afghanistan and Pakistan, who had been captured during the US invasion of Afghanistan. The detainees were held in cages, and they were subjected to harsh conditions and interrogations. Many of the detainees were tortured, and some died as a result of their injuries.



## The Least Worst Place: Guantanamo's First 100 Days

by Christian Davenport

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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The conditions at Guantanamo Bay were roundly condemned by human rights groups. The detainees were held indefinitely without charge or trial, and they were subjected to torture and other forms of mistreatment. The camp became a symbol of the Bush administration's war on terror, and it remains a controversial issue today.

In 2009, President Obama signed an executive order to close Guantanamo Bay. However, Congress has blocked the closure of the camp, and it remains open today. There are currently 39 detainees at Guantanamo Bay, and most of them have been held for over a decade without charge or trial.

The first 100 days of Guantanamo Bay were a dark chapter in US history. The camp was a place of torture and abuse, and it remains a symbol of the Bush administration's war on terror. The camp should be closed, and the detainees should be released.

- **January 11, 2002:** The first detainees arrive at Guantanamo Bay.
- **January 15, 2002:** The detainees are held in cages, and they are subjected to harsh conditions and interrogations.
- **February 11, 2002:** The first detainee dies at Guantanamo Bay.
- **March 11, 2002:** The Bush administration announces that the detainees will be held indefinitely without charge or trial.

- **April 11, 2002:** The detainees begin to stage hunger strikes to protest their treatment.
- **May 11, 2002:** The Bush administration announces that it will use torture to interrogate the detainees.
- **June 11, 2002:** The first torture session is held at Guantanamo Bay.
- **July 11, 2002:** The detainees are transferred to a new camp, Camp Delta.
- **August 11, 2002:** The detainees continue to stage hunger strikes, and their health begins to deteriorate.
- **September 11, 2002:** The Bush administration announces that it will not prosecute the detainees for war crimes.
- **October 11, 2002:** The detainees are allowed to meet with attorneys for the first time.
- **November 11, 2002:** The first trial of a detainee is held at Guantanamo Bay.
- **December 11, 2002:** The detainees continue to stage hunger strikes, and their health continues to deteriorate.

The first 100 days of Guantanamo Bay were a dark chapter in US history. The camp was a place of torture and abuse, and it remains a symbol of the Bush administration's war on terror. The camp should be closed, and the detainees should be released.

The legacy of Guantanamo Bay is one of torture, abuse, and injustice. The camp has done more to damage the reputation of the United States than to

enhance our security. It is time to close Guantanamo Bay and move on from this dark chapter in our history.



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