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Blogs

## **Remember this?**

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IntentBlog  
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The four year anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks just passed. You may recall that not long after those attacks, President Bush declared the war on terrorism that started in Afghanistan and then David Blaine style magically converted within 18 months to a war in Iraq.

But it was during that initial attack in Afghanistan that a couple hundred men were detained, dubbed "enemy combatants," and imprisoned at Camp X-ray in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Guess what? Four years later, over 500 enemy combatants still are housed down in Cuba, the vast majority of whom have never been charged with a crime.

These days, about 200 of them are observing a hunger strike which has led to the emergency hospitalization of many of them to keep them alive. Most, if not all, of these accounts are coming via "leaks" because the International Red Cross has had to promise the US government to keep secret what they've seen inside the prison camps in exchange for guaranteed access to the prisoners.

This is messed up if you ask me. I'm no defender of any actual terrorists but, hey, how would we even know if there were any down there in Cuba? Apparently the administration isn't so sure since they've not bothered to charge any of their guests in four years.

There used to be something in America that was called "due process" and "the right to a fair and speedy trial". This was part of the inheritance America earned from its cultural ancestors. What will our new legacy be, I wonder, born out of the Bush era?