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## **Pentagon releases details of 8 abuse cases at Guantanamo**

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GUANTANAMO BAY NAVY BASE, Cuba - How badly have guards behaved at this detention and interrogation center for terror suspects?

In answer to a weeks-old query, the Pentagon has released details of eight confirmed abuse cases - a woman soldier took off her uniform blouse, exposing her T-shirt during an interrogation, climbed onto the lap of a prisoner and rustled his hair; a medical team found a prisoner's knees bruised from a now forbidden interrogation technique.

They stand in stark contrast to the abuses at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq and allegations by four Britons who sued the U.S. government for \$40 million last week, claiming gross abuses while they were held in Guantanamo.

"In every respect, the standard of physical and medical care applied here is fully consistent with the Geneva Conventions. They've not been mistreated, they've not been tortured in any respect," Army Brig. Gen. Jay Hood, the prison commander, said in an interview on Wednesday.

That night, CBS' "60 Minutes" aired a report featuring Army Spc. Sean Baker, a Kentucky National Guardsman, who alleges he suffered brain damage while being manhandled by fellow Guantanamo guards during a rehearsal for the forced removal of prisoners from cells. Baker describes confusion in the drill, during which he acted as a prisoner and wore an orange jumpsuit, over whether he was a real prisoner and argues that he escaped worse injury by persuading his guards that he was fellow soldier.

Had he been a real detainee, Baker said in the show, "I think they would have busted him up."

"I've seen detainees come outta there with blood on 'em. If there wasn't someone to say, 'I'm a U.S. soldier,' if you were speaking Arabic or Pashto or Urdu or some other language in the camp, we may never know what would have happened to that individual."

A look at the eight cases of soldiers abusing their powers, released in detail on Election Day:

In reprisal for a prisoner throwing toilet water at his guard, the guard "attempted to spray the detainee with a hose" in September 2002.

A guard punched a prisoner while holding a walkie-talkie in his fist after the prisoner was subdued in a struggle for biting his guard in April 2003.

An interrogator stained a prisoner's shirt with a red magic marker and told him it was blood in early 2003.

A guard squirted water from a bottle on a prisoner in February while engaging in "inappropriate casual conversation."

A guard used pepper spray on a prisoner who was poised to throw a liquid in March 2003.

A prison barber gave two inmates "unusual haircuts," described as Mohawks, in February, in an apparent attempt to humiliate them.

None of the cases resulted in military convictions, although some soldiers were reprimanded or given other duties.

The two most curious cases outlined in the report released on Tuesday - after they were reviewed at the Southern Command in Miami and the Department of Defense in Washington - involved interrogations in April 2003.

Officers discovered a prisoner had bruises on his knees after an interrogator "used a 'fear-up/harsh' technique by directing MPs to repeatedly bring the detainee from a standing to prone position and back."

Pentagon officials disclosed the "fear-up/harsh" interrogation technique in the aftermath of the abuses in Iraq. They said it was briefly used here at Guantanamo Bay.

In the same month, six months before female soldiers were posing with prisoners for snapshots in Iraq, the military noted this bizarre episode in Guantanamo:

"During the approach phase of an interrogation, a female interrogator took off her uniform top (her brown T-shirt was still worn), ran her fingers through the detainee's hair and sat on his lap.

"A supervisor monitoring the interrogation immediately terminated the session.

"The interrogator was given a written reprimand for her conduct and received additional training before being allowed to continue duties as an interrogator."

Separately, the prison commander said this week that U.S. forces here don't strip prisoners or abuse them physically. "These are not techniques which are beneficial or helpful in the course of interrogations of a strategic nature," Hood said.

Four British citizens who were held in Guantanamo until earlier this year, filed a lawsuit last week against the U.S. government, claiming they were abused and tortured during their two years here. The four men include Shafiq Rasul, the lead plaintiff in the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling in June that granted judicial review to detainees.

Their suit claims numerous beatings, being exposed to inhumane extremes of temperature, being tormented by unmuzzled dogs and being forced to strip.