

# LAW & JUSTICE

## Book Describes Prison Interrogations

Women soldiers said to use sexual tactics

(AP) - Female interrogators tried to break Muslim detainees at the U.S. prison camp in Guantanamo Bay by sexual touching, wearing miniskirts and thong underwear and in one case smearing a Saudi man's face with fake menstrual blood, according to an insider's written account.

A draft manuscript obtained by the Associated Press is classified as secret pending a Pentagon review for a planned book that details ways the U.S. military used women as part of tougher physical and psychological interrogation tactics to get terror suspects to talk.

It's the most revealing account so far of interrogations at the secretive detention camp, where officials say they have halted some controversial techniques.



Humvee patrols the perimeter of Camp America, the detention center at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba. (AP photo)

"I have really struggled with this because the detainees, their families and much of the world will think this is a religious war based on some of the techniques used, even though it is not the case," the author, former Army Sgt. Erik R. Saar, 29, told AP.

Saar, who is neither Muslim nor of Arab descent, worked as an Arab

translator at the U.S. camp in eastern Cuba from December 2002 to June 2003.

Saar said he witnessed about 20 interrogations and about three months after his arrival at the remote U.S. base he started noticing "disturbing" practices.

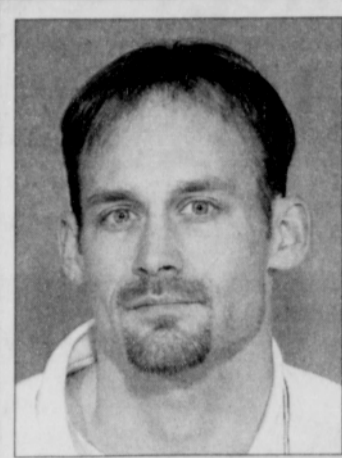
Sexual tactics used by female interrogators have been criticized

by the FBI, which complained in a letter obtained by AP last month that U.S. defense officials hadn't acted on complaints by FBI observers of "highly aggressive" interrogation techniques, including one in which a female interrogator grabbed a detainee's genitals.

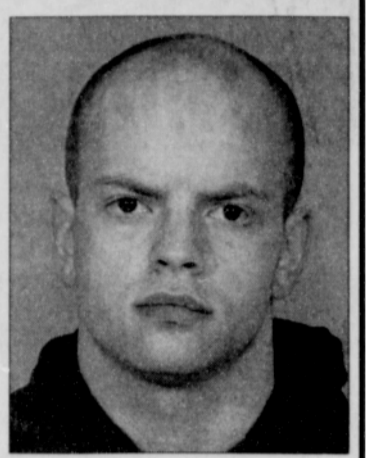
About 20 percent of the guards at Guantanamo are women, said Lt. Col. James Marshall, a spokesman for U.S. Southern Command.

"U.S. forces treat all detainees and conduct all interrogations, wherever they may occur, humanely and consistent with U.S. legal obligations, and in particular with legal obligations prohibiting torture," Marshall said Thursday.

Guantanamo has about 545 prisoners from some 40 countries, many held more than three years without charge or access to lawyers and many suspected of links to al-Qaida or Afghanistan's ousted Taliban regime, which harbored the terrorist network.



Kevin Casey McDaniel



Nathan Robert Brown

## Man Charged in Street Murder

Portland police say a suspect in the shooting of another man on a North Portland intersection surrendered to authorities Thursday.

Nathan Robert Brown, 25, was charged with attempted murder in connection with the shooting of Kevin Casey McDaniel, 31.

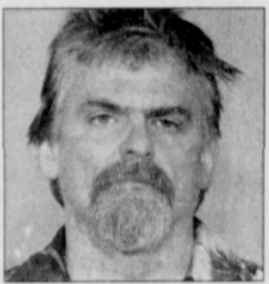
Responding to reports of gunfire just before midnight on Jan. 26, police found McDaniel with multiple gunshot wounds to his upper body on North Prescott Street and North Montana Avenue. He suffered critical injuries as a result of the shooting.

## Prolific ID Forger Busted

Brent J. Gordon, a highly sophisticated and prolific forger who had been attempting to hack into a Portland area payroll database, was caught and charged on Jan. 14, according to law enforcement officers from the Regional Economics Crime

Investigation Center.

On Jan. 6, investigators seized evidence including computers, more than 200 identity profiles, counterfeit currency, forged identification, a large quantity of check stock, and counterfeit business and personal checks.



Brent Gordon

## Nazis Advertise on Rural Road

*Adopt-A-Highway sign disgusts neighbors*

(AP) — Two green Adopt-A-Highway signs reading "American Nazi Party" have popped up on a rural road a few miles from downtown Salem, and it's got people upset with the county for agreeing to put up the signs.

"I know we live in a free world. But that's not part of freedom, anything to do with the Nazis," said Barbara Hamblin, a 64-year-old who lives in a mobile home park just down the road from one of the signs.

The signs were erected by

Marion County road crews last week, costing taxpayers \$250 each.

County officials said they know people are upset. But free-speech guarantees in the Constitution prevented them from turning down the person who signed the American Nazi Party up with the local Adopt-A-Highway program.

A person named C. Marchand applied for the permit in which the applicant agrees to help clean up the road as part of the permit application.

A person answering the phone at the number given on the permit application referred inquiries to a Jim Ramm, who has previously been identified as leader of the Tualatin Valley Skins, a white-supremacist group.

The applicants for the sign may have been borrowing an idea from the Ku Klux Klan.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that free-speech rights prevent Missouri from barring the Klan from participating in that state's Adopt-A-Highway program.

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## Rights Group Assails US Credibility

(AP) — A human rights group says the Bush administration should appoint a special prosecutor to investigate the abuse of detainees at Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to regain the United States' credibility around the world.

"There is an urgent need to (reinstate) the prohibition of torture and to redeem the United States' credibility," said Kenneth Roth, executive director of

New York-based Human Rights Watch.

The near-certainty of attorney general nominee Alberto Gonzales's confirmation to head the Justice Department adds urgency to an independent probe of abuses of detainees, Roth said.

As White House counsel, Gonzales issued a legal opinion to Bush saying terrorists captured overseas by Americans do not merit the human rights protections

of the Geneva Conventions. He also said at confirmation hearings last week that he was sickened by accounts that American officials tortured prisoners at Abu Ghraib.

"We can no longer have any confidence that a genuine independent investigation can be launched by the Justice Department," Roth said.

At stake is the United States' credibility as world leader on human rights and in the fight against terrorism, he said.

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