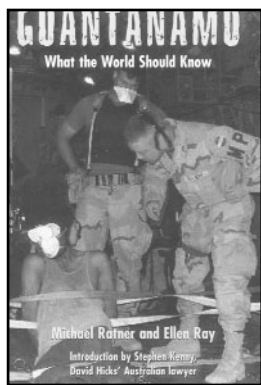


US military abuse human rights in Guantanamo

books



Guantanamo: What the World Should Know.
Michael Ratner & Ellen Ray
Published by Addenda

President George W. Bush and his challenger John Kerry have closed their televised debates with "God bless America". But it would have been more appropriate for them to end with "forgive me Father, for I have sinned."

Human rights lawyer Michael Ratner and political journalist Ellen Ray have just published a book titled *Guantanamo Bay: What the World Should Know*. It documents the treatment of some 700 people from 44 different countries, illustrating the hypocrisy of American political rhetoric – "liberty and justice in the land of the free".

These people have been imprisoned without charge for more than 30 months while being subjected to Secretary of Defence Donald Rumsfeld's interrogation techniques. These

include sleep deprivation, stress positions, 'forcible grooming' (shaving the beards of Muslim men) and exploiting phobias. Translated from the American, this means the use of dogs during interrogation.

Guantanamo explores the legal implications of such treatment, documenting the findings of the Federal Court and the Supreme Court, where Ratner and 13 other law firms have recently won the right to have their clients' cases heard. This was no mean feat as the Bush administration had argued that as non-citizens the prisoners had no legal rights.

Since the Supreme Court finding in June, the American military has set up 'Combatant Status Review Panels' where prisoners are tried by a military court, using evidence taken from

interrogation sessions inside Guantanamo. Ratner sees this as flawed for two reasons: firstly, information coerced from prisoners while suffering from 'interrogation techniques' outlined above cannot be trusted as prisoners will plead guilty only to stop the interrogation. And secondly, it has been proven that information gained in such a manner is often false, after three English detainees pleaded guilty to meeting Osama bin Laden. But British intelligence discovered them to be in London at the same time.

The book is written in the question and answer format, and uses relatively simple language, keeping in mind that most readers won't have an intimate knowledge of human rights legislation. It also contains an extensive index, including rele-

vant articles of the Geneva Convention, and the UN Convention Against Torture. The infamous memorandum from Alberto Gonzales (counsel to the President) to George W. Bush is also included. In it Gonzales recommends that the Geneva Convention not be applied to the Taliban prisoners taken during the war in Afghanistan.

The book is by no means conclusive with litigation proceeding for the next three to four months. Ratner and fellow lawyers are currently in the Supreme Court fighting to obtain the names of detainees in Guantanamo Bay and filing petitions of habeas corpus against the Bush administration.

— By Edward Gay

New strapless bra looks set to lift the game

lingerie

Gravity has its uses, I admit. Without it we would all float into space. But ask any female over the age of 25 who has breast-fed babies and they will tell you gravity is bad. Very bad.

It's not so much that your breasts change in size, it's more that they slip down another rung on the ladder in a bid to spend quality time navel gazing. Long gone are the pencil tests: these days some of us could fit in the whole pencil case.

Wonderbras, T-shirt bras, strapless bras, they all do the job, but they're visible and aren't viable in a slinky backless number.

And then God created the Invibra – the world's ultimate strapless bra.

The Invibra consists of two plastic bra cups that stick on to the breasts and hold them at the required angle. A young, upward angle.

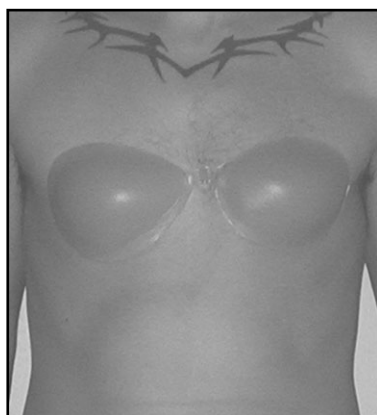
The Invibra comes in a lovely maroon and gold box, reminiscent of an old chocolate box, with the glorious cups glistening inside with promise.

Well actually they look like something from a dead chicken.

Full of excitement, I plant myself in front of the bathroom mirror to try the cups on. Tip: if you have children, remember to lock the door to prevent embarrassing questions.

Facing the mirror, I hold one breast in the position God meant it to be then stick the cup on. This takes a couple of goes. What's more difficult is to match the other breast to the same position.

Once the cups are attached they hold. At first I don't move in



case they fall off. Then I try a practice jig, then another. Then a full body groove, and whoopee – they are there.

The bra does look a bit weird, very plastic and Barbie-like. But once I'm fully dressed it's wonderful. It allows the breasts to move naturally without wobbling. It's like I'm 18 again.

The evening is spent in joy mixed with fear. The bra holds



PHOTOS: KATE PALMER

through dinner and I keep running to the toilet to check out my fabulous breasts. I'm convinced the diners at the next table are talking about the quality of my bosom and I'm sure the wait staff are more attentive than usual.

Carrying on to a bar, the bra is still intact. I act like someone with a bad case of cystitis, popping off to the toilets every few

minutes just to admire my top shelf. Courage deserts me when it comes to the dance floor. I'm not sure how sweat will react with the adhesive and have visions of a flesh coloured jellyfish plopping onto the floor.

So home we head, time to remove the bra and carefully wash it in warm soapy water. It air dries quickly, but not quickly enough. The sight of two waterless jellyfish pegged over the bath is not attractive.

The Invibra is good for 100 applications which makes it good value at 49 cents per outing. You can even stuff it inside a normal bra for extra fullness. Now all they need to do is come up with Invibuttocks and my life will be complete.

— By Kate Palmer

SHOWS, ART, THEATRE, MUSIC, FILM, SHOWS, ART, THEATRE, MUSIC, FILM, SHOWS, ART, THEATRE, MUSIC

FILMS



Zatoichi — Japanese auteur Takeshi 'Beat' Kitano's latest film combines the samurai and musical formats, complete with John Wu-like martial arts scenes and a Japanese version of *Stomp*. Kitano provides the flavour of humour that featured in his films *Brother*, *Kikujiro*, and *Hanabi*.

In My Father's Den — The latest New Zealand feature film, based on the novel by Maurice Gee, is a haunting watch. Its portrayal of small town New Zealand is refreshingly free of stereotypes. Its thrilling story-line centres on a New Zealand war correspondent returning to his small

home town for his father's funeral. The well-rounded characterisations combine to create a beautifully crafted film.

Coffee and Cigarettes — from Jim Jarmusch, the grand master of art-house film. The all-star cast includes Tom Waits, Iggy Pop, the White Stripes, Bill Murray and members from the Wu Tang Clan. Shot in black and white so American coffee appears black, the film weaves separate stand-alone stories together to create a feature length film. Smokers and coffee addicts may find it hard to watch, with neither cigarettes nor coffee allowed inside the cinema.

RADIO

PLANET 104.6 FM
Planet FM is the only multilingual station in Auckland, providing 143 different programmes.

- Mon — Tongan News, 6.30am
Urdu, 2.10pm
Sri Lankan, 6.00pm
Esteelo hip hop, 10.20pm
- Tues — Mental Health, 12.30pm
Radio Punjab, 4.55pm
Russian, 7.20pm
Dalmatian Radio, 8.10pm
- Wed — Hindi, 8.00am
Alice Worsley Show, 3.20pm
Radio Ranui, 6.00pm
Ireland Calling, 10.00pm
- Thur — Tongan Budgeting, 6.30am
Tuning In, 9.05am
FM Korea, 8.15pm
Acoustic Stylz, 8.10am
Hindi Women, 3.50pm
Fijian, 4.55pm
Japanese, 10.40pm
- Sat — This way out (Gay), 11.40am
Filipino, 12.25pm
Assyrian voice, 5.55pm
Turkish Bazaar, 7.35pm
- Sun — Krishna, 7.50am
Shalom (Jewish), 9.00am
Sisu (Finnish), 1.15pm
Refugees, 7.10pm

STATIC 88.1 FM
AUT's year three BCS radio students present STATIC — AUT's own radio station. The students are aiming for sophisticated sounds, playing mostly down-beat house music. Each show has a similar sound, but some dj's have their own genres.

Shows are Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8am to 5pm, Tuesday and Thursday from 8am to 6pm.

Check it out and listen on the internet. Visit www.static.co.nz

EDWARD'S PICKS

Bored Gordon, Battle Circus, Ishta and These Four Walls Live at Devonport's Masonic Tavern, where you can see 5 bands for 5 bucks. *Bored Gordon* produce a noisy pop sound. *Battle Circus* are apparently from the Rhineland but got lost and wound up in NZ, and *Ishta* are a hard rock band. Friday 15 October Masonic Tavern, Devonport, 9pm, \$5

Out Foxed A documentary of "Murdoch's War on Journalism", illustrating the perils of concentrated media ownership and its inherent political bias, particularly in its U.S political coverage. The Fox



network's motto — "Fair and balanced" — is shown to be a sad joke. Sunday 17 October, The Classic Comedy Bar, 7.00pm, \$5

Clash of Civilisation: Myth or reality? Ahmed Zaoui will draw on his knowledge as a professor of comparative religion to explain how the events of September 11 have affected the West's view of Islam. In the likely event that Zaoui will still be in prison, Prof Andrew Sharp will deliver the lecture. Tuesday 19, 6pm University of Auckland Clocktower

Edward Gay