

# U.S. Intensifies Watch At Guantanamo Base

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By William Anderson

Chicago Tribune Press Service

GUANTANAMO NAVAL BASE — The climate and scenery are different, but in many other ways this big naval base is a lot like Berlin. For 17 miles around the base there is a high wire fence, known locally as the cactus curtain because cactus grows up the fence like shrubbery.

The fence rolls over rough and dry hills, and at some places near the bay stretches along salt flats. Below one hill there is a guard point at the northeast gate. Here two marines in tropical dress uniforms, with sidearms, are always present.

Behind them waves the American flag, and on the hill is the insignia of the United States Marines. Behind this insignia, under a tree, are two cameras with long-range lenses.

Another marine, in a work uniform, mans this tower and has a rifle for protection. If a Cuban should fire at him, he has orders to drop down behind the sand bags, grab a field telephone, and alert the duty officer.

From where this marine stands, he can look far across the fence and gate into the slits of two concrete bunkers that were built recently at night. He cannot see, though, what goes on behind the slits.

His vision in daytime takes in such things on the Cuban side of the fence as American tractors and graders, along with some Russian equipment.

The equipment is clearing out trees in a strip running about 400 yards deep. The clearing clearly makes visible a large building on the other side, a parking lot, and a double fence creating a walkway from the American gate to the Cuban compound.

The walkway is used twice daily by 750 Cubans who are still permitted to work on the base, but live outside on the Communist dominated island.

Rear Adm. John D. Bulkeley, the base commander, refers to these Cubans as "our guests," people who cannot be permitted to be transferred to the United States because of existing Federal regulations. These are not like most guests, because they also are working here. The American treaty with Cuba prohibits the base from taking political refugees.