

Excerpt from A prison camps primer, 12.22.11

Camp 7: Little is known about this secret camp within the camps, whose existence was revealed Dec. 8, 2007, in declassified notes of the first attorneys to meet former CIA-held captives. The camp is not on the media tours that boast safe, humane, transparent care and custody of the 171 foreign men captives. The Pentagon has so far declined to provide information on the camp's costs or other details about its establishment. Army Col. Donnie Thomas, who runs the Joint Detention Group at Guantánamo, says he has oversight of it but will not discuss it. Members of Congress have inspected it.

Adm. Patrick Walsh, then no. 2 at the Navy, visited the camp in February 2009 and described it as similar to a "SuperMax" prison in the United States -- with climate controlled cells, a recreation yard surrounded by a chain-link fence and media rooms where detainees can watch videos and play with hand-held games. It also has can provide dental services so ex-CIA captives need not be taken to the main detainee medical facility. Only one Camp 7 detainee has been known to ever leave detention there: Tanzanian Ahmed Ghailani, who on June 9, 2009 was sent to New York and convicted at a federal criminal trial. Baltimore-raised Pakistani

Majid Khan, who pleaded guilty to war crimes on Feb. 29, 2012, was segregated from the others at Camp 7 in an annex situation similar to the Convicts Corridor at Camp 5, according to Rear Adm. David B. Woods, who approved a Camp 7 separation program. There are no known pictures of the place but the confessed 9/11 mastermind, Khalid Sheik Mohammed, known as KSM, has posed for Red Cross photos inside there that leaked to the internet. The prison camps staff attorney disclosed at a November 2011 war court hearing that it has multiple tiers that separates KSM from the alleged USS Cole bomber, Abd al Rahim al Nashiri. The CIA has acknowledged that its agents waterboarded both men. Opened: Date unknown. Cost: Pentagon declines to disclose. Current detainee population: