

# Obama to close Guantanamo Bay prison

Soon after being sworn in, President Barack Obama is expected to sign an executive order to close the prison camp that has become a global symbol of U.S. detainee abuse. However, it could take several months to carry out the order and figure out what to do with the remaining prisoners

## ■ Current detainees: 245

Down from peak of 779 – held on suspicion of links to *al-Qaeda* or *Taliban* – in 2002

## ■ Key suspects: 15

Includes five men charged with plotting 9/11 attacks in U.S.: *Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, Ramzi Binalshibh, Mustafa Ahmed al-Hawsawi, Ali Abdul Aziz Ali*, and *Walid Bin Attash*

## ■ Convictions to date 3

*David Hicks*, Australian, spent five years in Guantanamo Bay before pleading guilty to supporting terrorism. Freed in Dec 2007 after serving nine-month sentence in Adelaide prison.

*Salim Hamdan*, Yemeni, sentenced to five-and-a-half years in jail after being found guilty of providing material support for terrorism. Freed in Dec 2008 after one month in Yemeni prison

*Ali Hamza al-Bahlul*, Yemeni, sentenced to life imprisonment in November 2008 for performing media relations for *Osama bin Laden*



## ■ Deaths in custody 5

Four of suicide and one of cancer

## ■ Force-fed hunger strikers 33

Force-fed through tubes in their noses

## ■ Released or transferred to other governments 529

## ■ Cleared for release but cannot be transferred because of risk they would be tortured or persecuted in their home countries 50