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*“When we line up for food, you line up under the heat of the sun or the rain pouring on your head. The tent [outside the dining area] is four metres by six metres. You cannot have that many people under it when they are lining up for food.”* A.H, detained in Oscar compound

In Oscar compound, 500 men are detained in overcrowded, unsanitary conditions. Men are deliberately deprived of sufficient water, receiving just one tenth of the amount recommended by doctors in the facility.





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*“All I was coming here for was to have a country. I thought if I went to Australia, I would find a country with respect for human rights. I was thinking to leave darkness for light, but what I find is that I have left darkness for even more darkness.”* H.A, a Bidun from Dubai

The Papa Dormitory in the Foxtrot compound at Manus Island detention centre. The metal-roofed building, which dates from WWII, accommodates 112 men. Bunk beds are crammed together and there are no windows and no ventilation. There are two working fans which do nothing to affect the overwhelming stench, heat and humidity. Amnesty International found that conditions in Papa Dormitory violated the Convention Against Torture.





Image: © Graeme McGregor/AI

*“We use this to pass the time. It is no laughing matter. We pretend to play and it brings back memories of home. We sit here and cry for three hours every day.”*

In one bedroom in Oscar compound an asylum seeker led Amnesty researchers to a space between two bunk beds covered by sheets. On the sheet the detainees had drawn a television, DVD player and games console. Using strips of bed sheet, they had made electrical cords, and attached cardboard games controllers.

Asylum seekers on Manus have almost nothing to do all day. Recreational facilities are extremely limited and excursions out of the detention centre are denied to all but a handful of men.