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Detainees Won't Be Told Of Bombings

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GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba -- Some 520 terror suspects imprisoned here will not be told about the bombings that killed at least 37 people and wounded about 700 in London on Thursday, the commander of the detention camp said.

The detainees have been told about some news events, like the Dec. 26 tsunami and earthquake that killed more than 176,000 people in 11 countries in Asia and Africa, said Gen. Jay Hood.

"Obviously this appears to be a terrorist-related incident and for some of the enemy combatants we are holding, they would view this as encouraging," Hood said. "They would view this as part of another jihadist attack on the West ... So this is not the sort of current world event we would share with the detainees."

A single group, al-Qaida in Europe, claimed both the London bombings and those in March 2003 in Madrid.

Hood declined to say whether there would be any attempts to collect intelligence from detainees about the attack.

Many of the detainees have been at the U.S. Naval base for more than three years with little contact with the outside world. They can send and receive mail, which the military reads and sometimes redacts for security purposes. The military posts some news headlines at some of the five prisons holding the suspects.

The prisoners, who come from more than 40 countries, are all suspected of ties to the al-Qaida terrorist network or Afghanistan's ousted Taliban regime that sheltered it. Most have not been charged.

Nine British citizens were held at Guantanamo but all have been released.