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Guantanamo man 'home on Tuesday'

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The father of a British detainee held at Guantanamo Bay said he expected to be reunited with his son on Tuesday.

Azmat Begg said he and his family would be travelling to London to welcome Moazzam Begg home after three years in American detention.

The 37-year-old father-of-four, from Birmingham, was arrested by the CIA in Pakistan in February 2002 and held at the Bagram air base in Afghanistan for a year before being sent to the naval camp in Cuba in early 2003.

Moazzam's father, a retired bank manager, said: "The only thing I know is that he's coming Tuesday.

"He will be coming to England to a military base, most probably RAF Northolt, and be taken from there to a police station, maybe Paddington Green."

Azmat Begg, who spoke previously of his fears that Moazzam was being driven insane by years spent in solitary confinement, said he thought his son would probably go into hiding for a time.

"He will not be able to give any interviews because he was in solitary confinement for so long he will not be able to speak I'm sure," he said.

"He shouldn't be bothered by anyone, not the police, because he's not in a right condition mentally or physically."

Asked how he felt about seeing his son for the first time in years, Mr Begg said: "It is exciting. So far as I'm concerned, I have hope and happiness but I am worried about his health."

Foreign Secretary Jack Straw announced last week that four British detainees would be returned following "intensive and complex" discussions with the US.