

World

Bombers' deadline imminent

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wire

297 words

1 November 2008

[Northern Territory News/Sunday Territorian](#)

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English

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SECRECY surrounds the planned executions of three Bali bombers, with their lawyers saying even they will likely know nothing until after the men are dead.

The Islamic militants behind the 2002 bombings were last night in isolation on death row as their executions on the prison island loom. Other inmates at the maximum security prison block have been transferred to other nearby prisons to prevent any rioting.

Defence lawyer Wirawan Adnan said the legal team had not had any contact with Mukhlas, his brother Amrozi, and Imam Samudra since last week when they visited the prison with Mukhlas' family.

``I don't think the attorney-general's office will give us the luxury of that information because we believe it will be done secretly," Wirawan said. ``They know that our attitude will be that the public has the right to know, and any information given to us will be publicised."

He said it was possible that the terrorists had already been given a mandatory 72-hour notice advising that their executions would be carried out.

Indonesian authorities remain tightlipped about the timing of the bombers' deaths by firing squad on Nusakambangan Island, in Central Java. But it could happen any time.

Authorities have said only that the executions will be carried out in ``early November".

Bali prosecutors who will oversee the executions have arrived on Nusakambangan Island.

``Within the next 10 days they will be executed, it could be any moment now," said terrorism expert Rohan Gunaratna, of the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research in Singapore.

New letters penned by the bombers are circulating on the internet, calling for revenge attacks against those responsible for their executions.

NTN-20081101-1-016-081287

Document NORTH0020081031e4b100011

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