A US judge has "reluctantly" agreed to a US government request to delay appeals brought by some 250 Guantanamo detainees challenging the legality of their detention.

Judge Thomas Hogan, who is coordinating some 200 to 250 appeals in front of the federal courts, said in an order that he was granting the Government's motion.

"The court is satisfied that the Government is not dragging its feet in an attempts to delay these matters beyond what is necessary to protect the national security concerns associated with releasing classified information," Judge Hogan said in his order.

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