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Headline: Blinken Cancels Trip to China Following Spy Balloon Allegations

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Tweet: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has canceled a weekend visit to China after a Chinese spy balloon violated American airspace. @Dimi

Summary: US secretary of state Antony Blinken has canceled his weekend visit to China after the Pentagon said it discovered a Chinese spy balloon that has been flying over sensitive nuclear missile sites in the western state of Montana. China rejected suggestions that it was a spy balloon, saying it is rather a "civilian airship used for research, mainly meteorological, purposes" that deviated from its planned course because of winds and "limited self-steering capability" "The Chinese side regrets the unintended entry of the airship into US airspace due to force majeure," it said in an unusual statement. American officials said China had previously flown spy balloons over the country but that this one spent more time overhead. Canada separately said it was monitoring a "potential second incident" without providing any details. Canada's foreign ministry said it had summoned China's ambassador to Ottawa to protest against the balloon and that it would "continue to vigorously express our position to Chinese officials through multiple channels."

Primary Topic: Security

Topics: China, Factoid, News article, Security, Sell-by Date

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