

N. Korea detains a second U.S. citizen

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North Korea has notified the United States that it has another American in custody for allegedly entering the country illegally, the State Department announced Friday.

Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said that the **North** Koreans, in a bare-bones message through their United Nations representative, provided no identifying information -- no name or gender and no details of the alleged offense.

This is the **second** case of a **detained** American in **North Korea** to surface in the past month, further complicating a relationship that has been strained for years over **North Korea's** pursuit of nuclear weapons and periodic test-firing of missiles in defiance of **U.N.** Security Council warnings.

In late December, **North Korea** said it was holding a **U.S. citizen** for illegally entering through the **North Korea**-China border. It did not identify the man, but the State Department has said he is Robert Park, an American missionary.

-- Associated Press

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