

# N. Korea Arrests Second American Man

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SEOUL, South Korea — [North Korea](#) said Thursday that it had detained an American for illegally crossing into its territory from China, the second United States citizen to be held as the North's dispute with Washington over its [nuclear weapons](#) program continues.

The American entered North Korea on Monday and was under interrogation, the North's state-run news agency, K.C.N.A., said in a brief dispatch that gave no further details. The South Korean government and the American Embassy in Seoul said they had no information to offer on the North Korean report.

North Korea said late last month that it was holding an American man for illegally crossing in from China. He is believed to be Robert Park, an American missionary who South Korean activists say crossed the frozen river border on Christmas Day carrying a letter urging the North Korean leader, [Kim Jong-il](#), to shut down prison camps.

Washington has no diplomatic ties with North Korea and is working through the Swedish Embassy there to seek consular access to Mr. Park, 28. Since his disappearance into the North, South Korean activists supporting Mr. Park have sent leaflets by balloon to the North in an attempt to let North Koreans know about his trip and urge Mr. Kim to improve human rights in the North.

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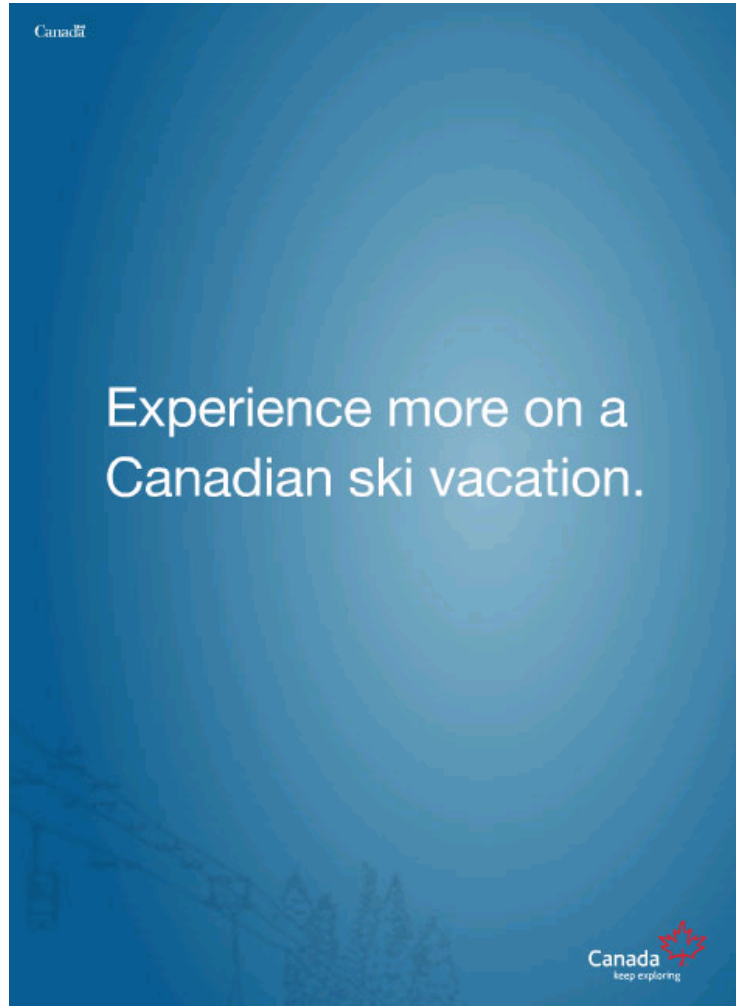


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