



The Office of Steve Sim

President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, Washington, D.C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2/3/23

STATEMENT ON THE PRC SURVEILLANCE BALLOON

To the American people,

At 9:14 PM Eastern Standard Time and 8:14 PM local time, the United States Air Force successfully brought down a surveillance balloon under the ownership of the People's Republic of China.

This surveillance balloon has been on the radar of the defense systems of the United States and Canada alike for some time. Intelligence from both countries tracked this balloon from Canadian jurisdiction down into Montana, where it has flown over sensitive military areas. At the time it was downed, the surveillance balloon was spotted over the northern area of the Missouri region of Superior.

Military authorities have confirmed no casualties or fatalities on the ground and have secured the remnants of the downed surveillance balloon. We congratulate the 1st Fighter Wing and our men and women in the Armed Forces in general for defending our Nation against all incursions.

We decry the People's Republic of China for their gross attempt to violate the sovereignty of the United States and Canada and unlawfully spy upon our people and our infrastructures. The Chinese Communist Party has shown its true colors to the world and their aggressive actions will not continue on our watch. We will take our complaints to the United Nations and look to impose

such sanctions on the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party as we deem necessary.

We are reaffirmed in our resolve to promote freedom and democracy in East Asia and the world and will commit to any and all resources necessary to combat tyranny. God bless you all and God Bless America!

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