

12 Feb, 2023 15:01 [Home](#) [World News](#)

China prepares to shoot down UFO – state media

The unidentified aircraft was reportedly spotted off the coastal city of Rizhao, after the US shot down three similar objects



FILE PHOTO: An alleged Chinese surveillance balloon floats over Columbia, Missouri, February 3, 2023 © AP / Anna Griffin

Chinese authorities are preparing to shoot down an “*unidentified flying object*” near the coastal city of Rizhao in the eastern province of Shandong, state media reported on Sunday. The encounter comes after US warplanes shot down three similar devices in a week, one of which originated in China.

The UFO was spotted by “*local maritime authorities*,” the Global Times newspaper [reported](#), adding that the same authorities were making preparations to open fire on it. Fishermen working near the port city were sent messages advising them to “*be safe*.”

No further description of the aircraft was given, and it was not explained exactly how the authorities planned on bringing it down.

The UFO was discovered hours after a US F-22 fighter jet shot down an unidentified and unmanned object over Canadian airspace. Speaking to Fox News, US officials described the object as a “*small metallic balloon with a tethered payload*,” while other media reports described it as “*cylindrical*” in shape.



US forces shot down two other unidentified aircraft earlier in the week. One was taken down near Alaska, while the first was hit by a missile off the coast of South Carolina. The latter aircraft – described as a Chinese “*surveillance balloon*” – had made its way across the entire country from west to east before it was downed, allegedly gathering intelligence on “*strategic sites*” along the way, according to the Pentagon.

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Beijing denied the accusations of espionage, insisting that the craft was a “*civilian airship*” that had veered off course. China’s foreign ministry has since condemned

US politicians and media outlets for using the incident to “*attack and smear China,*” while the Biden administration has imposed sanctions on six firms it accused of aiding Beijing’s “*aerospace programs.*”