Japan's NHK Mistakenly Issues North Korea Missile Warning



Tokyo, January 17 (RHC)-- A false North Korea missile launch warning has been announced by Japan's public broadcaster NHK calling on the nation to take shelter.

"North Korea appears to have launched a missile...The government urges people to take shelter inside buildings or underground," said the mistakenly published message on NHK's website and online news distribution service late on Tuesday.

After some five minutes the message was removed and replaced by an apology and correction which said no such alert had been issued by the government.

"This happened because equipment to send a news flash onto the Internet had been incorrectly operated. We are deeply sorry," it said.

No manner of panic or disruption was reported during the five minutes between the NHK's messages.

Tensions have been high in the region following nuclear test in September, and its November claims over successfully testing an intercontinental ballistic missile.

A similar mistake took place in Hawaii over the weekend, as an emergency alert warning of an incoming

ballistic missile was sent across the U.S. state urging people to seek immediate shelter before being called off by the state's emergency management agency as a "false alarm."

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