

# U.S., Canadian Jets Intercept Russian Reconnaissance Aircraft

By [AFP](#)

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Two Tu-142 maritime reconnaissance aircraft on Monday entered the Alaskan Air Defense Identification Zone, sparking the deployment of several NORAD aircraft including fighter jets. **Petr Kovalyov / TASS**

Two Russian military reconnaissance aircraft were intercepted and escorted for hours near Alaska by U.S. and Canadian air force jets, the North American Aerospace Defense Command said.

The two Tu-142 maritime reconnaissance aircraft on Monday entered the Alaskan Air Defense Identification Zone, sparking the deployment of several NORAD aircraft including fighter jets, the command said.

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The Russian aircraft entered and remained in the air defense identification zone, a security

perimeter in international airspace, for about four hours.

They came as close as 50 nautical miles to the Alaskan coast, a NORAD statement said Tuesday.

NORAD deployed F-22 and CF-18 fighters supported by a KC-135 Stratotanker and an E-3 Sentry AWACS aircraft to track the Russians.

"The Russian aircraft did not enter United States or Canadian sovereign airspace," they said.

NORAD is a joint U.S.-Canadian command focused on the defense of the North American airspace.

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