

Beat: News

Release of US citizen Trevor Reed from Russia

US State Department Press Release

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USPA NEWS - American Trevor Reed, a US citizen and former Marine who had been detained in Russia since 2019, has been released in a prisoner swap.

In a statement release from the State Department by Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of State:

I am pleased to announce the release of U.S. citizen Trevor Reed, who was wrongfully detained in Russia. We extend our deep appreciation to our many allies and partners who helped us in this effort.

I also wish to commend Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs Ambassador Carstens, Ambassador John Sullivan, and others in our government who have worked tirelessly to achieve this outcome.

We welcome this important release, while continuing to call for the release of wrongfully detained U.S. citizen Paul Whelan. We also remain committed to securing the freedom of all U.S. nationals wrongfully detained abroad.

Concerns about his health mounted in recent weeks, prompting his parents to stage a protest outside the White House last month to bring awareness to their son's case. Biden subsequently met with the parents to discuss efforts to bring Reed home.

Reed's father previously told CNN he believed it was likely Reed was suffering from tuberculosis, that he was coughing up blood and also had a broken rib. He said Reed went to a prison hospital but did not receive treatment and was then sent back to solitary confinement.

As Reed started a second hunger strike in protest of his treatment by Russian authorities, Reed's parents went to protest outside of the White House in the hopes of securing a meeting with the President.

The Reeds ultimately did meet with the President at the White House, and they said their meeting lasted for more than 30 minutes and it left them feeling "optimistic."

Russia's Foreign Ministry had previously raised the possibility that Yaroshenko could be returned "in exchange for any American national" held in Russia. Yaroshenko had been serving his sentence at the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury, Connecticut.

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Wendy writes for the United States Press Agency and is a former columnist with the Fulton County Expositor, Wauseon, Ohio.

Sources: State Department press release and MSN.

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