

North Korea reopens border

by UPI

SEOUL -- North Korea reopened its border Tuesday but it was unclear if the travel ban would remain lifted, said South Korean officials.

North Korea sealed its borders with South Korea twice last week during U.S.-South Korean military exercises, Yonhap reported Tuesday.

North Korean military officials Tuesday hand-delivered a letter to South Korean officials at the border in Kaesong saying traffic would be allowed to flow both ways across the border. The letter gave no reason for why the border had been closed or why it had been reopened, Yonhap reported.

The border at Kaesong, an hour's drive from Seoul, usually is congested with cargo traffic delivering raw materials and picking up goods in both countries, Yonhap reported.

Travel disruptions further weaken an already dismal economy, said Mun Chang-sub, head of Samduk Tongsang Co., a shoe manufacturer.

"It's difficult for the businesses to recover if such an unstable situation occurs again," Mun said to Yonhap.

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