

Chinese student admits thallium poisoning

by UPI

BEIJING - A Chinese university student has admitted poisoning three classmates with thallium, telling police he resented them because they ignored him.

The 21-year-old, identified only by his family name, Chang, was arrested June 12, China Daily reported. Police became suspicious because he had been eating with the other three May 31 in a dining hall at Xuhai College -- a division of the China University of Mining & Technology -- but no thallium was found in his bowl.

The victims remain in a Beijing hospital, where they are said to be in stable condition.

The incident at the school in Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province, is the third known case in China of poisoning with thallium, a toxic heavy liquid that is difficult to obtain. The victim in the first case, a college student poisoned in 1994, has lost her sight and suffered severe brain damage. That case remains unsolved.

A source told China Daily that Chang was angry because other students did not invite him to join them in off-hours activities and ignored him.

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