



US urges open N Korea in Twitter tit-for-tat 美國呼籲北韓以推特開放國家

The US last week offered North Korea an online welcome to Twitter but warned the reclusive regime it might wind up with more than it bargained for entering the connected world.

The US State Department's chief spokesman, Philip Crowley, turned to his own account on the popular micro-blogging site to "welcome North Korea to Twitter and the networked world."

But Crowley told North Korea — whose tweets have so far consisted of links to its famously **strident** anti-US and anti-Seoul statements — that "we use Twitter to connect, to inform and to debate."

"The North Korean government has joined Twitter, but is it prepared to allow its citizens to be connected as well?" Crowley said in another tweet.

"The **Hermit** Kingdom will not change overnight, but technology once introduced can't be shut down. Just ask Iran," he wrote.

It was a pointed reference to last year's major street protests in Iran, where opponents of the **hard-line** theocratic regime organized and distributed footage of banned dem-

onstrations through Twitter and other new technology.

North Korea, one of the world's most controlled states, is believed to have an elite unit of **hackers** but few of its citizens have access to a computer, let alone the Internet.

But, even if it is only for curiosity value, Pyongyang's Twitter account — which is only in Korean — has rapidly attracted followers.

As of last Wednesday, North Korea's account, @uriminzok, had some 8,700 followers — about 5,000 more than Crowley had at @pjcrowley. (AFP)

美國上週於微型網誌「推特」發文歡迎北韓上網，但也提醒封閉的北韓政府，以此方法與世界接軌，結果可能超乎預期。

美國國務院首席發言人菲力浦·克勞里在這受歡迎的微型網誌上，用自己的帳號發表了「歡迎北韓來到推特，並與網路世界接軌」。

但是克勞里告訴目前只發反美與反南韓連結推文的北韓說，「我們用推特是要彼此聯絡，廣發新知，以及辯論。」

克勞里於另一則推文表示，「北韓政府雖然加入推特，但是否也準備讓人民上網？」

他寫道，「這個『封閉的王國』無法一夕之間改變，但科技一旦注入，就無法停止了。問伊朗就知道。」

他指的是去年伊朗的街頭抗議，強硬派神權當局的反對者組織起來，透過推特與其他新科技，發表遭禁的抗議影片。

北韓是世上管制最嚴的國家之一。據悉北韓準備一支精銳的駭客部隊，但有電腦的北韓民衆少之又少，更别提國際網路了。

但即使純粹為了好奇，平壤只用韓文推文的推特帳號，也很快地吸引了網友追隨。

直到上週三，北韓的帳號@uriminzok已有約八千七百名追隨者——比克勞里的帳號@pjcrowley還多了約五千名。

(法新社/翻譯：吳岱瑛)

Masayoshi Son, president and chief executive officer of SoftBank, speaks during an unveiling of the company's new mobile phones which are set to include Twitter's service, in Tokyo on May 18, 2010.

PHOTO: BLOOMBERG

五月十八日，日本軟體銀行總裁孫正義在新手機發表會上發表演說。該款手機可使用推特服務。照片：彭博社

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **strident** /'straɪdnt/ adj.

強硬的 (qiang2 ying4 de5)

例：Morgan is one of the country's most strident opponents of nuclear power. (摩根是這個國家最強硬的反核人士之一。)

2. **hermit** /'hɜ:mɪt/ n.

隱士 (yin3 shi4)

例：Reece lived like a hermit for a year following his divorce. (瑞斯離婚後過了一年隱士的生活。)

3. **hard-line** /,hɑ:d'laɪn/ adj.

強硬的 (qiang2 ying4 de5)

例：The government refused to change its hard-line position. (政府拒絕改變其強硬的態度。)

4. **hacker** /'hækə/ n.

駭客 (hai4 ke4)

例：Police are looking for a hacker who accessed the chairman's email account. (警方正在找一位入侵董事長電子郵件帳號的駭客。)