

F. Post 9/19/66

Ike 'Leaked' Decision To Use A-Bomb

NEW YORK (AP) — Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower said Sunday night he was prepared to use nuclear weapons against Communist China during the Korean War and that the Communists' knowledge of this "had a great effect" in ending the conflict.

He said, "I let it be known that if there were not going to be an armistice that I would no longer regard this war as being limited to deny ourselves the right to attack wherever we saw enemy coming at us — meaning that we were not going to be bound by the kind of weapons that we would use.

"Now I think and I'm sure this was allowed to go through — out through several channels, and though I didn't make it... a public statement, I let it be known and I'm sure this had a great effect because the answer came back that they're ready to resume conversations about the armistice."

The former general of the Army made the statements in a National Educational Television network interview broadcast.

However, Eisenhower said, "I don't mean to say that we'd have used those great big things and destroyed cities, but we would use them enough to win and we, of course, would have tried to keep them on military targets, not civil targets."