

## Pentagon Accused of 1958 Drive For Nuclear Plan Against China

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (UPI)—The Pentagon tried to get President Eisenhower to approve the use of tactical nuclear weapons in 1958 during a confrontation between Nationalist and Communist China, the columnist Jack Anderson said today.

Mr. Anderson said a secret study for the Rand Corporation in 1968 of the crisis over attacks by Peking on Quemoy and Matsu, offshore islands held by Taiwan, had found that "the generals deliberately deceived the White House, which was misled, therefore, into tentatively approving the use of nuclear weapons to defend the islands."

"In other words," Mr. Anderson said, "the United States was ready to fight a nuclear war 16 years ago over two insignificant islands, which today draw no more than a shrug from our policymakers."

He said the report, written by Morton H. Halperin, a former national security adviser, was among the secret documents stolen Oct. 1 from the home of

Daniel Ellsberg, recovered by the police and subsequently passed on to a House of Representatives committee, which has scheduled hearings when Congress reconvenes.

When China began shelling the islands, defended by Chiang Kai-shek's troops, United States strategists believed an invasion was on the way. The report said: "The military brass wanted to use tactical nuclear weapons to destroy China's underground munitions dumps and gun emplacements.

"The Pentagon, therefore, falsely informed the White House that the available Air Force planes had no bomb racks that could accommodate high explosive conventional bombs powerful enough to knock out the underground installations. It would take 'nukes,' the Pentagon insisted, to do the job."

The report said that President Eisenhower and his Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles, made plans to use the nuclear weapons, but the crisis simmered down before the President actually gave the order to fire them.