

From series of articles on Nixon Administration by William Beecher, (filed Nixon Administration, under date of first article, 18 Jan 71):

On at least two occasions when the military chiefs prevailed on a major policy matter at the White House, it was in counseling restraint on a President inclined toward bold action.

That happened in the spring of 1969, following the shooting down of an unarmed spy plane off the coast of North Korea, when the military stressed the paucity of forces available in the face of Mr. Nixon's initial inclination to bomb some North Korean airfields. As the military slowly moved air and sea reinforcements toward Korea, his anger cooled and he decided against retaliatory raids.

[The other occasion involved Jordanian crisis and possibility of confrontation with Soviet Union.]