Men and material in large forces are pouring across all bridges over the Yalu from Manchuria. This must not only jeopardize but threaten the ultimate destruction of the forces under my command. The actual move across the river can be accomplished under cover of darkness and the distance between the river and our lines is so short that the forces can be deployed against our troops without being seriously subjected to air interdiction. The only way to stop this thrust of the enemy is the destruction of these bridges and the subjecting of all installations in the North area supporting the enemy adv to the max of our air destruction. Every hour that this is postponed will be paid for dearly in American and other United Nations blood. The main crossing at Sinuiju was to be hit within the next few hours and the mission is actually already being mounted. Under the gravest protest that I can make, I am suspending this strike and carrying out your instructions. What I had ordered is entirely within the scope of the rules of war and the resolutions and directions which I have read from the United Nations and constitute no slightest act of belligerency against Chinese territory, in spite of the outrageous international lambast emanating therefrom. I cannot overemphasize the diametrical affect, both physical and psychological, that will result from the restrictions which you are imposing. I trust that the matter be immediately brought to the attention of the President as I believe your instructions may well result in a calamity of major proportion for which I cannot accept the responsibility without his personal and dir understanding of the sit. There is to be no essential that I request immediate reconsideration of your decision pending which complete compliance will of course given to your order.

ACTION: JCS
INFO: GEN VANDERBERG, GEN COLLINS, ADM SHIRMAN, GEN BOLLING, SEC MAUHALL,

(6 Nov 50)

DECLASSIFIED
F.O. 180/6, Sec. 3-402
ODD Directive 5/1000/30, June 18, 1979
By: NLT

COPY NO. 3-1