

Dropping the Atomic Bomb

Background

American presidents make decisions based on the advice of their senior staff.

Following the death of Roosevelt, Harry Truman became president of the United States.

The leadership of the armed forces would have given him several options for using the atomic bomb to resolve the conflict with Japan.

The following is a possible list . . .

- *Use the atomic bomb as a tactical weapon to assist in the invasion of Japan.*
- *Use the atomic bomb as a demonstration before international observers.*
- *Use the atomic bomb against a military target.*
- *Use the atomic bomb against a city, with warning.*
- *Use the atomic bomb against a city, without warning.*

Assignment

Imagine you are President Truman during the summer of 1945.

Which of these options would you pick? Defend you answer!
