

Name- _____ Period- _____ Date- _____

John H. Geiger Testimony before Senate Subcommittee, March 1972: Document Analysis

Important Phrases: Which are the most powerful phrases in the testimony? Choose three phrases.

Phrase 1: _____

Why is this phrase important or powerful?

Phrase 2: _____

Why is this phrase important or powerful?

Phrase 3: _____

Why is this phrase important or powerful?

Critical Thinking Questions: Examples from the text must be cited in answering these questions.

1) Why is Geiger testifying? What is meant by executive clemency?

2) What can you infer about Resolution 207 from Geiger's statement?

3) How does Geiger describe the "complex problems presented by amnesty"?

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4) How and why does Geiger bring George Washington into his testimony?

5) Why does the American Legion have an intense interest in amnesty? Does Geiger's reasoning imply that others do not share the same interest?

6) Is there a difference between a "reason" and an "excuse" for an action? Why do you think Geiger employs the language he uses?

7) Why does Geiger reject labeling the Vietnam War as immoral? What specific evidence does he offer to justify his claim?

8) How does Geiger distinguish between two categories of proponents of amnesty?

9) What does the American Legion believe about most draft evaders?

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10) What specific reasons does Geiger offer to oppose amnesty?

12) What problems are US soldiers facing according to Geiger? How does amnesty fit into Geiger's argument here?

13) What is the American Legion's official position on amnesty? Does the Legion offer any compromise position on amnesty?

14) What justification does Geiger offer for the Legionnaires' resolution? Do you think that this argument is powerful? Why or why not?
