**VIETNAM WAR DEBATE PREP**

*Was the United States justified in entering the Vietnam War?*

Directions: Use the documents provided as well as additional research t0 support arguments you will create based on your assigned role. Use the chart below (or similar one) to guide your initial analysis.

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| Document | Justified: Yes/No | Argument (or anticipated counterargument) | Evidence |
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\*By creating the argument represented in each document you will be not only preparing for your side but also anticipating the counterargument of the opposing side. For example, if you are arguing that bombing was NOT justified, Document B gives reasons why it was- therefore in the argument column you will anticipate what your opponent will say so that you can refute it. Once you have completed the initial analysis, go back through and back note of the main points you would like to make during the debate.

1. JBL’s conversation with McNamara regarding the Gulf of Tonkin Incident

<http://nsarchive.gwu.edu/NSAEBB/NSAEBB132/tapes.htm>

1. White House Staff meeting regarding the Gulf of Tonkin Incident

<http://nsarchive.gwu.edu/NSAEBB/NSAEBB132/tonkin.pdf>

1. Johnson’s Message to Congress (part 1)

Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (part 2)

<http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/tonkin-g.asp>

1. Anti-War Movement Timeline
2. Martin Luther King Jr’s Opposition
3. John Kerry’s Opposition
4. Course of Action in Southeast Asia (1954)
5. Letter from Eisenhower to Ngo Dinh Diem (1954)
6. State Department White Paper on Vietnam (1965)
7. American Policy on Vietnam, John (1965)