Hist202C Narrating Sources Group Project (Presentation 1)

Description of project:

Imagine yourselves as a group of historians sometime in the near future confronting a set of primary sources for the first time. The sources that you have uncovered are the only remaining documents of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki—events which have been lost to public memory for some decades. Based on these sources you must try to reconstruct what happened. You must also present a fluid narrative or account of “what happened” to the public during a “60 Minutes”-like news program.

IMPORTANT: The 1st key to this assignment is that you fully understand the position (point) of your source, on the source’s own terms. In other words, to the best of your ability you should not attempt to insert your own ideas or opinions when analyzing your source. The 2nd key to this assignment is that your group should as a whole construct a “story” (i.e., an account/narrative) of what happened based upon the materials each member of your group is provided.

Objectives:

• To engage in the process of primary source analysis
• To engage in the process of constructing a historical narrative from primary sources
• To become aware of the problems and difficulties of primary source analysis
• To begin to gain a basic familiarity with the historical circumstances surrounding the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and potential for differing historical interpretations of these two events.

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<th>Date Due</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
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| 1/14     | (1) Group Meeting 1 (In class)  
• Review documents and divide documents among group members. | - |
| 1/19     | (2) Preliminary research (Outside class)  
• Conduct basic research according to handout given in class. | 10% |
| 1/26     | (3) Source Analysis (Outside class)  
• Complete source analysis worksheet and prepare to present your conclusions to your group. | 15% |
| 1/28     | (4) Source Analysis Presentation (In class)  
• Present your source formally (in a clear, organized manner) to your group. They will evaluate your presentation | 10% |
| 2/4      | (5) Group Meeting (In class)  
• Meet with your group once to prepare your narrative of events to present to the public. | 15% |
| 2/9      | (6) Public Presentation (In class)  
• Based upon your individual sources, as a group, present your narrative to the public. | 50% |