Feeder One Assignment

Introduction to the Assignment
In this assignment, you will pick one primary source item from the gallery of materials compiled in the Documenting Student Activism online curriculum module. Using the bibliography provided with the item, as well as other library resources like the catalog and Articles +, you will find and analyze information about the historical context of your primary source.

Questions to Consider in Your Summary
As you research, look for evidence that answers the following questions about your primary source:

- **Who are the key individuals and communities represented in your source?**
  - **Author:** Find out as much as you can about the author(s) of your source — what were their institutional/organizational affiliations, their occupations, their backgrounds, and their beliefs? What biases did they have, and how are those biases reflected in your primary source?
  - **Audience:** What audience, if any, do you think your source was intended to reach?

- **When was your source published or created?**
  - **Local context:** Consider how your primary source fits into the conversations and events that were occurring on UNC’s campus at the time your source was created.
  - **National/global context:** Consider how your source reflects (or does not reflect) political or cultural trends that were widespread at the time your source was created. Was there a war, a presidential election, a cultural shift, or some other large-scale event or pattern that impacted the authors and audience of your primary source?
  - **Drawing conclusions:** Based on a critical reading of your primary source and related sources, do you think your source fits in with the historical narrative of the time, or diverges from it?

- **Why was your source created?**
  - **Establishing purpose:** What was the overall purpose of your primary source? Was it created to document an event, to persuade an audience of something, to preserve history or information, or for another reason? For the most part, there is not a clear answer to this question — it is up to you to come up with a reasonable conjecture, based on the evidence you uncover in your research, and to make a case for why that may have been the purpose of your source.
What should your summary include?
For this assignment, you will turn in a primary source summary that answers as many of the “questions to consider” from the previous page as possible. Your summary should provide a brief introduction to the history of your primary source item, including when it was created, who it was created by, who it was created for, and why you think it was created. At the end of the summary, you should also state your intended focus in researching this primary source for the next two assignments. For example, you might look at a source as it relates to environmental activism, racial justice, or labor disputes on campus. Your task in the next two assignments will be to investigate that particular issue on UNC’s campus in both a historical and contemporary context. Your primary source summary should show that you understand the existing body of literature on your topic and how your own research will fit into that scholarly conversation.

What should your summary look like?
When you submit the final draft of your primary source summary, it should meet the following criteria:
- It is between one and three pages;
- It integrates a minimum of two additional sources (either primary or secondary) that provide additional historical or cultural context about your source;
- It has appropriate in-text citations and a bibliography in APA format. (For helpful citation guidelines, see UNC’s Citation Guide.)

How will your primary source summary be graded?
Your primary source summary will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
- **Clarity of Argument**: Have you identified a possible purpose for your primary source and made a clear, compelling case for why you think that was the purpose of the source?
- **Analysis and Evidence**: Do you use concrete examples to provide context about your source? Do you make insightful comments, supported by specific observations and outside research?
- **Context**: Do you appropriately contextualize your argument by citing historical, cultural, political, or other relevant information about the time and place in which your source was created?
- **Scholarly Writing**: Is your writing clear, focused, fluid, and grammatically correct?
- **Citation**: Do you cite all of your sources using APA conventions?