

Historical Scene Investigation - The U.S. Constitution: "I Smelt a Rat"

Detective's Log

Document	Author? Audience?	When was it written?	Objections to the Constitution?
Document 1: "...We would sooner submit to a foreign power"			
Document 2: Objections to the Constitution, George Mason			
Document 3: Letters between George Washington, Patrick Henry, and Benjamin Harrison			

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Document	Author? Audience?	When was it written?	Objections to the Constitution?
Document 4: Patrick Henry's speech at Virginia Ratification Convention (part 1)			
Document 5: Patrick Henry's speech at Virginia Ratification Convention (part 2)			
Document 6: Letter from Madison to Jefferson			

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<p>Document 7: Madison’s speech before 1st Congress</p>			

Analytical Questions

1. In summary, what are the key objections to the Constitution?

2. How would you assess the merits of these objections?

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3. Look at your textbook entry on the ratification of the Constitution. To what degree are these objections covered? Why do you think that the objections to the Constitution by such notable patriots are not emphasized more in your history textbook?

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