

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF THE PRESIDENTS™

The Third Amendment

Introduction:

The Third Amendment defines the relationship between citizens and the military. It says that private citizens don't have to provide housing for members of the armed forces. The basis for this right comes from our days prior to the Revolutionary War, when colonists were expected to provide living quarters to the English soldiers. Today, this amendment is rarely tested in the courts. In fact, the Supreme Court has never ruled on a case involving the Third Amendment.

The text of this amendment reads, "No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law."

Questions:

1. What right is protected under the Third Amendment?
2. What year was the Third Amendment ratified?
3. What does "quartering" mean?
4. According to the text of the amendment, who must consent to quartering during peace times?
5. What was the Quartering Act of 1774?
6. What two wars used private homes to quarter soldiers?
7. What does Patrick Henry claim was, "one of our first complaints" against England?
8. What does the Supreme Court say about the Third Amendment?
9. How might the Third Amendment be used to protect privacy rights?
10. How could the Third Amendment become relevant in the future?