

Independent Voices – GI Underground Press Overview

Reveal Digital's *Independent Voices* is an unparalleled collection of alternative press periodicals published during the tumultuous and transitional 1960s, 70s and 80s. The collection provides students and researchers access to primary source content that documents the roots of societal changes that continue to shape our culture today.

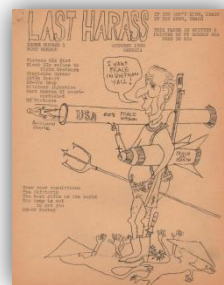


Independent Voices is composed of seven series that align with the major social movements of the time. The GI Underground Press Series was developed in collaboration with the

GI Press Project. It is the most comprehensive collection of digitized GI underground newspapers and newsletters ever compiled. Adding to the value of the series is its placement in the context of the hundreds of other underground press publications published during the same period.

GI underground publications could be found on military bases, in coffeehouses, and in other places where GI's gathered in the U.S. and around the world in every branch of the military.

The GI underground press covered many topics, including military indoctrination, seemingly arbitrary rules and regulations, racism, sexism, the bounds of power and authority, legitimacy of U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia, the military as an institution, and the definition of "enemy." The content was creative and diverse. In addition to news articles and editorials, publications included fiction, poetry, cartoons, letters to the editor, and more. This collection represents authentic voices in the midst of the military system from the decades that inspired such antiwar literature as *Catch-22*, *M*A*S*H**, and *Born on the Fourth of July*.



“The GI antiwar movement was the most far-reaching collective mutiny in U.S. history and brought the military to its knees in Vietnam, yet it is rarely given mention in histories of the antiwar and 1960s left. It was newspapers like *Fed Up!*, *We Got the Brass*, and the *Last Harass* that kept the movement alive as soldiers moved from base to base and country to country, and that now stand testament to the capacious political visions, tongue-in-cheek satire, and courage of soldier-activists. *Independent Voices* does a great service in recovering these papers and making them available for today’s students, historians, servicepeople, and veterans.”

Jessie Kindig
Assistant Editor, *Journal of American History*

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Notable titles include:

- *A 'bout Face* (Heidelberg, Germany): Black Panther-influenced paper, “Published by GI’s for GI’s”
- *Amex American Expatriate in Canada* (Toronto, Canada): provided a forum to address the concerns of American draft resisters and military deserters living in Canada
- *The Bond* (founded in Berkeley in 1967, later published in New York): considered the first GI underground paper, pioneered the system of distribution
- *Counterpoint* (Fort Lewis, WA): first student-GI publication in the country
- *Fed Up* (Fort Lewis, WA): nationally recognized and the most widely read GI press newspaper published at Fort Lewis
- *Freedom of the Press* (Yokosuka, Japan): produced and distributed by antiwar civilians in Yokosuka, Japan, a major staging area for the naval air war and base for *U.S.S. Midway*
- *Fun, Travel, Adventure* (Fort Knox, KY): possibly the first GI underground produced by active-duty army personnel
- *HEAD ON* (Camp Lejeune, NC): petitioned to distribute the paper and the Bill of Rights on base, editor honorably discharged three months early
- *OM* (Washington, DC): distributed at the Pentagon, edited by apprentice seaman Roger Priest, a key figure of the GI antiwar movement
- *We Got the Brass*: only GI paper to appear in three editions, in Germany, Japan, and Hong Kong



A complete title list is available at:

<http://www.revealdigital.com/gi-press-series-titles/>