

The *GI Special* Spring Fund Raising Raffle

1 Day Left!

[In The Raffle If You Mail Tomorrow]

[Win Some Outstanding Shit For Your Money]

[See Photos Of Prizes Below]

[Updated Progress Report At The End]

But First:

“Why Bother Shelling Out My Cash?”

#1:

[Here's a letter that came in to the Military Project mailbox 4.19 with a check for \$200 for the GI Special Fund Raising Raffle:]

“Folks,

“Keep up the great work.

“We GIs appreciate your service in helping cope and end this war.

“All the best,

“Sgt. [X]

#2:

From: Sgt [XXXXXX]
To: GI Special
Sent: April 07, 2007
Subject: G.I. SPECIAL IS GOOD STUFF

I just wanted to take the time to tell you that the “G.I. Special” is good reading. Let me rephrase that – it’s depressing that we have gotten to the point that your publication is good reading.

I try to catch the early bird news compilation every day I can. Today I found an article titled "The Few, The Proud, The Disillusioned" which immediately caught my eye. As I read it, I found a reference to the militaryproject.org website. Curious, I had to check it out.

Wow. The feeling I get from what I read is right where I am.

It is unfortunate we have been misled into the quagmire where we find ourselves.

I am going to turn my family and friends on to your site so they have no question about where I stand on this whole mess.

I have been in trouble in the past for speaking out about this debacle, so please do not send my name and address around. I do what I can, but I have to be careful also.

Sgt [XXXXX]

#3:

From: [Soldier X]
To: GI Special
Sent: January 26, 2007 5:41 PM
Subject: newsletter

[ID removed to protect the writer.]

I was given your email address from [XXX]. I would sure appreciate if you could add me to your mailing list for your newsletter.

I'm leaving for Iraq this coming Wednesday.

Thanks in advance and keep up the good fight.

[X]

#4:

From: [Soldier Y: Baghdad, Iraq]
To: GI Special
Sent: April 01, 2007

[NOTE: To avoid any accusations from command that the writer is assisting in raising funds for GI Special, the writers ID and some parts of the original letter are removed. T]

Hey there,

This is my second tour in an illegal and immoral war. I was set to separate from the Army on the XXth of X, 2006. Thanks to stop loss, I deployed involuntarily on X XXth for a second combat tour.

I just started receiving the GI Special and it's a breath of fresh air. I think every service member should read it.

Keep up the good work.

**In solidarity,
Soldier Y**

GI Special Running On Empty

You know we don't hit you up often, last time was 9.06, but now we can't not.

There are problems.

The printer we use to produce GI Specials originals for copying blew up and had to be replaced with a sturdier model. With a three year guarantee, about \$300.

We barely made the April 1 yearly payment on a high security mail box that allows anybody in the armed services to address mail to GI Special anyway they want, using any name they want, ranging from Military Project to Presbyterian Pen Pal Club, provided the Box # is correct: \$500

There was the trip to Ft. Bragg for the 3.17 rally, where we met up with more serving members of the armed forces than ever before. Car rental, cheap motel, gas: \$500 for three Military Project members, including an Iraq veteran who spoke at the rally.

Then, in March, major computer horrors, the worst ever experienced: Everything slowed down to a dead crawl, and our outgoing email system froze up. That hurt bad: \$580 for 16 hours of professional help to fix the problems and save the files.

These were the big ones.

Then, routinely:

Internet service provider fees, web site charges, copies of printed materials for outreach to active duty troops and National Guard members, yearly fees for serious computer security systems to keep out hackers and sneak peepers, reams of paper, travel costs to respond to invitations to go to military base towns....

It never ends, but the money that comes from the pay checks of working people who help GI Special come out has gone as far as possible, and now the unpaid bills are piled up.

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The Military Project

All proceeds are used for projects giving aid and comfort to members of the armed forces opposing today's Imperial wars.

OK, Here's How The Raffle Works **[Photos Of Prizes Below]**

Anybody who sends at least \$5 is in the raffle. The deadline is May 10, 2007.

There are 5 prizes, so 5 names will be pulled out of a hat. The first name pulled gets to pick his or her choice, and then the second name will get to choose from the remaining prizes, and so on. We'll contact winners by email.

There will be no charge for shipping the items to you unless you are overseas, do not have APO and choose the large, hand-painted woodwork item. [See photo below.]

NOTE; ANY ENVELOPES POSTMARKED 5.10.07 WILL BE CONSIDERED GOOD FOR THE RAFFLE, BECAUSE SOME ARE COMING FROM OVERSEAS. So, the drawing will be done 5.20.07 to give those letters time to arrive.

If you send a check or money order, make payable to: The Military Project.

If you send gold or silver bullion, diamonds, or large amounts of foreign or domestic currency, insure the package. [Yeah, fat chance.]

Send your \$ to:

**G.I. Special
The Military Project
Box 126
2576 Broadway
New York, N.Y.
10025-5657**

Repeat: If you send a check or money order, make payable to: The Military Project.

Now For The Prizes: Winners Choice

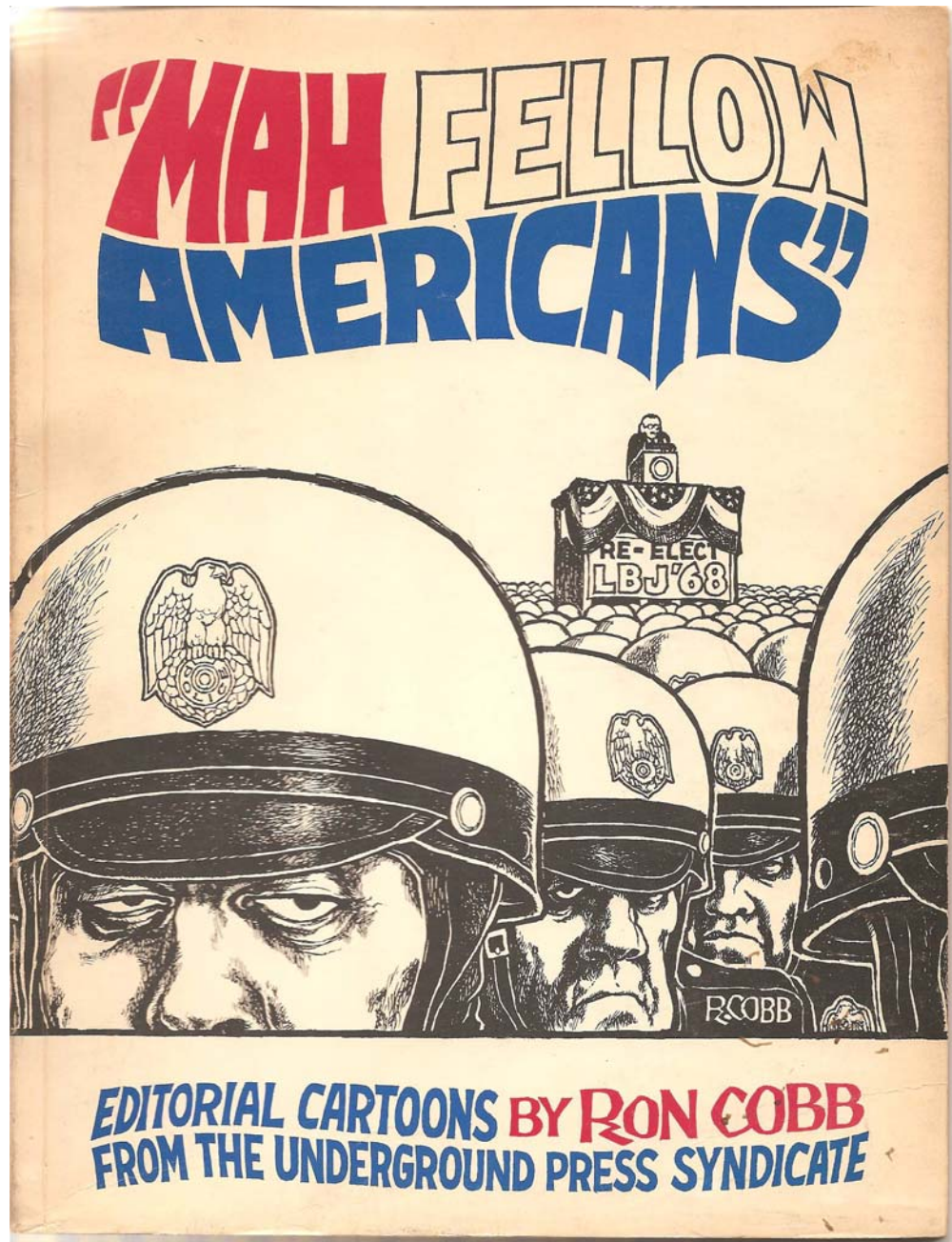
Prize #1:



Hand crafted wood, painted by Alycia Barr, whose son served in Iraq, and given to The Military Project for fund raising purposes. The beautifully painted surface is covered with a protective layer to preserve the work. 14 inches across. The top moves around while the base remains stationary.

The photo fails to capture the stunning richness of the colors and elegance of the work.

Prize #2: BOOK



From Vietnam Days. Out of print. A few on Amazon, ranging from \$50 to \$98.

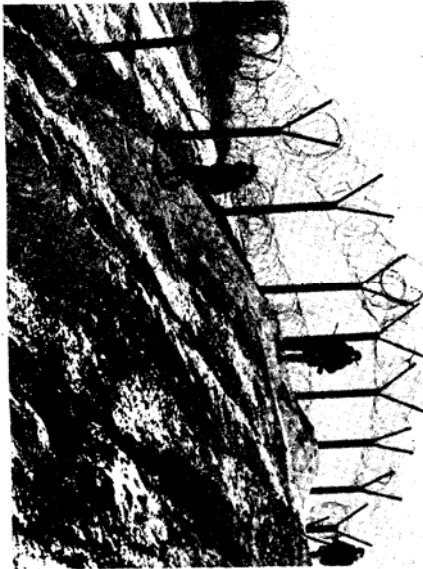
**Prize #3:
This Is The Real Thing:
The September 1968 Issue Of Vietnam GI**

Northern Calif. Youth For Peace
P. O. Box 8
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95402

Vietnam GI

September, 1968

Free to Servicemen



Korea DMZ

In Nam you get Stars & Stripes, Army (Liber) Times, Readers Digest, and other Establishment mags. Anything the brass don't want the public to see will be killed by the version PIO or the information office at the Establishment.

In an article in the June, 1968, Reader's Digest, entitled "Korea: The War That Never Ended," the following paragraph appeared:
January 23, 1968, only two days after the Pueblo's seizure:

inside LBJ

The Long Binh Jail is infamous for servicemen. Since the inmate riot in August, it's been infamous for the brass too. Following is an inside story from a SP4 combat medic who spent 38 days in the LBJ awaiting trial. Because he is again being hassled by the brass, he must remain anonymous.

VGI. So how in the hell did you ever get into the LBJ?
A. Well, the way it happened is that I went on R&R. When I came back I was in civvies. I refused to put on a uniform. First the NCO ordered me to put on a uniform and I refused. Then the adjutant bopped out and ordered me to put on the uniform and I refused. And then he started calling me names in order to get me angry, like coward, low dog, and words like this. And after a while he did succeed in getting my anger up. He turned around at one point and started to walk back into his office

off" times. My function was to save lives.

VGI. What was the LBJ like? I hear it's pretty grim.

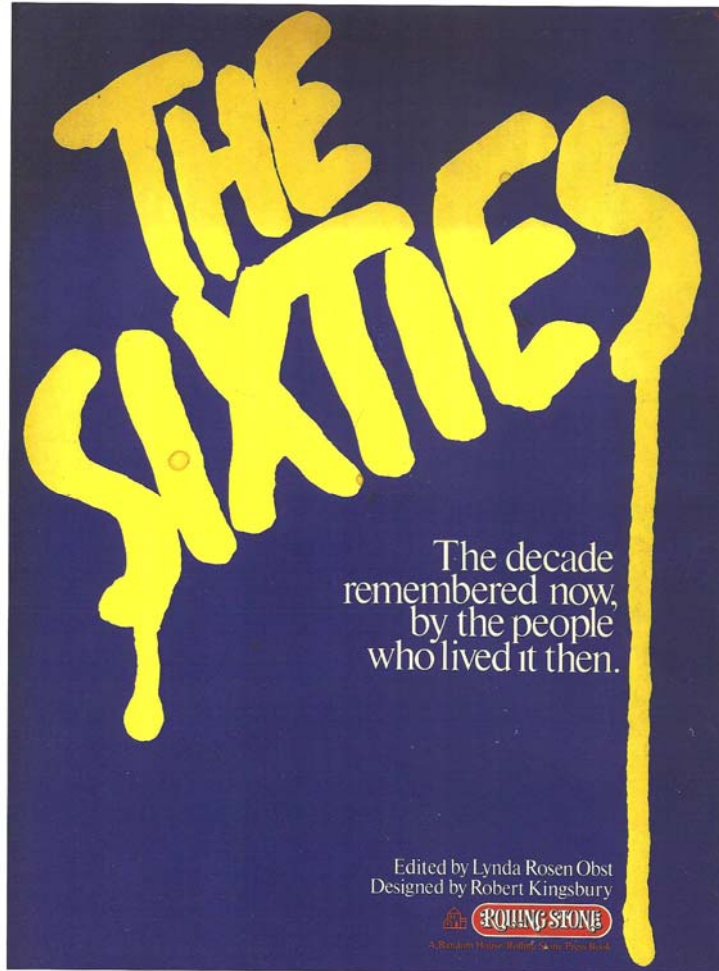
A. Well, first off, there's two groups, as far as prisoners are concerned, in the LBJ. There's the In group and then there's the out group. One group consists of soul brothers, and when soul brothers are en masse in close confinement, if they're not worldly, they have a lot of prejudice heaped upon them on the outside. So when they're on the inside they mass together and they form a clique. And in forming this clique, no one can penetrate it. The other group is the group of people who consist of all the rest - the white guys, the Puerto Ricans. And sometimes the Puerto Ricans are with the soul brothers. It all depends on the Puerto Rican's point of view. And well, the other group is just everybody else.

It depends on who you are and how you carry yourself as to what will happen to you. If you lick ass, so to speak, then you'll get by really nice. As a matter of fact, the Army teaches you that if you're in confinement by

Various issues are rarely offered on E Bay, from \$100 up for each. One was offered for \$500. Thanks to Ed Vinci, in another life Vietnam GI organizer in Honolulu, for sending us this for the fund drive.

This is unique. [Prize #5 below is a complete set of Vietnam GI, every page, but it's a photocopy reprint done now from the original issues.]

Prize #4: BOOK



315 pages, mostly photos, from Rolling Stone, so you know it's not some boring collection of bullshit. 1977 First Edition, 11 inches x 14 inches.

Prize #5 Vietnam GI: Complete

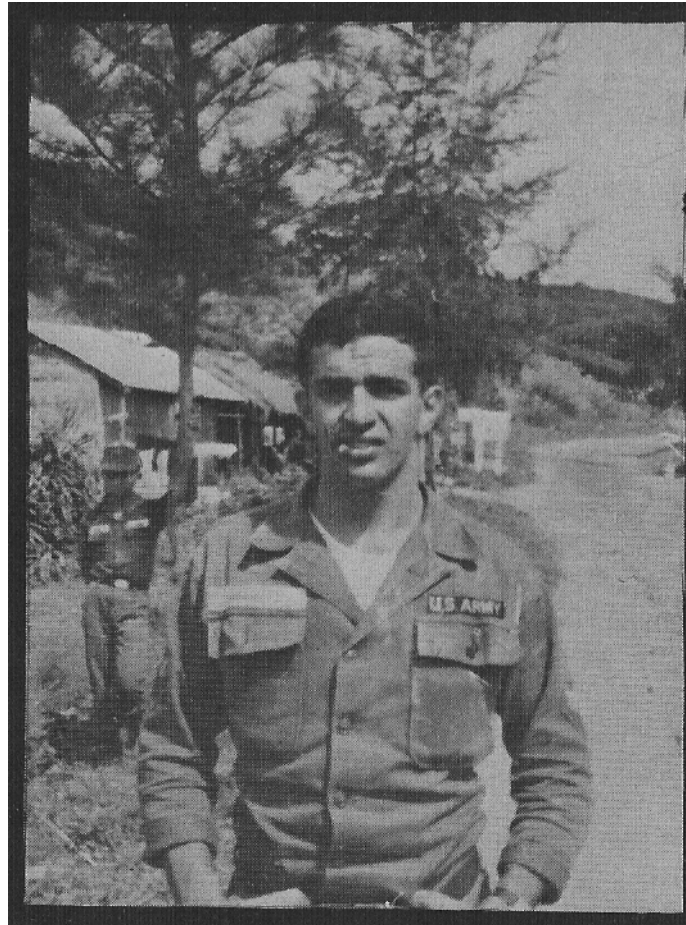
The Military Project has copied complete sets of Vietnam GI. The originals were a bit rough, sometimes a line at the bottom gone, but every page is there. Over 100 pages, full 11x17 size.

Not available from anybody else, anywhere

Edited by Jeff Sharlet until his death (see below), this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command. The pages and pages of letters in the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here.

Full set Vietnam GI reprints are not available anywhere else.

Vietnam GI



Jeff Sharlet Dies

VIETNAM GI
August 1969

Many good men never came back from Nam. Some came back disabled in mind. Jeff Sharlet came back a pretty together cat--and he came back angry. Jeff started VGI, and for almost two years poured his life into it, in an endless succession of 18-hour days trying to organize men to fight for their own rights.

On Monday, June 16th, at 2:45 pm, Jeff died in the Miami VA Hospital. He died of a sudden heart failure, brought on by the uncontrollable growth of the cancer that had earlier destroyed his kidney. There was no way to save him. He was only 27 years old.

Rather than wait for the draft, like so many others Jeff went RA. With dreams of seeing Europe, he applied for "translator-interpreter", and found himself at the US Army Language School at Monterey, California. But instead of French, Czech or German, he was assigned a strange language called "Vietnamese"--. spoken in a country he couldn't even find on the map. For eleven months in 1962 he was drilled in Vietnamese.

In 1963 he was assigned to Army Security Agency, and left for his first tour in Nam. Stationed in Saigon awhile, Jeff witnessed the ARVN coup that overthrew Saigon dictator Ngo Diem. On his second tour his ASA unit was stationed near Phu Bai. Engaged in top-secret work monitoring, decoding and translating North Vietnamese radio messages, they wore AF uniforms and worked at a small air base. But every time they went into the bars, every bargirl could reel off all the facts about their mission.

Speaking the language well, Jeff could talk to many Vietnamese about what was happening to their country. He spent long hours questioning ex-Foreign Legion men, who'd settled in Vietnam after the French left, peasants, ARVN officers, students, and even suspected VC agents. By the time he ETSed in July, 1964 he'd put a lot of pieces together.

Jeff went back to school, and got his college degree (with honors) from Indiana University in 1967. During his "GI Bill years" he joined the peace movement, and became chairman of his local chapter of Students for a Democratic Society. But he had become increasingly disillusioned about the student movement, and felt that its shallowness and snotty attitude towards other people made it ineffective.

That summer he went to New York City to work with Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and it was there that he decided to try to organize other GIs to fight the brass. Jeff had won a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship for graduate study at the University of Chicago. He enrolled and" picked up his check. From then on all his time and money were sunk into starting a newspaper for servicemen.

After two years of endless traveling, fund-raising and writing, Jeff's drive started to fade. That restless energy that had brought him countless miles to base after base wasn't there. After his last trip to Ft. Hood in the Fall of 1968, Jeff complained that he was really beat, burnt out. We all agreed that he should go "on leave" and take a rest.

It was while visiting friends in Boston that the first really severe pains started. Jeff flew home to Florida, and entered the hospital. From there it was steadily downhill all the way. The removal of his left kidney, massive radiation treatments, drugs--nothing stopped the growth of his cancer. At the end he was weak and emaciated, without enough breath in his lungs to speak for more than a few sentences. He said that he had many new ideas for our fight, but was just too exhausted to talk about them.

Jeff was a truly rare man. He was our friend and comrade, and those of us who came together in this fight will never forget him. VGI, the paper that so many readers called "the truth paper," will go on fighting.



**OCCUPATION ISN'T LIBERATION
BRING ALL THE TROOPS HOME NOW!**

AN EMAIL FROM GERMANY

From: Stop The War Brigade
To: GI Special
Sent: April 09, 2007
Subject: RE: GI Special 5D7: Notice Of Emergency

We hope that the financial troubles are resolved ASAP.

We'll help get the word out. Everybody dig deep and do the right thing.

From where we stand The "GI Special" operation can't be allowed to shut down because of issues that we should be able to handle. We know how difficult it is to keep an operation going on a shoe-string budget.

The "GI Special" is a vast reservoir of information and also serves Soldier's & Vet's Podium and is making a difference and that should be made clear to all of those out there who profess to being dedicated to stopping the War.

We can't imagine a world without the "GI Special". Point Blank!

"Stop The WAR Brigade"

Progress Report

With all kinds of help, from the USA and overseas, about \$2220.00 has come in as of 5.7.07. Deepest thanks to everybody who has helped make keeping on with this work possible.

We're within \$200 now of paying off all the bills that have piled up, and paying back cash borrowed between appeals. And, in case anybody is wondering, please don't hesitate to send in \$5 if you can. Much of the support for GI Special comes from people who have trouble paying the rent too. Be assured that every check for \$5 will be most welcome.

ALL ENVELOPES POSTMARKED 5.11.07 OR EARLIER WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE RAFFLE. BECAUSE SOME ARE COMING IN FROM OVERSEAS THE DRAWING FOR WINNERS WILL TAKE PLACE 5.19.07.

Respect,
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