IUP and the War in South-east Asia

By Jason Craft
Pre-1970

- 1965-1968
  - IUP as a more pro-war campus
    - Editorial shows a justified war against Communism
  - November 16, 1965 Republic and Democrat joint resolution, criticizing anti-war protests against the Johnson administration
  - No real protests or strikes at campus
    - Signs of solidarity (black armbands, peace poetry, etc.)
  - 1967 Gallup Pole
    - 49% hawk, 35% dove
- 1969
  - First large sign of changing view on campus
ROTC debate

- Protest against mandatory ROTC for campus freshmen
- Group was not for full abolishment, just making it completely voluntary
- Small demonstrations
- Senate vote 226 for voluntary and 27 against
1970 Kent State Strike  May 6-8

- Student reaction to Kent State Shooting & US presence in Cambodia
- Student government approves a one day strike
  - Leonard Hall picket
    - 250-300 protesters and 300 counter protesters with 500 just observing
    - “We want Agnew”
  - Flagstone rally
    - 2,000 students and faculty
    - Mr. McGurrin speech
  - Eventually grows into three
- The Strike continues to lose support throughout days two and three
  - Third day march in downtown Indiana
    - 250-400 students send demands to downtown merchants
Fliers for Kent State Strike

Why Strike?

1. Student Solidarity with KS
   - 4 students were killed by the National Guard at Kent State
2. To deplore the sending of U.S. Troops into Cambodia
3. To do away with ROT on our campus

Attention! Attention!

PROFS WHO ARE OR WILL PENALIZE YOU, OFFICIAL SGA LIST

MATH
1. Algebra - Test Fri. No make up
2. Calculus - Quiz Mon.
3. Calculus - Test Wed.

PHILOSOPHY
1. Test Wed. Test can be made up

COMPLET INFORMATION AT SGA OFFICE
Bob Pastine speaks against strike at Wednesday's Flagstone rally.

Earl Jackson, member of Black Progressives, speaks at Flagstone. He said Progressives were 100% behind the strike.
Faculty Sends Telegram

The following is the text of a telegram sent to President Nixon by IU faculty members.

To Richard M. Nixon, President

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To Richard M. Nixon, President

We, members of the faculty of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, support the statement of President Hester, New York University, and 'We implore you to consider the incaiable dangers of an unprecedented alienation of America's youth and to take immediate action to demonstrate unequivocally your determination to end the war quickly.'

Lynn Lentz
Dorothy Lutter
B. Hazley
L.J. Bright
A.J. Nania
Donald Elsen
T.K. Wilson
W.M. Hennemann
Robert Jacobs
Robert Bernat

Brook V. Grant
Martin L. Stapleton
Jerry L. Pickering
Jackson W. Heimer
Raymond L. Thomas
Joseph S. Krupnick
Irwin M. Marcus
Frank Ross
Ford H. Swigart, Jr.
George B. Walz
Don W. Woodworth
David L. Grover
Donald S. McPherson
Judith A. Markoe
S. Trevor Hadley
Harold C. Liphart
Myron H. Levenson
Beverly L. Levenson
Wayne J. Davis
Martin C. McGuirri
Edward Chazar
W. Wayne Smith
Daniel Fine
Jessie Bright
Margo Uehling
Rossaly Roffman
Robert K. Allic

As of Wednesday faculty signatures were solicited.
“Radical” anti-war protesters

- **Underground** pamphlet
- Student newspaper unaffiliated with the Penn.

- Composed of Student denounced by the Student government for the 3rd strike day.
While there wasn’t any large conflict like mandatory ROTC or there was student conflict inside of the student newspaper, the Penn.

Instead much of the fighting over Vietnam took place in the newspaper.
1971-73 Political Cartoons “Nixon’s War”
Nevertheless, reaction to the ceasefire from official sources was predictably unanimous on one point: "WE WON!"

TWO THE INDIANA PENN WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1971

"NO, SPIRO, YOU CAN'T GO OUT TO PLAY!"

WASHINGTON POST MARCH ON D.C.

ANTI-WAR GROUPS CONVERGE...
1972-1973

- Peaceful protest of 125 students during ROTC awards
  - While there were a few counter-protesters many of the people not involved were behind the protesters.
  - Final protests on IUP campus
    - May 12, 1972
End of the war.

- Despite all of the anti-war comics, opinion pieces, and letters to the editor found inside student publication the end of the war caused little stir.

- January 10\textsuperscript{th}, 1973
  - Student government denunciation of the bombing of Vietnam

- January 30\textsuperscript{th}, 1973
  - “Thanksgiving For Peace” to celebrate or solemnize Vietnam War
    - Held in Fisher Auditorium, but reportedly had very few students attend
Final Thoughts

- Looking through the documents and newspapers of IUP from 1969-1973 one can see a real change in attitude in how the Vietnam War is viewed.
  - Student participation in the *Penn* from 1965-1967 would show letter to the editor and some pieces run that show a pro-war mentality.
- Starting in 1968/1969 and from then on a much more anti-war feeling in seen through the actions and letters of students on campus.
- Pro-war content (opinion pieces and letters to the editor) largely vanish from the paper from 1969 onward.
  - The only pro war content (Wright on) lasting for about a year.
- No violence on campus
- IUP seemed to be a campus that was rather moderate in its protest of the Vietnam War. In terms of protestors and counter protests there were never any more than 200-400 on either side.
  - Many people seemed to support the anti-war movement but didn’t see in use in continuing the strikes much of the time.
Sources

- Stemmler, David “IUP students Attitudes on the Vietnam War as Reflected by the Penn, 1965-1973 (find a link)

- The Penn
  - RG 21 Box 16
    - September 10, 1969-May 11, 1970
    - September 11, 1970-August 4, 1971
    - September 13, 1971
    - Summer session 1972
    - September 11, 1972-July 26,1973

- Vice President for Student Affairs
  - RG 40 Series C Box 2