

## G.I.'S JOIN GROUP TO PROTEST WAR

Demonstrations Planned in  
Seven Cities on April 6

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CHICAGO, Dec. 28—A group of 300 American soldiers and civilians laid plans here today for antiwar marches and demonstrations to be held in seven cities on April 6.

The organization, loosely knit at present, hopes to mobilize 30,000 G.I.'s for protests in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Seattle, Detroit, Cleveland and Austin, Tex.

The two-day planning meeting, which opened here today, is known as the National G.I.-Civilian Antiwar Action Conference and is being held in the Y.M.C.A. Hotel just south of the Loop.

Among the delegates are G.I.'s from 15 Army bases across the nation. None were in uniform.

"Many were civilians opposed to the war before their induction," said Ed Heisler, a conference spokesman. "They're still American citizens, and they intend to exercise their rights of free speech."

He said that more soldiers had planned to come but were

hampered by the snowstorm that struck Chicago early today.

Many of the G.I.'s present complained that their participation in antiwar activities, such as distributing underground base newspapers and speaking at antiwar rallies, had brought harassment from their military superiors.

Pvt. Joe Cole, stationed at Fort Jackson, S. C., said that his involvement with the "Short Time," a mimeographed four-page newspaper of antiwar comment, had cost him all chances of promotion.

He said that the paper could not be circulated at Fort Jackson because "the brass was so nervous that G.I.'s would find out any facts about the war."

The 1,500-circulation paper is now distributed at coffee houses and bus stops near the 27,000-man base.

A literature table, containing copies of a dozen other underground Army newspapers, was set up for the delegates in their meeting room.

The conference will also attempt to organize a legal defense committee "to mobilize support for G.I. rights"; a committee to coordinate union support for antiwar soldiers, and groups to link high school and college campus antiwar committees with the soldier group.

Only one heckler appeared at the conference. A fat middle-aged man sat in a chair in the lobby and said loudly, and continuously, that the whole hotel was "full of socialists."