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## Students and Soldiers Protest Closing

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COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 18—One of the loudest, if not the largest, protest marches ever held in this city took place without incident today over the closing of the UFO, one of the nation's first antiwar coffeehouses.

About 300 persons, mostly students, but including some civilians and a few uniformed soldiers, marched from the campus of the University of South Carolina to City Hall and the UFO, which is directly across the street.

The UFO, which for two years has served advice to soldiers and students along with soft drinks, coffee and folk music, was padlocked by city and county police Thursday.

In a grand jury indictment,

the owners were charged last Tuesday with operating a "public nuisance." Two of four were still in jail today, unable to raise bail of \$7,500 each.

There were no incidents and no arrests today as the marchers walked five abreast down Main Street, chanting "Peace now," "Free the UFO" and cheering whenever they saw groups of soldiers from nearby Fort Jackson.

Some of the servicemen returned their peace salute and some joined them, although they were careful to stay outside the marchers' ranks.

The protest began with a rally in a public park after its sponsors failed to receive permission to use an auditorium at the university.

Dr. Howard B. Levy, con-

victed here by court-martial in July, 1967, spoke at the rally, asserting that "the Government and the army are panicking" over growing soldier dissent.

Levy spent 32 months in Federal prison for refusing to train medics bound for Vietnam and promoting "disloyalty and disaffection" among Fort Jackson servicemen.

### Others in Trouble

The Brooklyn dermatologist is working with a health research group to bring about radical changes in medical care and is on the staff of the U.S. Servicemen's Fund, which sponsors a growing number of coffeehouses near military bases.

Levy left for Muldraugh, Ky., shortly after speaking to go to the aid of the Fort Knox coffee-

## of Antiwar Coffeehouse

house, which, like several others, has been threatened with closing. He and spokesmen for the UFO say it is part of "a national conspiracy" to snuff out dissent, but the police say the efforts are purely local.

Mark Lane, former New York legislator and author of the book "Rush to Judgment," spoke during the rally and vowed, "I will aid and abet anyone who wishes to be a conscientious objector, anyone who resists or who wishes to desert."

Since it opened in January, 1968, the UFO has been under

close surveillance by the local police, whose expressed purpose has been to close it.

They charged that the atmosphere of the UFO has encouraged soldiers to disobey orders and "to refuse to fight for their country."

While the management of the UFO disclaims any connection with illegal actions, a sign on the wall invites customers to come every Sunday from 1 to 5 P.M. for counseling on problems, including conscientious objection, desertion, emigration, medical discharge, legal rights and legal aid.