

3 Nazis lobby on march bills

By G. Robert Hillman
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SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Three neo-Nazis dressed in black with red-and-white swastika armbands lobbied here Wednesday against legislation aimed at preventing a Nazi march in heavily Jewish Skokie.

They roamed throughout the Capitol complex, looking for legislators and the governor to explain their opposition to the legislation pending on the Senate floor.

They politely sought — and were politely refused — access to the main areas of the House and the Senate, where the public is not normally allowed. An aide to Gov. Thompson told them the governor was not in.

On the Nazis' lobbying agenda were two measures approved by a Senate Judiciary Committee Tuesday that would give Skokie village officials several new legal weapons in their battle to stop a Nazi march in their suburb tentatively scheduled for June 25.

One bill would create a new crime of criminal group defamation and the other would ban parades by quasi-military groups such as the Nazis.

The three Nazis who lobbied here Wednesday — re-

presentatives of the National Socialist White People's Party based in Cicero — said they were in no way connected with the National Socialist Party of America, the South-west Side group that has been trying to march in Skokie.

Nevertheless, Arthur Jones who is associated with the Cicero group, argued that the legislation is unconstitutional and infringes upon the rights of all Nazis.

"All of this is just one great broadside against the First Amendment," he declared "We view this legislation as repressive. We are a legal political party, and we do not intend to stand by and allow any of these political prostitutes here take away any of our civil liberties.

"They don't talk here about the Communist organization that goes out into the streets and raises hell, who goes out and plants bombs and who sits in and destroys public property. They only aim it at us because we're standing up for the right of white America."

Jones said he and the two men with him, both Cicero truck drivers, came here to distribute their literature and a position paper to the senators, but found their efforts thwarted somewhat by crowds that gathered from time to time in the Capitol to stare at them.