

# Cops arrest 21 at Nazi rally



RAISING A CLENCHED FIST, a young man marches with sign-carrying anti-Nazi demonstrators on 71st near Hamilton, east of Marquette Park. A police line kept the group from moving into the park. (Sun-Times Photo by Richard Derk)

A small group of neo-Nazis held a relatively peaceful rally in Marquette Park Sunday afternoon as police blocked thousands of counter-demonstrators almost a mile east of the park.

A crowd of about 1,000 persons looked on in the Southwest Side park as Nazi leaders Frank Collin of Chicago and Mike Allen of St. Louis delivered "white power" speeches that were barely audible because of an inferior sound system.

Police quickly broke up five scuffles between Collin's supporters and a group of 15 demonstrators who chanted anti-Nazi slogans while the two Nazis spoke. Police arrested 21 persons, Police Lt. David Mozee said. Additional arrests were being processed.

A half-hour after the Nazis left the park, however, about 35 young whites chanting, "Nigger, get out of the park!" attacked a black man a block east of the rally and beat him for several minutes before he was rescued by police.

Police also escorted five Jewish demonstrators from the park as a small crowd shouted, "Gas them Gas them!"

**ONLY 22 UNIFORMED** Nazis, members of the National Socialists Party of America, which is headquartered near the park,

---

The account of the Nazi rally in Marquette Park was written by John Camper based on reports received from Mike Anderson, Harlan Draeger, Tom Fitzpatrick, Brian J. Kelly, Gene Mustain, Phillip J. O'Connor, Michelle Stevens and Michael Zielenziger.

---

showed up for the rally. They arrived at the park in a white van about 2 p.m. and left an hour later.

Collin and Allen spoke from atop the van. They were separated from the crowd by a wooden barricade, 15 mounted policemen and at least 200 helmeted foot policemen. Another 50 plainclothes police circulated through the crowd.

An audience of about 1,000, jammed into a narrow passageway formed by a row of trees and a Park District storage building, were the only ones who could see the Nazi leaders. Another 1,000 to 1,500 persons had their view blocked.

There was little reaction from the crowd. A knot of about 30 Nazi supporters yelled their approval of Collin and made the open-palm salute. A small group of Jews danced

## Cops arrest 21 at Nazi rally

Continued from Page 4

the hora, while some young toughs shouted, "Jews go home! Kill the Jews!"

**MEANWHILE, A CROWD** of about 3,000 counter-demonstrators was being held behind police lines at a railroad track that runs along Hamilton, almost a mile east of the park.

Carrying signs and chanting slogans such as "Stop the Nazis!" and "Death, death, death to Nazis!"; the demonstrators milled about, first on 71st St. and then on Marquette Rd., for about two hours before they gradually filtered away.

They represented a variety of black, Jewish and civil rights groups, including the Jewish Defense League, Coalition Against Nazism, Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Coalition, Chicago Equal Rights Council, Progressive Labor Party, Vietnam Veterans Against the War and Martin Luther King Jr. Movement Coalition.

Police first turned the demonstrators away at 71st and Hamilton, saying they could not march through the park because they did not have permits. The demonstrators then went four blocks north to Marquette and Hamilton, only to be met by more police.

**LEADERS OF THE GROUP** took turns addressing the crowd, and most of them asked their followers not to try to storm the police lines.

"We won't accomplish anything by fighting with police," shouted Stu Feiler, Midwest director of the Jewish Defense League. Asked why he was there, Feiler said, "Some Jewish leaders have decided Nazis in Marquette Park are a black problem, but we believe you have to confront them every where."

The rally culminated two years of legal maneuverings that twice reached the U.S. Supreme Court.

They began in 1976, when the Nazis challenged the Chicago Park District's requirement that any group intending to demonstrate through a city park must purchase \$350,000 of liability insurance.

Park District attorneys contended the insurance was necessary because previous Nazi rallies through Marquette Park had resulted in \$850,000 in property damage.

**WHILE THEY WERE** fighting the Park District requirement, the Nazis began looking for suburbs in which to demonstrate. They settled on Skokie, a suburb with a large Jewish population.

Skokie's village board responded by passing ordinances requiring similarly high insurance and also banning demonstrations by groups that seek to defame religious or ethnic groups. So the Nazis, represented by the American Civil Liberties Union, sued Skokie as well.

In mid-1977, a U.S. District Court judge invalidated the Chicago Park District's \$350,000 insurance requirement. The Park District responded by lowering the required insurance to \$60,000, an amount the Nazis said they still could not afford.

Earlier this year, federal courts also invalidated the Skokie ordinances. Late last month, the court fight neared a climax.

First, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to halt the Nazi demonstration in Skokie, then scheduled for June 25.

**NEXT, U.S. DISTRICT** Court Judge George N. Leighton invalidated the Chicago Park District's \$60,000 insurance requirement and ordered the district to grant the Nazis a march permit.

Nazi leader Collin then called off the Skokie demonstration, saying his goal all along had been to win the right to return to Marquette Park, which is near his party headquarters at 2519 W. 71st. He scheduled the Marquette Park rally for July 9.

But first, on June 25, the Nazis held a rally at the Federal Building in the Loop that was attended by 28 Nazis and about 3,000 counter-demonstrators.

The Nazis crossed their final legal hurdle last Friday when U.S. Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr. refused the Chicago Park District's request for an injunction banning the Sunday rally.