

# Plan anti-Nazi march April 20

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Correspondent

SKOKIE-A peaceful anti-Nazi demonstration by about 500,000 will be held on April 20, according to Chicago Jewish leaders, although village officials speculate that such a crowd will create massive security problems.

The rally, to be held at the same time and place as a threatened march by a small group of neo-Nazis from Chicago's Marquette Park area, was formally announced Wednesday, March 8 at a press conference called by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.

Only hours after the press conference, a spokesman for the National Socialist (Nazi) Party of America told the LIFE, "In view of the recent publicity, I'm sure we'll be marching on April 20 as planned." The Nazis chose April 20 because it is the 89th anniversary of the birth of Adolf Hitler.

Neither the Nazis nor the counter-demonstration leaders have applied for the necessary parade permit which must be requested at least 30 days before an event.

REGARDING THE application for permits, "We'll have to adjust ourselves to them," according to Sol Goldstein, a holocaust survivor and Skokie resident who chairs the committee on individual liberty and Jewish security of the public affairs committee of the Jewish United Fund (JUF). "They could say the 20th and come on the 21st. I just don't know," Goldstein said.

Even if the Nazis bypass Skokie or reschedule their march, the Jewish Federation will sponsor a week-long program of non-violent educational activities stressing the American heritage of freedom and recalling the horrors of the holocaust. Beginning on April 16, the week will feature both patriotic celebrations and the distribution of educational material and literature on the holocaust to children in schools and at youth meetings, Goldstein said.

"We have two generations with no personal recollection and knowledge of the holocaust," said Raymond Epstein, chairman of the JUF public affairs committee. "It is not our intent to create a violent confrontation," he said, "but it (the Nazi march) should not be ignored. We can make something educational of this."

SKOKIE MAYOR Albert Smith told the LIFE that he will participate in the

proposed counter-demonstration, but noted that "the larger the crowd, the more difficult security will be. When ever there is a large number of people, you have to see problems."

"There's nothing wrong with the idea of a counter-demonstration-it's basically for solidarity," Smith said, "but we'll have to see how things shape up before we make any final judgments."

Goldstein said the counter-demonstration is intended to "involve the total American community in the name of brotherhood against Nazism and in memory of the holocaust.

"We are aware of our international support," he said, "and we will take every step to put the Nazi obscenity in its proper perspective. We are aware of our responsibility-the whole world is looking at us."

"The Nazis are not coming to Skokie to air their ideas," Goldstein said, "They are coming to tell us they are sorry so many Jews were left over." He said he had come "to a free country, to Skokie where I thought there would be no more swastikas in front of my eyes."

GOLDSTEIN SAID he envisions April 20 as a time when 50,000 will march for "freedom, brotherhood, and life" while five or ten will demonstrate for "tyranny, hatred, and murder.

"We will have enough strength to assure that there is no violence," Goldstein said. "Peaceful minds will find a way that the Nazis won't be able to provoke violence."

Asked how violence will be prevented should the openly-militant members of the Jewish Defense League (JDL) show up, Goldstein said, "We will surround them and control them also."

Goldstein added the federation representatives will appear before the Chicago city council to invite Mayor Michael Bilandic as "an honored guest" at the counter-demonstration. Gov. Thompson has already announced his intention to participate in any anti-Nazi rally planned at the time of the Nazi march.

Jerome Torshen, attorney for Goldstein in a series of legal moves to avert a Nazi march, explained that "a number of Skokie residents cannot ignore the march. These holocaust survivors are so conditioned that they must be there."