

Skokie's treason

The Skokie government can be justifiably proud of its many accomplishments to be recognized as an All-America City (The LIFE, Aug. 31). But to "use" the "citizens' anti-Nazi fight" borders on treason.

I was one of the many who wrote to Skokie Mayor Albert Smith objecting to the march. In my Jan. 31st letter, I asked that if the endeavors fail, was it possible to obtain an injunction against the rabbi who said that he would "guarantee" trouble if they would march.

In that connection, I wondered if the courts would consider the village board as co-conspirators if they did NOT do everything possible to stop a riot. As an answer, our government tried to circumvent the court's constitutional ruling by virtually inviting anti-Nazis to Skokie.

Instead of All-America City, the mayor should be cited for being an All-America politician. Just when he should have been objective about the problem, he accepted an anti-Nazi group's man of the year award!

Now that the village has resurrected a dead horse, maybe they can answer a few questions. When the Nazi group was awarded a permit an anti-Nazi group was also awarded a permit to have a counter-demonstration on Nilehi District 219 property. Did the school board ever vote to give them

permission?

Although I am reluctant to admit it, the American Nazi party does not have a history of starting a riot, whereas the anti-Nazi elements do. Therefore, why did the government plan to close down the village business district to its own residents rather than seek an injunction against those individuals who "guarantee" us trouble and those who plan to spill blood on our streets?

Finally, in 1977, I wrote the mayor asking why the police considered it necessary to confiscate several items from people who crossed state lines to attend a meeting prior to the planned march (The LIFE, July 21, 1977). In answer, corporation counsel stated: "Our police are also in contact with state and federal authorities to insure against violation of applicable state and federal laws..."

If a riot had ensued, would they have been guilty of a federal crime by participating in a riot?

Albert C. Geimer
Skokie