



COUNTERFORCE OF ANTI-NAZIS learns that the brown-shirts have been halted on the Edens Expressway en route

to Skokie where they intended to rally outside village hall despite a court ban. (Sun-Times Photo by Jerry Tomaselli)

Halt Skokie-bound Nazis on Edens

By Gary Wisby

A court order issued Saturday blocked a Nazi demonstration at the Skokie Village Hall.

The contingent from the National Socialist Party of America was halted Saturday afternoon on the Edens Expressway as it was attempting to circumvent a court injunction that barred a rally originally scheduled for 3 p.m. Sunday. The Nazi group hoped to get around the order by holding their demonstration at 3 p.m. Saturday.

But the latest order, issued at midday at home by Circuit Court Judge Harold W. Sullivan, also banned a Saturday demonstration.

It was this order that Skokie police handed to the Nazi party of about 30 after its four vehicles were halted on the Touhy ramp of the Edens Expressway, just outside the village, at about 2:30 p.m.

The group then turned around and headed back to Chicago.

At the Skokie Village Hall, a counterdemonstration group of about 250 had awaited the appearance of the Nazis.

They were told by Skokie Village President Albert J. Smith,

"I want you to know that we obtained a court order and are going to serve it on the Nazis."

But he also said, "If those Nazi arrive here, I want you off the sidewalks, off the streets and let our law enforcement people operate without interference."

Shouts of "no" interrupted Smith's speech.

After an announcement that the Nazis had turned back, Erna Gans of the Holocaust Survivors organization told the crowd: "We did what we had to do. The Nazis are going home. Let's go home."

The court orders barred the Nazi demonstrations because of the possibility of violence. Skokie has a large Jewish population, including an estimated 7,000 survivors of the Nazi holocaust of World War II.

The American Civil Liberties Union on Friday had unsuccessfully sought to lift the injunction barring the Nazi rally, citing free speech and assembly rights.

The Nazis intended to protest a Skokie Park District requirement that they obtain \$350,000 in liability insurance before being granted a permit for a rally.