

Turn back 30 Nazis at Touhy

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Correspondent

SKOKIE— Thirty American Nazis were turned back by Skokie police Saturday, April 30, moments before they were to have staged a rally on the steps of village hall.

The members of the National Socialist Party of America, dressed in full Nazi uniform including swastika armbands and high black boots, were halted while exiting the Edens expressway at Touhy avenue and notified that a court order signed two hours earlier banned their planned demonstration.

The injunction was hastily drafted Saturday morning by village attorneys and signed by Circuit Court Judge Harold Sullivan in his Skokie home.

Circuit Court Judge Joseph Wosik Thursday, April 28, issued a similar order banning the demonstration originally set for Sunday, May 1. The Illinois Appellate court upheld Wosik's injunction Friday, April 29, but the Nazis apparently hoped to circumvent the ruling by appearing on Saturday instead.

After police handed Sullivan's restraining order to the Nazis, the group returned in four vehicles to its Southwest Side Chicago headquarters. The Nazis then said they would be back in Skokie for a demonstration at 3 p.m. on May 22.

MEANWHILE, ABOUT 300 counter-demonstrators waited in front of village hall, 5127 Oakton, protesting the expected arrival of the Nazi band. Many of the Jews in the crowd had come directly from their synagogues, after learning during Sabbath services that the Nazi rally had been rescheduled for that afternoon.

Signs carried by persons in the crowd included references to World War II concentration camps or the slogan "Smash the Nazis."

Even after Mayor Albert Smith told the counter-demonstrators that the Nazis had been turned back by the injunction, many of them remained after 3 p.m., when the Nazis were to have arrived.

Skokie reportedly was targeted for Nazi activity because of the village's large Jewish population. About 40,500 of the 70,000 residents are Jewish and some 7,000 are survivors of the Nazi holocaust of World War II.

Under pressure from local Jewish organizations, village officials last week sought the court orders because they claimed Nazi demonstrations were intended to incite violent confrontations and posed a danger to the "health, safety and welfare of the community."

ATTORNEYS FROM THE American Civil Liberties union (ACLU) representing the Nazis argued that actions by the village to bar the rally abridged First Amendment constitutional rights of free speech and assembly.

Nazi leaders claimed their village hall rally was designed to protest a Skokie park district refusal to permit use of park facilities without \$350,000 in liability insurance.

Sullivan's injunction, which Skokie Corp. Counsel Harvey Schwartz called "almost identical" to the one issued earlier by Wosik, banned the Nazis from:

- "Marching, walking or parading in the uniform of the National Socialist Party of America.
- "Marching, walking, parading or otherwise displaying the swastika on or off their person.
- "Distributing pamphlets or displaying any materials which incite or promote hatred against persons of Jewish faith or ancestry or hatred against persons of any faith or ancestry, race or religion."

SCHWARTZ SAID THE village would continue to monitor the plans of the Nazis.

THE tension outside Skokie village hall on Saturday was evident in the face of Mayor Albert Smith as he used this bullhorn to tell the large crowd that 30 Nazi demonstrators had been turned back at the village borders. The riot-helmeted Skokie police on hand grimly watched the scene (below).

