

Kelly firm on rules for Nazis

By Larry Ingrassia
and Bob Olmstead

Chicago Park District officials said Tuesday they will make no special effort to permit a Nazi rally at a park, even though a Chicago rally could lead to the cancellation of the planned June 25 march in Skokie.

Supt. Edmund Kelly said the Park District will not waive a \$60,000 insurance bond required of organizations seeking permits for demonstrations at its parks.

The insurance requirement has been a major obstacle for the National Socialist, Party of America, which cannot afford to buy the insurance and is challenging the requirement in federal court.

NAZI LEADER Frank Collin and deputy leader Richard Tedor have said the Nazis would be willing to cancel their demonstration in Skokie, which has a heavy Jewish population, if they were permitted to rally in Chicago parks.

The U.S. Supreme Court Monday cleared the way for the June 25 demonstration in Skokie by rejecting the village's request that the march be delayed until its formal appeal is considered.

The Supreme Court decision marked an end to Skokie's legal appeal against the march, planned for more than a year but blocked in the court battles until now.

The Skokie demonstration could be averted if a U.S. District Court judge rules here next Tuesday that the Park District is illegally blocking a Nazi rally in a Chicago park.

THE NAZIS ARE seeking a permit to rally in Marquette Park on the Southwest Side on

July 9, but have been stymied by the Park District's insurance requirement.

The court hearing Tuesday will be on the Nazis' challenge to the \$60,000 insurance liability bond set by the district. It is the Nazis' second court battle over an insurance bond.

Last year, the Nazis challenged a \$250,000 bond requirement and a federal judge ruled in their favor. The Nazis, who are represented by the American Civil Liberties Union, contend that any insurance requirement is invalid under the 1977 ruling.

However, Kelly said the Park District will not budge from its bond requirement. "Once you start to alter rules for one applicant," he said, "you're going to have to do it right on down the line."

Kelly added that the bond requirement is needed to "protect the property and the city from damages done" at any demonstration. He said he did not consider the bond unreasonable.

Kelly also argued that the planned Nazi march in Skokie and the rally in Chicago are unrelated. The Nazis would not be legally bound to cancel their Skokie demonstration if the Park District issued a permit to them.

DAVID HAMLIN, executive director of ACLU, contends that the bond requirement is unconstitutional. "We don't think you can attach dollar figure to the exercise of First Amendment rights," he said.

The Nazi demonstration in Skokie is now planned for 3 to 3:30 p.m. June 25. A counterdemonstration is scheduled for the same time.

Skokie has no requirement for an insurance bond from the Nazis.

Jewish spokesmen estimated 50,000 Jews will participate in a peaceful counterdemonstration, plus 12,000 demonstrators recruited by the Jewish Defense League. The national JDL has vowed to stop the Nazi rally with violence, if necessary.

A spokesman for the Jewish United Fund, the Chicago umbrella group organizing the peaceful counterdemonstration, said it expects its rally and march to come within several blocks of the Village Hall where the Nazis will rally.

In addition, the spokesman said, the Jewish United Fund has received permission from Skokie to have a small group peacefully counterdemonstrate at the Nazi rally.

IN LOS ANGELES, Irv Rubin of the Jewish Defense League said 5,000 persons "with street capability" will come from the West Coast to stop the Nazis, plus 7,000 to 8,000 JDL recruits from the Midwest and East coast.

Asked to explain "street capability," Rubin said he meant people who will be able to fight the Nazis to ensure that the rally does not take place.