

Nazis may drop Skokie march on 4th

By Laura Green

Amid legal maneuvers and the possibility of violent confrontation, Nazi leader Frank Collin said Tuesday that he may not march on Skokie after all.

Collin, who has called for a Fourth of July march through the heavily Jewish suburb, said it will take place only if it is legal. "We won't break any laws," he said.

Skokie denied the Nazis' request for a permit on the ground the planned March would violate a village ordinance that prohibits demonstrations by persons in military-style uniforms, Al Rigoni, administrative assistant to the Skokie village manager, said. A letter turning down the request was sent Monday night, he said.

The American Civil Liberties Union asked the Illinois Appellate Court in a brief filed Tuesday to stay an injunction against the march issued earlier by the Cook County Circuit Court.

"We insist the injunction be stayed," David Hamlin, executive secretary of the Illinois ACLU, said. "Then we'll take any schedule that Skokie wants."

The appeals court Tuesday ordered all briefs on the injunction to be prescribed by

July 7 and scheduled arguments to be heard on July 8. Until that time, the injunction stopping the march stands, a court official said.

Monday, Hamlin charged that Illinois courts are disobeying a 2-week-old Supreme Court order to act promptly on the Nazi request for a March permit. He said then he would appeal to the state Supreme Court if the appeals court did not lift the injunction.

In New York Tuesday, a spokesman for the Jewish Defense League said it would send about 800 members to Skokie to stop the Nazi march. The spokesman threatened that the group would be armed with baseball bats.

Also on Tuesday, Skokie resident Robert

Diamond, an official of the Jewish War Veterans, said a request for a march permit by that group for the Fourth of July also had been turned down by village officials, even though the veterans group has posted the required \$350,000 bond.

Diamond said village officials told his organization after the bond had been posted that it had not met a requirement to request a permit 30 days before the desired march.

The Chicago Assn. of Reform Rabbis called for all "legal means to prevent this march," saying that "the physical safety of American citizens takes precedence" over issues of free speech.