

Forest Service Acts to Block Rally

KKK Chief Warns of 'Bloodshed'

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LA CRESCENTA — William V. Fowler of La Crescenta, state chairman of the Grand Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, today promised "bloodshed" for anyone who tries to block his rally set for Saturday night.

Claiming he holds a lease for use of the Rigas-Lambert Ranch

in Soledad Canyon for a gathering of 5,000 persons, Fowler said today he will have 1,000 armed guards on hand to insure his rights.

At the same time, however, the U.S. Forest Service notified Antone Lambert and Thomas Rigas that their permit to grow olives on two acres of Angeles

National Forest land would be revoked if they allowed the meeting to take place without Forest Service permission.

Further action on the matter was turned over for study today to the U.S. Attorney's office in Los Angeles.

Fowler turned up at that office early today to file a re-

straining order that would prohibit any government agency from blocking his meeting.

The Klan apparently obtained permission to meet in the federally owned forest by representing the rally as a church meeting, a forest service spokesman said.

Bernie Payne, associate dep-

uty chief of national forest management, explained the permit was granted on the basis the land would be used only for growing olives.

"The permit prohibits the land from being used for any other purpose and that includes KKK meetings," he said. "The forest service doesn't want this rally

held and has always opposed segregated meetings on forest service property."

Payne said that neither Lambert or Rigas gave the Klan permission to rally on the land but that their orchard caretaker, Gerald Broadason, did in the belief it was going to be a church meeting. They claimed

Broadason's approval was given without their knowledge, Payne added.

However, Fowler said today that he has a signed lease, specifically stating the use was to be for a Klan meeting.

Fowler said today that there ~~is a signed lease to the~~ ~~property, which he is holding~~ ~~regardless of any action.~~

"I'm not planning it—I am going to have it," he said. "I signed a lease to use that property and that night, it's private property. It's mine."

Fowler said anyone could attend the meeting as long as he was a "white Christian." Any others he claimed would be told to leave.

"And if they don't, they'll be bodily forced off," he said.

Fowler reportedly said he would have 1,000 armed guards on hand to maintain order.

About 100 robed Klansmen will take part in the rally, to which Fowler says about 5,000 persons are expected to attend.

"My rights aren't going to be violated," the state Klan chairman said.

He also said that if anybody tries to stop him from holding the meeting "there will be bloodshed."

A truckload of hooded Klansmen was to drive through the San Fernando Valley today, with loudspeakers carrying announcements of the rally.