

## Guard called for anti-KKK burial

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — North Carolina's adjutant general began activating a National Guard battalion Friday for duty during for a scheduled weekend funeral march for five persons killed in an anti-Ku Klux Klan rally.

Maj. Gen. William Ingram, the state adjutant general and Guard commander, said about 500 members of the 2nd Battalion of the 120th Infantry were being called for duty here Sunday.

The unit's headquarters is in Hickory, and most of the 14 men charged in connection with the deaths are from that area. Ingram said the troops will be commanded by Col. Ken Neibold, who is the superintendent of Greensboro's public-school system.

Ingram said the troops, who will join a 175-member police force and about 250 state highway patrolmen, will not be armed but ammunition will be carried by team leaders and

could be handed out if needed.

"We will stay as long as needed by Greensboro. We hope it is a peaceful march with no difficulties. We will be there for support," Ingram said.

Greensboro police said they still do not know the 2½-mile route planned by the march organizers from downtown Greensboro to the Maplewood Cemetery, where four of the victims are to be buried.

Nelson Johnson, a member of the sponsoring Communist Workers Party, also has refused to disclose the route to reporters.

City Manager Tom Osborne said, however, that his office will insist that the march follow a route drawn up by city officials.

"The route will be the easiest for us to provide protection for both the marchers and the citizens," Osborne said. "We will have all other routes blocked off, cordoned. We are trying to make it impossible for any outsiders to break into the

procession."

Police Chief W.E. Swing has said he expects 2,000 to 2,250 persons to take part in the march. Several left-wing groups and civil rights organizations around the nation have said they will send members to Greensboro to join the march.

Cecil Moses, assistant special agent in charge of the FBI in North Carolina, said that his office has more than 30 agents working in Greensboro and would be present in a supporting role Sunday to be sure no federal laws are violated.

"The FBI's role is simply to monitor the situation. If there would be any evidence that federal laws have been violated, if anyone is found to be inciting to riot or using any form, whether it be the news media or whatever, to cause a riot, the full forces of the federal government will be brought to bear," Moses said.

Clipped By:



jerrwilliamsauthor

Sun, Apr 14, 2019