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Bikers remember the Holocaust



DETAILS: Rabbi Zachery Betesh's motorcyle expresses his feelings. He is a member of the King David Bikers.

Staff file photo/Scott Fisher

By Lisa J. Huriash STAFF WRITER

Local bikers will be roaring up the highway this weekend on Harley-Davidson hogs- as well as Honda, Yamaha and BMW motorcycles - for a most unusual reason.

They are doing it to remember the Holocaust.

Usually, the men from the South Florida King David Bikers take day trips. But Sunday starts their longest ride yet: to the United States,

Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. About 35 of them will be departing from the Miami Beach Holocaust Memorial.

Hundreds of bikers nationwide will join them along the way. "It's a pretty big statement," said Jeff Mustard, 47, president of the King David Bikers.

The men, many with their wives or girlfriends riding on the back, will arrive on May 5 - Yom Hashoa, the day of Holocaust remembrance. The next day, they'll hear speakers and have a reception at the mseum.

"It's going to be our most fantastic trip ever on a motorcycle," said Ron Miller, 65, of Boca Raton, a furniture salesman and member of the King David Bikers. He'll make the trek with his wife, Marjorie, 57, a real estate agent, who will ride on the back of his Honda Gold Wing. "It's going to be very spiritual. It's very important to remember."

"After the Holocaust, there was an image that Jews were people who meekly went to their graves. This says no, we are not meek people," said Mel Morris, of the Hillel's Angels, of New Jersey. "And we have lived through the worst tragedy in humankind. And we're never going to forget it and we never want the world to forget."