

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL
8 July 1983

WASHINGTON

WHITE DOVES RELEASED BY "GREENS" AT WHITE HOUSE
BY ROBERT SHEPARD

Members of West Germany's Green Party, campaigning against deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe, joined with American peace activists at the gates of the White House to protest the administration's arms policy.

The Greens said Thursday they hope to meet with both President Reagan and Soviet President Yuri Andropov.

The protesters included six of the 28 Greens who were elected to the West German parliament earlier this year on an anti-nuclear arms platform.

Petra Kelly, one of the leaders of the new party, said they would ask President Reagan to receive another delegation of Green Party members in September.

She said the Greens also hope to travel to Moscow "to try to convince both Mr. Reagan and Mr. (Yuri) Andropov that their ways are wrong."

The demonstrators displayed pictures of Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr. and other advocates of non-violence, and released a dozen white doves, several of which flew onto the White House grounds.

A large cloth banner declared: "The Green Party of West Germany is in solidarity with the American peace movement. ... No deployment of Pershing II and cruise in Europe."

The demonstration was joined by several members of the U.S. peace movement, including Philip Berrigan, a long-time peace activist, who declared his support for the Green Party and peace movements on both sides of the Atlantic.

Ms. Kelly charged the CIA was trying to undermine the peace movement and destroy the credibility of its leaders.

The Greens said they met with State Department officials Wednesday, but were unable to sway the U.S. officials concerning the planned deployment late this year of Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe.

The administration says the deployment of U.S. missiles is in response to the Soviet deployment of SS-20 missiles in Eastern Europe, but that argument was challenged by the Greens.

Marieluise Beck-Oberdorf charged the United States actually is seeking nuclear superiority over the Soviet Union. "We shall be hostages for this new American strategy for superiority."

The Greens said they will attempt to blockade the missile sites later this year when the weapons are to be deployed, but the effort would be non-violent.

With the the election of 28 members of their fledgling party the Greens hold about 5.6 percent of the votes in the West German parliament.