I am a graduating senior, I support disarmament negotiations, and I am not wearing a green armband during today's commencement exercises.

I hope everyone wearing an armband today realizes the statement he or she is making by doing so. Regardless of what the organizers of this effort — who are, by the way, to be congratulated on their organization and efficiency — may say, the green armbands will be interpreted by national and international news media and particularly by former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt as approval and support of West Germany's Green Party.

There has been woefully little mention of the Greens in the literature passed and posted around campus during the past two weeks; had there been more discussion of what they stand for, disarmament, I suspect far fewer people would be wearing the armbands today. The Green Party is largely an environmentalist group (hence the name) which opposes not only nuclear weapons but also all forms of nuclear power. Many of its members live on communal farms and are working to deindustrialize Germany. The party has made statements against industry, against technology, and against progress in general. It is currently spearheading an effort to question the accuracy of the German census on civil-liberties grounds.

While the Greens recently received several seats in the German Bundestag, their support in the past few months has been waning, not growing, as the letter from Hofmann et al. [Feedback, May 10] suggests. The Green Party's main loss of public approval seems to have come as a result of its Mickey Mouse parliamentary antics, including dragging in trees supposedly killed by acid rain and staging pro-environment demonstrations relocated directly in front of television cameras. While asking for seats on all major government committees, the Greens have also expressed their intention of leaking all confidential documents that come their way. Such political minueto-seconds-in has made the Greens constant source of grief and amusement to other representatives and political analysts, and much has been written about them in the American press this spring.

Wearing a "disarmband" and saying "I support only the disarmament part of what the Greens represent," at best, inexcusably ignorant in light of the interpretation that will be made of this statement. At best, Kyle is only saying, "I'm only wearing this robe because the Ku Klux Klan supports an end to unemployment." What about freedom of speech and the right to make our own beliefs known? Is this not what the Greens, I hope you're feeling sort of silly. Or maybe a try of the dangers of "appeasement" and "compromise:" You're wearing an armband summarily. I am not one of those people sponsoring the "disarmbands." I share the feeling with them, however, that there is little sincerity in the efforts of all parties to halt the current nuclear arms race. In this context, I feel that it is not only absurd, but in- deed most, display my feelings in whatever manner is available to me.

What troubles me most, and is therefore the strongest motive for me to wear an armband today, is that the current govern- ment acting no more sincerely in its efforts to negotiate a disarmament than does the Soviet Union. As a result, we fail to put, Ronald Reagan wants an arms limitation agreement, just not with the Soviets.

The president seems to view the world situation in 1983 as similar to that of 1938; he sees himself as a latter-day Win- ston Churchill, trying to head off the country of the dangers of "appeasement" and the hypocrisy of "peace in our time."

The situation is more similar to World War I than World War II, however. Thus, as now, the major powers cultivated hysteria within and stockpiled arms upon the threat of nuclear war. Today, we can reasonably expect only half this opportunity in the future. In a time of percent unemployment and a seemingly irreversible decline of America's "smokestack" industries, our president seeks to divert attention from the problems we can see and gauge in se- verity to those we cannot. One can see the effects of unemployment and declin- ing industries and it's enough to make you feel that just something, almost anything, is better than no threat at all.

There is little the individual citizen can do about anything other than a change of attitude in our leadership. Congress must respond to constituents' letters by approv- ing a national freeze resolution, but then bow to the president on the MX missile. We must gain every opportunity to display dissatisfaction with current strategic thinking.

"With enough shovels" we might all survive a nuclear attack, said an adminis- tration official in 1961. But the unfortu- nate situation in Europe and the pressure to show our solidarity with the European disarmament movement, the Green Party in West Germany is an important part of this movement. They call for:

1. Political and economic self-determina- tion for all nations, as opposed to the Third World.
2. International disarmament negotiations, armaments and weapons control.
3. An international disarmament ban on the storage and produc- tion of atomic, chemical, and biological weapons.
4. No production and no sta- tioning of intermediate-range missiles (like Pershing II and cruise mis- siles) by NATO and the elimina- tion of middle-range missiles (like the SS-20) by the Warsaw Pact.
5. The creation of a demilita- rized zone in both Eastern and Western Europe.

By wearing green armbands, we are not declaring allegiance to a specific German political party, but expressing support for anti- nuclear movements in Europe.

We call on people who support the cause of disarmament to join us in this protest today.

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