War Protests at the White House

Washington

Four followers of anti-war activist Philip Berrigan were arrested yesterday outside the White House.

In a separate protest, a POW-MIA group announced its members would circle the presidential residence in two vehicles for as long as it takes to obtain a meeting with President Nixon.

Before the arrests, Berrigan, a former priest and principal defendant in the "Harrisburg Seven" trial, and about 30 other persons staged a "guerrilla theater" news conference.

Earlier in the day, about 200 friends and relatives of the 1315 U.S. servicemen still listed as missing in action in Southeast Asia showed up in front of the White House for the first day of their "drive-in."

Both protests coincided with the first anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam peace accords. Mr. Nixon was spending the weekend at his retreat in Camp David, Md.

During the mock news conference on Pennsylvania avenue, some participants asked critical questions of men dressed as Nixon and South Vietnam President Thieu and were arrested by mock police. Four men, all participants in the demonstration, were placed against the White House fence while their hands were tied with rope.

At that moment, real police from the U.S. Park Service moved in and asked to see the group's demonstration permit. A member of the group said that they did not have one.

The park police then arrested the four men whose hands had been tied. They were identified as Dr.

Charles L. Radol, 57, of Colorado Springs, Colo,; the Rev. Edward J. Murphy, 36, a Jesuit priest from New York city; Sal Scafidi, 21, of Jersey City, N.J., and Lee Kohns, 38, of Weehawken, N.J.

While the arrests were being made, two vans and two campers circled the block. The campers were manned by members of POW-MIA group and the other vans were driven by representatives of the National Prayer and Fast for the Watergate Crisis—a religious group.

United Press