Six years later—after serving just two years of a life sentence for first-degree murder—a group of revolutionaries assisted her in a daring and successful escape. She has been given a new, comfortable life in Cuba—thanks to Fidel Castro.

It's a tragic irony that while some of America's most vicious killers live comfortable lives in Cuba, many of Cuba's own natives languish in prisons merely for speaking out against the communist dictatorship.

This resolution sends a strong message to Castro: Return Joanne Chesimard and all the other felons you are harboring. They must be returned to the United States so that they can be sent to prison in order to serve out their full sentences and repay their debt to society.

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 254.

Twenty-five years ago, in 1973, Joanne Chesimard ruthlessly gunned down two New Jersey State Troopers on the New Jersey Turnpike.

She approached one of the wounded Troopers, who laid bleeding and dying, grabbed his own gun and fired two shots, point-blank, execution style in the back of his head.

Chesimard was captured and convicted of this brutal murder and sent to prison.

She broke out of prison and now lives freely in Cuba just 90 miles off the U.S. coast.

She is not alone, many other convicted felons live in Cuba. This Resolution calls for justice to be served. It demands that Castro extradite Chesimard and other criminals so they can face justice in the U.S.

Justice must be served. It is cruel and morally wrong for Cuba to allow a safe harbor for these criminals while Cuba has sent its own religious leaders to suffer in prison.

I stand united with the families of the slain, the New Jersey State Police, and all citizens of New Jersey in demanding Cuba return Joanne Chesimard.

I strongly urge my Colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, on May 2, 1973 a terrible tragedy occurred in the State of New Jersey when Joanne Chesimard killed New Jersey State Trooper Werner Foerster leaving behind his wife and family. Ms. Chesimard was sentenced to life in prison for this heinous crime in our state and rightly so. But she escaped and fled to Cuba where she has the high life. She sips pina coladas, walks on the white sandy beaches, and swims in the crystal clear water. This is a grave injustice.

This is wrong and our government must do everything in its power to bring her back to serve out her sentence. Instead, the Clinton administration talks of easing the embargo knowing that Cuba is harboring violent criminals.

Fugitives such as Chesimard are cowards and for Cuba to invite them in and treat them like royalty is clearly wrong. I urge Secretary Albright and Attorney General Reno to do all they can to bring these criminals back to the U.S. to face justice.

I co-sponsored this legislation because I want our government to use all means possible to pressure Cuba to return Ms. Chesimard and every other criminal which Cuba harbors. We must fight for justice.

I commend Congressman FRANKS and Governor Whitman for being such strong advocates of this cause and I welcome the passage of this legislation.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is the time to send a unequivocal signal to Fidel Castro that the United States Congress finds his regime's harboring of terrorists, murderers and other hardened criminals wanted in the United States shameful and unacceptable.

H. Con. Res. 254 draws attention to the cold-blooded murder twenty-five years ago of a New Jersey State Trooper, Werner Foerster. Joanne Chesimard was convicted of this heinous murder but, in 1979, escaped to Cuba.

Joanne Chesimard now lives under Fidel Castro's protection in Cuba. Back in New Jersey, Trooper Foerster's widow and family are denied the justice of seeing the woman who took him from them pay for her crime.

This is not an isolated case. Our Federal Bureau of Investigation lists 90 felony fugitives known to have been granted safe haven by the Cuban government.

This resolution has broad bipartisan support. The gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. FRANKS sponsored this resolution with our colleague on the Committee, the gentlelady from Florida, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and the gentleman from Florida, Mr. DIAZ-BALART. the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. MENENDEZ, who is also a member of our Committee, has for years supported the Foerster family's efforts to bring Joanne Chesimard back to the United States to serve her sentence.

I would like to recognize New Jersey Governor Christine Todd-Whitman who wrote to me to ask that we pass this resolution.

Just today, we have had another sobering reminder of Fidel Castro's undiminished efforts to attack American interests. the FBI announced in Miami that ten people have been charged with spying for the Cuban government by trying to penetrate our Miami-based U.S. Southern Command, MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, and the Boca Chica Naval Air Station in Key West.

The FBI reports that Castro's spies also sought to infiltrate Cuban-American groups and manipulate other political groups and the U.S. media.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 254.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I urge unanimous support for this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 254, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PROMOTING INDEPENDENT RADIO BROADCASTING IN AFRICA

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 415) to promote independent radio broadcasting in Africa

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 415

Whereas Africa's numerous ethnic groups, with an estimated 2,000 languages and dialects, have long been isolated from each other;

Whereas radio is the primary means of transmitting vital information in Africa and linking African populations;

Whereas poverty, illiteracy, and logistical difficulties make television and the print media less utilized means of communication;

Whereas radio is not only compatible with Africa's oral traditions, but has the added benefit of being affordable and adaptable;

Whereas African radio stations generally are owned and operated by governments, which being aware of radio's power often deny or delay applications for proposed independent radio stations, harass officials or staff of independent radio stations, or close independent radio stations;

Whereas 53 independent journalists in Africa have been killed over the past 8 years, 42 other journalists were imprisoned last year alone, and hundreds of others have been threatened, harassed, or even physically assaulted;

Whereas standards of journalistic professionalism often are low in Africa, which causes problems of accuracy in reporting that often lead governments to overreact and apply repressive legal remedies against the media, including radio broadcasts;

Whereas biased government radio broadcasts have promoted ruling parties and limited coverage of opposition political parties, while inhibiting the free flow of information necessary for citizens to effectively exercise their electoral choices, thus undermining democracy;

Whereas the promotion of independent ownership of local radio operations in Africa is a useful tool for advancing the United States foreign policy objective of promoting democracy and human rights;

Whereas the phenomenon of ''hate radio'' has fueled genocide in countries such as Rwanda, in which an estimated half million persons were killed in a largely ethnic purge in 1994;

Whereas surrogate broadcasting, which consists of locally generated news on issues of local concern, has been well demonstrated as a vehicle to promote democracy and human rights in repressed regions and countries throughout the world;

Whereas the Voice of America has designed the ''Radio Democracy for Africa'' project to create a surrogate radio operation throughout Africa to promote democracy and human rights; and

Whereas the African Growth and Opportunity Act calls for the United States Information Agency to use its broadcasts to promote economic reforms in addition to its current promotion of political reforms: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the creation and operation of the Voice of America's surrogate radio project known as ''Radio Democracy for Africa'' which includes journalist training and journalist exchange components;

(2) urges the United States Information Agency to expand its economic, political, and human rights programming in Africa to support indigenous efforts aimed at promoting democratization, human rights, economic development, and good governance;

(3) calls on the Agency for International Development to adopt a comprehensive strategy for the promotion of free and independent African media, especially radio, by supporting journalist and other media training programs, assisting in the development

of African media associations, facilitating the creation of African news gathering and delivery networks, and encouraging the use of radio as an educational medium on a variety of topics, including but not limited to democracy, human rights, and economic development;

(4) calls on the United States Government to encourage local and foreign investment in independent local radio operations in Africa;

(5) urges the United States Government to make freedom of speech and the safety of journalists a priority in discussions with African governments on democracy and human rights;

(6) encourages the United States Government to use all reasonable means to help safeguard the operation of independent radio stations and the legitimate activities of journalists in African countries; and

(7) urges the United States Government to support and assist the development of mechanisms and institutions for the protection of independent journalists and to discourage the now frequent use of draconian laws and government policies inhibiting freedom of speech in Africa.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H. Res. 415, a resolution supporting the development of Radio Democracy for Africa, was sponsored by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE). This resolution promotes independent radio broadcasting in Africa through the Voice of America. It calls for VOA to provide journalistic training and for USIA to expand its economic, political and human rights programming in Africa to support indigenous efforts aimed at promoting democratization.

The administration supports this enhanced broadcasting effort in Africa and VOA is working to get expanded programming on the air. This is an appropriate use of international broadcasting funds. Many African nations are struggling for peace and democracy. Hopefully the efforts encouraged by this resolution will put into force a strong and comprehensive international broadcasting program throughout the African continent to assist emerging democracies.

I commend my colleague who will speak soon, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) for his initiative and for that of my other colleagues in offering this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First let me commend our colleagues, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), chairman and ranking member respectively of the Subcommittee on Africa of the Committee on International Relations, for crafting this most important resolution. I strongly support this resolution.

The resolution calls for our government to lend support to free media in Africa through a number of avenues, including the creation of a Voice of America project adopting a comprehensive assistance strategy to have free media in Africa.

At the present time, Madam Speaker, VOA broadcasts 87½ hours weekly to Africa in 10 different languages. This measure calls to expand this program both in terms of its quantity and its coverage. My expectation is that as a result of this effort, media freedom will be strengthened in a number of countries in Africa. We need to assist the countries of Africa to develop mechanisms and institutions that protect the independence of journalists and discourage laws and government policies that inhibit the freedom of the press, which unfortunately is the state of affairs in far too many countries of that continent.

The Voice of America historically has played a significant role in bringing news and information, free and unbiased to the African continent. I particularly commend the authors' foresight in calling on the United States Government to support efforts by the people of Africa to build their own free and independent African media and to assist them in their efforts to promote democracy, human rights, economic development and good government.

I urge the adoption of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) in support of the resolution. Our colleague from California has brought invigorated leadership to the Subcommittee on Africa. His sponsorship of this legislation, along with the cosponsorship in original form by the gentlemen from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and (Mr. SMITH), are examples of the leadership he has brought to American foreign policy with respect to Africa.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, today radio broadcasting in much of Africa, as in other places in the world, is dominated by governments which operate national radio stations and all too often frustrate independent radio stations.

African governments, those that are repressive, do this because air wave control is real power, the power to control the information that their citizens receive. Radio's power is particularly great in Africa where poverty and logistical difficulties have made radio Africans' primary source of information. Televisions are few and far between in many African countries, and newspapers are largely confined to the cities. Radios, though, in Africa reach everyone. Radio's power is also why African governments often frustrate the licensing of independent radio stations and harass and brutalize and at times even kill independent radio journalists.

As long as this situation prevails, as long as some African governments can shape how their citizens think and feel about their country and their lives, many of the achievements we are hoping to see African countries make, like greater democracy, the protection of human rights, economic development, will be frustrated.

This resolution brings attention to the importance of radio broadcasting in Africa as a means of realizing these goals, and it lends support to an important administration initiative, Radio Democracy for Africa.

Radio Democracy for Africa is designed to increase surrogate radio broadcasting to Africa through the Voice of America. Surrogate radio, the process by which local journalists broadcast to their countrymen about local issues with foreign support, has proved to be effective in promoting the values of freedom and democracy. This was the case behind the iron curtain during the Cold War. It is the case in parts of Asia today.

Africa should not be an exception. We should support greater independent radio broadcasting in Africa and that is what this resolution does. Fostering independent radio broadcasting in Africa is all the more important given the specter of genocide by hate radio. Uncontested hate broadcasts contributed to the 1994 genocide in Rwanda that claimed more than half a million lives. Ominously hate radio broadcasts are being heard again in Central Africa.

□ 1345

While U.S.-supported surrogate radio, that is, radio to help break government monopolies on information, does not guarantee against brutality, it can help combat it. A greater American effort to allow Africans to hear alternative views, views supportive of democracy and reconciliation, is desperately needed. It is my hope that Radio Democracy for Africa will be a start.

This House Resolution also calls for the U.S. to provide diplomatic and technical support to independent radio in Africa, all within existing budgets. It also encourages journalistic exchanges. Greater professionalism by Africa radio journalists is needed. This resolution also asks the administration to focus on the protection of African radio journalists, many of whom show tremendous bravery. The committee to Protect Journalists has brought to life the life-threatening conditions that

many African journalists face. This resolution asks that these brave men and women be supported in their struggle.

I ask my colleagues to support this resolution, and, Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ROBERT MENENDEZ), and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for their support as coauthors.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to commend the gentleman for his exceptional statement and his initiative.

Mr. GILMAN. I rise in support of H. Res. 415, a resolution supporting the development of Radio Democracy for Africa. Through this resolution, we are encouraging VOA to promote independent radio broadcasting throughout Africa. A free and independent media is a cornerstone to democracy development. The VOA has a solid reputation in Africa, and field visits to several countries by the Director of VOA underscored the importance and interest in receiving journalism training. Developing an indigenous core of journalists coupled with more targeted VOA programing will help build an independent media and provide objective news sources.

Support for democracy must be a major policy objective in Africa. International broadcasts and media development in the region serves this vital policy direction.

This resolution demonstrates Congressional support for the enhanced program efforts by the VOA. At a time of continued unrest in certain African countries, a comprehensive broadcast and training program is the right thing to do at the right time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 415, to promote independent radio broadcasting in Africa. I am proud to be one of the original cosponsors of this resolution introduced by my friend, Mr. ROYCE, the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa.

Radio is probably the most important mass communications medium in Africa, a continent plagued by numerous conflicts and crises. Radio is the primary means of transmitting vital information between African populations. It has the potential to do much good—both as a source of independent, accurate news, and as a catalyst for humanitarian, democratic, and economic progress. Unfortunately, it also has been subject to abuse. As many here will recall, ethnic ''hate radio'' fanned the flames of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, which claimed upwards of half a million lives.

The freedom, independence, and professionalism of African radio are becoming increasingly important to the future prospects of that continent. Thus, House Resolution 415 makes clear that this House supports surrogate broadcasting and the training of African journalists through the Voice of America's ''Radio Democracy for Africa'' project; urges the expansion of USIA's economic, political, and human rights programming in Africa to support indigenous programming in those areas; urges the Agency for International Development to adopt a comprehensive strategy to promote free and independent African media; and urges the United States Government to support freedom and independence for African radio journalists through several means, such as foreign investment and intergovernmental dialogue.

I encourage all my colleagues to support this important resolution.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 415, ''A Resolution Promoting Independent Radio Broadcasting in Africa.'' I support this bill for several reasons. First, radio is the primary forum of transmitting information in Africa. The African continent is paralyzed by poverty, illiteracy, and logistical difficulties making television and print media a less effective means of communication. This resolution seeks to promote and enlarge this vital link of communication to the African continent.

For the most part, African radio stations are controlled and managed by the governments in these African nations. These governments are aware of the power and influence which radio stations project in the region. In Rwanda, the power of radio was used to fuel the genocide in 1994. Governments in Africa, fearing the power of radio, will often deny or delay applications for proposed independent radio stations. African governments will harass officials or staff of independent stations, or close stations which openly disagree with the government's policy. In the last eight years numerous journalists have been imprisoned and even killed.

Given the power of radio and the interference displayed by African governments, the House should support the creation and operation of the Voice of America's surrogate radio project known as ''Radio Democracy for Africa.'' This project is vital in our continuing efforts to promote democracy and human rights.

During the President's recent trip to the African continent, the President expressed a willingness to increase America's political and economic ties on the continent. This resolution will encourage democratization, human rights improvement, and economic development through the medium of radio.

This resolution will call on the U.S. government to encourage local and foreign investment in independent local radio in Africa. It will also make the improvement of unbiased and effective radio communication a priority in discussions with African governments.

This Congress should pass House Resolution 415 and support all efforts to improve media communications on the African continent.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 415.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAKING AVAILABLE TO THE UKRAINIAN MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES THE USIA TELEVISION PROGRAM ''WINDOW ON AMERICA''

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4083) to make available to the Ukrainian Museum and Archives the USIA television program ''Window on America'', as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4083

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AVAILABILITY OF USIA TELEVISION PROGRAM "WINDOW ON AMERICA".

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 208 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1986 and 1987 (22 U.S.C. 1461–1a) and the second sentence of section 501 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (22 U.S.C. 1461), the Director of the United States Information Agency is authorized to make available, upon request, to the Ukrainian Museum and Archives in Cleveland, Ohio and the Slavics Collection, Indiana University Libraries in Bloomington, Indiana, copies of the television program ''Window on America'' produced by the WORLDNET Television Service of the United States Information Agency.

(b) LIMITATION.—The Ukrainian Museum and Archives and the Slavics Collection are prohibited from broadcasting any materials made available pursuant to this Act.

(c) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Ukrainian Museum and Archives and the Slavics Collection shall reimburse the Director of the United States Information Agency for any expenses involved in making such copies available. Any reimbursement to the Director pursuant to this subsection shall be credited to the applicable appropriation of the United States Information Agency.

(d) TERMINATION.—Subsection (a) shall cease to have effect 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4083, the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, this bill is sponsored by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) and cosponsored by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAMILTON).

This bill waives section 501 of the Smith–Mundt Act, which prohibits the