

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 115

Concerning the promotion of peace, stability, and democracy in Zaire.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 16, 1997

Mr. ROYCE (for himself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. KIM, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GEJDENSON, and Mr. BERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Concerning the promotion of peace, stability, and democracy
in Zaire.

Whereas Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko's 31-year rule has turned his potentially prosperous country into one of the world's poorest, where human suffering long has been widespread;

Whereas the Mobutu Government has systematically violated the human rights and undermined the security of Zaire's 46,000,000 people;

Whereas the Mobutu Government has proven itself unwilling to allow a genuine transition to multi-party democracy and continues to cling to power against the best interests of Zaire's people;

Whereas the Mobutu Government permitted the circulation of extremist propaganda in the refugee camps that undermined voluntary repatriation efforts of the United Nations High Commission on Refugees;

Whereas the international community is concerned about the humanitarian needs of the hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced Zairians;

Whereas there are continuing reports of human rights violations by all parties that stem from the continued fighting in Zaire;

Whereas representatives of the Zairian Government and the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire (ADFL) negotiated in South Africa, under the supervision of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, with no cease-fire agreement; and

Whereas the objectives of the United States Government, achieving the cessation of hostilities and achieving political reforms in Zaire, continue to be stymied: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) it is the sense of the House of Representa-
3 tives that—

4 (A) President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire
5 should immediately resign from the office of the
6 Presidency of Zaire, leave Zaire, and withdraw
7 from all political activity;

8 (B) the United States Government should
9 unequivocally call on Mobutu Sese Seko to im-

1 mediately leave Zaire and withdraw from all po-
2 litical activity;

3 (C) the United States should continue to
4 distance itself and its foreign policy from Presi-
5 dent Mobutu and his government in order to
6 hasten his departure from Zaire's government
7 and political life;

8 (D) the United States should work with all
9 interested African and European nations to op-
10 pose the presence in Zaire of foreign govern-
11 ment and mercenary forces, halt the flow of
12 arms into the country, and encourage the war-
13 ring parties to negotiate a cease-fire leading to
14 a lasting peace; and

15 (E) the United States Government should
16 play a leading role in the international effort in
17 supporting the creation of a broad-based transi-
18 tional government of national unity composed of
19 all democratic forces in Zaire; and

20 (2) the House of Representatives supports the
21 creation in Zaire of the enabling environment nec-
22 essary to conduct democratic, multi-party elections
23 at the earliest feasible time, as well as the necessary
24 conditions to establish the rule of law, respect for

- 1 human rights, and the effective provision of humani-
- 2 tarian assistance.

