

Government of the People's Republic of China should know that as the Tibetan people and His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet go forward on their journey toward freedom the Congress and the people of the United States stand with them.

I thank all my colleagues who have cosponsored this resolution. In particular I would like to recognize the long commitment that the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee Senator HELMS, has shown in support of Tibetans and thank him for joining me in this effort today. I would also thank both Senators from Vermont, who have remained engaged in this matter since it was made known and for their joining me as a cosponsor of this measure.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the Senate's passage of Senate Resolution 19, regarding United States opposition to the prison sentence of Tibetan ethno-musicologist Ngawang Choephel by the Government of the People's Republic of China. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this resolution, which was introduced by Senator MOYNIHAN, and was successfully reported out of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee last week.

This resolution expresses the Senate's strong sense that Ngawang Choephel should be released from the prison where he has been held in since 1995. It also urges the United States to raise the issue of his release with Chinese officials, to promote a resolution at the U.N. Human Rights Commission, and to seek access for human rights monitors in Tibet.

Mr. Choephel, a Tibetan national who—with the support of a Fulbright scholarship—studied ethno-musicology at Middlebury College in Vermont, was detained by the Chinese authorities in Tibet in August 1995. After being held incommunicado for a year, he was charged with espionage in October 1996. In December of that year, the Chinese sentenced him to a 18-year prison term following a secret trial.

Mr. Choephel was preparing a documentary film about traditional Tibetan performing arts when he was detained. The State Department says there is no evidence that his activities were anything but academic. Unfortunately, Mr. Choephel's arrest and sentence appear consistent with previous Chinese actions to repress cultural expression in Tibet.

The U.S. State Department and several human rights organizations, including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, note that China consistently denies Tibetans their fundamental human rights. According to the most recent State Department Human Rights report, Chinese authorities continue to commit widespread and well-documented human rights abuse, in violation of internationally accepted norms. Credible reports include instances of death in detention, torture, arbitrary arrest, detention without public trial, and intensified controls on religion and on freedom of

speech and the press, particularly for ethnic Tibetans.

Since its occupation of Tibet in 1949, the Chinese have also been responsible for the destruction of much of Tibetan civilization. The arrest of Mr. Choephel, who was engaged in efforts to preserve Tibetan culture, reflects China's systematic attempt to repress cultural expression in Tibet.

It is crucial that the Senate continue to send the signal that human rights abuses should not be tolerated, and should figure prominently in foreign policy deliberations. As a member of the Senate Subcommittee on Asia, I feel that the United States must continue to urge China to respect Tibet's unique religious, linguistic, and cultural traditions and observe fundamental human rights in Tibet and elsewhere.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 19) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

#### S. RES. 19

Whereas the Chinese Government sentenced Ngawang Choephel to an 18 year prison term plus 4 years subsequent deprivation of his political rights on December 26, 1996, following a secret trial;

Whereas Mr. Choephel is a Tibetan national whose family fled Chinese oppression to live in exile in India in 1968;

Whereas Mr. Choephel studied ethnomusicology at Middlebury College in Vermont as a Fulbright Scholar, and at the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts in Dharamsala, India;

Whereas Mr. Choephel returned to Tibet in July 1995 to prepare a documentary film about traditional Tibetan performing arts;

Whereas Mr. Choephel was detained in August 1995 by the Chinese authorities and held incommunicado for over a year before the Government of the People's Republic of China admitted to holding him, and finally charged him with espionage in October 1996;

Whereas there is no evidence that Mr. Choephel's activities in Tibet involved anything other than purely academic research;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China denies Tibetans their fundamental human rights, as reported in the State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, and by human rights organizations including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, Asia;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China is responsible for the destruction of much of Tibetan civilization since its invasion of Tibet in 1949;

Whereas the arrest of a Tibetan scholar, such as Mr. Choephel who worked to preserve Tibetan culture, reflects the systematic attempt by the Government of the People's Republic of China to repress cultural expression in Tibet;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China, through direct and indirect incentives, has established discrimina-

tory development programs which have resulted in an overwhelming flow of Chinese immigrants into Tibet, including those areas incorporated into the Chinese provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu, and Qinghai, and have excluded Tibetans from participation in important policy decisions, which further threatens traditional Tibetan life;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China, withholds meaningful participation in the governance of Tibet from Tibetans and has failed to abide by its own constitutional guarantee of autonomy for Tibetans;

Whereas the Dalai Lama of Tibet has stated his willingness to enter into negotiations with the Chinese and has repeatedly accepted the framework Deng Xiaoping proposed for such negotiations in 1979;

Whereas the United States Government has not developed an effective plan to win support in international fora, such as the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, to bring international pressure to bear on the Government of the People's Republic of China to improve human rights and to negotiate with the Dalai Lama;

Whereas the Chinese have displayed provocative disregard for American concerns by arresting and sentencing prominent dissidents around the time that senior United States Government officials have visited China; and

Whereas United States Government policy seeks to foster negotiations between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, and presses China to respect Tibet's unique religious, linguistic, and cultural traditions: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Ngawang Choephel and other prisoners of conscience in Tibet, as well as in China, should be released immediately and unconditionally;

(2) to underscore the gravity of this matter, in all official meetings with representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China, United States officials should request Mr. Choephel's immediate and unconditional release;

(3) the United States Government should take prompt action to sponsor and promote a resolution at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights regarding China and Tibet which specifically addresses political prisoners and negotiations with the Dalai Lama;

(4) an exchange program should be established in honor of Ngawang Choephel, involving students of the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts and appropriate educational institutions in the United States; and,

(5) the United States Government should seek access for internationally recognized human rights groups to monitor human rights in Tibet.

#### ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1997

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until the hour of 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 12. I further ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted and the Senate then proceed to executive session to consider the Peña nomination, as under the previous order.

I further ask unanimous consent that following the debate on the Peña nomination, the nomination be temporarily

set aside, and at 12:30 on Wednesday the Senate return to executive session and proceed to a vote on the confirmation of the nomination. I further ask unanimous consent that following the vote, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then return to legislative session.

I now ask unanimous consent that following the debate on the nomination, the Senate return to legislative session and there then be a period of morning business until the hour of 12:30, with Senators to speak for up to 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator SESSIONS, 30 minutes; Senator MURKOWSKI, 15 minutes; Senator DOMENICI, 10 minutes; Senator DORGAN 1 hour.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the 12:30 vote on Wednesday, the Senate then begin consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 18, the Hollings resolution regarding a constitutional amendment on campaign financing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, following the 40 minutes of debate tomorrow morning on the Peña nomination, the Senate will temporarily set aside the nomination with the vote occurring on confirmation at 12:30, Wednesday afternoon. Following the morning debate, there will be a period of morning business in order to accommodate a num-

ber of Senators. Following the morning business period and the 12:30 vote, the Senate will begin consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 18, which is the Hollings resolution on a constitutional amendment on campaign financing. Senators can, therefore, expect additional rollcall votes throughout Wednesday's session.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:04 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 12, 1997, at 9:30 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate March 11, 1997:

##### METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIRPORTS AUTHORITY

ROBERT CLARKE BROWN, OF OHIO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIRPORTS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING NOVEMBER 22, 1999, VICE JACK EDWARDS, TERM EXPIRED.

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 12203:

##### *To be major general*

BRIG. GEN. JOHN J. BATBIE, JR., 0000.  
BRIG. GEN. WINFRED N. CARROLL, 0000.  
BRIG. GEN. DENNIS M. GRAY, 0000.  
BRIG. GEN. GRANT R. MULDER, 0000.  
BRIG. GEN. VIRGIL J. TONEY, JR., 0000.

##### *To be brigadier general*

COL. WILLIAM E. ALBERTSON, 0000.  
COL. PAUL R. COOPER, 0000.

COL. GERALD P. FITZGERALD, 0000.  
COL. PATRICK J. GALLAGHER, 0000.  
COL. EDWARD J. MECHENBIER, 0000.  
COL. JEFFREY M. MUSFELDT, 0000.  
COL. ALLAN R. POULIN, 0000.  
COL. GIUSEPPE P. SANTANIELLO, 0000.  
COL. ROBERT B. SIEGFRIED, 0000.  
COL. ROBERT C. STUMPF, 0000.  
COL. WILLIAM E. THOMLINSON, 0000.

##### IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE U.S. MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 624:

##### *To be brigadier general*

COL. JAMES R. BATTAGLINI, 0000.  
COL. JAMES E. CARTWRIGHT, 0000.  
COL. STEPHEN A. CHENEY, 0000.  
COL. CHRISTOPHER CORTEZ, 0000.  
COL. ROBERT M. PLANAGAN, 0000.  
COL. JOHN F. GOODMAN, 0000.  
COL. GARY H. HUGHEY, 0000.  
COL. THOMAS S. JONES, 0000.  
COL. RICHARD L. KELLY, 0000.  
COL. RALPH E. PARKER, JR., 0000.  
COL. JOHN F. SATTTLER, 0000.  
COL. WILLIAM A. WHITLOW, 0000.  
COL. FRANCES C. WILSON, 0000.

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE U.S. ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTIONS 624 AND 628:

##### *To be lieutenant colonel*

DOUGLAS R. YATES, 0000.

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE U.S. NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 624:

##### *To be captain*

EDWARD H. LUNDQUIST, 0000.

##### *To be lieutenant commander*

MATTHEW P. FORD, 0000.  
JOHN D. O'BOYLE, 0000.

#### CONFIRMATION

Executive Nomination Confirmed by the Senate March 1, 1997:

##### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LYLE WEIR SWENSON, OF SOUTH DAKOTA, TO BE U.S. MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA FOR THE TERM OF 4 YEARS.