And to add to this concern, in early March of this year, the Islamic Republic of Iran reportedly signed a cooperation agreement with Russia that will give it access to sophisticated arms technology.

As for Libya, the Iran Libya Sanctions Act of 2001 extends sanctions against Libya designed to end only if our President determines that Libya has fulfilled the requirements of all U.N. resolutions relating to the horrific downing of Pan Am 103 in December of 1998.

Given that Libya has not yet accepted responsibility or compensated the families of the victims of Pan Am 103, I think it is only just that ILSA’s sanctions remain against Libya.

Mr. Speaker, for the reasons I have outlined, I believe it is important to continue these restrictions on trade with companies who do business with Iran and Libya.

I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1954, brought to the floor by my good friend and the Chairman of the House International Relations Committee’s Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia, Representative Ben Gilman and the distinguished Ranking Member of the House International Relations Committee, Representative Tom Lantos.

RECOGNIZING MR. DIONICIO MORALES OF THE MEXICAN AMERICAN OPPORTUNITY FOUNDATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the most inspiring and influential Latino leaders in the United States. Dionicio Morales is the founder and former President of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation (MAOF), the largest Latino social-service agency in the United States. Mr. Morales has helped improve the lives of thousands of people, especially Latino youth and the elderly, by providing vital resources such as job training, senior services, naturalization services and child care programs in communities throughout California. The Mexican American Opportunity Foundation has established programs in the San Gabriel Valley, East Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Ana, Oxnard, Salinas, and Bakersfield.

Mr. Morales’ inspiring life is depicted in his autobiography entitled “Dionicio Morales: A Life in Two Cultures.” In the book, Mr. Morales is described as a passionate leader who had led by example and knows first hand the struggles of the poor in detail. For many decades he has tirelessly organized and has fought to protect the rights of these individuals.

In the early 1960’s Mr. Morales called the White House to request help in establishing programs to help employ and train Mexican Americans. Incredibly, Mr. Morales obtained a meeting with Vice President Lyndon Johnson, who agreed to help Mr. Morales through the President’s Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity.

Nearly four decades later, due to that fateful call made by Mr. Morales, the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation now has a budget of over $60 million, making it the largest Latino organization in the United States. Mr. Morales continues to be actively involved in the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation. He is a trailblazer and a true leader. I am privileged to recognize Mr. Morales’ incredible life and applaud his work.

HONORING FENMORE SETON FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month I had the distinct privilege of reading one of the most touching personal memoirs of the events of the invasion of Normandy, the turning point of World War II. A defining moment in our history, it is important to take a moment to remember the tremendous under-taking of the Allies and the unparalleled courage and bravery of the soldiers who fought, many making the ultimate sacrifice, for world freedom. It is my great pleasure to rise today to honor both the many servicemen who participated in the D-day invasion and my very dear friend, Fenmore Seton, by recounting his remarkable story.

In his memoirs, Fen, a First Lieutenant in the Ninth Air Force of the United States Army Corps, captured the spirit and atmosphere of those first few memorable days. Hundreds of officers and soldiers were transported on Liberty Ships, normally equipped for crews of thirty. Under other circumstances such conditions would be considered intolerable, yet as they embarked from their staging area in Wale, there was little or no complaint from these exemplary men. Hour after hour the deafening roar of the planes overhead could be heard by the troops aboard the Liberty Ships in the Allies’ Armada which stretched as far as the eye could see. Shortly before they began their mission, each man was given a printed letter of inspiration from the Allied Commander in Chief of “Operation Overload.” Dwight D. Eisenhower. Climbing down the side of their Liberty Ships, on rope netting into the individual Landing Craft Infantry’s, Fen and thousands of other soldiers began to make their way ashore.

Fen disembarked from an invasion landing craft on Omaha Beach on D-Day plus three. Though they were supposed to make their beach landing one day earlier, the Ranger Infantrymen who were fighting for a foothold on the designated beach landing zone, had met intense firepower from the reinforced concrete German Pillboxes which delayed their arrival. Under strict blackout instructions, they moved to their rendezvous point in a completely unfamiliar place in the pitch dark, finding refuge in a nearby shelter only to awaken amid chicken coops and realization that they had slept in a cattle barn.

This was the first of seven battle campaigns, including the Battle of the Bulge, that Fen participated in as a member of the Ninth Air Force. In addition to the six battle stars that decorate his Theatre Ribbon, Fen was honored with the ribbon for Meritorious Service and Belgium’s royal “Fourragere d’Honneur” for his service with the 70th Fighter Wing. However, it is not the honors, commendations, or medals that led Fen to take down his thoughts and memories of his extensive World War II experiences. It was, as he wrote, “because all Officers and Soldiers felt that World War II was a ‘just’ war . . . that had to be fought in order to defend civilization and to preserve our treasured American way of life.”

As he concluded, Fen wrote: “Younger people particularly have little to no curiosity concerning World War II or the fact that the Normandy Invasion marked the turning point for the defeat of the Nazi Empire. I sadly suspect that most of the younger generation do not even recognize the significance of Pearl Harbor.” It is my sincere hope that the young people of our nation and future generations remember the tremendous efforts that were made to preserve the freedoms we hold so dear. As the daughter of a veteran and a Member of this great body, I stand today in paying tribute to the veterans of World War II for their outstanding contributions to our great nation. They changed the course of history and for that we owe them a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid.

Today, I stand to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Fenmore Seton for his outstanding service to our country and for bringing this remarkable story to light. It is veterans, like Fen, whose stories will never allow future generations to forget one of the world’s greatest victories.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANA DeGETTE
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, on July 18, 2001, my vote on final passage of H.R. 2500, the “Commerce, Justice, and State Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2002” was not recorded. I support the bill and intended to vote “yes.” I support this bill because it is fair and bipartisan, and appropriately funds many important programs and agencies in the government. This bill appropriates $41.5 billion, which is 4 percent more than the current level and 2 percent more than requested by the president.

I am pleased that this bill adequately funds many important programs that have not received appropriate funding in the past. Specifically, H.R. 2500 provides $1.01 billion for the Community Oriented Policing Services, a program that I strongly support and that contributes to the safety of our neighborhood streets. It also provides $844 million for international peacekeeping efforts, including $2 million to conduct programs that monitor and combat human trafficking. $440 million is included for conservation programs to clean up contaminated waters and waterways. Additionally, the bill appropriates $329 million for the Legal Services Corporation which provides legal assistance to low-income Americans.