

struggle for liberation and social justice, but to champion the international movements against colonialism and neo-colonialism. Songs such as "War" and "Zimbabwe" inspired freedom fighters and became anthems for change.

Nor should we overlook the refusal of our outstanding cricketers, Clive Lloyd, Sir Vivian Richards, Michael Holding and their colleagues who refused the lure of money to play in racist South Africa.

The year 1994 represented the culmination of the movement towards the liberation in Africa. The victory over apartheid was the outcome of the activist struggle of those who were oppressed. The contribution of the global anti-apartheid movement was critical to this outcome. Jamaica is proud of having sustained its commitment to the struggle against apartheid. Under Norman Manley, we were second only to India in declaring sanctions against South African products. Jamaicans of my generation could not bring ourselves to consume any product from a package marked "made in South Africa." Successive Jamaican administrations, from both sides of the political fence, have continued the struggle.

The hegemony of western nations has, however, over the years sparked conflicts in Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Within the Caribbean context, Haiti, the first independent Black nation, has experienced 200 years of under-development. Small wonder that the message of peace, solidarity and redemption is of much significance today, in this, the 21st century, as in any other period in recent history.

In addition to the adverse effects of globalization, with its trade constraints and rapidly changing information and communication and communication technology, the survival of our countries is further threatened by the scourge of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Notably, sub-Saharan Africa is the region most affected with the disease, followed by the Caribbean. Our womenfolk are at great risk and our orphanages threaten to multiply. This epidemic acts as a significant brake on economic growth and development. Its social and economic consequences are already being widely felt in education, industry, agriculture, transport, and human resources.

There are those of us in political life who have never concealed our unwavering commitment to equity and social justice, between nations and within our domestic borders. For this, we were once branded ideological heretics.

Today, it is conceded that the force of globalization and the building of a market economy will not by themselves bridge the disparities between the developed and developing world. Nor will it result in the reduction of poverty, ignorance, and disease.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATION ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2863) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes,

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Chairman, despite its claims to the contrary, the Bush Administration

continues to be dishonest with the American people about the situation in Iraq. First, it leads our country into war with Iraq under false pretenses—a war that has already cost more than 1,700 American lives and thousands more Iraqi lives. The Administration then refuses to admit that it does not have a viable plan to win the peace in Iraq and possesses no strategy for a withdrawal of United States troops. And most recently, while the President campaigns as a so-called "War President," he refuses to request funding for military operations in Iraq in his own budget, instead funding it through the emergency appropriations process, a tactic that allows the President to keep the high costs of war out of his budget.

Although today Congress has the opportunity to insert some much-needed accountability into the funding process, it will—like it has so many other times—function as a rubber stamp and approve another large funding bill—\$45 billion—for Iraq without demanding answers from the Administration. Once this is approved, total funding for the military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan will reach a mind-boggling \$322 billion. And this certainly won't be the last of it. In fact, at current expenditure rates, the \$45 billion will only cover the first six months of 2006, which means that Congress will be forced to approve tens of billions more in funding for Iraq in a matter of months.

I believe it is critical that our country properly fund the operations in Iraq to ensure that our soldiers in the field have the equipment, munitions and protection they need and the benefits they so rightfully deserve when they return home. The majority of the \$45 billion will go directly to support our troops in the form of equipment, body armor, increased pay and improved benefits for them and their families. While I will vote for this \$45 billion funding package, I am concerned that the Majority in Congress has once again rebuffed efforts to require the Administration to be honest with the people about the situation in Iraq. To date, despite repeated requests from members of Congress, the Administration refuses to provide any sort of timeline for the withdrawal of United States troops, will not account for much of the current funding to Iraq, and resists coming clean about the full cost of future military efforts in Iraq.

At the same time the Administration and the Republican Majority in Congress unabashedly spend billions of dollars in Iraq without question, they make cuts to crucial domestic programs in the name of fiscal responsibility—cuts, which compared to the budget for Iraq, have a negligible impact on our country's deficit. In fact, funding for this misguided war so significantly dwarfs funding for domestic programs that if we were to take just a fraction of this spending package for Iraq, we could fully fund No Child Left Behind, the Small Business Administration loan program, Head Start, Medicaid, and numerous other programs that make a daily difference in the lives of Americans.

I find it truly ironic that Congress will spend a good portion of this week discussing the alleged lack of accountability at the United Nations, but refuses to acknowledge the abrogation of all accountability and responsibility that has been allowed to occur for too long in its own backyard—at 16th and Pennsylvania. It is time that the Administration owns up to the sit-

uation it has needlessly thrust our country in—it needs to formulate and disseminate a strategy for an eventual U.S. withdrawal from Iraq and must be upfront with Congress and the American people about the future costs of military operations in Iraq.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, on Friday June 17, 2005 I was unavoidably delayed and thus missed rollcall votes Nos. 282, 281, 280, 279, 278, 277, 276, 275, 274. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 282, 280, 279, 278, 277, 276, 275, 274 and "nay" on No. 281.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATHERINE HARRIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2005

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I encountered plane difficulties Monday, June 20, 2005, that caused me to miss floor votes regarding H.R. 2863, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006. Since this bill is one that I believe is vital to our Nation, I am very dismayed that I was unable to participate. I would have voted "nay" on the Obey, Doggett, Velázquez, and DeFazio Amendments. Additionally, I would have voted "yea" on the Hunter Amendment and for final passage of H.R. 2863.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOO
LOCKS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2005

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a historic symbol of exploration and commerce in my district. On Friday, June 24th the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan will kick-off a summer of activities to honor the 150th Anniversary of the Soo Locks.

Hundreds of years ago settlers established the oldest city in Michigan and third oldest in the United States, Sault Ste. Marie, named by French explorer Father Jacques Marquette in honor of the Virgin Mary. The area, rich with fur trading and fishing, was difficult to travel by water because of the rapids or "Bawating" as referred to by the local Anishnabe Native American Tribe. As a voyager entered the St. Mary's River to sail from Lake Superior to Lake Huron the rapids dropped 21 feet and was too treacherous to traverse. Voyagers, explorers and tradesmen were forced to portage their canoes, unloading and reloading their cargo via the land trail along side the rapids to complete their travels.

The Northwest Fur Company engineered the first locks on the Canadian side of Sault Ste. Marie in the late 1700's. The system involved moving a ship into a chamber of water,

or a lock, and then raise or lower the water level to be even with the body of water they wished to traverse. This first set of locks was unfortunately destroyed in the War of 1812 and travelers were once again forced to carry their cargo by land. The present day lock system, mimicking the original design, was developed by civil engineers in 1850.

In 1852, Congress offered a large public land deal as payment to any company that would construct the new lock designed to continue commerce between the lakes. The Fairbanks Scale Company agreed to the proposal in 1853 because of its mining interests in the Upper Peninsula. On May 31st 1855, two 350 foot long locks were given to the State of Michigan. The State instituted a small toll in the early years of the lock for maintenance but in 1877, when commerce exceeded the capability of the locks, the State recognized that a new set of locks was necessary.

In 1881, the locks were transferred to the Federal government under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Since that time, the Soo Locks have operated toll-free with two canals and four locks that included the Davis, Poe, MacArthur and Sabin locks.

The value of the Soo Locks was never fully appreciated until World War 11. As the United States was attacked, it became necessary for America to build the "arsenal of democracy". To build the world's arsenal, America needed steel for its ships, guns, tanks and vehicles. In order to make that steel, America needed to mine the iron ore rich regions of Minnesota and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The only practical way to move the massive volume and weight of iron ore was by ship from Lake Superior, through the Soo Locks, down the St. Mary's River and out to Lake Huron, Michigan, Ontario, and Erie to the steel mills of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois.

As the war's demand for iron ore was at its greatest, Congress authorized a new Soo Lock capable of handling the 640 foot ships loaded with up to 17,500 tons of iron ore during the 1942 Maritime Class. America worked around the clock to build the new lock to hold the iron ore boats that stoked the war machine.

With the end of World War II, the importance of the Soo Locks did not diminish. As trade and steel demand increased a new even larger lock was needed. In 1965, Congress authorized a new 1000 foot Super Lock. As with all the locks, the new lock was named after the engineer in charge of the Soo Lock, General Orlando M. Poe, also known for his eight lighthouses that grace Michigan's waterways.

The Poe Lock is the largest lock in the Western Hemisphere and the busiest lock in the world. Each year, 80 to 90 million tons of freight move through the Soo Locks. Still today, more than 70 percent of the raw materials needed to make steel pass through the locks, as does low sulfur coal and grain exports. The Great Lakes shipping industry helps sustain thousands of jobs in mining, construction, steel making and a multitude of support industries. In fact, shipping is so important to our economy that just one 1000 foot ore boat can deliver enough iron ore to build 60,000 cars.

Currently, $\frac{2}{3}$ of all freight is restricted to the 32 year-old Poe lock, which is the only lock capable of handling 1000 foot ore boats. Without this lock, the steel, coal and grain indus-

tries would be helpless. Recognizing this, Congress authorized construction of another "Poe" size lock in 1986. Over the last eight years, I have been proud to secure funding for preconstruction, planning, engineering and design for the new lock. Since 2003 alone, over \$10 million have been secured toward the construction of this new lock. I am pleased that the States of Michigan, Illinois and Pennsylvania recognize the economic importance of this additional lock by contributing their non-Federal cost shares to the project and encourage the other Great Lakes States to join us in securing the necessary funding to build this new lock.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the historic engineering marvel we call the Soo Locks as they celebrate 150 years of exploration, commerce and trade. This engineering wonder has provided a proud past of innovation to evolve into the critical link to deliver the arsenal of democracy during world wars and the economic feasibility for the steel, coal and grain industries now and into the future. From the Anishnabe Tribe of Native Americans to the men and women who first explored, built and operated the locks; to the City of Sault Ste. Marie and her people; to a Nation at war; to tomorrow's commerce that flows to and from Lake Superior to the other four Great Lakes; the Soo Lock have withstood the test of time by meeting the demands of a great Nation, to traverse the "rapids" of history always opening its lock to a brighter future for America. Once again with the help of the United States Congress, I hope to continue the legacy of the Soo Locks by providing the resources to build another super lock that will ensure another successful 150 years of waterborne commerce by and through the Soo Locks located at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

COMMENDING LULA TAYLOR AS
THE RECIPIENT OF THE WOMAN
OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the exemplary public service of Lula Taylor, a resident of the Chautauqua County city of Jamestown, upon the occasion of her receiving the Woman of Achievement Award.

Lula Taylor graduated from Newton Central High School in Newton, North Carolina. After graduation, she attended cosmetology school and ran her own beauty shop. Lula met and married her husband Vivian, and moved to Jamestown where she attended Jamestown Community College. They have a son and a daughter and two grandchildren, Michael and Claudine.

Throughout her entire life Lula has been a woman to go against the flow and break down barriers. This is evident in her career and her social life. Lula was the first African-American woman to be hired at Proto Tool Division of Ingersoll Rand Corporation in 1964 and worked there until her retirement. She is the first African-American woman to be elected to any county legislature in New York. These two achievements have paved the way for others to follow their dreams and not give in to adversity.

Lula is one woman who never stops working for the things she believes in. She serves on the County Human Service Committee, Chautauqua County Board of Health, Chautauqua County Health Network Inc. Advisory Board, Office for the Aging Advisory Board, County Home Advisory Board, Safe House Committee, and is an AIDS Awareness Advocate.

When it comes to her heritage Lula works tirelessly. She has created numerous displays on African-American History, led tours for the Underground Railroad Tableau Steering Committee, Chautauqua County Black History Committee and is a founder of the Ebony Task Force. She is a member of the Blackwell Chapel, A.M.E. Zion Church. In the 1980's she stood up against adversity to coach and manage the Love School girl's softball team. This allowed girls to work as a team in a multi-ethnic situation. In 1985, she was instrumental in planning the first Martin Luther King Jr. celebration. Since then the celebration has grown considerably each year. On May 13, 2003, Lula and her husband Vivian were recognized by the New York State Democratic Rural Training Forum as the 2004 Chautauqua Democrats of the Year.

Lula is a woman of very strong conviction. Whenever there is something negative rearing its ugly head she is the first one to take a stand and put a positive spin on it. A perfect example of this was when the Nushawn Williams case sent Jamestown into a hot bed of negative publicity. Lula took that and turned it into a positive educational experience for everyone. She has worked so hard to lessen any racial tensions that exist. She has successfully brought together a very multiethnic team of girls in softball and has let her own voice be heard loudly in a predominantly Swedish and Italian community. Lula Taylor is an amazing woman and I am proud, Mr. Speaker, to have an opportunity to honor her today.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
U.S. MARINE STAFF SERGEANT
DAN PRIESTLY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of United States Marine Sergeant Dan Priestly of Parma, Ohio, as we unite as a community to offer him our deepest gratitude for his dedicated service, and extend to him a warm welcome home.

Sergeant Priestly bravely and selflessly heeded the call to duty in Iraq, where he endured immense personal sacrifice on behalf of our country. On May 7, 2005, he was severely wounded when a roadside bomb exploded near his vehicle. Sergeant Priestly sustained major injuries to both legs, and has undergone weeks of intensive medical treatment and physical therapy.

As he journeys forward in his medical recovery, Sergeant Priestly consistently displays an unwavering resolve to heal—a determination energized and strengthened by the love of his family and friends. Sergeant Priestly lives his life with great joy and a deep sense of giving. His courageous spirit has bolstered his well-being and continues to be a source of inspiration for all.