among the dead. ''Now there is a terror here.''

Officials at the 1st Brigade said they were alerted at 8:45 a.m. when the National Police chief for Sucre reported a possible paramilitary ''incursion'' in Chengue. According to a military log, Parra dispatched two helicopters to the village at 9:30 a.m. and the Dragon company of 80 infantry soldiers based in nearby Pijiguay five minutes later. Villagers said the troops did not arrive for at least another two hours.

When they did arrive, according to logs and soldiers present that day, a gun battle erupted with guerrillas from the FARC's 35th Front. Parra said he sealed the roads into the zone ''to prevent the paramilitaries from escaping.'' The battle lasted all day—the air force sent in one Arpia and three Black Hawk helicopters at 2:10 p.m., according to the military—and village residents waved homemade white flags urging the military to shop shooting. No casualties were reported on either side. No paramilitary troops were captured.

Three days later, the 1st Brigade announced the arrest of eight people in connection with the killings. They were apprehended in San Onofre, a town 15 miles from Chengue known for a small paramilitary camp that patrols nearby ranches. Villagers say that, though they didn't see faces that morning because of the darkness, these ''old names'' are scapegoats and not the men who killed their families.

A steady flow of traffic now moves toward Ovejas, jeeps stuffed with everything from refrigerators to pool cues to family pictures. The marines have set up two base camps in Chengue—one under a large shade tree behind the village, the other in the vacant school. The remaining residents do not mix with the soldiers.

''We have taken back this town,'' said Maj. Alvaro Jimenez, standing in the square two days after the massacre. ''We are telling people we are here, that it is time to reclaim their village.''

No one plans to. Marlena Lopez, 52, lost three brothers, a nephew, a brother-in-law and her pink house. Her brother, Cesar Lopez, was the town telephone operator. He fled, she said, ''with nothing but his pants.''

In the ashes of her home, she weeps about the pain she can't manage. ''We are humble people,'' she said. ''Why in the world are we paying for this?''

RECOGNIZING THE MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION I STATE CHAMPIONS LUDLOW HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the achievements of the 2000 Ludlow High School girls soccer team. This past season the Ludlow girls team compiled a record of 21–0–0 en route to earning the Coombs Division League Championship, the Western Massachusetts Division I Championship, and the Massachusetts Division I State Championship. Their efforts enabled them to earn a ranking of 3rd in the country.

Each year the Commonwealth of Massachusetts fields many talented high school soccer squads. Every season the Ludlow community looks forward to cheering on their hometown heroes. This year the Lions certainly did not disappoint. Finishing a season undefeated and untied, as the Ludlow girls did, is a feat well deserving of high praise. The Ludlow girls soccer team rose to the challenge each and every game. They are winners in every sense of the word and are examples of athletic prowess, class, and true sportsmanship.

For leading his team to such accomplishments, Head Coach Jim Calheno has been named the Massachusetts Division I Girls' Coach of the Year. Under his leadership, the Lions have remained a perennial powerhouse. His assistants are tireless and deserve praise as well. In addition I would like to note that senior midfielder Liz Dyjak has earned All-American honors while senior forward Stephanie Santos has been named to the All-New England team.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to recognize here the players, coaches, and managers of the 2000 Ludlow High School girls soccer team. The seniors are: Jessica Vital, Lindsay Robillard, Sarah Davis, Lindsay Haluch, Nikky Gebo, Liz Dyjak, Kara Williamson, Stephanie Santos, and Ana Pereira. Kristine Goncalves is a Junior on the squad. The Sophomores are: Darcie Rickson, Beth Cochenour, Natalie Gebo, and Lauren Pereira. Freshmen members include Jessica Luszcz, and Stefiny Knight. The Head Coach is Jim Calheno. Assistant Coaches are Saul Chelo, James Annear, Nuno Pereira, and Tony Vital. The team manager is Katie Romansky.

Mr. Speaker, once again, allow me to send my congratulations to the Ludlow High School girls soccer team on their outstanding season. I wish them the best of luck in the 2001 season.

H.R. 93, THE FIREFIGHTERS RETIREMENT AGE CORRECTION ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I was a cosponsor of H.R. 460, the Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Correction Act in the 106th Congress and would have voted to support H.R. 93 yesterday. Unfortunately, due to an unforeseen family illness, I was absent and not able to vote in support of H.R. 93, the Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Correction Act. I would like the RECORD to reflect my support for H.R. 93.

RECOGNIZING BETTY FITZPATRICK

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to recognize Ms. Betty Fitzpatrick from Evergreen, Colorado, who was selected by the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) as the School Nurse Administrator of the year for 2000. Recently, NASN hosted an event for Ms. Fitzpatrick on Capitol Hill to honor her, and to applaud her for her excellent work on behalf of the public school children in my district.

As a former public school teacher, I had first-hand experience in seeing the hard work of our Nation's school nurses. All teachers know that being a good student require a degree of good health, and I appreciate the work of Ms. Fitzpatrick in organizing health efforts for the children in my district and wish to extend my personal congratulations.

It is important to note that the work of many school nurses, like Ms. Fitzpatrick, goes beyond the assistance they provide directly to students. They serve as mentors to their colleagues, and serve an array of needs ranging from medical ailments to counseling for a student who needs a listening ear. Betty Fitzpatrick, especially, has participated in training for and as a consultant to school nurses, to assist them in developing crisis plans, and in dealing with tragic situations.

Ms. Fitzpatrick has spent her personal and professional life advocating children's physical and mental health while supporting school nursing. For the past 11 years she has served as the Director of Health Services for all 136 Jefferson County Schools in Golden, Colorado. She has been the president and treasurer of her state organization, a prolific author, an advocate for legislation, a grant writer and a national presenter.

The NASN newsletter reported that aside from the day to day challenges of being a school nurse administrator, Ms. Fitzpatrick had the great misfortune of dealing with an incomprehensible tragedy, which took place at one of her high schools—Columbine. Within minutes, she was contacted, and her emergency plan was activated. She and her nurses didn't wait for instructions, they knew what needed to be done, and they got to work. As the newsletter stated, the Columbine tragedy wounded a nation, but Betty continues to meet the unique needs of this school community and the others she serves.

Again, I am delighted by this honor that Ms. Fitzpatrick has brought to the State of Colorado, and I offer my sincere congratulations.

HONORING GAYE LEBARON

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gaye LeBaron. For 43 years Gaye LeBaron's columns in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat have recorded and enlivened Sonoma County and the Redwood Empire. By personalizing the community's history and sense of place with honesty and good humor, LeBaron captured the respect and the hearts of her readers.

In her 8,000 columns LeBaron demonstrated that quality journalism can be witty, insightful, and compassionate. She worked as an observer and story teller, yet did not hesitate to take a stand—on issues as great as racial discrimination or as mundanely important as street lights—when it was needed. Whether focusing on the quirkiness of every day happenings or wrapping the reader in the sweep of North Coast history, Gaye LeBaron's colorful depictions made life what it is—interesting and personal.

LeBaron has also devoted her time and expertise to community causes through teaching,