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for Visit to Vilunda H.S. June 8, 1987

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SUGGESTED REMARKS FOR VISIT TO VILUNDA HIGH SCHOOL
Stockholm, Sweden
Monday, June 8, 1987

-- THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO BE HERE WITH YOU TODAY -- I
CERTAINLY ENJOYED THE CONCERT.

-- FIRST I'D LIKE TO THANK "ARTISTS AGAINST NARCOTICS" FOR WHAT
YOU'RE DOING TO FIGHT DRUG ABUSE AMONG THE YOUTH OF SWEDEN.
YOU'RE SETTING A WONDERFUL EXAMPLE.

-- I'D ALSO LIKE TO RECOGNIZE LARS BERGHAGEN [LARSH BERRY-HAAGEN]
WHO'S DEDICATED SO MUCH OF HIS TIME AND ENERGY TO THE FIGHT
AGAINST DRUGS IN SWEDEN. I KNOW THAT THE SUCCESS OF "ARTISTS
AGAINST NARCOTICS" IS DUE IN LARGE PART TO HIS PARTICIPATION.
THANK YOU, LARS [LARSH].

-- OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS, I'VE TRAVELED TO MANY SCHOOLS IN THE
UNITED STATES, AS WELL AS OTHER COUNTRIES, TO TALK TO YOUNG
PEOPLE ABOUT THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE. I'VE HEARD STORIES THAT
WOULD MAKE THE STRONGEST HEARTS BREAK. I KNOW THERE ARE SIMILAR
STORIES HERE IN SWEDEN. AND, OF COURSE, YOU KNOW THAT TOO.

-- I'VE JUST MET WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS IN UPPLANDS VASBY
[OPPLANDS VESBEE], AND WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH THEIR DEDICATION
AND COMMITMENT TO FIGHTING THIS PROBLEM. WE NEED EVERYONE'S HELP
IF WE'RE GOING TO WIN THE BATTLE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.

-- BOTH OF OUR COUNTRIES HAVE MADE GREAT PROGRESS IN UNDERSTANDING THIS PROBLEM. ONE OF THE MAJOR REASONS THE UNITED STATES HAS COME SO FAR IS BECAUSE THE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE NOW INVOLVED. THEY'VE ADOPTED THE SLOGAN, "JUST SAY NO" OR IN SWEDISH, "BARA SAG NEJ" [BAHRA-SAY-NAY]. THIS IS SIMILAR TO YOUR PARENTS GROUP'S MESSAGE: "SAY NO TO NARCOTICS."

-- THE FIRST "JUST SAY NO" CLUB IN THE U.S. WAS FORMED THREE YEARS AGO, AND NOW THERE ARE OVER 12,000 CLUBS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND THE WORLD. THEY'RE PEER GROUPS AGAINST DRUGS AND THEY'RE VERY, VERY EFFECTIVE. ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO PREVENT DRUG ABUSE IS BY YOUNG PEOPLE HELPING EACH OTHER TO SAY NO.

-- I HOPE EVERY ONE OF YOU WILL ALWAYS SAY NO TO DRUGS AND HELP YOUR FRIENDS AND CLASSMATES DO THE SAME THING. THE REASON IT'S IMPORTANT IS BECAUSE YOU'RE SWEDEN'S FUTURE LEADERS. YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU TO BE STRONG, CLEAR-THINKING INDIVIDUALS. DRUGS CAN TAKE AWAY YOUR STRENGTH AND YOUR COMMITMENT AND YOUR HOPE. JUST REMEMBER, WHEN YOU "BARA SAG NEJ" [BAHRA-SAY-NAY] TO DRUGS, YOU ARE SAYING YES TO EVERYTHING YOU LOVE AND EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO BE.

-- AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM.

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