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REMARKS FOR TESTIMONIAL DINNER
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1988

REVISED
10/20/88

-- THANK YOU FOR THAT WARM WELCOME AND FOR INVITING ME TO BE HERE THIS EVENING. AND LET ME THANK THE SPEAKERS FOR THE VERY KIND THINGS THEY SAID.

-- I THINK MY WORK AGAINST DRUG ABUSE HAS PROVIDED ME WITH THE MOST FULFILLING YEARS OF MY LIFE, AND PART OF THE REASON IS THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELVES WHO HAVE HELPED ME. AS YOU KNOW, IT'S BEEN A LONG, HARD ROAD. THERE'VE BEEN FRUSTRATIONS AND TEARS OVER THE YOUNG LIVES THAT WE DIDN'T REACH IN TIME. BUT

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THERE'S ALSO BEEN GREAT SATISFACTION AND JOY OVER THOSE WE DID REACH.

-- MANY OF YOU HERE THIS EVENING HAVE BEEN WITH ME FROM THE BEGINNING. THERE ARE SO MANY OF YOU -- I WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN THANKING EACH OF YOU. BUT I DO WANT TO SAY A SPECIAL THANKS TO KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL, NOT ONLY FOR COORDINATING THIS EVENING'S EVENT, BUT FOR YOUR TIRELESS EFFORTS IN THE DRUG FIGHT. WITH YOUR HELP -- AND THAT OF ALL THE GROUPS REPRESENTED TONIGHT -- WE'VE MADE PROGRESS, REAL PROGRESS AND IT IS PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE ATTITUDE TOWARDS DRUGS.

-- MUCH MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE, OF COURSE, AND I'M CERTAINLY NOT ABANDONING WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED. WHEN I GO BACK TO CALIFORNIA, IT WON'T BE THE END OF OUR EIGHT YEARS FIGHTING DRUG ABUSE. IT WILL SIMPLY BE A NEW CHAPTER. AND I'LL BE WITH EACH OF YOU IN SPIRIT AS WE CONTINUE DOING ALL WE CAN TO SAVE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

-- I MAY BE THE ONE BEING RECOGNIZED THIS EVENING, BUT YOU ARE THE ONES WHO DESERVE THE CREDIT. YOUR LEADERSHIP HAS GIVEN THE DIRECTION NEEDED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS. I COULD NEVER

HAVE GONE THIS FAR WITHOUT YOU -- WHEN I ASKED FOR YOUR HELP, YOU WERE THERE, AND I'LL ALWAYS BE INDEBTED TO YOU FOR THAT.

-- I TELL YOU, WE'VE ALL BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH TOGETHER THAT I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO SAY GOODBYE. SO INSTEAD, TO EACH OF YOU, I GIVE A VERY, VERY HEARTFELT THANK YOU AND A LITTLE WARNING: STAY NEAR YOUR PHONE, BECAUSE I'LL CONTINUE TO CALL ON YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE IN HELPING THOSE WHO NEED YOUR HELP SO BADLY.

-- GOOD NIGHT AND GOD BLESS YOU.

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