

Two weeks that changed Sweden

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This is the story about a society that two years ago woke up from peaceful dreams into a nightmare that was reality

Disaster had come to us and it was not in a remote country

This time we could not simply turn off the TV to avoid the scenes

- Sweden, sparsely populated,
- 9 million people
- High standard of living
- Awareness of the world around us

But, we are out of reach for
Any natural disaster

We have not been at war for
200 years

These facts have greatly influenced
the organisational structure of the
Swedish society

- *public institutions
- *foreign policy
- *defence policy
- *research

Then, the last week of 2004, when
20 000 Swedes spent Christmas along
The shores of Thailand and Sri Lanka.....

A tsunami.....

What is a tsunami?????

Chaos, total chaos

Swedes may be hurt, Swedes can have died!!!

2000 Swedes are missing!!!!

Pictures like these were shown.....





540 Swedes died

Parents lost their children

Children lost their parents

Swedes woke up

We are vulnerable!!

We are un-prepared!!

We are part of the world!!

And then, two weeks later.....



PARTIHALLARNA
SLAKTHUSET

MARIEHOLM

45 KARLSTAD

ANGERED

MARIEHOLM

E6 N



Thousands of homes without electricity

Without heating

Without telephone

FOR WEEKS!!!

In the aftermath:

- Greater concern for others outside our borders
 - Greater concern for sharing the burdens
 - Greater concern for promoting relevant science
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- * New Government approach to safety for society
 - * Establishment of a Swedish
 "Disaster Resilience Centre"
 - * Political turbulence

Thank you!