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Sent: Wed, 28 Aug 2013 18:55:58 -0400
From: "Jarrett, Valerie" <valerie.jarrett@who.eop.gov>
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Positive Reaction – March On Washington Remarks
[Positive Reaction -- March on Washington Remarks 8-28-13.docx](#)

From: Holzer, Benjamin
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2013 6:53 PM
To: Pfeiffer, Dan; Palmieri, Jennifer; Beirne Fallon, Katie; Carney, Jay; Earnest, Joshua R.; Lewis, Kevin S.; Smith, Jamie; Racusen, Rachel; Inouye, Shin; Vargas, Katherine; Aniskoff, Paulette; Quillian, Natalie; Keenan, Cody; O'Connor, Kyle; Valencia, Stephanie M.
Cc: Beechem, Stephanie
Subject: Positive Reaction – March On Washington Remarks

Fyi, thanks to Stephanie.

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Positive Reaction – March On Washington Remarks

8/28/13: George Stephanopoulos, ABC News: “President Barack Obama, Playing The Role Of Teacher And Preacher And President Today...Perhaps By Simply Speaking From That Podium As The First Black President, President Obama Fulfilled A Dream That Martin Luther King Didn't Say On That Day, But He Did Emphasize How Much Work Is Left To Be Done.” “GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: President Barack Obama, playing the role of teacher and preacher and president today. He told the story of that march 50 years ago, August 28th, 1963, The man who electrified it, Martin Luther King. And he said he is now the work of all of us to carry on the work of those heroes from 50 years ago, saying they did not die in vain. There's been so much progress in this country over the last 50 years, but there's still so much work to do. Cokie Roberts, perhaps by simply speaking from that podium as the first black president, President Obama fulfilled a dream that Martin Luther King didn't say on that day, but he did emphasize how much work is left to be done.” [ABC News, 8/28/13]

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CHARLES OGLETREE: Right. And he did that today.” [ABC News, 8/28/13]

8/28/13: Charles Ogletree, Harvard Law School: “What I Found Most Amazing In The Speech, And I

Hope People Understand It, The Humility As Opposed To Bravado. He's Not A Preacher, As You Said. He's Teacher, He's A President. And I Think That's Different. He's Not King And He's Not Trying To Be King. But I Think This Speech Is Going To Go Down As One Of The Greatest He's Ever Gave."

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DOUGLAS BRINKLEY, PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN: Well, I think it's one of the great speeches that Barack Obama's ever delivered. It had a theme of – the coalition of the conscience, he put it – about moral and economic justice. So, in President Obama's history, it's a seminal moment. But I think, most importantly, it's saying the struggle continues, and that we have to fight against, as the President said, the greed-mongers. There's a – it gets back to that 99-to-one notion that he ran on in his campaign – that we've got to pull together – and he started talking about everyday people that make a difference by lending a helping hand – very beautifully written." [CBS News, 8/28/13]

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"President Barack Obama was right: It wasn't as good. But, standing in the same spot at the foot of the Lincoln Memorial where Martin Luther King delivered his 'I Have a Dream' speech 50 years ago to the day, Obama defied the low expectations he set for himself and delivered a powerful oration underscoring the meaning of King's vision for all Americans, regardless of race, and the nation's next generation. King's work, and that of other fallen civil rights heroes, is not done, Obama said. 'They did not die in vain. Their victory was great,' he said. 'But we would dishonor those heroes, as well, to

suggest that the work of this nation is somehow complete. The arc of the moral universe may bend towards justice, but it doesn't bend on its own.'" [Politico, [8/28/13](#)]

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8/28/13: MSNBC’s Alex Wagner @alexwagner: Haven heard Potus this fired up & ready to go....since maybe before he was Potus. [Twitter.com, 8/28/13]

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8/28/13: Ben Feller @BenFellerNY: In marking King's legacy, Obama is speaking of the legacy HE wants - a nation where anyone can make it economically. All comes back to that. [Twitter.com, 8/28/13]

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8/28/13: Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz @DWStweets: Amen, Mr. President. #MOW50 pic.twitter.com/cMkV25UMYW [Twitter.com, 8/28/13]

8/28/13: Rep. Yvette D. Clarke @YvetteClarke: An extraordinary speech by President Obama: [http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/29/us/politics/where-king-stood-obama-reframes-a-dream-for-a-new-era.html?hp ...](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/29/us/politics/where-king-stood-obama-reframes-a-dream-for-a-new-era.html?hp...) #mlkdream50 #marchonwashington [Twitter.com, 8/28/13]

8/28/13: Rep. George Miller @askgeorge: RT If you agree with Pres. Obama: 'The arc of the moral universe may bend toward justice, but it doesn't bend on its own.' #MOW50 [Twitter.com, 8/28/13]

Media/Commentators

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Members of Congress

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8/28/13: Rep. Yvette D. Clarke @YvetteClarke: An extraordinary speech by President Obama: <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/29/us/politics/where-king-stood-obama-reframes-a-dream-for-a-new-era.html?hp> ... #mlkdream50 #marchonwashington [Twitter.com, 8/28/13]

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