

make sure that we're also putting a little pressure on you guys to figure out how do we make sure that the economy is working for everybody; how do we make sure that every child out there who's willing to work hard is going to be able to succeed; how do we make certain that working families across the country are sharing in growing productivity and that we're not simply creating an economy in which one segment of it is doing very well, but the rest of the folks are out there treading water.

So, Jeff, again, I want to thank you for your extraordinary work. I want to thank all of you for agreeing to participate.

Last point I'll make is that I'm not interested in photo ops, and I'm not interested in more meetings. I've got enough photo ops and enough meetings; I have a surplus of that. So I expect this to be a working group in which we

are coming up with some concrete deliverables. I don't think that we have to be trying to hit home runs every time. I think if we hit some singles and doubles, if we find some very specific things that this group can help us on and we can work on together, then we can build on that success, and in the aggregate, over time, this will have really made a difference at a critical juncture in our economy.

So thank you very much. And with that, I'm going to turn it over to you, Jeff.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:50 p.m. in Room 430 of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Jeffrey R. Immelt, chairman and chief executive officer, General Electric Co., in his capacity as Chair of the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness.

Statement on the Situation in Algeria *February 24, 2011*

I commend the Government of Algeria for taking an important step forward today by formally lifting the state of emergency that has been in place in Algeria for 19 years. This is a positive sign that the Government of Algeria is listening to the concerns and responding to the aspirations of its people, and we look forward to additional steps by the Government that enable the Algerian people to fully exercise their

universal rights, including freedom of expression, association, and assembly. The United States is committed to continuing our cooperation with the Government of Algeria as it works to represent and meet the needs of all Algerians. We will also continue speaking up for universal freedoms, justice, and the dignity of every human being.

Remarks at PBS's "The Motown Sound: In Performance at the White House" *February 24, 2011*

Good evening, everybody. Please have a seat. Tonight we continue one of my favorite traditions here at the White House by celebrating the music that's at the heart of the American story. And as we come to the end of Black History Month, I can't think of a better way to do it than by honoring the legendary sound of Motown.

I want to start by thanking our performers here tonight: Natasha Bedingfield, Sheryl Crow, Jamie Foxx, Gloria, Nick Jonas, Ledi, John Legend, Amber Riley, Mark Salling,

Seal, Jordin Sparks, Smokey Robinson, and because we weren't sure that was enough, we thought we might throw Stevie Wonder in there. And obviously, we are grateful for all the other Motown legends who are gracing us with their presence. Thank you for being here.

Over the years, this room has hosted some of the most talented musicians in the world, from classical to country. But Motown is different. No one knows exactly when jazz began. Nobody knows who the first person was to sing a freedom song. But we know where Motown