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**From:** Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2013 7:24 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: Politico: Obama wants country to appreciate Hillary

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Alec Ross [mailto: ]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2013 06:55 PM  
**To:** Cheryl Mills < ] Mills, Cheryl D  
**Subject:** Politico: Obama wants country to appreciate Hillary

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Politico

Obama wants country to appreciate Hillary <http://www.politico.com/politico44/2013/01/obama-wants-country-to-appreciate-hillary-155277.html>

By DONOVAN SLACK | 1/25/13 6:45 PM EST

President Barack Obama said Friday that he wanted to do a joint interview with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton because he wants the country to appreciate the extraordinary role she has played in his administration.

"Well, the main thing is I just wanted to have a chance to publicly say thank you, because I think Hillary will go down as one of the finest secretaries of state we've had," he told CBS News' Steve Kroft during the sitdown. "It has been a great collaboration over the last four years.

"I'm going to miss her, wish she was sticking around but she has logged in so many miles I can't begrudge her wanting to take it easy for a little bit," he said. "But I want the country to appreciate what an extraordinary role she's played during the course of my administration. A lot of the successes we've had internationally have been because of her hard work."

While it appeared rather like an endorsement for Clinton's possible political aspirations, possibly a future presidential run, he did not explicitly say so in the clip broadcast Friday. The rest of the interview is scheduled to air during "60 Minutes" on Sunday.

Clinton said during the interview that she agreed to be secretary of state after losing the Democratic nomination to Obama because she felt a duty to serve the country.

"One of the things that I say to people, because I think it helps them understand, I say look, in politics and in democracy, sometimes you win elections and sometimes you lose elections. And I worked very hard but I lost," she said. "And then President Obama asked me to be secretary of state and I said yes.

"And why did he ask me and why did I say yes? Because we both love our country."