**CNN: During Her Campaign, Secretary Clinton Was Set To “Face A Broader Challenge In What's Become Of [Libya] Since, As Secretary Of State In 2011, She Was The Public Face Of The U.S. Intervention To Push Out Its Longtime Strongman, Moammar Gadhafi.”** “Hillary Clinton has another Libya problem. She's already grappling with the political headaches from deleted emails and from the terror attack that left four Americans dead in Benghazi. But she'll face a broader challenge in what's become of the North African country since, as secretary of state in 2011, she was the public face of the U.S. intervention to push out its longtime strongman, Moammar Gadhafi.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN: Libya’s Plight Was “Creating An Opening For Republican Presidential Candidates To Question Clinton's Strategic Acumen And To Undermine Her Diplomatic Credentials.”** “Libya's lapse into the chaos of failed statehood has provided a breeding ground for terror and a haven for groups such as ISIS. Its plight is also creating an opening for Republican presidential candidates to question Clinton's strategic acumen and to undermine her diplomatic credentials, which will be at the center of her pitch that only she has the global experience needed to be president in a turbulent time.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN: Chaos In Libya Demonstrated In Part That Secretary Clinton Would “Have To Answer For Misfires In The Obama Administration's Wider Foreign Policy.”** “Gathering questions over Libya also point to one of the central complications of Clinton's campaign for the Democratic nomination, due to formally launch on Saturday: the fact that she must own a record at the State Department that lacks clear-cut diplomatic triumphs. She'll also have to answer for misfires in the Obama administration's wider foreign policy as GOP candidates who have not faced the same tough choices can nitpick her record with the advantage of hindsight.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN:** **Rand Paul “Has Called Libya A ‘Jihadist Wonderland’ And Hillary Clinton A ‘War Hawk’ In Questioning The Mission” In Benghazi.** “Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul, a GOP presidential candidate, has called Libya a ‘jihadist wonderland’ and Hillary Clinton a ‘war hawk’ in questioning the mission, which he is using to flesh out a wider critique that American military interventions in the Middle East have backfired badly.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**Rand Paul: “Somebody Needs To Ask Hillary Clinton, Was It A Good Idea To Topple Gadhafi In Libya? I Think It's A Disaster. Libya Is A Failed State. Someone Ought To Pay And Hillary Clinton Needs To Answer Questions About It.”** “‘Somebody needs to ask Hillary Clinton, was it a good idea to topple Gadhafi in Libya? I think it's a disaster. Libya is a failed state. Someone ought to pay and Hillary Clinton needs to answer questions about it,’ Paul said at an Iowa Republican Party Lincoln Dinner in Des Moines on May 16.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**Marco Rubio: “The Result In Libya Was A Protracted Conflict That Killed People, Destroyed Infrastructure And Left Behind The Conditions For The Rise Of Multiple Militias Who Refused To Lay Down Their Arms.”** “Another GOP presidential candidate, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, said in an interview with Charlie Rose of PBS in May that ‘the result in Libya was a protracted conflict that killed people, destroyed infrastructure and left behind the conditions for the rise of multiple militias who refused to lay down their arms.’” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**Jim Webb: “We Blew The Lid Off Of A Series Of Tribal Engagements. You Can't Get To The Tripoli Airport Right Now, Much Less Benghazi.”** “Concern over what has become of Libya is not confined to the Republican Party. Possible Democratic challenger Jim Webb, a former Virginia senator, complained in a recent appearance with CNN's Jake Tapper that: ‘We blew the lid off of a series of tribal engagements. You can't get to the Tripoli Airport right now, much less Benghazi.’” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**Secretary Clinton: “Imagine We Were Sitting Here And Benghazi Had Been Overrun, A City Of 700,000 People, And Tens Of Thousands Of People Had Been Slaughtered, Hundreds Of Thousands Had Fled…** **The Cries Would Be, ‘Why Did The United States Not Do Anything?’”** “‘Imagine we were sitting here and Benghazi had been overrun, a city of 700,000 people, and tens of thousands of people had been slaughtered, hundreds of thousands had fled,’ Clinton said on ABC's ‘This Week’ in March 2011. ‘The cries would be, “Why did the United States not do anything?”’” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN: “Torn By Tribalism, Ruled By Two Rival Parliaments And With Hundreds Of Civilians Killed During The Subsequent Civil War, Libya Is Suffering A Complete Breakdown Of Political Authority, Which Has Spurred The Rise Of A Host Of Terror Groups.”** “But when Gadhafi fell, he left a land of eviscerated political institutions ill-prepared for its sudden freedom. Torn by tribalism, ruled by two rival parliaments and with hundreds of civilians killed during the subsequent civil war, Libya is suffering a complete breakdown of political authority, which has spurred the rise of a host of terror groups.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN: Unrest In Libya Has “Spawned A Huge Refugee Crisis As Desperate Migrants Flee Across The Mediterranean On Overcrowded Boats.”** “But when Gadhafi fell, he left a land of eviscerated political institutions ill-prepared for its sudden freedom…The unrest has also spawned a huge refugee crisis as desperate migrants flee across the Mediterranean on overcrowded boats.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN: “ISIS Is Seeking To Expand Its Franchise In Libya And To Grab A Foothold From Which It Could Export Terror Across The Mediterranean To Europe.”** “ISIS is seeking to expand its franchise in Libya and to grab a foothold from which it could export terror across the Mediterranean to Europe. The surf literally ran with blood earlier this year when ISIS beheaded 21 Egyptian Christians in a show of brutality on a Libyan beach.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN:** **“While Some Experts Blame Libya's Interim Leaders Themselves For Not Doing Enough To Keep The Country Together After The War, Even Obama Admits That He Made Mistakes In Libya.”** “While some experts blame Libya's interim leaders themselves for not doing enough to keep the country together after the war, even Obama admits that he made mistakes in Libya. In an interview with The New York Times last year, he defended the intervention but said he should have asked, ‘Do we have an answer for the day after?’” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN:** **“For Clinton's Part, She Seemed To Indicate In Her Book ‘Hard Choices’ That She Knew All Along That Libya Would Face A Tough Road.”** “For Clinton's part, she seemed to indicate in her book ‘Hard Choices’ that she knew all along that Libya would face a tough road. ‘I was worried that the challenges ahead would prove overwhelming for even the most well-meaning transitional leaders,’ Clinton wrote. ‘If the new government could consolidate its authority, provide security, use oil revenues to rebuild, disarm the militias, and keep extremists out, then Libya would have a fighting chance at building a stable democracy. ‘If not, then the country would face very difficult challenges translating the hopes of a revolution into a free, secure, and prosperous future. And, as we soon learned, not only Libyans would suffer if they failed.’” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN: “Clinton Has Little Choice But To Own What Happened In Libya. An Email To Clinton In April 2012 From Her Former Top Adviser Jake Sullivan, Released Last Month, Appears To Show That Initially Her Aides Were Keen To Trumpet Her Role In The Intervention And Saw It As Legacy-Enhancing.”** [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**Jake Sullivan In April 2012: Secretary Clinton “Has Been A Critical Voice On Libya In Administration Deliberations, At NATO, And In Contact Group Meetings -- As Well As The Public Face Of The U.S. Effort In Libya.”** [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**Jake Sullivan In April 2012: Secretary Clinton “Was Instrumental In Securing The Authorization, Building The Coalition, And Tightening The Noose Around Qadhafi And His Regime.”** [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN: Former Defense Secretary Robert Gates Also Describes [Secretary Clinton’s] Pivotal Role In The Decision Making In His Memoir.** “Former Defense Secretary Robert Gates also describes her pivotal role in the decision making in his memoir. Gates said the intervention, which he initially opposed, split the administration down the middle, with heavy hitters such as Vice President Joe Biden and national security adviser Tom Donilon also against…‘In the final phase of the internal debate, Hillary threw her considerable clout behind Rice, Rhodes and Power,’ Gates wrote.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**University Of Texas Public Affairs Professor On Chaos In Libya: “We Haven't Gotten The Full Story Yet, But From Everything We Do Know, It Appears That Without [Secretary Clinton’s] Advocacy For This Intervention, It Wouldn't Have Happened.”** “Clinton's prominent role in the decision making on Libya was a political risk at the time, and it now threatens to return to haunt her four years on. ‘We haven't gotten the full story yet, but from everything we do know, it appears that without her advocacy for this intervention, it wouldn't have happened,’ said Alan Kuperman of the Lyndon B. Johnson school of Public Affairs at the University of Texas, who has studied the causes and outcome of the Libya operation.” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**CNN: “Some Critics Now Question Whether The Administration, Presumably Working From Intelligence Provided By Rebels, Miscalculated On Gadhafi's Intentions…[And] Did Not Do Enough To Consider The Consequences Of An Operation That Ended Up Toppling Gadhafi.”** “Some critics now question whether the administration, presumably working from intelligence provided by rebels, miscalculated on Gadhafi's intentions. And they say that the administration did not do enough to consider the consequences of an operation that ended up toppling Gadhafi. ‘If you were going to break this place, it was going to require enormous resources to keep it together,’ Kuperman said. ‘It would have required an occupation force, and it was clear that the U.S. did not have the stomach for that.’” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**University Of Texas Public Affairs Professor On Secretary Clinton’s Role In Libya: “She Screwed Up."** “Clinton's prominent role in the decision making on Libya was a political risk at the time, and it now threatens to return to haunt her four years on. ‘We haven't gotten the full story yet, but from everything we do know, it appears that without her advocacy for this intervention, it wouldn't have happened,’ said Alan Kuperman of the Lyndon B. Johnson school of Public Affairs at the University of Texas, who has studied the causes and outcome of the Libya operation…He concluded: ‘Did she screw up? Yes, she screwed up.’" [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]

**National Security Advisor To Clinton And Obama Derek Chollet: I Think That It Is Tempting Always In Hindsight To Say Libya Would Be Better Somehow If We Had Not Intervened… I Think That Is A Highly Dubious Proposition.”** “But one U.S. official involved with the planning of the Libya engagement defended Clinton's position. ‘I think that it is tempting always in hindsight to say Libya would be better somehow if we had not intervened,’ said Derek Chollet, a close national security adviser to Clinton and Obama at the time of the Libya operation. ‘I think that is a highly dubious proposition. It is one where, had we not intervened, the conversation we would be having is thousands and thousands of people died and Libya looks like Syria.’” [CNN, [6/8/15](http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/08/politics/hillary-clinton-libya-election-2016/index.html)]