

Clinton E-Mail on Libyan Conquest: We Came, We Saw, We Got Oil

Par [Ann Garrison](#)

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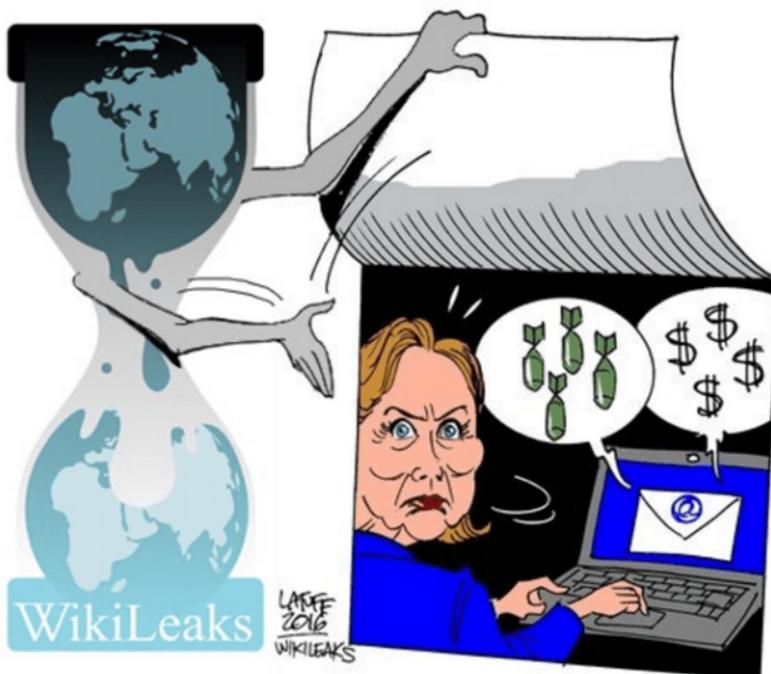
Région : [Middle East & North Africa, USA](#)

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On Oct. 20, 2011, Muammar Qaddafi was grotesquely murdered on camera. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton had said, "I want him dead," and after his death she made her famously imperial boast, "[We came, we saw, he died](#)," refiguring Julius Caesar's message to the Roman Senate after one of his conquests in the same Mediterranean region.

Less than a month later, in a Nov. 16, 2011, "Tripoli Situation Report" in Hillary Clinton's e-mail archive, "country managers of the three U.S. firms comprising the [Waha Group](#) (Marathon, Conoco Phillips and Amerada Hess) said meetings with its Libyan joint venture partner and the National Oil Company [NOC] this week were 'extremely positive' and that they were encouraged by an apparent sea change in the NOC's attitude toward its U.S. partners."



One would have had to be extraordinarily naive to believe that the U.S. and NATO attacked Libya to "stop genocide and mass atrocities," as Secretary of State Clinton, NSC advisor Samantha Power and U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice claimed at the time. Or to believe [Ambassador Rice, who traveled to Libya after the conquest and then traveled on to Rwanda](#), where she pronounced: "This time, the Security Council acted. And acted in time. Having failed in

Rwanda and Darfur, it did not fail again in Libya. Within less than two days, American firepower played a decisive role in stopping Qaddafi's forces and saving Benghazi." That should be enough to make anyone wonder what really happened in Rwanda and Darfur.

Most anyone paying serious attention knew that there was a lot of blood for oil involved in the NATO war on Libya, but now we have confirmation in the Wikileaks searchable database of Hillary Clinton's private e-mails, which were made available in response to a Freedom of Information Act request.

This particular e-mail also illustrates Secretary Clinton's interest in:

- 1) An official from the Central Bank of Libya's tour of Washington, London and New York to negotiate removal of restrictions on its assets,
- 2) U.N. control of Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) and cobalt in Libya,
- 3) Money to be made in "the country's reconstruction,"
- 3) U.S. ally Qatar's role in the 2011 creation of Libya Al-Ahrar TV, a channel broadcast by satellite from its headquarters in Doha, Qatar, and
- 4) U.S. educated and exiled Mahmoud Shammam, Al-Ahrar TV's co-founder, who had by then become Libya's new minister of communications.

On Oct. 25, 2011, [Mahmoud Shammam had told Telegraph.co.uk.video that Qaddafi had been buried in a secret location](#) that was not a Moslem cemetery.

I highlighted key text, spelled out acronyms, and corrected a few typos in this [Nov. 16, 2011, e-mail to Secretary Clinton](#) for easy reading:

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-20439 Doc No. C05783460

Date: 02/29/2016

RELEASE IN PART 1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2011 7:25 PM

To: H

Subject: Fw: Tripoli Situation Report — November 16, 2011

Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS on 02/29/2016 — Class: CONFIDENTIAL — Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(D) —

Fyi Declassify on: 11/16/2026

From: Abbaszadeh, Nima

Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2011 03:16 PM B1

To: Wells, Alice G; Sullivan, Jacob Cc: S_SpecialAssistants 1.4(B)

Subject: Tripoli Situation Report — November 16, 2011 1.4(D)

(SBU) [Sensitive But Unclassified]

(SBU) Waha Group returns: In a November 16 meeting with Ambassador, country managers of the three U.S. firms comprising the Waha Group (Marathon, ConocoPhillips and AmeradaHess) said meetings with its Libyan joint venture partner and the National Oil Company [NOC] this week were “extremely positive” and that they were encouraged by an apparent sea change in the NOC’s attitude toward its U.S. partners. The Waha Group, the only majors that have not yet resumed production in Libya, will visit its 7 fields for the first time in the coming weeks and will be producing 50,000-70,000 bpd before ramping up to 100,000 bpd by year’s end. The consortium will have to invest in some replacement parts and logistical equipment before it returns to last year’s production levels of 350,000 bpd. Initial production will come from its Samah and Dahrah, deemed the safest of its oil fields, while larger fields closer to Sine still face security issues.

(SBU) Waha continued: The TNC [Transitional National Government] likely will announce the formation of a Ministry of Petroleum in this interim period that will assume the regulatory role previously exercised by the NOC, they said. The favored candidate to lead the Ministry is Abdulrahman Benyeza, a respected and knowledgeable technocrat educated at the University of Texas. The TNC and NOC will be focused on production restoration for the next 18-24 months and it is unlikely they will risk the loss of time and money in reviewing contracts during this period. They welcomed a shift in attitude toward “partnership,” and noted with optimism that the country’s reconstruction will provide an economic driver largely absent from the Qadhafi-era kleptocracy.

(SBU)CBLassets: SamiRais, the Central Bank of Libya lead on frozen assets, said he is planning a tour of Washington, London and New York to appeal to the US, UK and UN to delist the CBL and lift remaining restrictions on its assets. Rais said the TNC will need funds to carry out any weapons-buyback programs and resolve the domestic liquidity crunch.

(SBU) IAEA: According to UNSMIL [United Nations Support Mission in Libya], IAEA is planning to visit Libya in early December. Based on Libya’s full compliance with its HEU [Highly Enriched Uranium] obligations in December 2009, the IAEA is satisfied that all of the GOL’s former nuclear weapons facilities are under appropriate safeguards but is concerned about the medical and commercial uses of cobalt and uranium.

(SBU) Libya Al-Ahrar TV: In a meeting with PAO, Libya Al-Ahrar [TV] Executive Manager Seraj Beshti dismissed rumors about Qatar’s purported “60 days’ notice” and eventual expulsion order for the network to leave Doha. Beshti noted that some financial issues have arisen with the Qatari government; salaries are delayed and at some point the Qataris did ask the network to reduce its staff footprint. However, Beshti affirmed that Doha has never interfered with the channel programming or news editorials. Beshti said that within the network’s offices there is debate about the proper role and longevity of Minister of Communications Mahmoud Shammam’s tenure at the station. Although Shammam founded the network, there is growing discomfort with him retaining a management position- albeit an absentee position- while retaining a government post in Tripoli. Following November 14 protests by the Warshafana tribe regarding comments made by Shammam, the network issued a formal apology but further stoked debate

and dissent within the network's offices regarding Shammam's role.

Oakland writer Ann Garrison writes for the [San Francisco Bay View](#), *Black Agenda Report*, *Black Star News*, [Counterpunch](#) and her own website, [Ann Garrison](#), and produces for [AfrobeatRadio](#) on WBAI-NYC, [KPFA Evening News](#), [KPFA Flashpoints](#) and for her own YouTube Channel, [AnnieGetYourGang](#). She can be reached at anniegarrison@gmail.com. In March 2014 she was awarded the [Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza Democracy and Peace Prize](#) for promoting peace in the Great Lakes Region of Africa through her reporting.

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