

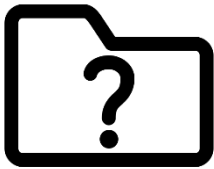
# During military forum, Clinton defended her record while Trump tried to show he has the temperament to be POTUS

## Main takeaways from the Commander-in-Chief Forum



### Clinton continued to fight her email server controversy

- Clinton was repeatedly asked about her use of a private email server
- The major concern was whether her email use indicated a lack of judgment when handling sensitive national security information



### Trump praised his “secret” plan to defeat ISIS

- Trump criticized Obama’s leadership of the military saying the generals have been “reduced to rubble”
- Trump continued to keep his plan to defeat ISIS secret, saying it was important to maintain secrecy, while acknowledging he is open to advice from the military on how to defeat ISIS



### Clinton attempted to counter perception she is a hawk on national security issues

- Clinton admitted Iraq war vote was a mistake
- She said she would not send ground troops into Iraq and Syria
- Clinton defended Libya action as a necessary humanitarian intervention



### Trump eschewed conventional rhetoric by praising Putin and questioning gender integration in the military

- Trump praised Putin for his “strong” leadership and said there was room for greater U.S. - Russian cooperation
- When asked about sexual assault in the military, Trump responded that it should not be surprising given the integration of male and female service members in the armed forces

Sources: Jonathan Easley and Jonathan Swan, “5 takeaways from Trump and Clinton’s military forum,” *The Hill*, September 7, 2016; Ben Watson et al, “D Brief: September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016,” *Defense One*, September 8, 2016; Ted Johnson, “Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump Go Back to Back in Commander-in-Chief Forum,” *Variety*, September 7, 2016; Anothy Zurcher, “U.S. elections: six times Clinton or Trump messed up,” *BBC*, September 8, 2016; Noun Project: Lorena Salagre, le garage studio, Rockicon Elizabeth.