

***The Accidental Statesman:
General Petraeus and the City
of Mosul, Iraq, Abridged***



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Background/History

- On April 20, 2003, Colonel Anderson entered Mosul
- The city was devastated from war and looting
- On February 6, 2003, the 101st would be part of Operation Iraqi Freedom
- On Friday April 18, they realized they would be sent North
- Colonel Anderson found out that Mosul was a danger zone. They decided to occupy the city.



Primary Actors

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- Colonel Joe Anderson
- Colonel Benjamin Hodges
- Colonel Michael Linnington
- Major General David Petraeus

Key Issues

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- ORHA or CPA
- Petraeus - "Hands-On"
- Syrian Border
 - Kurds
- Former Military
 - Education

Resolutions

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- Involved the Iraqi people with the reconstruction efforts in Mosul
- Reestablished some form of normalcy
- Took responsibility for their actions

Resolutions Cont.

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- Took part in local customs
- Utilized soldiers in the completion and management of public works projects
- Sought outside help
- CERP (Commander's Emergency Response Program)

Alternative Courses of Action

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- Rather than having militant like-minded individuals responsible for nation building, other, more politically attuned organizations should have been involved.
- Rather than long-term "U.S. national interest" implementation, there should have been more attention paid to Iraqi national interest.

Discussion Questions

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- Should or could General Petraeus have handled the situation presented to him more efficiently?
- **What problems can occur when a foreign entity tries to rebuild an area? How can these problems be resolved?**
- Do you think General Petraeus's decision to hand over authority and control to Iraqis as quickly as possible was the best course of action? Why or why not?
- **What leadership style would best fit the role of General Petraeus and his duties?**