

Jassoum of Mesopotamia's Seven Pillars of Development

Lieutenant Colonel Brad Jackson, Executive Director of the Franklin County Industrial Development Agency, served with Ambassador Paul Bremmer at the Coalition Provisional Administration (CPA) Headquarters from April 2003 to February 2004. Lieutenant Colonel Jackson served as an Advisor – rising to Senior Advisor – to the Iraq Ministry of Industry and Minerals (MIM) (Iraq's holding company for state owned enterprises and inward investment agency). As a long serving Civil Affairs Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Jackson was serving as an Army economist and economic development officer for the 353rd Civil Affairs Command when he was called up for active duty on 13 January 2003. Having fought the war on the Corps Headquarters staff for LTG William Wallace - the ground forces commander– he was reassigned on Easter Sunday to fall in on the Civil Affairs command in support of Jay Garner's Office for Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance in Baghdad, which ultimately transitioned to the CPA.

As a MIM advisor, Lieutenant Colonel Jackson activities included everything from getting Iraq's State Owned Enterprises (SOE's) to resume post war operations to transitioning the MIM from a socialist era holding company for SOE's to a market focused inward investment agency for the Country. He succeeded in obtaining \$260 million from the 2003 Madrid Donors conference to implement the MIM's market oriented transition. He also participated as a representative for the CPA and the MIM on the initial conference with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on Iraq's debt forgiveness.

Rajiv Chandrasekaran a Washington Post correspondent was a witness to the early events in Baghdad and observed closely the efforts of the initial Senior Advisor to the MIM, Ambassador Tim Carney. While on sabbatical with the Visiting Scholar Program at The Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies Rajiv Chadrasakarian assembled his notes and interviewed sources for his award winning book "Imperial Life in the Emerald City," a publication on Iraq's post war reconstruction efforts. In this publication Rajiv singles out the Civil Affairs Activities of Lieutenant Colonel Jackson's team as one of the few positive developments in the tenure of the CPA. During his interviews with Rajiv Chandrasekaran in the spring of 2005, Lieutenant Colonel Jackson presented his Seven Pillars and developed the following discussion. These pillars which represent enduring principles that were compromised are pertinent to economic development in Iraq as well as Franklin County. What follows is his discussion of the seven pillars.