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Final Paper

You will use chapter 15, “Crazy, If Not Suicidal,” of *Imperial Life in the Emerald City*, pp. 260-277, as the basis for your final paper. In this chapter Chandrasekaran describes a routine mission in Sadr City that turns into a difficult situation. He gives some backstory and also carries the chapter beyond the conclusion of the specific episode to discuss more general matters. You need to decide on a thesis, which will depend on what you want to do with the chapter. (You are not required to discuss all of the chapter.)

Here are three possibilities for topics:

1. Certain aspects of the chapter are similar to what happened in Vietnam. You might develop this into a workable topic.
2. The narrative of the mission is skillfully written to present a central idea, which would also be the thesis of your paper on it. How does the author use details to support his idea? How does the narrative move from beginning to middle to end? How does he create the atmosphere of the account, the emotion of it?
3. The chapter might be read as an indictment of American attitudes and actions in Iraq at the time. If you decide to write on this, you will need to specify what attitudes and actions and support this thesis with specific examples from the chapter.

Your paper should be five full pages, **numbered**, and with an informative title. Your name and other information should be placed in the upper righthand corner on the **BACK** of the **LAST** page of your paper, like this:

Last name, first or initial
Final Paper
Barnett

You’ve had one paper to practice on: this time it must be done right.

Remember that you are required to hand in your first paper with your final paper. I will return both at the exam.