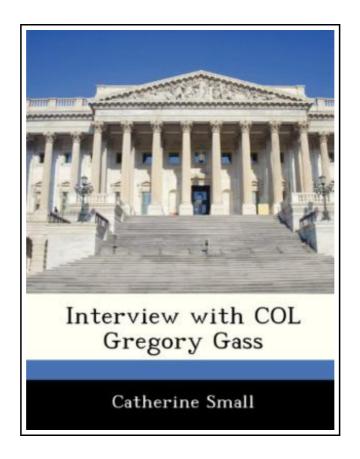
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(Talia Cormier)

INTERVIEW WITH COL GREGORY GASS



Bibliogov, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Colonel Gregory Gass was the brigade commander for the 101st Aviation Brigade, during both OIF I and II, deploying in January of 2003 and returning home in February 2004. Interviewed alongside his colonel was Major John White, the brigade executive officer beginning in September 2003. As part of an aviation brigade, Gass and White begin by discussing how the harsh desert conditions affected their journey to northern Iraq. According to Gass, We then went to Iskandariyah, which is the last place the brigade was before it went up north to Mosul. It was extremely difficult from the day we crossed the berm all the way up until the day we left Iskandariyah. Sand and helicopters just do not mix very well. It takes a tremendous amount of effort from platoon sergeants, maintenance officers and crew chiefs to be able to keep aircraft flying. We did, but only because of the great ingenuity of the great 20- and 25-year-old kids out there and their noncommissioned officers who were keeping airplanes flying because they were working themselves to death. Gass and White also discuss stability operations in terms of their role as an aviation brigade. They primarily saw themselves as a support mechanism for those units really doing the stability ops work. One of the brigade s early primary missions was flying reconnaissance and security missions and looking for improvised explosive devices along the routes. They also had a quick reaction force ready to respond to any types of fires along the pipelines started by insurgents. The aviation brigade did run into equipment problems, particularly with not being effectively equipped with the needed aviation parts, apparently because the Air Force...



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