

BOARD ADVICE

First, understand that this advice is opinion.

PREPARING FOR THE BOARD:

You should, at very least, be able to answer all of the questions on the following pages, and be extremely familiar with the references in the SAMC Fort Gordon Chapter Study Guide.

Use regulations, field manuals, and soldier training publications as your primary references for the subject areas. Many regulations have changed over the past 10 years so there are errors or outdated information in almost every study guide. Bottom line--don't spend \$29.00 for something that is there for free. Additionally, you will find that some members of the board frown on the use of study manuals as your primary source, (Even if some of them pull their questions from them). I recommend that you personally visit each family/soldier support agency (AER, ACS, Chaplain, BOSS, EFMP, etc.) on your installation. You will probably find that you are not the first person preparing for the SAMC board to come to them asking for an overview of the installation-specific operations. This will give you the exact location and procedures for the specific offices, as well as points of contact and phone numbers. Put them in your leader book.

APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD:

You should be prepared to explain:

- Why you feel you should be inducted into the SAMC?
- Why you want to become a member of the SAMC?
- What you feel you will contribute to the organization?
- What qualities of yours are similar to those of Audie Murphy?
- You should be prepared to give a brief background of yourself and you may consider covering the following:
 - Your family
 - Military Service-assignments, duty positions, education, achievements (Don't be shy, they have this information available to them, but it also gives them an opportunity to check out your ability to express yourself--lack of confidence kills, but arrogance destroys, so find the middle ground)
 - Civilian Education
 - Community Service
 - Short and Long Term Goals

Be prepared to answer situational questions. Understand that these questions are meant to be honored honestly about how you will handle the situation. But also be prepared to explain what regulations or policies support the plan of action you would impose. Here are some examples.

- Why do you feel we (our installation) get so many DUIs?
- What would you recommend we do to reduce the number of DUIs?
- You have a SSG assigned as your subordinate. He and his wife are out at a local recreation area fishing, and he has been drinking alcohol. On the way home, he gets stopped and gets a DUI. He has been a stellar performer and takes excellent care of his

soldiers. You are now making your recommendation to your BN CDR on your recommendation for punishment under the UCMJ. What is your recommendation?

- Now, this same SSG and his wife have been fishing. He has been drinking alcohol, but she has not. She is the designated driver. However, she gets bitten by a poisonous snake. He gets a DUI while rushing her to the hospital. What would your recommendation be now?

You should be prepared to recite the Sergeant Audie Murphy Bio (verbatim), NCO Creed, Soldier Creed, , and sing the ARMY Song.

You should also be prepared to conduct several hands on evaluations prior to and during the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Selection Boards. The SAMC final selection board will be consist of five components including (1) board recommendation packet submission, (2) APFT, (3) weigh in, (4) performance test and (5) a formal board appearance. Candidates have to pass each section in order to advance to next evaluation.

You must be able to BE, KNOW and DO the very things you have been questioned about and answered successfully during your previous Sergeant Audie Murphy Club nomination Boards.

On the following pages you will find helpful study information. Do not limit your areas of study to these areas. This is a starting point. One of your most valuable resources will be your peers. So again, participate in study groups to keep each other motivated and seek advice from current members about their board experience. Not all boards are the same but it will at least give you a foundation to begin with.

You need to know...

- Audie of biography complete
- The history of the SAMC
- How to describe the crest and what everything on it represents
- Why you want to be inducted into the club
- Why you should be inducted into the club
- What traits you share with Audie Murphy
- What you have done recently to separate yourself from your peers
- The NCO Creed
- The NCO Charge
- The NCO Vision
- The proper name for everything on your uniform and the proper placement of those items.
- The number of former Sergeants Major of the Army, their names, and which ones have passed away

AUDIE MURPHY BIOGRAPHY

Audie Leon Murphy was a legend in his own time: A war hero, movie actor, writer of country and western songs, and poet. His biography read more like fiction than fact. He lived only 46 years, but made a lasting impression on American history.

Audie was born on a sharecropper's farm in North Texas on June 20, 1924. As a boy, he chopped cotton for one dollar a day and was noted for his feats of derring-do and his accuracy with a gun. He had only 5 years of schooling and was orphaned at age 16. After being refused enlistment during World War II in both the Marines and Paratroopers for being too small (5'5") and underweight (110 lbs.), he enlisted in the U.S. Army a few days after his 18th birthday. After basic training at Camp Wolters, Texas, and advanced training at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, Audie was sent overseas. He was assigned to the famous 15th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division where he fought in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France, and Germany. He earned a battlefield commission for his courage and leadership ability, as well as, citations and decorations including every medal for valor that America gives. He was also awarded one Belgian and three French medals.

Lieutenant Audie Murphy is the highest decorated soldier in American history. Discharged from the Army on September 21, 1945, Audie went to Hollywood at the invitation of movie star James Cagney. He remained in California for the rest of his life and was closely associated with the movie industry, both as an actor and a producer. He acted in 44 films starring in 39 of them. His best known film is "To Hell and Back", adapted from the bestselling book of his war experiences by the same name. Most of his movies were westerns. In 1955, Audie Murphy was voted the Most Popular Western Actor in America by the Motion Picture Exhibitors. Audie wrote the lyrics to 16 country and western songs, the most popular of which "Shutters and Boards", was written with Scott Turner in 1962. The song was recorded by over 30 pop singers, including Jerry Wallace, Dean Martin, and Porter Waggoner. He was an accomplished poet; unfortunately, only a few of his poems have survived. In 1950 Audie joined the 36th Infantry Division ("T-Patchers") of the Texas National Guard and served with it until 1966. He was a Mason and a Shriner and belonged to several veterans' organizations. Audie Murphy was killed in a plane crash on a mountain top near Roanoke, Virginia on May 28, 1971. Fittingly, his body was recovered 2 days later on Memorial Day.

The History of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club

The original club was started at Fort Hood, Texas early in 1986. There were several key people at Fort Hood - officer, enlisted, civil service, and a Killeen civilian - who were instrumental in getting this club up and running.

Leading the effort was Lieutenant General Crosbie Saint, then the III Corps commander; his Command Sergeant Major George L. Horvath; III Corps Awards Clerk Jean Crisp, who is now Test and Experimentation Command (TEXCOM) awards clerk, and Don Moore, a Killeen artist who assisted with designing the logo and club awards.

In 1991, then III Corps Commander Lieutenant General Pete Taylor and Command Sergeant Major Richard B. Cayton expanded the Fort Hood installation club to include all of III Corps. This included Fort Riley, Kansas; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Polk, Louisiana; and Fort Carson, Colorado.

In 1993, CSM Cayton was voted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club by the membership and then became the Forces Command Sergeant Major. Soon thereafter, the club became Forces-Command (FORSCOM) wide, including the Reserves and National Guard.

In 1994 at a Sergeant Major of the Army conference, the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club spread Army-wide, to all commands with installations retaining the selection process for their own NCOs. In 1998, it was estimated that the club membership was over 3000 soldiers and was steadily increasing.

The Crest

The crest was designed by one of the original organizers of the club, Mr. Don Moore, Illustrator of Killeen, Texas. The crest depicts the symbols of the majestic American Bald Eagle superimposed over the olive branch-wreath, saber, and lightning bolt. In front of the eagle are the U.S. Army staff sergeant stripes. The eagle firmly clutches in both claws a powder-blue banner, the color of the infantry. On the banner are displayed words Loyalty, Caring, Discipline, and Professionalism.

The Motto

"You lead from the front."

... Audie Murphy

The Medallion



When a soldier is inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, he/she is given the medallion above which is approximately 2 inches in diameter. The medallion is suspended by a broad powder-blue ribbon representing the traditional color of the infantry. The medallion is worn around the neck on the outside of the Class A or Dress Blue uniform for official functions such as military balls or Sergeant Audie Murphy Club meetings. The image above is a drawing of the front view of the medallion. The image below is the back view. The actual medallion is silver in color.



ARMY HISTORY

DATE	EVENT
1775-1783	The Revolutionary War
10 May 1775	The Battle of Fort Ticonderoga (The action for which the Army was awarded its first battle streamer.
14 Jun 1775	The Infantry branch was established. (6 companies of expert riflemen formed in Pennsylvania, 2 companies in Maryland, and 2 companies in Virginia.
03 Jul 1775	George Washington became the first Commander in Chief of the Continental Army.
04 Jul 1776	The Declaration of Independence established.
1778	Baron Fredrich Von Steuben gave the Army its first real training at Valley Forge during the winter.
1787	Constitution written.
1812-1815	The War of 1812.
1861-1865	The Civil War
12 Jun 1862	Congressional Act established the Medal of Honor (preceded by the Badge of Military Merit)
1898	Spanish –American War (US emerged as a world power)
16 Aug 1903	The first Chief of Staff took office
1908	LT Edmund L. Gruber composed “The Caisson Song” which was later known as “The Army Goes Rolling Along”
1926	Air Service changed to the Army Air Corp
03 Mar 1931	“The Star Spangled Banner” became the National Anthem (title 36, USC 170)
07 Dec 1941	Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.
06 Jun 1944	D-Day commenced. Known as “Operation Overlord”—password used was “Mickey Mouse”
12 May 1945	VE-day, Germany surrendered
06 Aug 1945	Atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima by the Enola Gay
09 Aug 1945	Atom bomb dropped on Nagasaki
1947	The National Security Act of 1947 established the Department of the Army. Previously known as the War Department.
Sep 1947	Air Force separated from the Army
10 Aug 1949	Department of Defense created.
May 1950	UCMJ was enacted
17 Aug 1955	President Eisenhower signed the Code of Conduct
14 Jun 1956	The Army Flag was dedicated
11 Nov 1956	The Secretary of the Army dedicated the Army Song.
12 Dec 1957	The Army officially announced that “The Army Goes Rolling Along” was the official Army song.
1959	The draft was extended until this year due to the outbreak of the Korean War.
04 Jul 1966	Position of the SMA established. 1 ST SMA was SMA Wooldridge.
1968	Tet Offensive in Vietnam began.
1968	The North Korean Forces captured the American spy ship USS Pueblo.
1973	Majority of American troops pulled out of Vietnam
25 Oct 1983	Operation Urgent Fury (Grenada) commenced
1989	Operation Just Cause (Panama) commenced. Consisted of elements of the XVIII ABC, 82 nd ABN Div, 7 th ID, 75 th Ranger Regt, a Joint Special Operations Task Force and US Marines.
Early 1990S	Operations Restore Hope (Somalia) and Support Hope (Rwanda) commenced

Jan1991	The Air War in Kuwait and Iraq began at 0238L on 17 Jan (0638 EST on 16 Jan)
1991	Operation Uphold Democracy (Haiti) Commenced
1 Feb 1992	US and Russia sign a treaty officially ending the Cold War
Mid 1990S	Operation Allied Force (Kosovo) commenced
11 Sep 2001	Terrorists attacked the US. (Pentagon and World Trade Centers). Known as 9-11.
07 Oct 2001	Operation Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle Begins
Apr 2003	Operation Iraqi Freedom Begins.

SAMPLE SERGEANT AUDIE MURPHY CLUB BOARD QUESTIONS

Sergeant Audie Murphy Information

Q: Where and when was Audie Murphy born?

Q: How many years of schooling did Audie Murphy have?

Q: At what age was Audie Murphy orphaned?

Q: Where did Audie Murphy do basic training?

Q: Where did Audie Murphy do advanced training?

Q: What unit was Audie Murphy assigned to during World War II?

Q: Where did Audie Murphy fight during WWII?

Q: What was the Service Number of Audie Murphy?

Q: What U.S. awards did Audie Murphy earn?

Q: Name the six foreign awards that Audie Murphy earned during WWII?

Q: How many movies did Audie Murphy act in?

Q: Name five movies that Audie Murphy acted in.

Q: How many songs were written by Audie Murphy?

Q: Name five of the songs written by Audie Murphy.

Q: What movie star invited Audie Murphy to Hollywood?

Q: What movie was adapted from the book of Audie Murphy's war experiences?

Q: Which unit of the Texas Army National Guard did Audie Murphy join in 1950?

Q: What is significant about the year 1955 for Audie Murphy?

Q: Was Audie Murphy a member of any fraternal organizations?

Q: When and how did AUDIE MURPHY die?

SERGEANT AUDIE MURPHY Club Program

Q: What regulation(s) cover the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Program?

Q: According to the above regulations, what is the purpose of induction into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club?

Q: According to the regulations, what is the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club?

Q: When and where was the original Sergeant Audie Murphy Club started?

Q: Who designed the SAMC logo?

Q: What do the three stars separating the S*A*M*C in the crest represent?

Q: Why is SSG rank insignia included in the crest?

Q: What does the eagle represent?

Q: What does the laurel represent?

Q: What does the lightning bolt represent?

Q: What does the sword represent?

Q: What do the streamers represent?

Q: What is the SAMC motto?

Q: How many times was Audie Murphy married?

Q: What are the names of Audie Murphy's wife/wives and children?

Q: How many injuries did Audie Murphy receive during the war?

Q: What illness repeatedly sent Audie Murphy to the hospital during the war?

Q: What did Audie Murphy speak before Congress about?

Q: What year did the SAMC Medallion change?

Q: What change was made to the medallion?

SAMPLE SITUATIONAL QUESTIONS

1. Your assistant Squad Leader fails to show up to formation. Following formation, your Platoon Sergeant tells you to go find out why the NCO was late. You go to the barracks and knock on the door a few times, but no one answers. You knock on the door again then you open the door and call out to the NCO. After calling the NCO, he and a female Lieutenant from the company come from under the cover half naked. There are empty alcohol bottles all around the room, a large pickle jar that is filled with a yellow fluid, and rolling papers and ashes on the dresser. What do you do?
2. While driving home from PT you come upon a two-car accident with two bodies hanging out of the cars. There are no other vehicles on this road. What do you do?
3. You are the Range Safety Officer on an M16 range. You notice that a soldier in the middle of the line has fell out while in the prone position and has dropped his weapon. It is summer time. What do you do?
4. A soldier asks you about Von Stueben, what can you tell him about his position in the US Army? (He was the IG)
5. What are the five chapters in FM 7-22.7? (NCO History and Background, Duties and Responsibilities, Leadership, Training, and Counseling and Mentorship)
6. Explain one of the vignettes that are listed in FM 22-100 or FM 7-22.7.
7. What does AR 600-20 state about the NCO Support Channel?

8. You have just been tasked to run the M16 zero range. What are the steps that you will take from now until the time you turn in weapons after the range is complete?
9. Tell us about the position of the Sergeant Major of the Army.
10. When are the only times that the National Flag will be saluted
11. You have just received a new soldier that has five children. Explain three different agencies that could assist his family.
12. You have just been appointed as the NCOIC for a funeral detail. What actions or steps do you take in order to execute your mission?
13. When can a record APFT be done? What happens if a soldier fails it? What happens if a soldier fails it a second time?
14. A soldier in a defensive position does not understand the range card. How would you explain the range card to him?
15. While going to the motor pool, a soldier asks about the different levels of maintenance. How many levels are there, and what are they? (5-operator, unit, DS, GS, and depot)
16. On Friday, a soldier asks you when he is authorized to wear his uniform. What do you tell him? When is the uniform not authorized to be worn?
17. Tell me about an ethical dilemma.
18. While getting ready to conduct an inspection, one of your squad leaders is unsure about inspections. What do you tell him are the two types of inspections?
19. In regards to training management, tell me about the training management cycle.
20. What are the steps for employing the Claymore Mine?
21. You are the NCOIC of a site that has just received a Risk Assessment Code (RAC) of 2 that cannot be fixed within the next 30 days. What type of plan would you implement at your site and what would it include?
22. If you are the NCOIC of a confidence course and you realize that one of the obstacles is unusually wobbly, what actions would you take?
23. What are the five guidelines for delegating authority? Give an example of each.
24. What are the three stages of building teams? Explain each.

25. You are the Platoon Sergeant with a soldier who is going to receive an Article 15. Can you deliver the DA Form 2827 (Article 15) and inform him or her of his or her rights?

26. The Platoon Sergeant in your platoon has just been relieved of duty. The company leadership decides to put the highest-ranking Staff Sergeant in the company as the next Platoon Sergeant. How do they determine the highest-ranking Staff Sergeant?

27. You are in Rolla when you see a soldier in the Class A uniform arguing with a civilian and about to get into a fight. What actions do you take? While correcting the soldier, he gets belligerent with you. What do you do?

28. You have two soldiers in your squad that do not get along with each other. On the following Monday during PT you notice that the soldiers continue to stare at each other. The soldiers both just received new tattoos. The white soldier has a swastika and the black soldier has a black fist. What actions do you take?

29. You have a soldier that comes up to you scared and tells you that he is a homosexual and is scared that the other soldiers in the platoon are going to hurt him. What do you do?

30. Two days before this incident, your platoon received a warning order to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. What actions, if any, would you change?

31. Your platoon just received five new soldiers. Four of the soldiers keep saying that the other soldier is homosexual. The soldier speaks like the "stereotypical homosexual." What actions do you take as the Squad Leader? As the Platoon Sergeant?

32. You are tasked to obtain a new staff to replace the one that is holding the company guidon. At the supply room you find staffs that are 10'3", 9'6", 7'9", and 7'. Which one do you take and why?

33. There are five Department of the Army Saluting Stations. Where are they located?

34. You are the NCO tasked with setting up the ceremonies that occur on Memorial Day. What things do you need to ensure happen?

35. What do you do if a soldier refuses to obey your order because he says that you have no authority over him?

36. What is the NCO Vision? Explain it in your own words.

** The Manual of Courts Martial, 2002, states, "All commissioned officers, warrant officers, and noncommissioned officers are authorized to stop quarrels, frays and disorders among peer subject to the code..."

Candidate Packet

Candidate Packet Preparation

- Ensure you follow the formatted guidelines set in the Fort Detrick Board SOP
- Ensure you do not forward your packet to the next level without the proper documents needed
- Ensure you do not forward your packet to the next level with documents that are prepared for the next higher level to sign, these will be added after you have been selected for the next level
- Ensure you use your resources around you and those SAMC members, that know and understand the documentation required for the packet
- Ensure you read all documents closely for error's and practice your Performance Test areas over and over again
- Use the SAMC Fort Detrick Chapter Study Packet, Study Hall and board checklists to your advantage, to include the sample packet provided with this document

SFC John Doe

SFC John Doe was born in Harlem, New York on June 24, 1975 and raised in Pemberton, New Jersey. SFC John Doe spent his childhood as a Navy dependent. He has lived in Hampton, VA, Anchorage Mexico, and Pemberton New Jersey where his father retired. He graduated from Lofton High School in 1993.

SFC Doe enlisted in the United States Army in September 1993 as a 91B, Combat Dentist. He attended basic training at Ft Jackson, SC and Advanced individual training at Ft Sam Houston, TX. His first duty assignment was with the 3rd Infantry Division in Kitzingen, Germany from January 1993 to April 1997. He graduated PLDC on the Commandant's list in Ansbach, Germany in 1998. In 1998 he went to FT Hood, TX and served with the 27th MSB of the 1st Cavalry Division. While with the 27th MSB he served as the Treatment squad leader and was inducted into the Amino Acid Society. He attended and completed BNCOC on the commandant's list. SFC Doe then went to the Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine in 2001 where he was the Operations NCO. While at CHPPM, SFC Doe won the Dental Hygiene Quality Advocate of the Year for 2002. SFC Doe then returned to Germany to serve with the 22nd Military Police Company in Wurzburg, where he served as Platoon Sergeant for the Headquarters Company in August 2005. With the 212th MP Co, he attended ANCO. He then returned stateside in September of 2005 and is now stationed at Tingay Dental Clinic at Fort Gordon, GA.

SFC Doe's military and civilian education includes the US Army Air Assault School, Equal Opportunity Representative Course, the Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course, The Primary Leadership Development Course, Small Group Instructor Course, Instructor Training Course, Tank Crew Evaluator Course, UCOFT Instructor Operator Course, the Army Combat Lifesavers Course and he has completed 33 credit hours with North Central Institute College, Central Texas College and is pursuing a degree in teen intervention.

SFC Doe was selected as the Installation Soldier of the Year for Fort Hood (1989); The NCO of the Quarter, and Month (twice) while assigned to 22nd Military Police Company in Wurzburg. His other awards and decorations include the Air Assault Badge, Valorous Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Award, ARCOM (6 OLC), AAM (6 OLC), GCM (4th award), HSM, AFEM, NDSM (1BSS), KCM (1BSS), OSR(#3), NATO (Bosnia), NATO (Kosovo), KLM (US), KLM (Kuwait), SWASM (3BSS).

SFC Doe is married to the former Cathy Good of Meadville, PA they have celebrated their 12th year of marriage on the 14th of Dec. They have one son Sabot who is 11 years old. They currently reside at Fort Gordon, GA.

SFC Doe short term goal is to be a 1SG and a member of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club. His long term goal is to receive his bachelor in Dental Hygiene. SFC Doe plans for the future is to retire as the Dental Command Sergeant Major and own his own vacation resort in Jamaica, New York.