

# I STRIKE Soldiers inducted into the prestigious Sergeant Audie Murphy Club in Iraq

Story by Master Sergeant Lawrence MacDonald / 3rd Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery / Photo Courtesy Photo / January 2010



Brigadier General Paul L. Wentz, Commanding General 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) inducts SSG Sergeant Nicholas into the SAMC.

Joint Base Balad (JBB), Iraq – Induction and membership in the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club (SAMC) is a reward for Noncommissioned Officers whose leadership achievements and performance merit special recognition. The SAMC is a means of recognizing those NCOs who have contributed significantly to the development of a professional NCO Corps and a combat ready Army.

Members exemplify leadership characterized by personal concern for the needs, training, development and welfare of Soldiers and their families.

Staff Sergeant Nicholas Curtis and Sergeant Christopher Albert of Headquarters, Headquarters

Battery, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery Regiment were formerly inducted into the prestigious club while being forward deployed to Iraq in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. The two Noncommissioned Officers underwent a grueling trial by fire. The induction process was comprised of Warrior Task and Drills and appearing in front of three separate selections boards from the battalion level through installation. This process lasted for over four months, resulting in their induction.

“I wanted to be a part of a group that prides themselves on Soldier care and helping others. I feel proud to be a part of a Club that is known for its high level of sacrifice and I feel a true sense of accomplishment being included in the top organization for Non-Commissioned Officers in our great Army” said SSG Nicholas Curtis.

Sergeant Christopher Albert said “Entry into this prestigious organization is an honor earned by few exceptional Non Commissioned Officers. I wanted to challenge myself to demonstrate the performance and inherent leadership qualities and abilities characterized by Sergeant Audie Murphy. As NCOs we should be the most knowledgeable proficient and the most physically fit soldiers in the unit. Bottom line we have to lead from the front”.



Brigadier General Paul L. Wentz, Commanding General 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) inducts SGT Christopher Albert into the SAMC.

“I am very proud of them and what they have accomplished. These two NCOs take care and lead their Soldiers every single day in combat. This club was designed to recognize the top Noncommissioned Officers in our ranks, and they are just that”.

Command Sergeant Major Paris A. Williams