AUSA’s LTG Theodore Stroup, Jr., Achievement Award

2021 ESSAY TOPIC


Consider LTG Dubik’s definition of an apolitical military.

First, unpack and summarize his argument in your own words.

Next, evaluate and respond to his position. If you think it is correct, in what way(s)? If you think it is incomplete, what is missing? If you think it is wrong, why?

In light of this understanding, choose an event from recent (within the past few years) American history, and trace how one or more of Dubik’s three paradoxes played out in a particular circumstance.

Finally, in a spirit of personal responsibility, and an understanding that many of the evaluations of the military’s apoliticism or lack thereof are determined at a senior leadership level, consider what you can do to support the necessary effort to maintain an apolitical Army. Provide an example, either real or hypothetical, in which you encountered, or might encounter, a situation that calls for you to balance your duty as a Soldier with your civil liberties to hold political opinions in the democratic-republic that is the United States.

Guidelines:

- 800–1250 words;
- Times New Roman;
- 12 PT Font;
- Double-spaced;
- Include name, email address and JROTC Brigade on first page;
- Remember to cite all sources used—failure to do so is plagiarism.