

(2) *How given.* Instructions shall be given orally on the record in the presence of all parties and the members. Written copies of the instructions or, unless a party objects, portions of them may also be given to the members for their use during deliberations.

(3) *Required instructions.* Instructions shall include—

(A) The charge(s) and specification(s) for which the members shall make a sentencing determination;

(B) The applicable aggravating factor or factors under R.C.M. 1004(c) and to which charge(s) and specification(s) the aggravating factor or factors apply;

(C) A statement of the procedures for deliberation and voting set out in R.C.M. 1004(g);

(D) A statement informing the members that they are solely responsible for selecting an appropriate determination and may not rely on the possibility of any mitigating action by the convening or higher authority;

(E) A statement that the members should consider all matters in aggravation, whether introduced before or after findings, and matters introduced under R.C.M. 1001(b)(1), (2), (3), and (5);

(F) A statement that the members may consider:

(i) Any evidence admitted by the military judge during the presentencing proceeding under R.C.M. 1001; and

(ii) Any evidence admitted by the military judge during the findings proceeding;

(G) A statement that the members shall consider all evidence in extenuation and mitigation before a sentence of death may be determined; and

(H) Such other explanations, descriptions, or directions that the military judge determines to be necessary, whether properly requested by a party or determined by the military judge *sua sponte*.

(4) *Failure to object*. After being afforded an opportunity to object, failure to object to an instruction or to omission of an instruction before the members close to deliberate shall constitute waiver of the objection. The military judge may require the party objecting to specify in what respect the instructions were improper. The parties shall be given the opportunity to be heard on any objection outside the presence of the members.

(g) *Deliberations and voting*.

(1) *In general*. With respect to each charge and specification for which a sentence of death may be determined, the members shall deliberate and vote after the military judge instructs the members. Only the members shall be present during deliberations and voting. Superiority in rank shall not be used in any manner to control the independence of members in the exercise of their judgment.

(2) *Deliberations*. Deliberations require a full and free discussion of the determination to be made in the case. Unless otherwise directed by the military judge, members may take with them in deliberations their notes, if any; any exhibits admitted in evidence; and any written instructions. Members may request that the court-martial be reopened and that portions of the record be read to them or additional evidence introduced. The military judge may, in the exercise of discretion, grant such requests.

(3) *Voting generally*.

(A) *Duty of members*. Each member has the duty to vote on the necessary findings described in R.C.M. 1004(a)(4)-(6) as applicable. No member may abstain from voting.