

(II) Life in prison without eligibility for parole.

(ii) If all 12 members vote for death, the sentencing determination of the members shall be death. If any member does not vote for death, the sentencing determination of the members shall not be death.

(iii) If the members' initial vote does not reach the required unanimous consensus for death, the members shall vote on life in prison without eligibility for parole. If three-fourths or more of the members vote for life in prison without eligibility for parole, the sentencing determination of the members shall be life in prison without eligibility for parole.

(iv) If the members' vote does not reach three-fourths for life in prison without eligibility for parole, the offense shall be returned to the military judge for imposition of a sentence of a lesser punishment in accordance with R.C.M. 1001.

(C) *Voting on a sentencing determination if death may not be adjudged.*

(i) If the members do not unanimously find that at least one aggravating factor exists or the members do not unanimously find that the aggravating circumstances substantially outweigh the extenuating and mitigating circumstances, the members shall vote on life in prison without eligibility for parole.

(ii) If the members' vote does not reach three-fourths for life in prison without eligibility for parole, the offense shall be returned to the military judge for imposition of a sentence of a lesser punishment in accordance with R.C.M. 1001.

(D) *Counting votes.* The junior member shall collect the ballots and count the votes. The president shall check the count and inform the other members of the result.

(h) *Action after a sentence is reached.* After the members have agreed upon a determination by the required number of votes in accordance with this rule, the court-martial shall be opened, and

the president shall inform the military judge that the members have reached a determination. The military judge may, in the presence of the parties, examine any writing used by the president to state the determination and may assist the members in putting the determination in proper form. If the members voted unanimously for a determination of death, the writing shall indicate which aggravating factor or factors under R.C.M. 1004(c) the members unanimously found to exist beyond a reasonable doubt. Neither that writing nor any oral or written clarification or discussion concerning it shall constitute announcement of the determination.

(i) *Reconsideration.* Subject to this rule, a sentence may be reconsidered at any time before it is announced in open session of the court.

(1) *Clarification of determination.* A sentence determination may be clarified at any time before entry of judgment. When a determination by the members in a capital case is ambiguous, the military judge shall bring the matter to the attention of the members if the matter is discovered before the court-martial is adjourned. If the matter is discovered after adjournment, the military judge may call a session for clarification by the members as soon as practicable after the ambiguity is discovered, or the military judge may resolve the ambiguity.

(2) *Action by the convening authority.*

(A) Prior to entry of judgment, if a convening authority becomes aware that the sentence of the court-martial is ambiguous, the convening authority shall return the matter to the court-martial for clarification. When the sentence of the court-martial appears to be illegal, the convening authority shall return the matter to the court-martial for correction.

(B) Prior to entry of judgment in a case in which a special trial counsel has exercised authority—