UNITED STATES AIR FORCE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

UNITED STATES

v.

Airman WELDON B. LUSK United States Air Force

ACM 36617

25 June 2007

Sentence adjudged 4 January 2006 by GCM convened at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida. Military Judge: Ronald A. Gregory (sitting alone).

Approved sentence: Dishonorable discharge, confinement for 2 years, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and reduction to E-1.

Appellate Counsel for Appellant: Colonel Nikki A. Hall, Lieutenant Colonel Mark R. Strickland, Major Imelda L. Paredes, and Captain Anthony D. Ortiz.

Appellate Counsel for the United States: Colonel Gerald R. Bruce, Major Matthew S. Ward, and Captain Jamie L. Mendelson.

Before

WISE, JACOBSON, and BECHTOLD Appellate Military Judges

PER CURIAM:

We have reviewed the record of trial, the error assigned by the appellant, and the government's reply. In determining the appropriateness of a sentence, this Court exercises its "highly discretionary" powers to assure that justice is done and the appellant receives the punishment he deserves. *United States v. Lacy*, 50 M.J. 286, 287 (C.A.A.F. 1999). Performing this function does not authorize this Court to engage in an exercise of clemency. *United States v. Healy*, 26 M.J. 394, 395-96 (C.M.A. 1988). The primary manner in which we discharge this responsibility is to give "individualized consideration" to an appellant "on the basis of the nature and seriousness of the offense and the character of the offender." *United States v. Snelling*, 14 M.J. 267, 268 (C.M.A. 1982) (quoting *United States v. Mamaluy*, 27 C.M.R. 176, 180-81 (C.M.A. 1959)). After

a careful review of the appellant's case, we hold that the appellant's sentence is not inappropriately severe.

The approved findings and sentence are correct in law and fact, and no error prejudicial to the substantial rights of the appellant occurred. Article 66(c), UCMJ, 10 U.S.C. § 866(c); *United States v. Reed*, 54 M.J. 37, 41 (C.A.A.F. 2000). Accordingly, the findings and sentence are

AFFIRMED.

OFFICIAL

MARTHA E. COBLE-BEACH, TSgt, USAF Court Administrator

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