

TO: SrA [REDACTED]

FROM Col [REDACTED]

Re: Reply to Appeal of Nonjudicial Punishment

1. SrA [REDACTED] in response to your appeal of nonjudicial punishment (submitted 13 February 2008) I must say that you do present a strong and viable argument for appeal. However my decision stands. What you need to realize is my thought process for the event in question: namely, that you, as a Non Commissioned Officer in the Air Force Reserves, let this event come to pass without any forethought or consideration to the consequences or outcome. Your argument concerning the other two individuals involved is forthright, but YOU, as the NCO, will ALWAYS be held to a higher standard than your subordinate airmen.
2. You are a LEADER! As an NCO, you should know BETTER than to have participated in the event, much less LET the event come to pass when you were there! For your decision to leave the Reserves because you "will not stay in as a 30-year-old E-4" I can only say that after spending this much time in the military I must question what you have learned from your fellow Airmen. Simply put: How could you have let this happen when you have been in long enough to know that this was just simply wrong?
3. Finally SrA [REDACTED] I must ask you to consider Luke Skywalker. Luke is an orphaned young man who was raised by his aunt and uncle on the desert planet of Tatooine until one day when a squad of Imperial Stormtroopers came and killed them, setting young Skywalker's life into a frenzy of adventure and self-discovery, culminating in his decisive role in destroying the Imperial Death Star. When he was in his X-Wing fighter, being chased in the trench by Darth Vader, did Luke bow to the peer pressure of the Rebel Alliance when he turned off his star fighter's targeting computer? No! Luke didn't think of the 607,360 troops, 265,675 crew members, 167,216 pilots, 52,276 gunners, 42,782 ship support staff and 25,984 Stormtroopers that he was about to kill on the Death Star: he listened to the little voice in his head. The one that said "Use the Force. It will be with you. Always." What does this have to do with your situation? Well, if you had stuck with your integrity, like Luke did with the Force, you would have not let this event happen, or you would have done everything possible to ensure that it did not come to pass.
4. I would also like you to re-evaluate your reading material. Chewbacca did not live on Endor. He lived, married, and had a child and family on Kashyyyk. The only time Chewbacca was on Endor was when he and a band of rebels went there to take out the planetary shield station that was enveloping the construction of the second Imperial Death Star. I would even go so far as to state that if you had taken the same time to read AFI 36-2618 as you took for the Star Wars books, you would probably not be in the trouble you are in now.

5. I hope that you learn a valuable lesson from what has happened and that you carry this knowledge wherever your travels may take you. May the Force be with you.

[REDACTED]

, Col, USAF

Commander

CC: SJA
ADC
CCF