

Why We Resist – What is Fascism?



The historian Heather Cox Richardson recently brought to our attention a fascinating article from the March 24, 1945 edition of *Army Talks*. The piece was designed to explain the evil doctrine of "fascism," as exemplified by the German Nazi regime, to young people being asked to risk their lives in combat.

As you read through the quotes below from this message to the troops, consider the extent to which fascism as described here has infiltrated America. We are equally called upon to resist!

"You are away from home, separated from your families... and many of you are risking your very lives... because of a thing called fascism."

"Fascism is the complete opposite of democracy. The people run democratic governments, but fascist governments run the people."

Fascism "is government by the few and the objective is seizure and control of the economic, political, social and cultural life of the state."

Fascists "would pit religious, racial, and economic groups against one another to break down national unity."

Fascists "make their own rules and change them when they choose,,, They maintain themselves in power by use of force combined with propaganda based on primitive ideas of 'blood' and 'race,' by skillful manipulation of fear and hate, and by false promise of security."

Fascists in America would try to gain power "under the guise of 'super-patriotism' and 'super-Americanism.' In place of international cooperation, the fascists seek to substitute a perverted sense of ultra-nationalism."

Fascists "adopt names and slogans with popular appeal, drape themselves with the American flag, and attempt to carry out their program in the name of the democracy they are trying to destroy... Fascism thrives on indifference and ignorance... Be on alert and on guard."