

Just Wars

Sometimes a madman is allowed to seize power and to become a threat to the civilized world and has to be taken out. I think most people would agree that taking Hitler down in World War II was something that was absolutely necessary to preserving the future of mankind. In such a situation the Realists will conclude that war is necessary and will do whatever it takes to win the war with the goal of restoring the peace.

In such a just war the Realists should be the military's best friend - even if the chain of command doesn't fully appreciate the Realists contribution. In times of a just war - the Realist is expected to be a shining example of conduct and to lead by example to influence his fellow soldiers to do the right thing.

A realist does not participate in atrocities. He does not rape and pillage the enemy. He does not deliberately slaughter the innocent. If a Realist sees a commander misbehaving he will do what it takes to stop the misbehavior whether or not it follows the chain of command or whatever rules the military think apply. If the Realist needs to leak information to the press or bypass the chain of command, then they are required to do so.

War is a difficult time and often judgment is impaired by the stresses of war. Strong factors are present that obscure reality and cause people to make bad choices. The Realist maintains self discipline and uses his wisdom to cut through and to make sure that the best choices are made. The Realist is to become the voice of wisdom during war and to help guide the effort to its best conclusion.

It may also be advantageous for the Realist soldier to inform his commanding officer of his religious affiliation and to explain to the military unit that he has a religious duty to Reality as it really is and that he is required to think for himself and that thinking for himself is as much of a religious right as others have to pray to invisible deities. The Realist should explain that this is a good thing and if the Military is wise they will welcome realistic thinkers because being realistic helps achieve the goals of the military.