

Kid Blackhawk 1 1



INTO THE VORTEX!



by Kevin Ahearn



*'History has proven that whenever liberty is smothered and men lie crushed beneath oppression; there always arises a man to defend the helpless ...liberate the enslaved and crush the tyrant...Such a man is **Blackhawk**...Out of the ruins of Europe and out of the hopeless mass of defeated peoples he comes, smashing the evil before him...'*

Military Comics #1 (August 1941)

For 'Sci-Fi' Mike

'KID BLACKHAWK 6' is fiction.
All references to actual persons, alive
or dead, made for a good story.

“JUNIOR” JOHNSON.....MARLON BRANDO
COLONEL ZIANG.....BRUCE LEE
BLACKHAWK.....ROBERT REDFORD
ZINDA BLAKE.....MERYL STREEP
JJ III.....TOM CRUISE

PLUS AN ASSORTMENT OF ALL-STAR CAMEOS

Blackhawk created by Chuck Cuidera, Bob Powell, and Will Eisner

Lady Blackhawk and "Junior" Johnson created by Jack Schiff and Dick Dillin

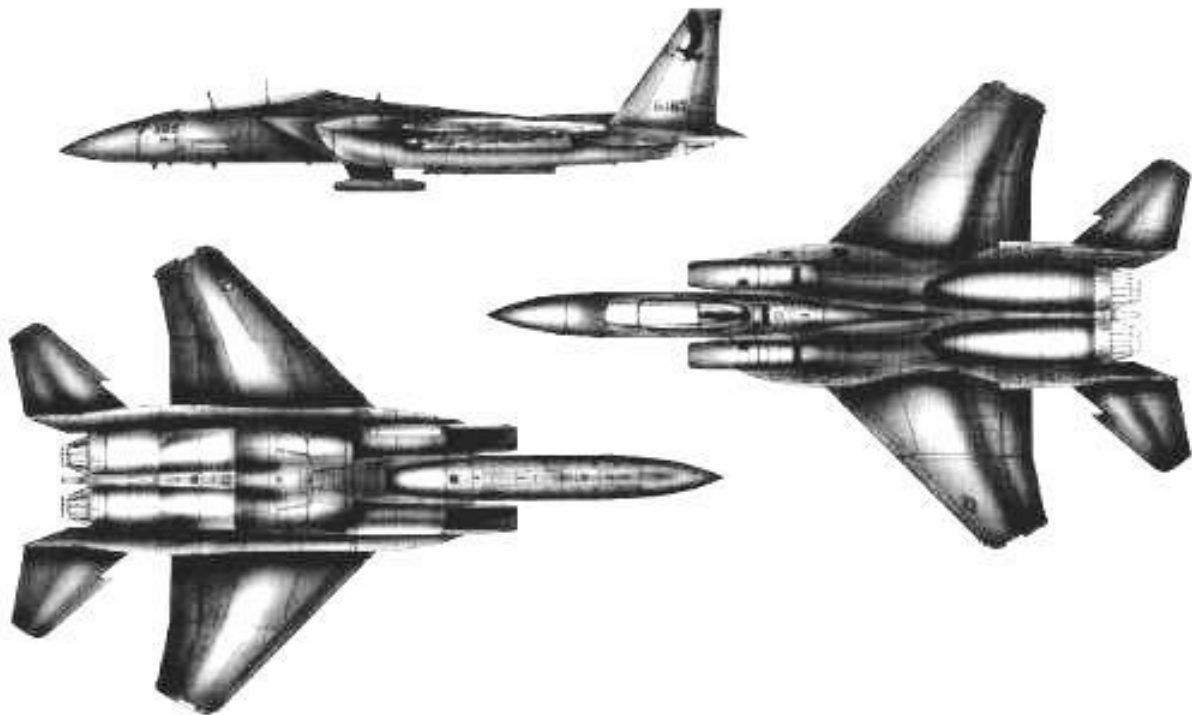
Blackhawk is the property of DC Comics

Cover: Wormhole © Peter Jurik/Stock.adobe.com

GRUMMAN F5F *SKYROCKET*



MCDONNELL DOUGLAS F-15 *EAGLE*



1



'You are what your record says you are.'

f David 



Shalom.

*We will always be inspired by **Kid Blackhawk** – “Junior” Johnson is our immortal hero!*



*'Mission morning' has always been a community project, loading and arming the jets. We pitch in to help our parents; we're **Blackhawks** too!*

But this pre-flight was special.



The 'Angels of Vengeance' are flying long-range completely unarmed. No bombs, no missiles--even the Vulcan cannon are empty.



Under the wings we attached 600-gallon fuel tanks -- the team won't need the tanker.

Neither bombs to drop nor shells to fire...no dogfights or aerobatics, no high altitude maneuvers...no need for flightsuits. 'Classic blues' with 'fifty-mission' caps, just like the 'golden age'!



*"You'll know soon enough where the 'Angels of Vengeance' are flying.
"Meanwhile..."*



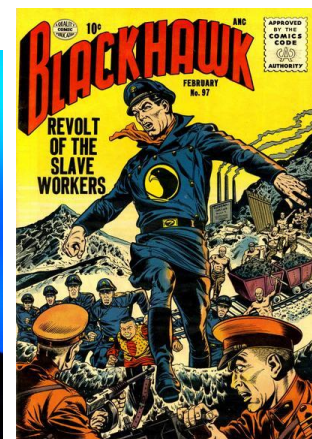
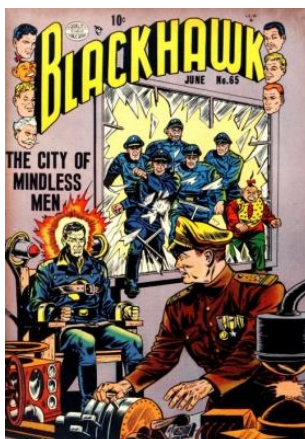
"Have you checked out our latest action figures?"

‘HAWKA-A-A-A!’



The bottom stripe of the modern Russian flag symbolizes the Bolsheviks who overthrew the Czar (Royal blue) and triumphed vs. the 'Whites' (Insurrectionists) in the Civil War.

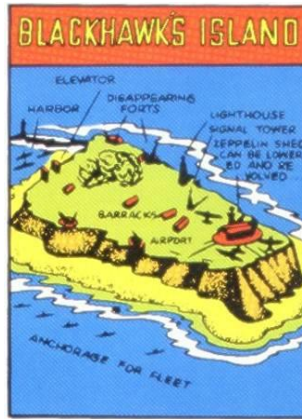
This morning, all three colors still ran deep, and were whipping in the wind.



*‘The **Blackhawks** must be eliminated! Every one of them dead, their island overrun and their surviving widows and children placed in refugee camps!’*



'Our war against the 'Angels of Vengeance' goes back nearly seventy years. Let us end it completely...and quickly!'



'Missiles, Mister President! From land, from sea. We'll give them the same warning they gave the Syrians!

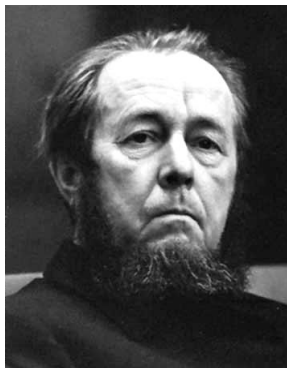
*'Thermonuclear, high explosive or chemical/biological! We can be ready in forty-eight hours. **Blackhawk Island** will soon be uninhabitable for the rest of the millennium!'*



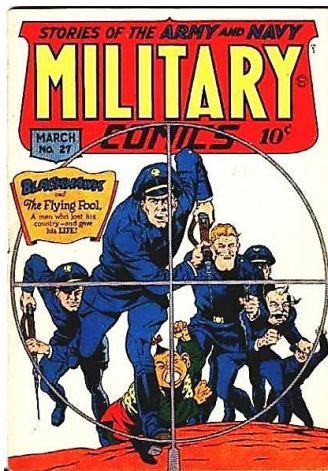
*Nyet! **The Blackhawks** will be expecting us to do just that!'*



'Ah, Colonel Alexander Kabakov, ambitious commander of the victory-less Kremlin Knights. You have doubts?'



'The Blackhawks are invincible as a unit!'



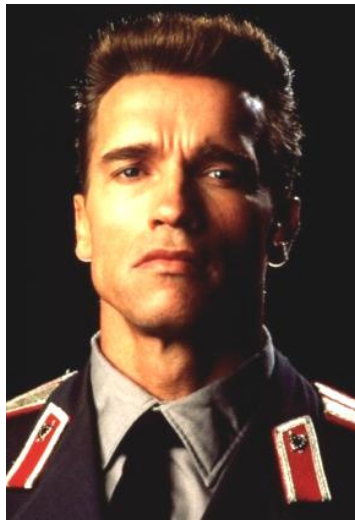
'The greatest threat to atheistic rulers ever known!'



'Blackhawk is a warrior cult of families!
Do you believe for a Moscow minute that the 'Archangel of Vengeance' would attack the North Koreans, the Iranians and the Syrians if he thought his 'community' was vulnerable to attack?'



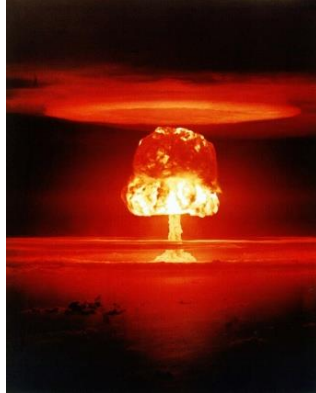
'We'll launch a hundred missiles if we have to!'



'You're prepared only for a defense you think you can overwhelm. Not "Angel Technology!"'



'Legends! Myths! "Comic book" propaganda!'



'And should your 'surprise attack' succeed and make martyrs out of the men, and gruesome corpses of the women and children. What will the world make of Mighty Russia then?'

*'Defeating and destroying the **Blackhawks** must be only the beginning! The **Kremlin Knights** must replace them as dominators of the sky!'*



'But these things must be done delicately! My pilots come from an equally proud and victorious heritage. These youngsters need further hardening.'



*'Combat training must be increased and accelerated—
Our fighter aircraft further upgraded...'*



'Dah, Colonel Kabakov, dah...

*Show me **Blackhawk!***



*'The **Blackhawks** are airborne and we've got'em!'*



*'But they're not carrying any weapons...
no apocalypse under their wings.'*



*'Not going to blow anything up
or shoot anyone down!*

'Hello! What's the point?'



'Separated at birth?'



'The "Angels of Vengeance" on a "Peace Mission"? Gonna kill their brand!'

'The world need heroes, but if they're not flying to a life-or-death fight, who cares?'



'Show us the Second Amendment!'

'We love the *BLACKHAWKS!* We just have a funny way of showing it!'



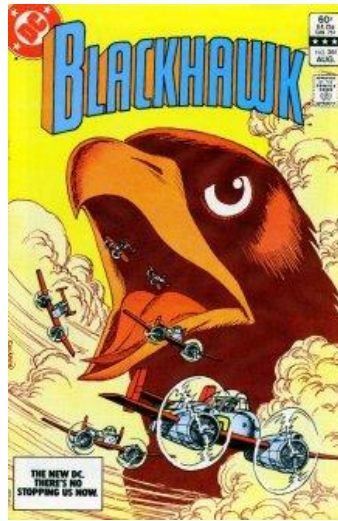
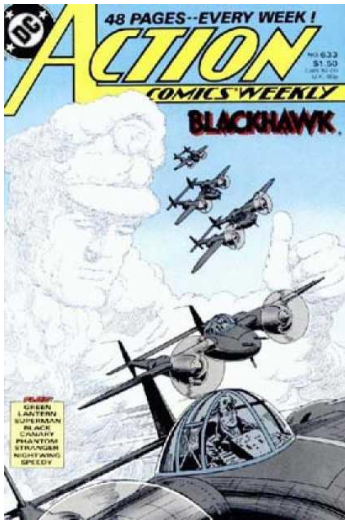
Two hours out...



*'Been a long time since I've flown 'naked'.
Easy on the gas, but hard on the nerves.
I don't want to get used to it.'*



*'You won't. Not with half the
planet drawing a bead on us.'*



*'Not this time around. Clear for as far
as sensors can see. A certified 'Milk Run'.'*



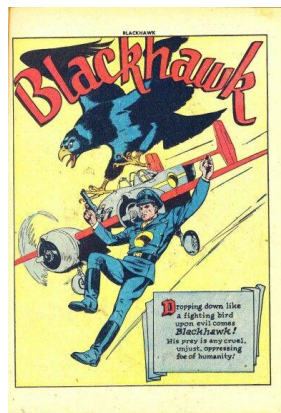
*'Somebody even thinks of jumping us...'
. We go 'stealth mode' and disappear.'*



*'I want to be seen on every radar/sat-net possible. Let them believe the **Blackhawks** can be easily tracked.'*



'So if the time comes, we can turn on the "Angel Technology" and "mysteriously vanish."'



'Get your popcorn ready!'



The Prime Minister responded at once to the Royal Summons.



*'Your Majesty, the **Blackhawks** are...'*



'Yes, the moment their wheels left the runway, all the world's been watching.'

'They're unarmed, Your Majesty, why?'

'Because they want to be! The 'Angels of Vengeance' in this New Millennium have to be more than a mere fighter squadron or bombing group, but a symbol of the power of unified diversity.'

'Without Weapons?'

'The last time they flew unarmed was at the 1977 Paris Air Show...'



'The Blackhawks are invincible as a unit!'



'The greatest threat to stuffy performances ever known'



'Their final performance, the 'last hurrah' for an aerial dynasty!'



'Their flying skills astounded us. Their fashion sense, not as much.'



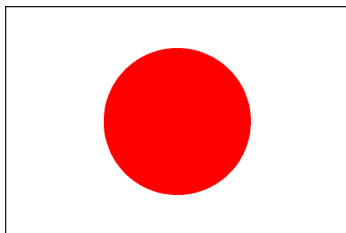
'To think where they have been.'



'No, no, Prime Minister! Where are the "Angels of Vengeance" going?'



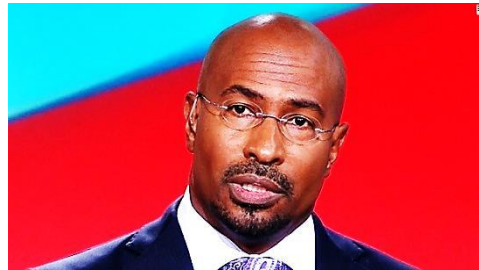
*'Where are the **Blackhawks** going?'*



'Perhaps the Kuril Islands. To finally settle an old dispute.'



'Or maybe Vietnam. In 'fighting for liberty', a nation 'The Magnificent 7' never bothered to visit.'



'The Blackhawks are invincible as a unit!'

'The greatest threat to global anarchy ever known'



*'If I were a **Blackhawk**, what could possibly make me want to leave paradise?'*



*""The "Angels of Vengeance" do not hit secondary targets!
I know where they have to be going!*

2



高举革命批判大旗奋勇前进

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' Nǐ hǎo!

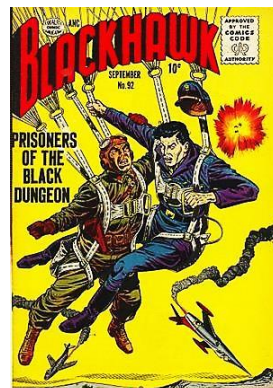
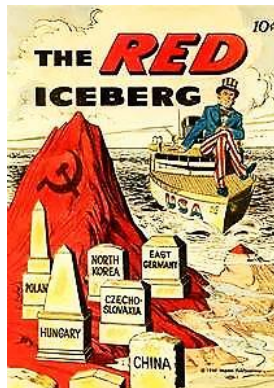
'This is a morning to treasure. Our fathers are flying a 'good will mission' to China!

'Show them Blackhawk!

友



'Unfortunately, team history there has been, well, bad!



'The Blackhawks haven't been to China in nearly sixty years following President Eisenhower's ban on the team entering 'Communist Territory'. (Ike was afraid the 'Angels of Vengeance' would start WW III!)



'The Blackhawks want peace, liberty and equality! We've got to make 1.3 billion Chinese believe in us. And we've got the coolest folk hero since Yao Ming!



'HAWKA-A-A-A!'



*'The "Angels of Vengeance" on a 'good will' visit to China!
Who would have dreamt?'*



*'My sources tell me that **Blackhawk** will have a "sit-down"
with Colonel Ziang! That an understanding will be reached.'*



*'China seeks international recognition of
its elite **Pajin Dragons**. What better way
than eyes to eyes with the **Blackhawks**!'*



*'The Russians, North Koreans, and the
Syrians want the **Blackhawks** dead!
Allying with the Chinese is a
masterstroke!'*



*'I do not believe so. The **Blackhawks** favor no country, no people over another. The 'Archangel of Vengeance' will make that quite clear.'*



'The 'Old Bird' himself ordered this! To place his team at the center of the world stage.'



'None of the above! It's the children!'



'Kid Blackhawk is invincible as a unit!'

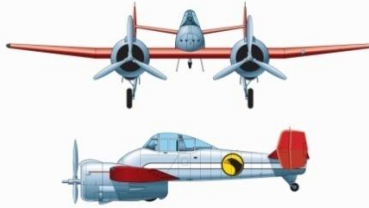


'The greatest threat to mediocre marketing ever known'

'Kid Blackhawk sees China as a market for their T-Shirts, toys, and games!'



'Angels of Vengeance'



'They've already generated millions for...'

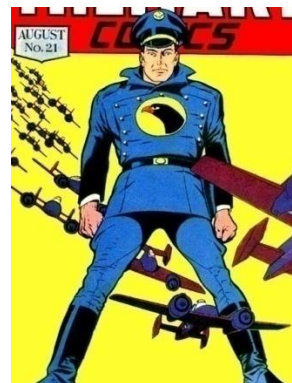


'Diverse entrepreneurs in it for the long game! They're prepping China for a bidding war!'

'Coming soon...'

KID BLACKHAWK

'Young Angel of Vengeance'



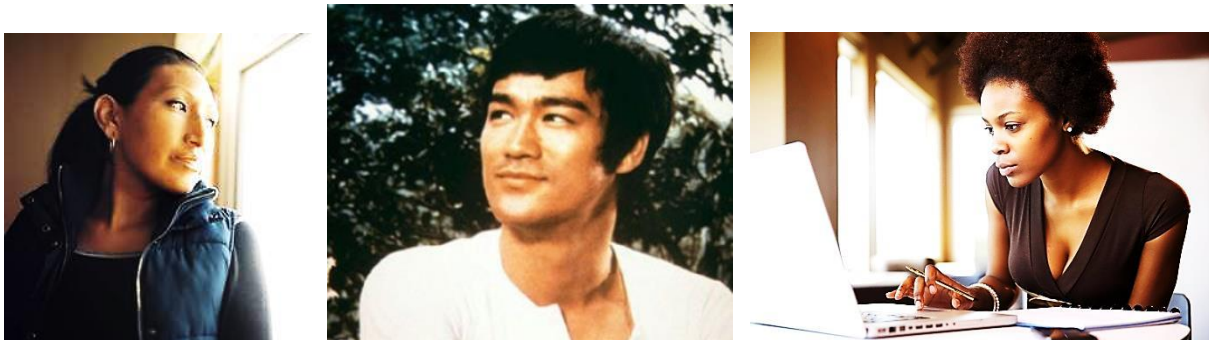
(Only in theaters)



One hundred miles from the China coast...

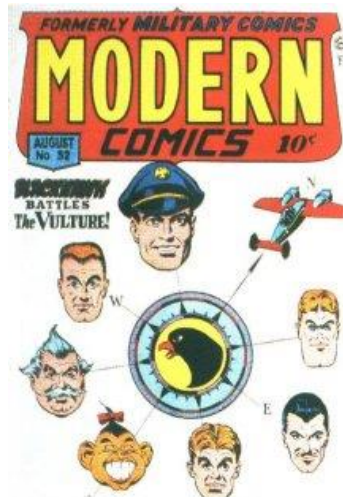


'Island to team. You've got company at three and nine o'clock!'



'The Pajin Dragons! A VIP escort.'

'Colonel Zieng wants to "assess" our leader up close!'





'The Lady Blackhawks are invincible as a unit!'



'The greatest threat to injustice ever known!'



'The J-20 Mighty Dragon, Superb aircraft!'



'Rather than fight, China would much rather sell. One hundred million apiece!'



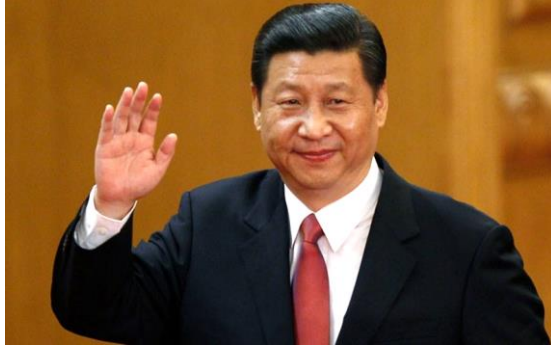
'Market superiority!'



'Welcome to the 21st Century!'



'The Blackhawks are coming! What is it they want?'



'The People's Republic is honored that the "Angel of Vengeance" have chosen to visit us in their quest for world peace!'



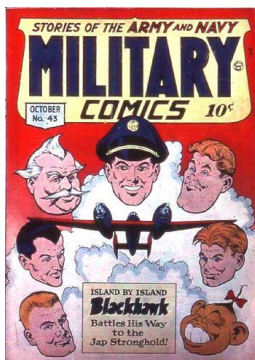
*'The **Blackhawks** will not meet any Party officials, instead, our elite fighter squadron!'*

'They could be deciding the future of the fighter plane! Are these sleek, fast expensive "toys" worth their weight in tomorrow battlefield?'

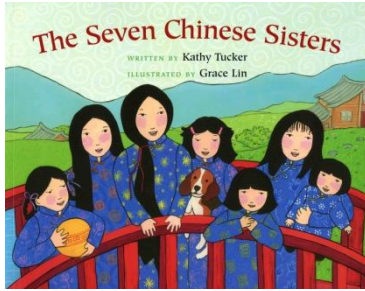


'A conference or a contest? Perhaps laying the groundwork for an aviation show!'

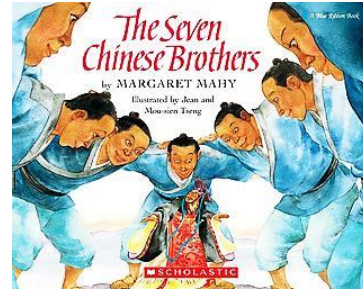
'The quest for the perfect weapon goes on despite the cost to the people they are no longer able to protect?'



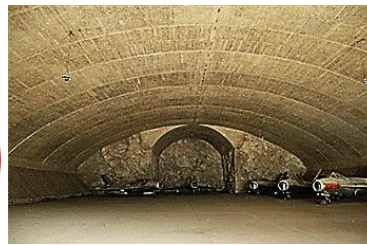
'Let us not be impressed by iconic uniforms and high-tech accessories. These seven are mere "pointmen" for a far more powerful organization that will soon impact all of China!'



'Kid Blackhawk is invincible as a unit!'



'The greatest threat to childhood misery ever known!'



From 30,000 feet, the Pajin Air Base appeared as a standard airport. Closer examination revealed tunnels burrowed into the mountain that would keep the **Dragons** operational even after a nuclear war.

The Chinese had prepared well. **Blackhawk Island** is not recognized as a 'state'; this would be strictly a 'get acquainted' pilots' meeting.





The **Blackhawks** landed two at a time. All remained in their cockpits until the last landed safely. Crash helmets off, 'fifty-mission' caps on. The team deplaned via cockpit ladders.



Anticipation gripped the runway.



*'Welcome, **Blackhawk**. I am the rank amateur meeting the returned champion.'*



*'Colonel Ziang, your **Dragons** are proud and hungry. Are the "Angels of Vengeance" on your menu?'*

They shook hands and the Chinese broke ranks. Handshakes and pats on the back all around.



'The F-15SE, the finest fighter in the sky?'

'The J-20. Eager to prove otherwise?'



'You see China as a threat?'

'You've sent SAMs and fighter jets to a strategic island. Moving in on the oil reserves in the South China Sea?'

'Ha! While the Americans build supercarriers for every dead President except Nixon and thousands more warplanes!'

'China intimidates and expects submission?'



'Who's the "Empire" now? Didn't anybody learn anything from the Soviet Union?'

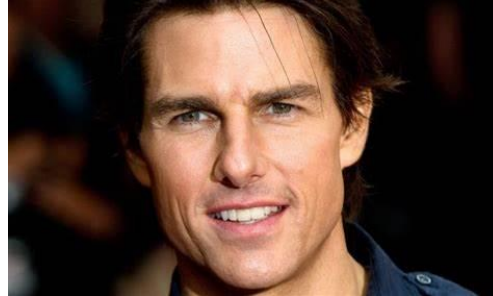
'The global game! Are we to talk politics on empty stomachs?'

Lunch was served in the base mess hall; toasts of tea and local soda.



'We are special men at a unique time. The finest pilots in an arena that will disappear in our lifetimes.'

'The 'Angels of Vengeance' were first assembled seventy-five years ago. Nothing is going to make us obsolete...except peace!'



*'The tide of technology will soon overtake us, **Blackhawk**, and we will be left behind, trapped in a bygone era.'*

'Drones and robots fighting wars? Humanity doomed to keep score and count the dead? China did always have a soft spot for science fiction.'

'Let us engage in the ultimate dogfight--best against the best! The final champion--the last jet flying!'

'I'll check our schedule, Colonel Ziang. Next week looks pretty full.'

*'I am a patient man with preparations still to make. Time favors the Pajin **Dragons**!'*

*'The **Blackhawks** will always be ready for the battle we hope never to fight!'*



*'Until then, "Archangel of Vengeance",
ours will be a contest of T-shirts!'*



The Kenyan President met with the Wildlife Service Chief.



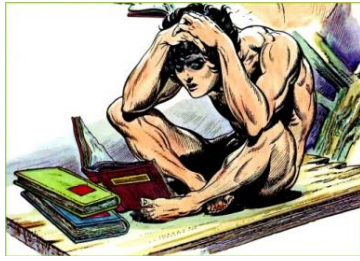
*'A proud day for Africa: "Darius
the Hawk" flies again with the
"Angels of Vengeance!"'*

*'In the wrong direction! When will
he bring the **Blackhawks** to the
continent of his birth?'*

*'The "Archangel" plays his game well.
China has invested heavily in Africa. They
do not want their influence compromised.'*

*'Boko Haram is a ruthless, merciless
band of thugs. The next **Blackhawk**
mission?'*





*'The **Blackhawks** are invincible as a unit!'*



'The greatest threat to colonialism ever known!'



*'When they strike the terrorists, they want no "assistance" from the **Pajin Dragons!***



*'After Syria the Russians have sworn revenge. A "Non-Aggression Agreement" with the Chinese will keep the Kremlin **Knights** at bay!'*

*'Boko Haram are murdering rapists bearing "God's Message"! The **Blackhawks** will be coming! Our mission must be to unite all Africa behind them!'*



Leaving Chinese air space...



*'Colonel Ziang's a gunslinger looking to make a name for himself and his squadron. He wants a **Blackhawk** "notch".'*



'His pilots and grease monkeys are a skilled, dedicated team who'd follow their commander into hell!'



'And take the rest of humanity with him! I've seen these overeager hotshots— all brag, no 'kills!'



'Pushed by history! Pride, politics, and the people who tolerate these fools!'

Hours later, after all had napped on automatic pilot, closing on **Blackhawk Island** at 25,000 feet...

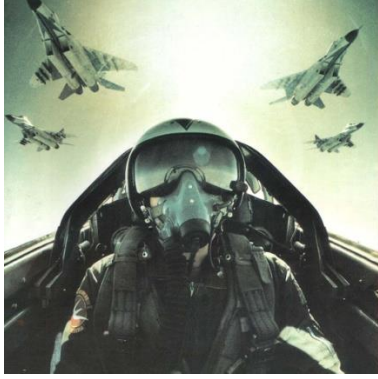


'Getting something weird just ahead! I can't...'



'An atmospheric vortex! But I...'

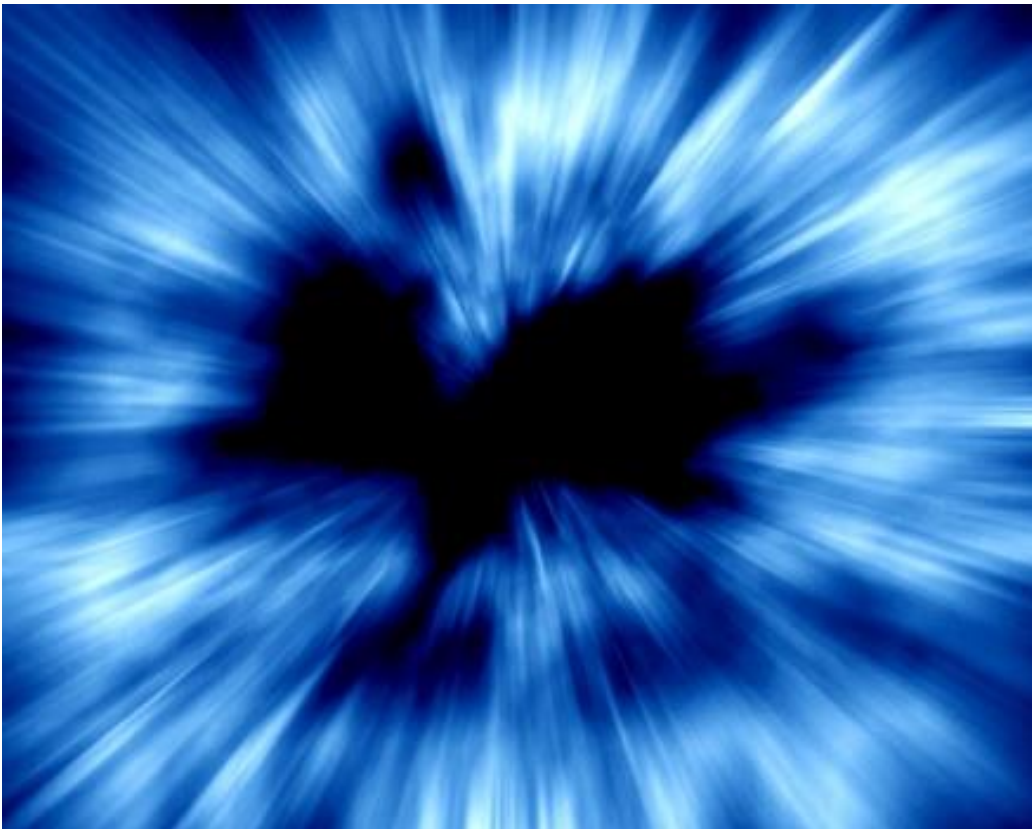




'Controls not responding! Pulling us in!'

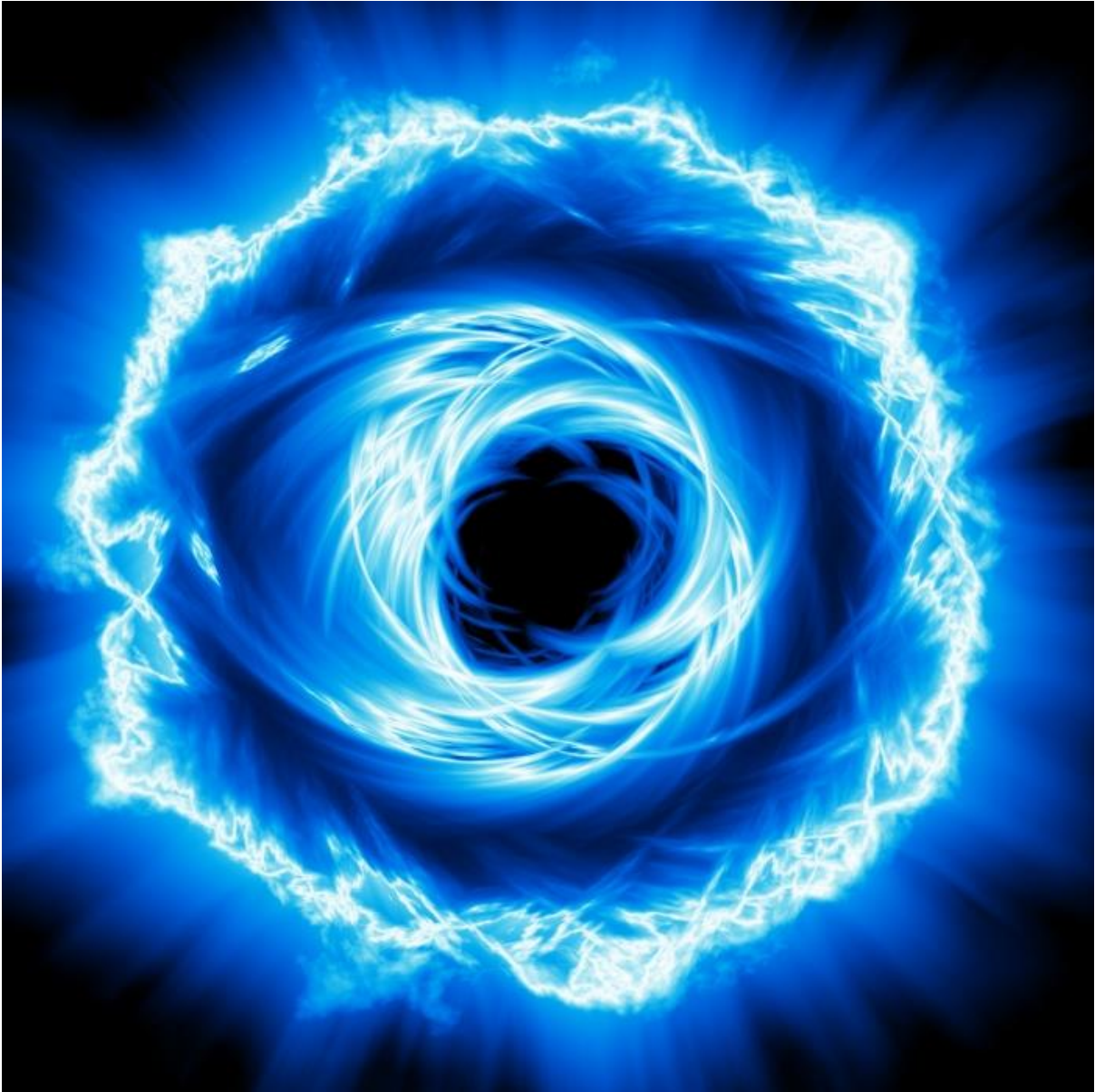


'Can't escape!'



'WTF?'

3



'Curiouser and curiouser'

f Paco 



"Hola!

"If you can't be honest," Dad told me when I was old enough to understand. "You can't be *anything!*"

"He ought to know. He was a police captain and a pilot who became *El Halcon De Negro* to fight the cartels.



"And then chosen to be a *Blackhawk*.

"Our move here was the easiest. My family had to live in six different houses because the death squads were always looking for us. And now I'm growing up on *Blackhawk Island!*"



"You can't see what's best here; you *feel* it. Amazing, unbreakable confidence...in our team, in our community and in our purpose!

"*'Kid Blackhawks never worry'* is not completely true. No sweat taking off. Each family has its own jet and takes good care of it. Not fighting any enemy - nobody can beat the 'Angels of Vengeance!'

"It's after the mission has been accomplished and the team is flying home. The weather is perfect and the sky is clear. When everything's right is when I worry something could go wrong.

"But of course, nothing ever will.

"HAWKA-A-A-A!"

FUTURE TIME

CenterCityChronicle.com

**A GREAT TEAM
GOES MISSING!**



GONE *WHERE?*

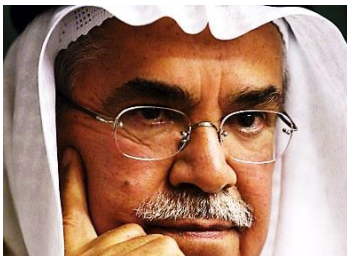


The minister brought the news to the king.



'Your Majesty, there has been an incident. Less than 200 miles from Blackhawk Island, the six jets suddenly disappeared!'

'An accident? Collisions? In an instant, they vanished? What enemy has triumphed over "The Angels of Vengeance"?''



'The Americans, the Japanese, and the Chinese are sending search aircraft!'

'And you wish me to make a statement, to show the world that kings can grieve as openly as commoners?'

*'Anything you wish to say,
Your Majesty...'*

*'Mine will not be the first words my people
hear. Until the "Archangel of Vengeance" himself
confirms that our "Hawk Prince" is gone...'*



Forty-five minutes after the **Blackhawk** planes vanished from the radar screens, the ladies were over the scene.



*'Take us to absolute ceiling, all
instruments humming. Got to
detect something!'*

*'Not a sign of anything in the water. No wreckage,
No life-rafts. Traces of jet fuel residual, but not a
whiff of any kind of explosive.'*





'No nothing! It's like the ocean swallowed them up clean.'



'Can't be! Where did they go and how? Why?'



Search for the *Blackhawks*



A SPECIAL *LIVE* REPORT



*'Aviation has yet another mystery - the **Blackhawks** are gone! Search and rescue aircraft are in the "zone area", just two hundred miles from **Blackhawk Island** and so far, have found nothing!'*



*'But unlike flight **370** which disappeared two years ago, the **Blackhawks** left no "radar trail", vanishing as if by magic!'*

*'Low on fuel after the "get acquainted" meeting with the **Pajin Dragons**, how could they have gone anywhere without gas to get there?'*

FOX **The BIG Question** the KELLY file



'Where, oh where, are the "Angels of Vengeance"?'

Within the vortex, 'round and 'round to...?



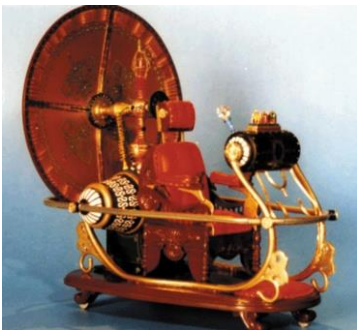
'OMG! We're trapped in a..!'



'Like seeing a reverse-history documentary!'



'Flying back through the years. Our jets have become...'



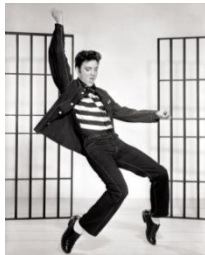
'I think I saw this movie.'



'I watched the TV show!'



'I read the comic book!'



'Fly-by-wire flying our jets! We'll either run out of fuel going nowhere and shake apart or wind up...'



'That light at the center of the time twister! Only way out!'



One by one the jets flew through until...



*'We're free! Back home, but
getting no satellite feeds. No internet!'*



'When are we now?'
FUTURE TIME



Lady Blackhawk, the wives and the children were waiting in the CommCenter Briefing Room. Finally, more than six hours after the 'incident', the 'Old Bird' appeared.



'I want to apologize for taking so long to speak to you, but I've had many, many things to consider.'

*'Lift your heads up all of you and stop wiping your eyes! Being **Blackhawk** is more than hard work and skills, but confidence...and trust!'*

'Your fathers are safe and in excellent health and will tell you all about it when they get back.'



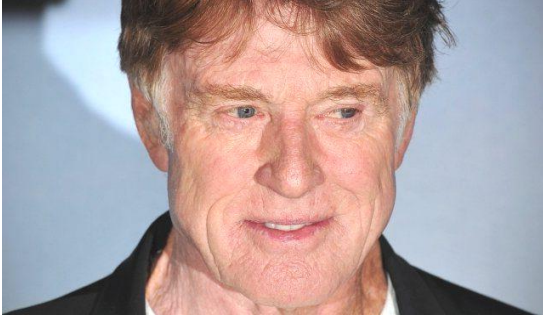
'How do you know?'



'When did you find out?'



'Where's my Daddy?'



'I'm sorry. I can't tell you yet.'



'Why not?'



'The "Archangel of Vengeance" keeping secrets!'



*'That's **Blackhawk-ing** it!'*

4



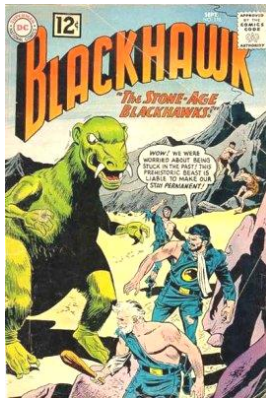
*'If time travel is possible,
where are the tourists from the future?'*

FUTURE TIME



"Haw!

"My father, Kin-Yon, has gone somewhere else and all the Blackhawks went with him!"

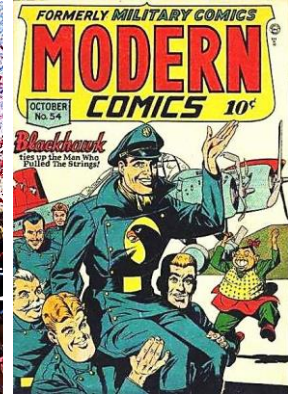
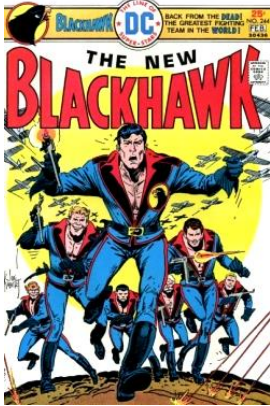


"And only the 'Archangel of Vengeance' knows and he cannot tell us. What Blackhawk mystery has enveloped us?"

"We Lakota believe in the spiritual world where all are destined to one day enter. Did my father's day come and I refuse to believe it? Have the "Angels of Vengeance" been taken to a place where they'll never be found?"



"Only a world without hope believes the Blackhawks to be dead and gone, and this time around, no flashy comeback!"



"Grandfather Bird" has declared that our fathers are safe and will return soon. That's Blackhawk enough for me!

"HAWKA-A-A-A!"



The President had cause to contemplate the history of his office: how would Ike have felt if the *Mercury 7* astronauts had suddenly disappeared?



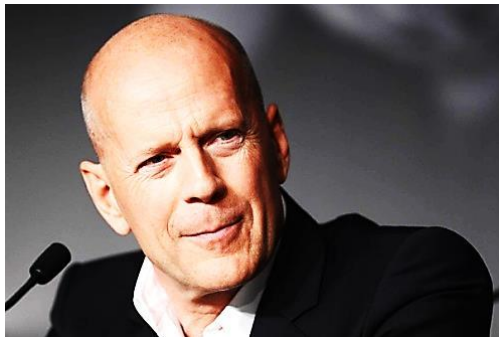
Air Force General Grooms requested a meeting...



'Mister President, a strategic opportunity must be taken immediately or the United States will be the loser.'

'Get to the point, general!'

'Blackhawk Island is suddenly vulnerable. With the team gone, the base could easily fall to "competitors".



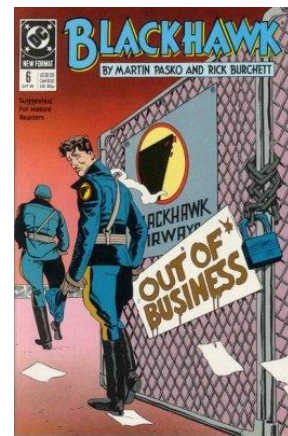
Opportunity! We can fly in and secure the island without incident.'

'Can we?'





*'And you believe that **Blackhawk** and **Lady Blackhawk**, the "Ladies of Vengeance" and the **Kid Blackhawks** will do nothing as you fly in and "Americanize" their lives? Remember when we tried that before?'*



*'**Blackhawk Island** is the most heavily defended base in the world! Makes Iwo Jima look like "Paradise Island"!'*

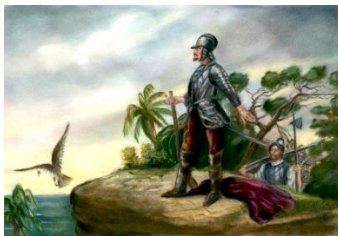


*'General, you want me to believe that your **Raptors** could take **Blackhawk Island**? What makes you think that the 'Archangel of Vengeance' is going to allow you to fly in and occupy his 'community'?*

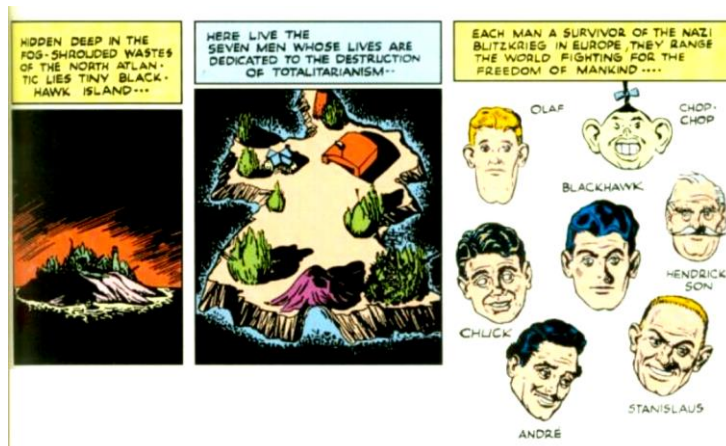
'He'll blast you out of the sky before you get your wheels down!'

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At long last, the Pacific Ocean was at peace. In 1513, Vasco de Balboa, the first European to see the Pacific, simply referred to it as the 'South Sea'. In 1520, Ferdinand Magellan named the new sea *Mar Pacifico*, which was so still at the time.



With WW II history, the Japanese and Germans defeated, and a good fight hard to find, the "Angels of Vengeance" were beginning to wonder...



Was the future passing them by?



'Not a distress call for nearly a month!'



'Donnervetter! This keeps up and we'll all be unemployed!'



'Sacre bleu! Where's our mystique without a fight?'

'I've gotten a job offer - to be a police chief in Sweden!'

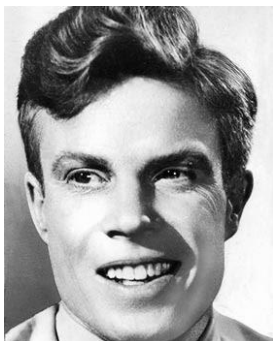
'I could teach at prime universities!'

'I could write books! Tell the world our legends!'



'Have we really come to this: how to exploit our wartime heroics for cushy desk jobs?'

*'Here and now...decide! The **Blackhawks** are on the verge of greatness or the dustbin of trivia. Which shall it be?'*



'Hold your horses! I've got six blips out of nowhere coming fast!'



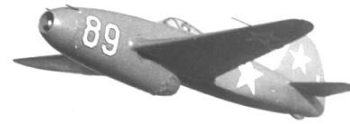
*'Social call! Friend or foe visiting **Blackhawk Island**?'*



'Holy Hannah! They're doing 1000 mph!'

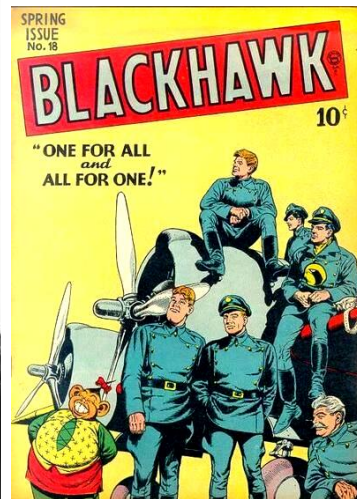
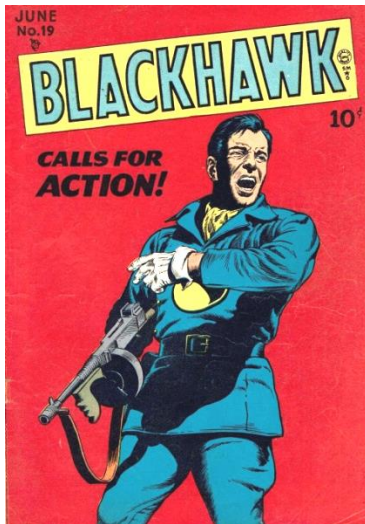


*'Bogies slowing. Down to 650!
They're looking to land here!'*



*'Jets? No one has any
half that speed!'*

*'Wobbly woes! What kind of pilots
can fly so fast?'*



*'Whoever these uninvited invaders
may be, we'll show them **Blackhawk!**'*

Future Time

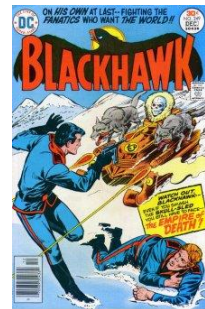
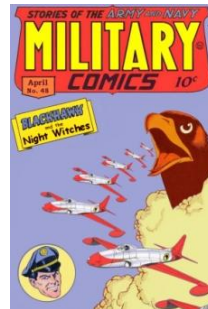
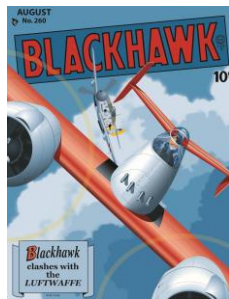
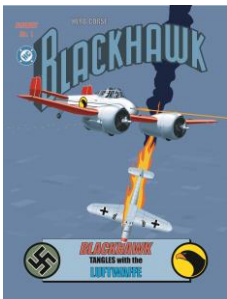


'THE PEAK OF EXCELLENCE PLUS LUCK', WERE THE "ANGELS OF VENGEANCE" THE GREATEST TEAM EVER?'



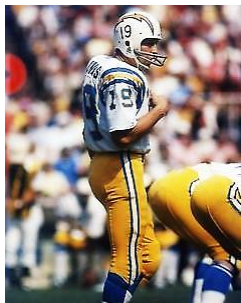
*'Longevity and numbers. The **Blackhawks** got'em both. Must have shot down one thousand enemy planes in their legendary careers.'*

*'The new team has shown us **Blackhawk!** Beat down the North Koreans, backed down the Chinese, blew away the Iranians and half the Syrian air force! They're a lock!'*

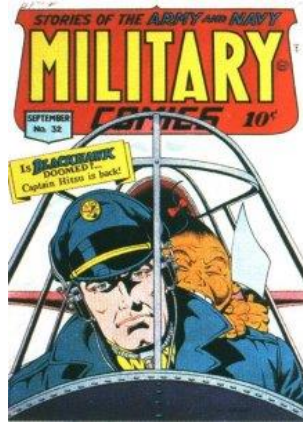


'Not so fast! Remember our heroes who had 'awkward endings'?'

*'No one ever went out worse than the **Blackhawks**. Came back strong, but history never forgets!'*



[Images no NFL or **Blackhawk** fan wants to remember.]



*"I'm looking for the future and can't find it anywhere! Which team do you like to rise up and "Show us **Blackhawk**"?"*

'Guess!'



*'Hello, great grandfather. We **Kid Blackhawks** are deeply concerned. Our fathers are gone, we don't know where or if they're ever coming home!'*

*Steel yourselves, children! **Blackhawk Island** has always been a magical and mysterious place. You must understand...'*



'Chop-Chop! You have to tell us. Are our fathers dead at the bottom of the ocean? Tell me!'



'Young 'Angel of Vengeance', this very old man is one of the originals. Do you trust me?'



'Of course, great grandfather!'



'Listen and believe the 'Old Bird'. As difficult as this may seem, remember who and why you are...'

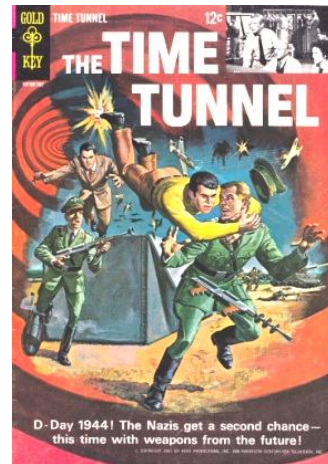
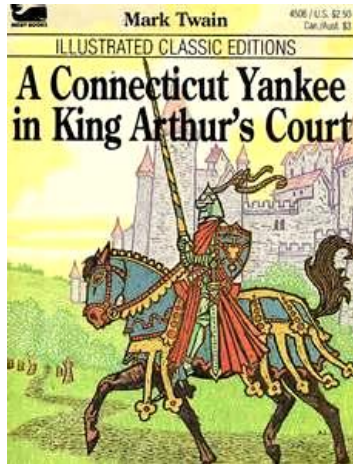
'Show me Blackhawk!'

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'A sudden rip in the space-time continuum! Caused by...?'

'Or a worm-hole between the centuries!'



'Whatever your sci-fi, Camelot' is dead ahead!'

'That's where we came from? It's a dump!'

*'The team moved here in 1945. Still a long way from being **Blackhawk!**'*



'Basic barracks, crude living conditions, a Third World dive! But it's got a wide, very long runway!'

'We'll go in two by two. Focus on where and when we are...I've got one mission...'



'To get us...back to the future!'

Future Time



*'The **Blackhawks** are gone--disappeared! While we mourn the loss of seven brave men and grieve with their families...'*

'Do we really miss the "Angels of Vengeance"?''



'I do. There was an ideal community and a global inspiration!'



'Yes and no--A politically correct concept that led to indiscriminate bombing!'



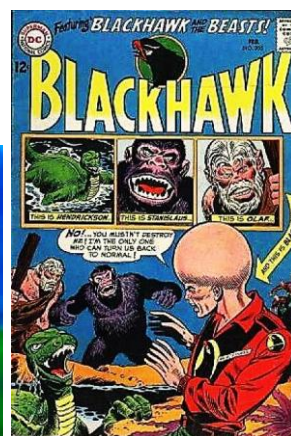
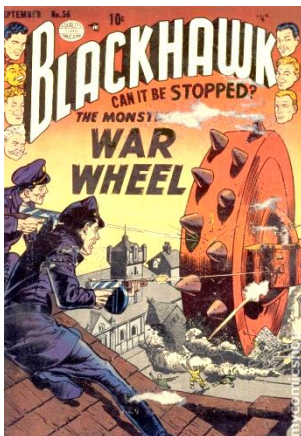
*'Too early to tell. With the **Blackhawks** gone, will the **Pajin Dragons** or the **Kremlin Knights** seek to inherit their throne?'*



*'The **Blackhawks** are dead!'*



*'Long live the **Blackhawks**!'*

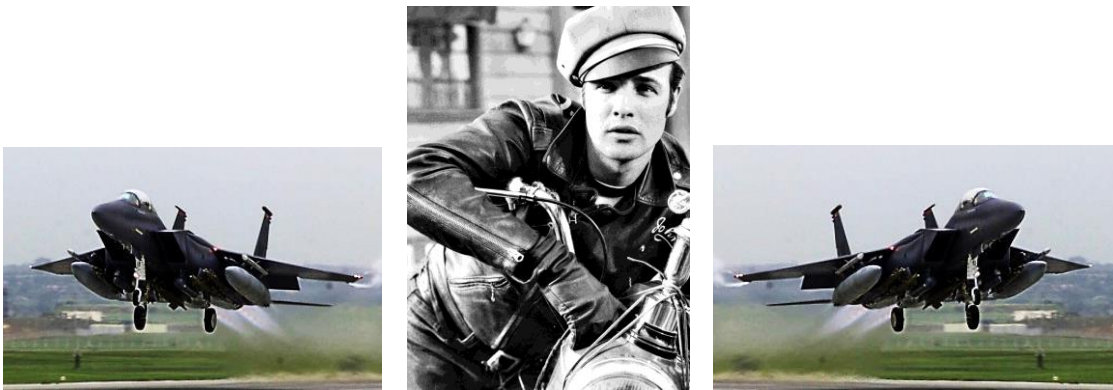


'My father covered the legendary "Angels of Vengeance". I grew up with the so-called "Magnificent 7", old men in red and green who'd be recruited by American intelligence to combat the silliest criminals, and then it got worse...'

SO SHAKE HANDS WITH THE REBORN MAGNIFICENT 7! THE ROLL CALL! THE LEAPER (OLAF), DR. HANDS (CHOP-CHOP), THE WEAPONS MASTER (HENDY), THE BIG EYE (BLACKHAWK), THE LISTENER (CHUCK), M'SIEU MACHINE (ANDRE), AND THE GOLDEN CENTURION (STAN)!



'When they finally faded away, I was more relieved than anything else.'



'But this 21st Century Team...they were the "Angels of Vengeance" in all their yesteryear glory!

'HAWKA-A-A-A!'

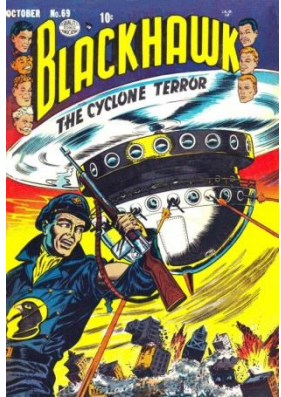
19  47



'Yumpin' Yiminy! Airplanes like I ban never dreamed of seeing?'



'And bearing our livery! By Gar, are we being replaced by a new team ...from where?'

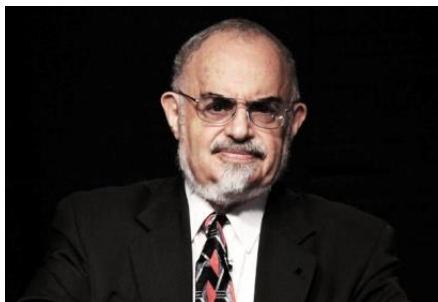


'We'll make them come to us! Let them land and get out of their fancy planes. Then we'll find out what these impostors are made of!'

Future Time

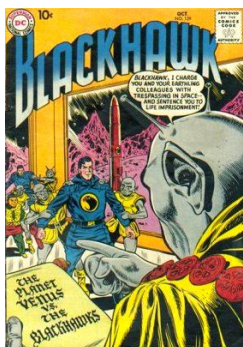


'Who or what made the Blackhawks "disappear"?'



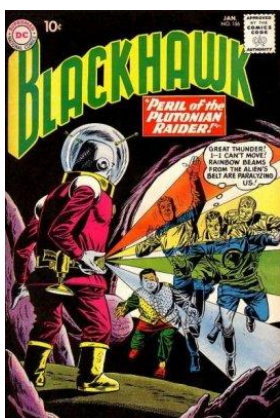
'The best combat squadron in the world vanishes---the conspiracy is frighteningly obvious!'

'Flight 19 disappeared over the Bermuda Triangle 70 years ago and no trace has ever been found!'



*'The **Blackhawks**' encounters with UFOs' have been thoroughly documented, with the "Angels of Vengeance" triumphant!'*

'But did they completely negate the ET menace? Could one of their adversaries have gotten revenge?'



*'Mainstream science, of course, will dismiss the **Blackhawk**/UFO connection for a more "go-with-the-flow" explanation.'*

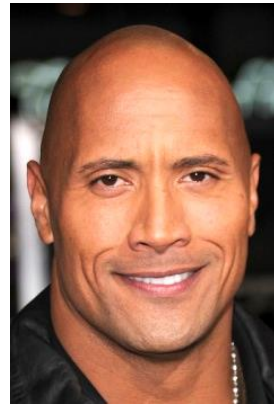
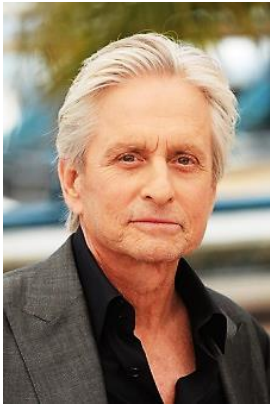
*'They've got nothing! If ever anybody doubted the existence of ET Intel, surely the sad fate of the **Blackhawks** has opened and changed minds!'*

THE QUESTION THE WORLD MUST ASK: WHO'S NEXT?





They landed and lined up their jets on the runway.



'No weapons! Not even the pistols in our survival kits!' *'The last thing we need! 'Fifty-mission' caps, act like you've been here next century!'*

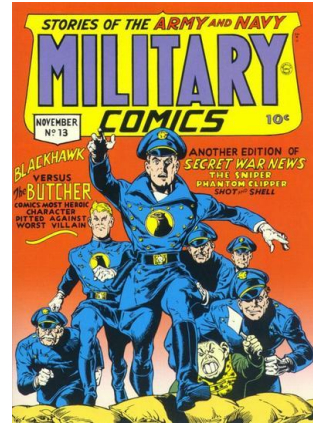
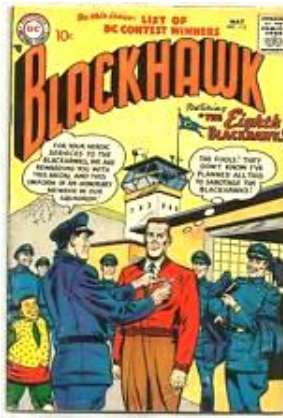
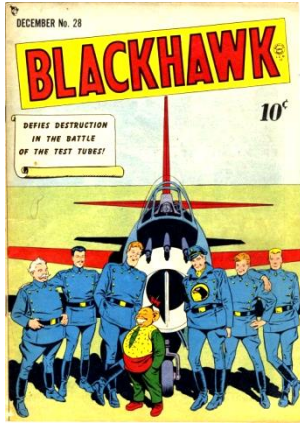
'I feel like I'm in a Blackhawk movie they never made!'



'Who are the stars and who are the stand-ins?'

'On Blackhawk Island before any of us were born. What happens if one of us dies here?'

They quickly assembled and headed for the headquarters.



Suddenly, the seven appeared making JJ III imagine: what if a fully diverse team went back and met the men who started it all. *If not for them, I could not be me!*



The "Angels of Vengeance" took a different take.



*'An international team!
Blackhawk blue for
every hue!'*

*'Six "bus drivers and their
Chinese cook", struttin' like
they own the place!'*

'Blackhawk Second-Team?

*'Like looking in a no-fun
house mirror!'*

*'These pilots
think they are us?'*

*'Mon ami, am I seeing
the next **Blackhawks**?'*

Finally face to face, the first **Blackhawk** spoke first.



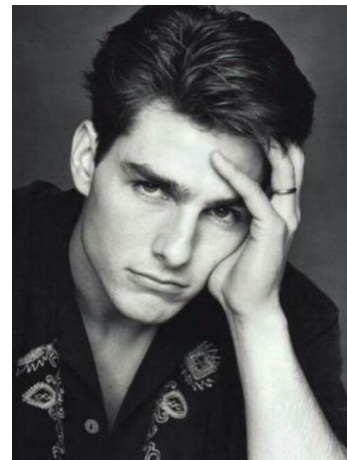
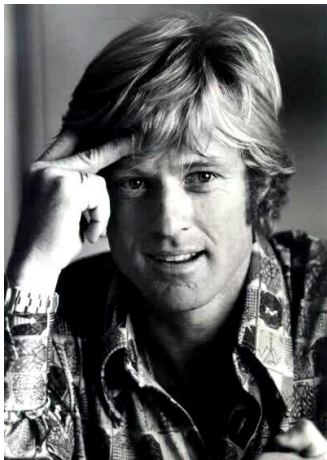
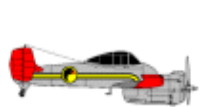
*'Nice uniform. I like the insignia.
But who in the world are you to take my
command?'*

Blackhawk fixer! You knew
all along!'



'Knew what?

*'That you and your gang of war-weary
aces flying rickety kites from a rock in
the ocean would become the greatest
team ever!'*



'And who might that be?'

'You're lookin' at'em!'