



SR-71 Blackbird: Stories, Tales, and Legends

By Rich Graham

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Feel the Mach 3 power generated by Lockheed's incredibly fast SR-71 Blackbird! Former SR-71 pilot, instructor and wing commander, Richard Graham, presents the most intriguing SR-71 stories ever told. This once highly classified program is fully revealed through the words of pilots, commanders, mechanics, and instructors involved in the Blackbird's creation and flight-testing. From grueling reconnaissance missions to the Persian Gulf conflict, this insightful book tells stories of bravery and daring determination.

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Editorial Review

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For a quarter-century, Lockheed's Mach 3 SR-71A Blackbird reconnaissance aircraft dominated the skies as no other. The men that flew the 55-ton "Habu" (so dubbed by Okinawans near one of its bases because of its resemblance to a local deadly black snake) at 80,000 feet and 33 miles per minute were the rarest of fraternities, and author and former 9th Recon Wing commander Richard Graham provides a score of them--as well as key ground personnel--a generous forum for their self-penned recollections here. Where Graham's first book, *SR-71 Revealed: The Inside Story*, dealt more with the Blackbird's remarkable hardware and history, this volume details the human dimensions of the SR-71 program, from its dangerous days of development and testing through decades of intelligence-gathering operations in the world's hot spots, to its final, bittersweet confrontation with the one foe it couldn't elude: self-serving Pentagon politics. Inspired by flying a plane that often seemed to have a mind of its own--and a sometimes malicious one at that--the anecdotes here are seasoned with a compelling mix of boyish humor, sheer terror, and enviable camaraderie. As Graham's fellow SR-71 pilot and author Brian Shul once noted, more people have stood atop Mt. Everest than have flown what remains the world's fastest, highest-flying jet. (The author is donating all royalties to the J.T. Vida Memorial Fund, set up to preserve Blackbird 972, whose 1990 transcontinental, record-setting retirement flight is recounted herein, currently housed at the Smithsonian Museum) --*Jerry McCulley*

Users Review

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Deanna Ratliff:

The actual book SR-71 Blackbird: Stories, Tales, and Legends will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading the book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book to study, this book very suited to you. The book SR-71 Blackbird: Stories, Tales, and Legends is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can easier to read the book.

Adam Allen:

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On this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability to do something more are more special

than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you should do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to experience a look at some books. One of the books in the top checklist in your reading list is SR-71 Blackbird: Stories, Tales, and Legends. This book which is qualified as The Hungry Inclines can get you closer in getting precious person. By looking upward and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

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