



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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SR-71 Blackbird: Stories, Tales, and Legends By Rich Graham Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #157244 in Books
- Brand: Zenith Press
- Published on: 2002-11-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.25" h x .75" w x 6.25" l, 1.42 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 256 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

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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Kim Armstrong:

Exactly why? Because this SR-71 Blackbird: Stories, Tales, and Legends is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap that but latter it will distress you with the secret it inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such incredible way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book have such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I were you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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Debra McGregor:

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