

# Zinda@Blake



# REJECTED!

by Kevin Ahearn



***For Erica***

**'ZINDA BLAKE'** is fiction.  
All references to actual persons, alive  
or dead, made for a good story.

***Blackhawk*** created by Chuck Cuidera, Bill Powell, and Will Eisner

***Lady Blackhawk*** created by Jack Schiff and Dick Dillin

**ZINDA BLAKE.....MERYL STREEP**  
**BLACKHAWK.....ROBERT REDFORD**  
**PLUS AN ALL-STAR SUPPORTING CAST**

***Blackhawk*** is a property of DC COMICS.

Cover: DC's **Birds of Prey**

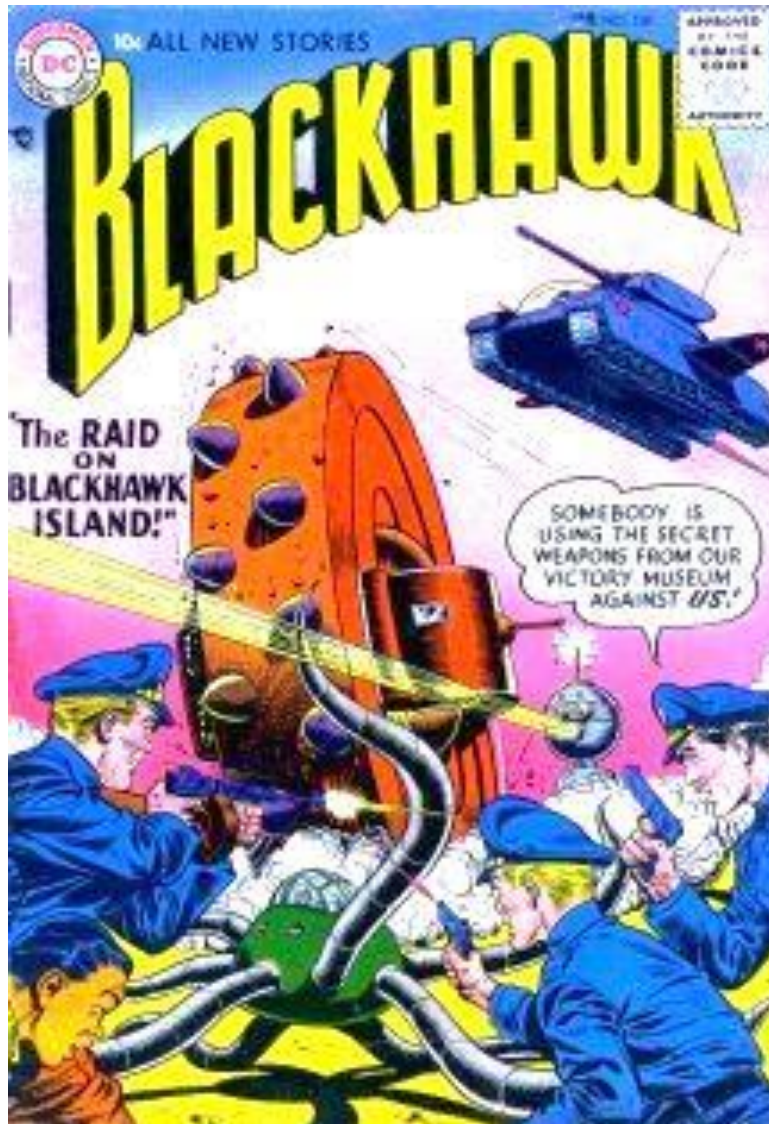


# NEXT 1953 JET

## REPUBLIC F-84 LOCKHEED F-90

<b>Specifications</b>		
<b>Length</b>	38 ft 1 in	56 feet 2 inches
<b>Wingspan</b>	36 ft 5 in	40 feet
<b>Height</b>	12 ft 7 in	15 ft. 9in.
<b>Weight (max)</b>	23,347 lb	27,300 lb
<b>Speed (at sea level)</b>	607 mph	725 mph
<b>Service Ceiling</b>	40,500 ft	50,000 ft.
<b>Range (Maximum)</b>	3,219 miles (with external fuel tanks)	3,500 miles
<b>Armament</b>	two .30 cal machine guns and two .50 cal machine guns	6 × 20 mm (.79 in) cannons 8 × 5 in (127 mm) <a href="#">HVAR</a> rockets Up to 2,000 lb (907 kg) of bombs

# 1



*'A man's got to do what a man's got to do.  
A woman must do what he can't.'*



**MARCH 6, 1955**

*Dear Diary,*

*To be a **Blackhawk**, I've got to get a plane...a jet!*

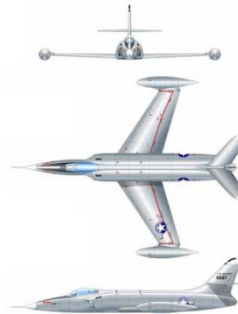
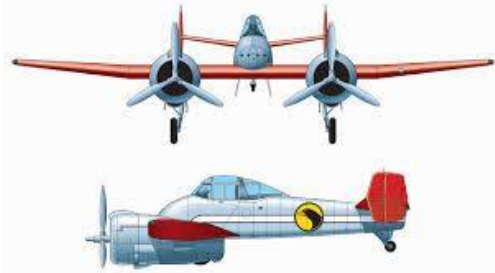
*My father's gotten very rich working with the Pentagon.*



*With the right connections...but a front-line operational fighter aircraft was out of question!*

*Again the "Angels of Vengeance" were an inspiration!*

*The first and latest **Blackhawk** jet have one thing in common: the US Defense Department rejected them both!*



*The Grumman 5f5 flew through a battery of tests for the Army and Navy and failed. It was fast and nimble enough, but the second engine made it too heavy and too expensive.*



*The Navy chose the **Wildcat**! Grumman kept a factory operational throughout the war producing **Skyrockets** exclusively for the **Blackhawks**!*

*And they were damn proud of it!*

*The team's newest, the beautiful Lockheed F-90...*



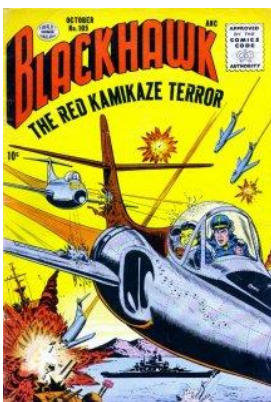
*The first American fighter with an afterburner and capable of supersonic speeds (in a dive), the Air Force rejected it (“overweight and underpowered”) before it even got a nickname.*



*Instead, the USAF chose the F-101 Voodoo and a future president got to fly it.*



*Lockheed’s “Skunk Works” would not give up on the F-90; “Exclusive supplier of the **Blackhawks**” would be a competitive victory and a corporate coup!*



*A brand new, more powerful engine, plus some “Angel technology” souped up the jet to Mach 2+. Lockheed would go on to build scores of F-90s as the **Blackhawks** shot down hundreds of enemy aircraft of all types.*

*As for my Lockheed “surplus” jet...*



*First, I got to get it airworthy. Then I have to learn how to fly it, and last but not least, decorate it with **Blackhawk** livery!*



*Beyond “Sugar” or “She-Hawk” Zinda Blake will be the last **Lady Blackhawk!***

**HAWKA-A-A-A!**





## TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, ALLIANCE, AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE CHINA-SOVIET UNION [1950]



The main purpose of the treaty was defense against future Japanese aggression. Should the Empire seek to rise again, the two Communist Powers would combine to beat down the aggressors!



Japan did not present an immediate problem, but Korea did. In June 1950 North Korea invaded the South. The United Nations, with the United States as the principal participant, joined the war on the side of the South Koreans, and the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union came to their ally's aid.

## THE KOREAN WAR WAS ON!

ON LAND...



### AT SEA...



### AND IN THE AIR...



At 20,000 feet over Kumgang and heading south, a 10-plane squadron of MiG-15s, the pride of Soviet Aviation, was on a mission of mid-air destruction.



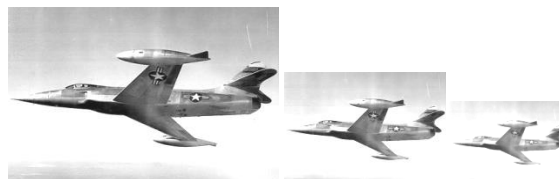
In the lead MiG, Ivan Kozhedub, the Soviet Union's #1 Ace of World War II.



*'Keep your eyes peeled, my Chinese and Korean comrades! Our intelligence intercepted a message that American bombers will be coming this way at five thousand meters!'*



One mile above the MiGs...



*'Hello, Ivan! Long time no see!  
You did get my message!'*

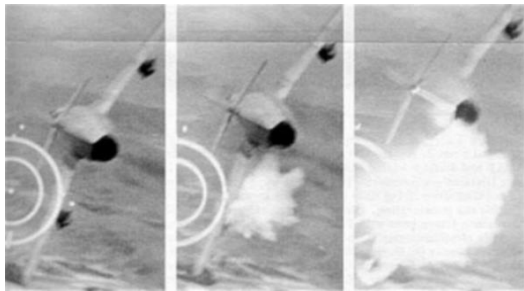


*'Archangel of Vengeance!  
You set me up!'*



*'A Blackhawk missile  
never misses!'*

*'By gar! Bail out now,  
Reds and save yourselves!'*



*'Find the enemy and shoot him down.  
Anything else is nonsense.'*



**‘THE BLACKHAWKS ARE SECRET SOVIET AGENTS!’**

*From the beginning, they always have been and the current administration has been totally taken in!’*



*‘I know better than to challenge the junior Senator for evidence that will prove his outrageous claims because he doesn’t have any!’*

*‘He’s forgotten, or never knew, the very bedrock of our vital profession...’*

*‘To be persuasive we must be believable; to be believable we must be credible; credible we must be truthful.’*

*‘He is NONE of those things!’*



*'Today we are engaged in a final, all-out battle between Communistic atheism and Christianity! The modern champions of Communism have selected this as the time, and ladies and gentlemen, the chips are down—*

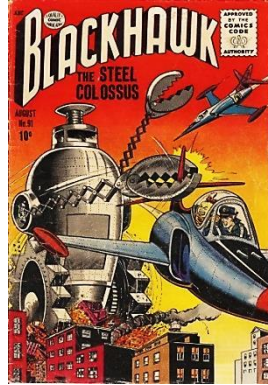
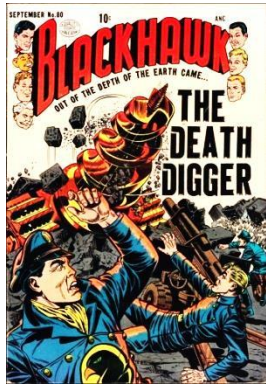


*'They are truly down!'*



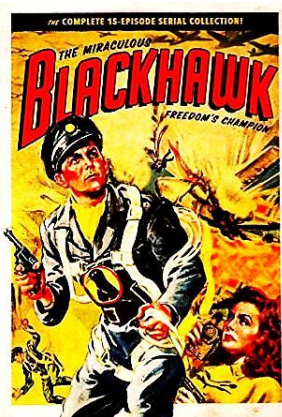
*'Are they, Senator? Are they really?  
In this Korean War, largely sponsored by  
China and the Soviet Union, the "Angels of  
Vengeance" have shot down more than forty MiGs!*

*'What's become abundantly clear: what  
Democracy needs is more secret Russian agents!'*



*'Blackhawk began as seven brave men versus the Axis from an island in the North Sea!*

*'Well, the war's over, we won and the "Angels of Vengeance" have become international freedom-fighters and a fixture in Americana!*



*'On the radio, the newsstands and in the movies, Blackhawk is an irrepressible force not to be challenged! 'Very soon now, the facts will overpower the fakery and this loud-mouth senator will be exposed as the hate-monger he's always been...'*



*'Our job as Americans and as Republicans is to dislodge the traitors from every place where they've been sent to do their traitorous work.'*

*'Call out the Army, the Navy and the Air Force!  
The headquarters of this Soviet sleeper cell must be invaded, overrun and neutralized!'*

**'On to Blackhawk Island!'**

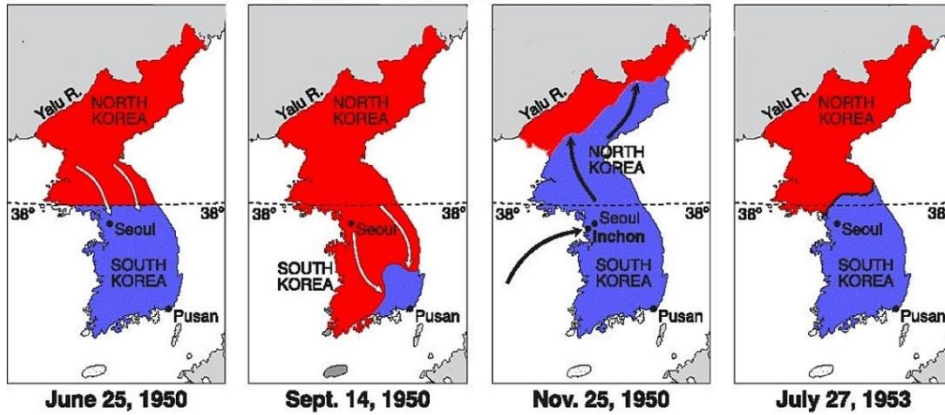
In March of 1953, Stalin died. Few outside the Communist Party mourned his passing.



In July, after more than three million casualties had been suffered on both sides, the fighting ended in July 1953 with Korea still divided into two hostile states. Negotiations in 1954 produced no further agreement, and the front line has been accepted ever since as the de facto boundary between North and South Korea.



THE KOREAN WAR IN FOUR MAPS



# Island History

## THE VICTORY MUSEUM



The Navy engineers were putting the finishing touches on the **Blackhawk** island base when **Blackhawk** himself called the team together.



*'Blackhawks, we fought hard and accomplished much and we should be properly remembered!*

*'I want a museum built on this island and our victories honored for all time!'*



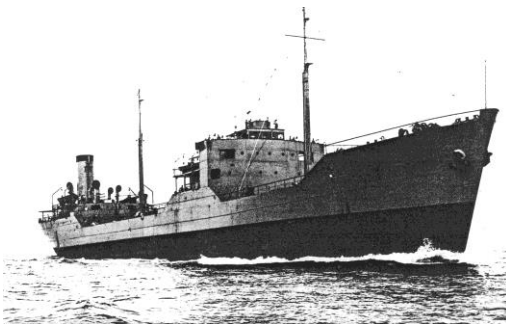
*'Himmel, a museum! Just like the ancient Greeks!'*



*'But even if all seven of us work' round the clock...'*



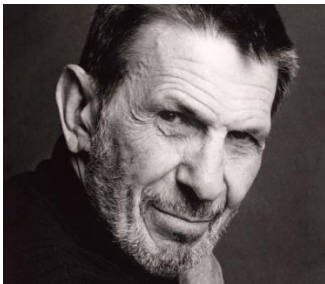
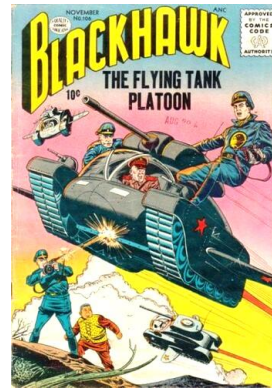
*'We'll have help! Let me make a few calls!'*



Help came from around the grateful world! Materials, construction crews and battlefield "souvenirs" big and little, from friend and foe!



Month after month of grueling labor, the museum began to take shape.



*'I grew up surrounded by theater, music, dance, museums. It was wonderful.'*



*I have a pretty big range of interests. I love art; I love going to the museums.'*

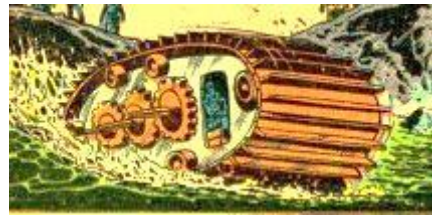


*'You can't fight in here. This is the War Room!'*

**Blackhawk** planes got the inside display areas.



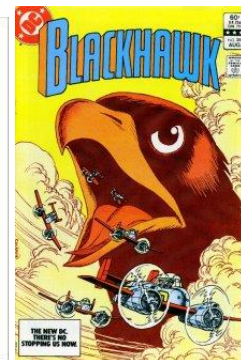
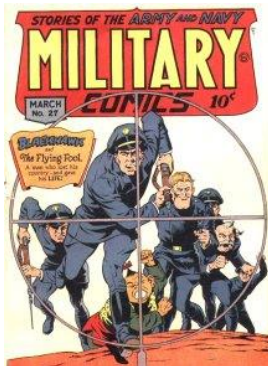
Enemy aircraft stayed outside.



'Sacre bleu! My **Blackhawk** life is flashing before my eyes!'

'Will there be a gift shop? Plenty of free parking!'

Finally, after more than a year of hard labor...





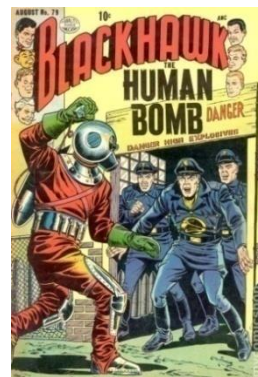
*'Chop-Chop, I've always said that you were the wisest of us all!*

*'What do you think?'*



*'Incredible! Fantastic! An amazing masterpiece!  
But wobbly woes, thousands upon thousands of  
miles from the people who'd love to see it!'*

**- 1954 -**



*'America and what's left of the Free World has  
been dazzled and then hoodwinked by the seemingly  
brave and courageous "Angel of Vengeance"!*

*'In truth, these Communist secret agents are corroding Democracy from within!'*



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

*'The greatest threat to fear mongering politicians ever known!'*



*'You dare accuse the **Blackhawks** of consorting with Communists!'*

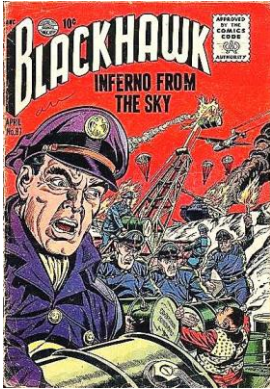
*'Enough, Senator! More than enough! We are going to shut you down!'*

*'For too long we've behaved like politicians instead of patriots!'*



The Wisconsin senator was censured for "abuse of power". He remained in office but was left with virtually no clout at all. With that, no American politician dared to question the legacy or the legitimacy of the "Angels of Vengeance" again.

Except the President!



*'Show me **BLACKHAWK!**'*



After Stalin died, Mao Zedong, the Chairman of the People's Republic of China, had a new Communist comrade, Premier of the Soviet Union, Nikita Khrushchev. Together they ruled the largest, most populated kingdom in history!



*'We have the might  
to take over the world!'*

*'But do we possess the  
will?'*



Photo jackiolett via Tumblr/Tumblr



Photo: SHANUHAN1111 onangruist.com

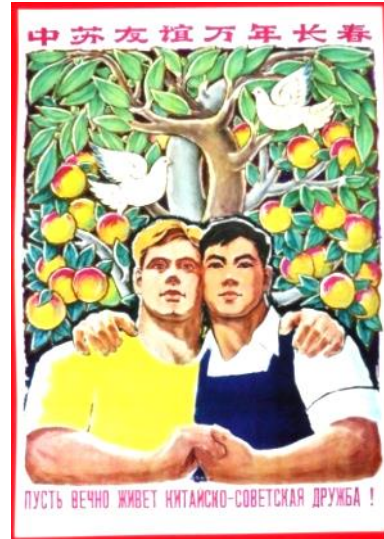


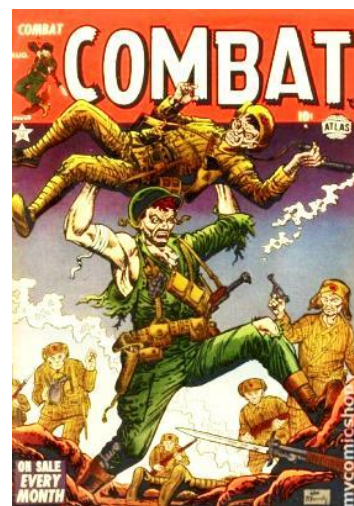
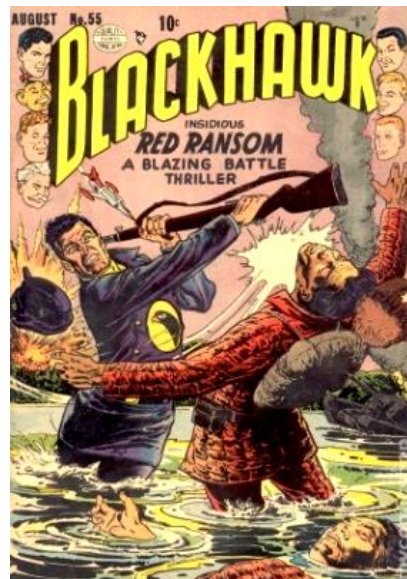
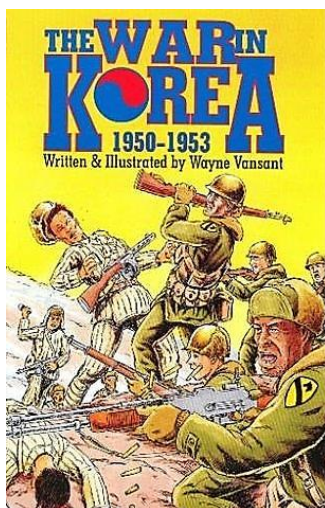
Photo: the Army world



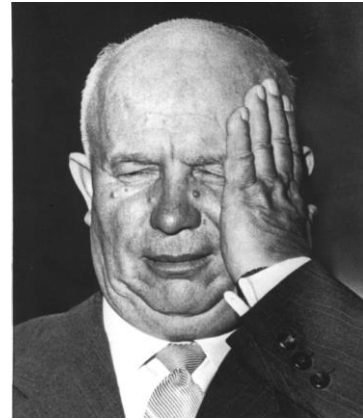
Global Photo

*'The West has been weakened by their undying love of money!'*

*'The fools only care about "Keeping up with the Jones"!'*

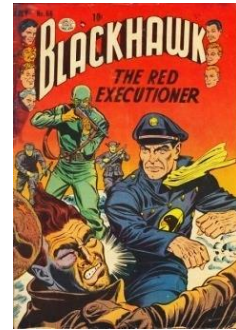
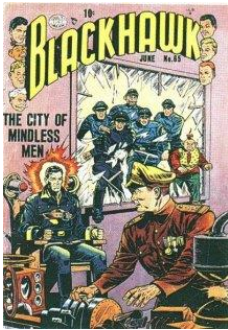






*'It's their blatant propaganda we must fight to the death!'*

*'Cursed Blackhawks! It's their infernal singing that disturbs me most!'*



*'Over land, over sea, we fight for liberty!'*

**-1956 -**





*The Hungarians are revolting, Your Majesty!  
The uprising began as a student protest, which  
attracted thousands! They're marched through  
central Budapest to the Hungarian Parliament building,*

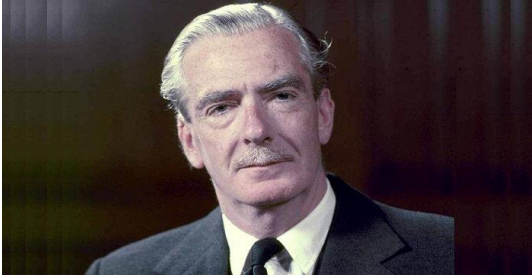
*'Brave and idealistic!  
What can the Kingdom  
do to help them!'*



*'Against the Soviets! Our intervention  
could start World War Three!'*

*'And the Russians know it!'*





*'I'm ashamed of our predicament, as are free people everywhere!'*

*'Prime minister, there are those who can do something! And the "Angels of Vengeance" will!'*



After jetting across Western Europe...



*'One big Commie parade!'*

*'We'll give freedom something to celebrate!'*



***'HAWKA-A-A-A!'***

# 2



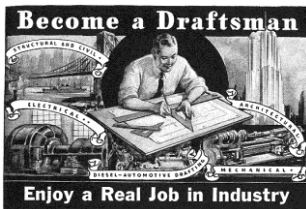
*'Once you figure out what respect tastes like, it tastes better than attention.'*



**JANUARY 2, 1957**

*Dear Diary,*

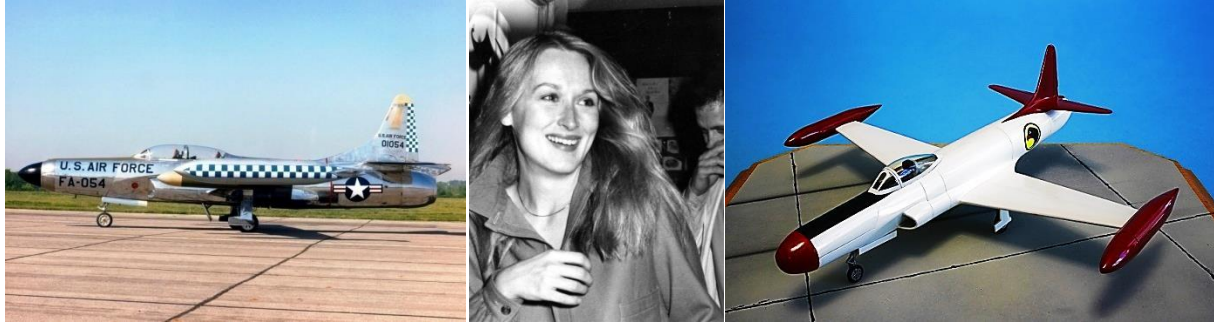
*Every day I am closer and closer to becoming a **Blackhawk**, and yet, I'm still so far away.*



*I'm the only woman in my department. Working out every day, nowhere near "**Blackhawk shape**", but I'll get there!*

*"The peak of excellence...plus luck" in the credo of the **Blackhawks**. I working my butt off, but I'm not yet in "**Blackhawk shape**"!*

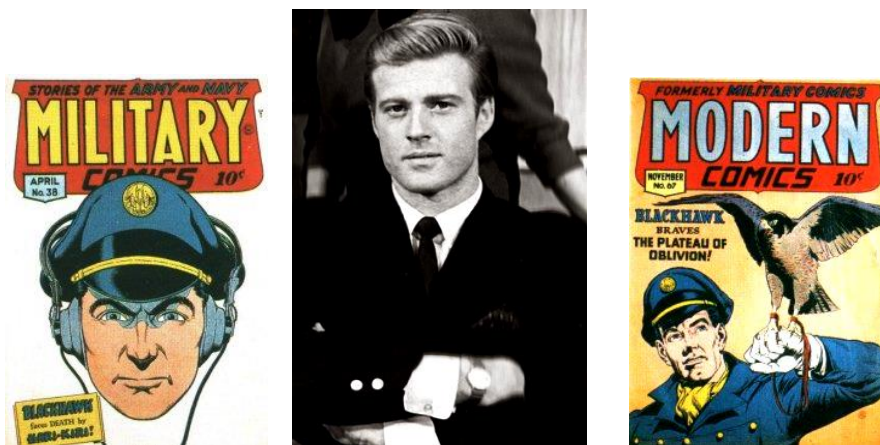




*Best way to learn how to fly---start dating pilots!*



*Each was an experience in himself, but none flew in the same sky with...*



*Got to keep working, keep pushing. Get ready to get proud, "Archangel of Vengeance", Lady Blackhawk is coming!*

**'HAWKA-A-A-A!'**

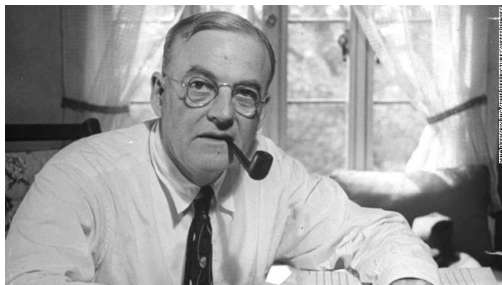


**'Blackhawks! You "gentlemen" attacked a Soviet convoy, killed Russian soldiers and destroyed a whole column of tanks!'**



**'We could have done better, Mr. President, but we ran out of bombs!'**

**'Next time around, we'd like to use cluster bombs! Have you got any?'**



**'Sorry, Blackhawks, but you are hereby forbidden to fly over Warsaw Pact nations without White House authorization!'**



**'Which will not be coming any time soon! You "vigilantes" could have started World War Three!'**





*'You mean you're giving the Reds free reign in Eastern Europe?'*



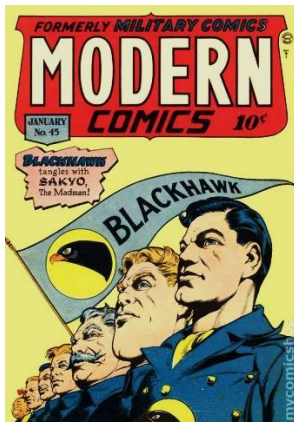
*'The Democracies will do nothing!'*



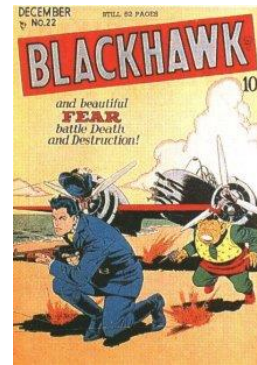
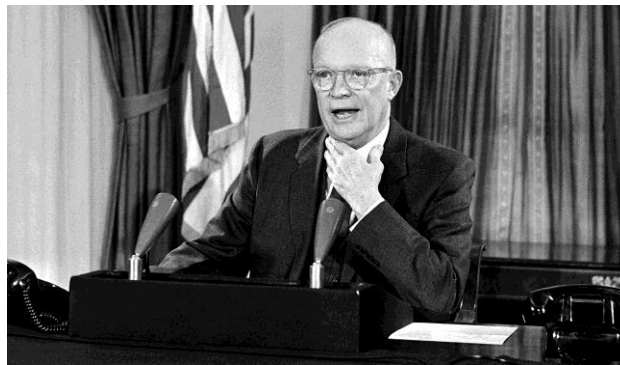
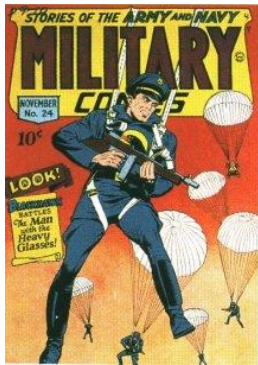
*'They're toasting you in Moscow, Mr. President!'*



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



*'Not until there's a woman on the team!'*



*'The world has entered the Atomic Era! One foolish move, one careless error, just one ill-advised battle and Mankind could destroy the entire planet!'*

*'I want your word, **Blackhawk**, that from this day forward, you and your team will leave the Communists alone!'*

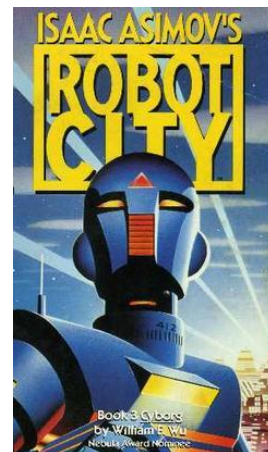
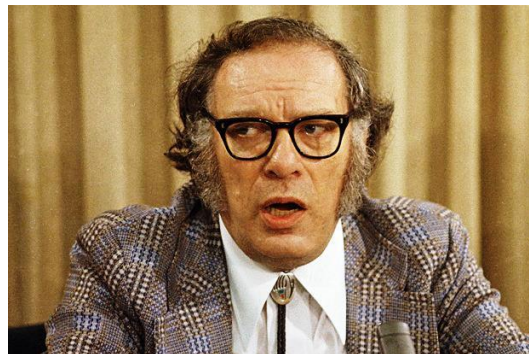
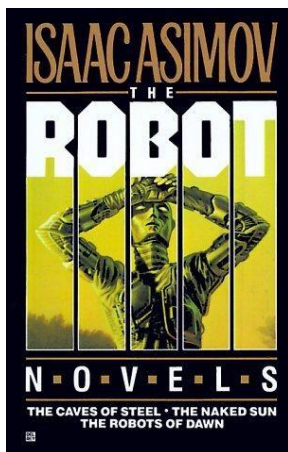


*'Mr. President, you were our Supreme Commander during the war, and won it going away, but this order will be the toughest ever to obey!*

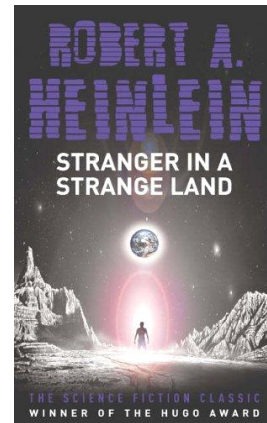
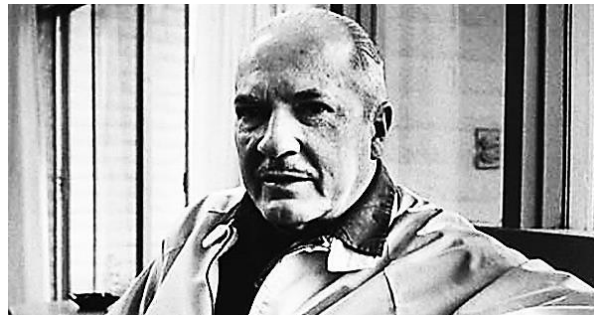
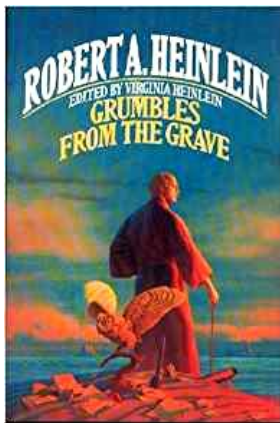
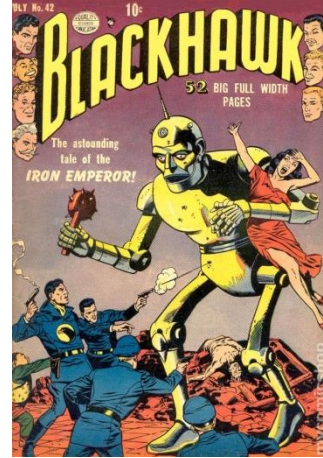
*'What do we do now?'*



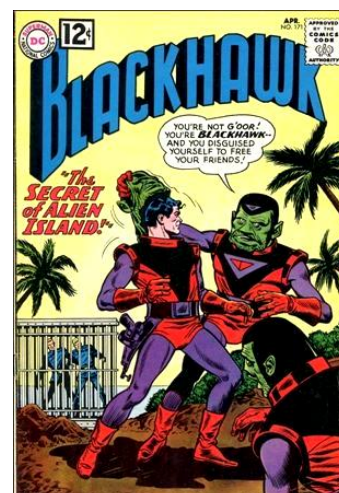
## ARE THE **BLACKHAWKS** SCIENCE FICTION?

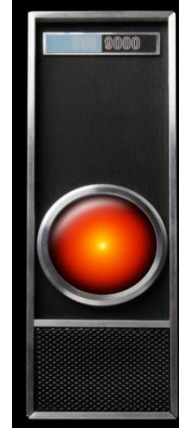


*'The heroic team started fighting robots in 1951!  
And they never let up!'*



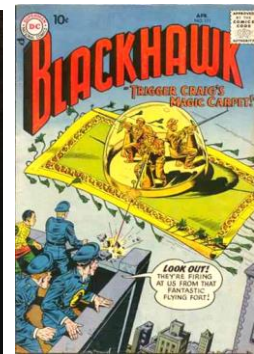
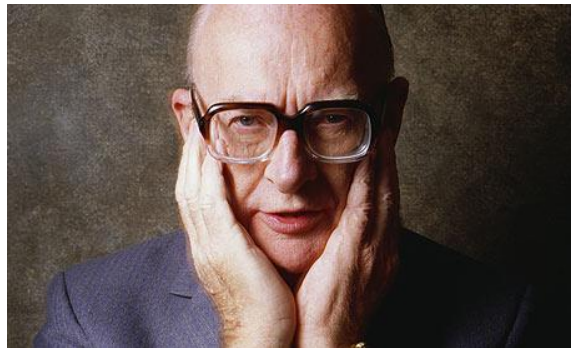
*'And they've encountered aliens from throughout the solar system and beyond!'*



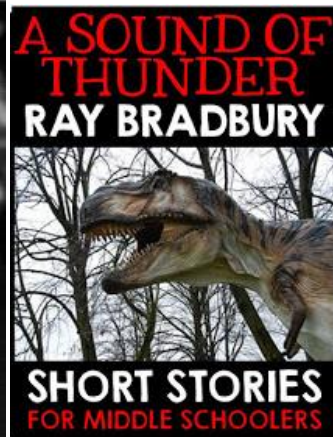


*'The Blackhawks are invincible as a unit!'*

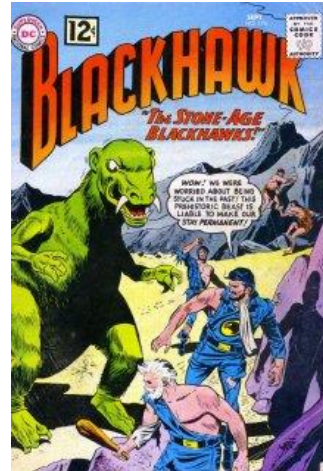
*'The greatest threat to stupid fiction ever known.'*



*'Magic was never a stranger as the Blackhawks created so much as a team!'*



*'Nobody knows Time Travel better than the "Angels of Vengeance"! In the far future or deep, deep in the dark past, the Blackhawks are always going somewhere...'*



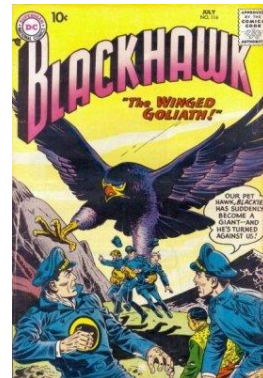
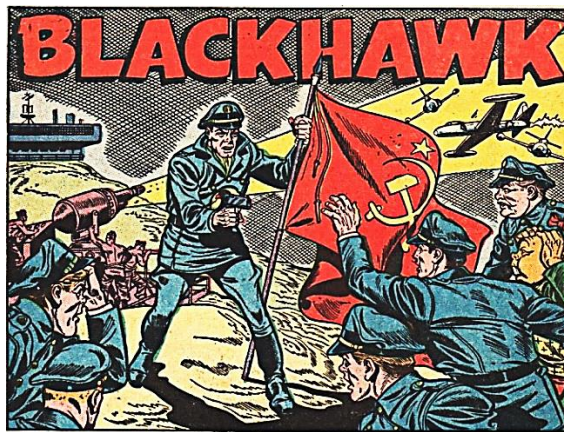
*'The Blackhawks are real!'*



*'So is our imagination!'*

**INTRODUCING...**

**THE NEW BLACKHAWK ERA!**



**(FREE OF ANTI-COMMUNISM PROPAGANDA!)**



*'Welcome to the DCU, heroes all!'*

*'Once in war, now in peace!'*



*'Too bad we never teamed up!'*

*'Or had the same publisher...until now!'*



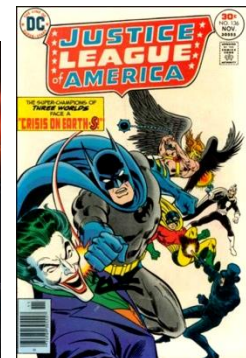
*"Angels of Vengeance", you have joined a Universe far beyond your old!*

*"Your former reality no longer exists! Prepare for the vilest of villains!"*



*'Already shaking in my custom-made sandals!'*

*'Sacre bleu! The Nazis and the Commies will file a SAG Union protest!'*

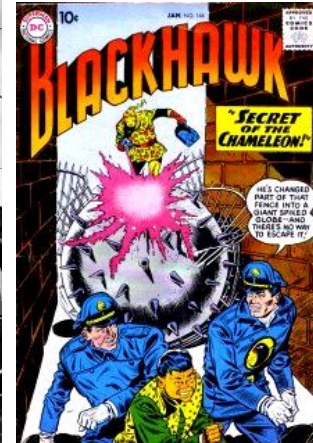
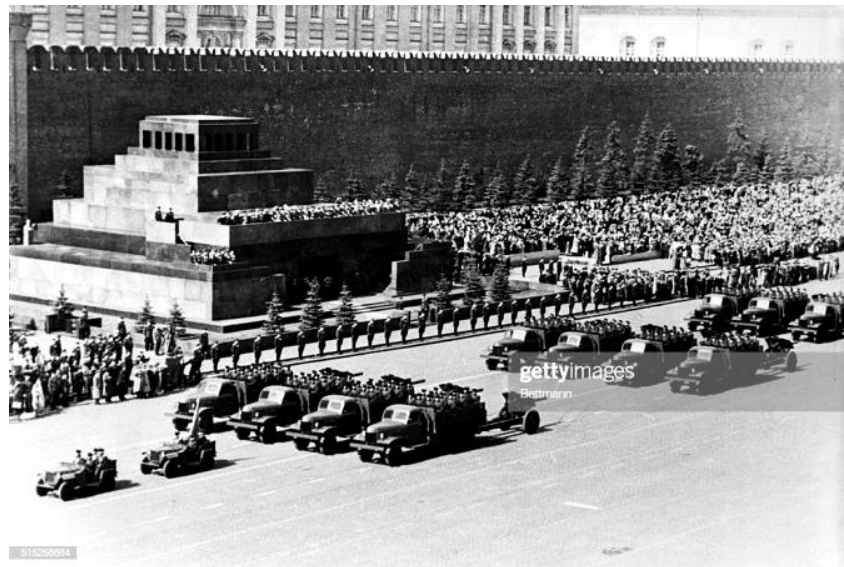
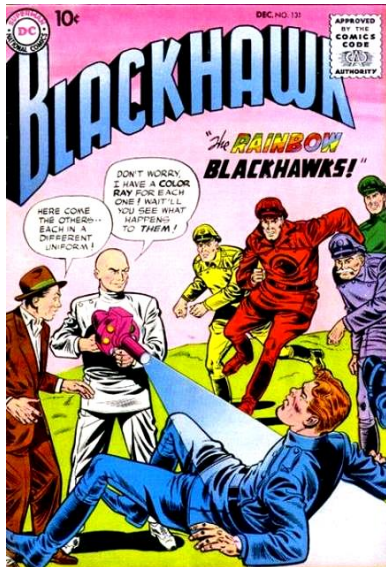




*'Do not focus on the forces of tyranny and segregation!*



*'Instead, concentrate on colorful crooks!'*







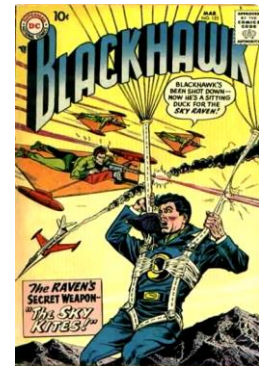
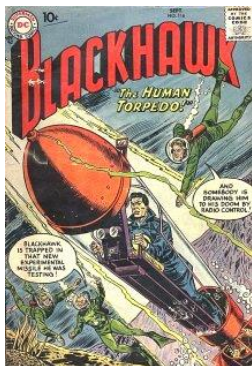
*'In this new Universe, it's not about telling, but selling!'*



*'Think TV, movies, franchise! You could be a billion-dollar merc business!'*



*'As I live and breathe...**Blackhawk!**  
The man, the myth, the legend!'*



*'If it's Okay with you, Mr. White, the "Angels of Vengeance" will write our own stories!'*

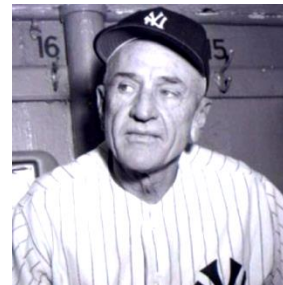


*'Chet, is there something wrong with the **Blackhawks**?'*

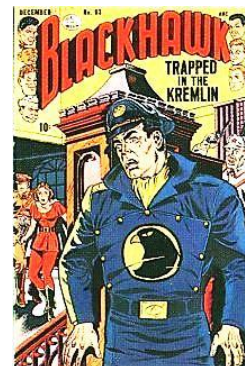
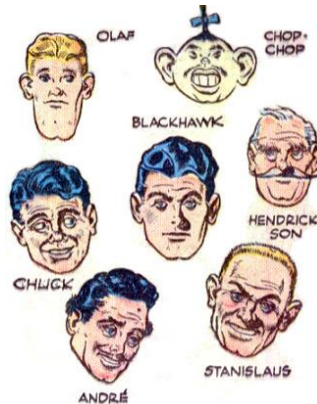
*'Conflicting opinions on the "Angels of Vengeance" from around the world, David!'*

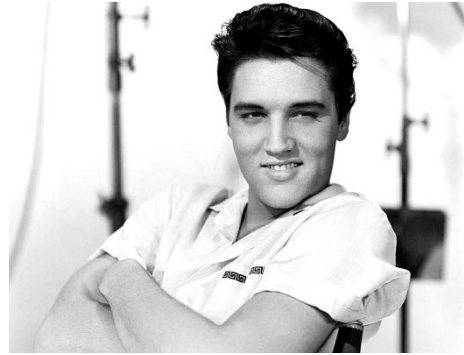


*'The **Blackhawks** are who they are all the time! They not going to change their ways or their uniforms!'*



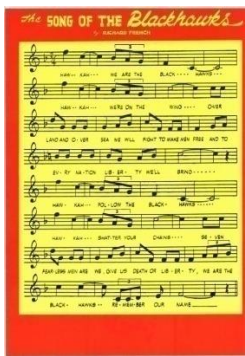
*'Best fighting team in history! Babe Ruth power, Lew Gehrige longevity. You cud look it up!'*





*'The **Blackhawks** have forgotten what tyranny and oppression are! Not once has the team ever set foot in the American deep South!'*

*'Get off the **Blackhawks**' back because they won't scratch yours! And I like the way they used to sing!'*

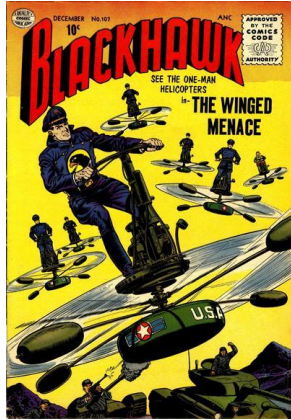


*'Over land, over sea, we fight for liberty!'*



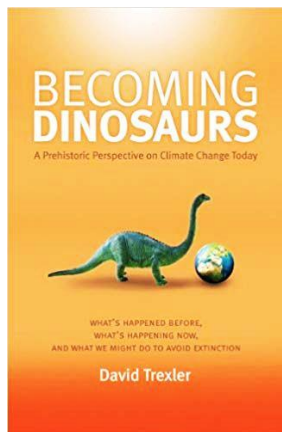
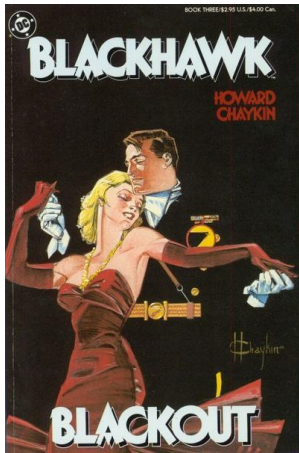
*'But they are aging poorly! How much of themselves did they leave behind, left dying in the last War?'*

*'There's nothing wrong with the **Blackhawks** because everybody gets old...except Cary Grant!'*



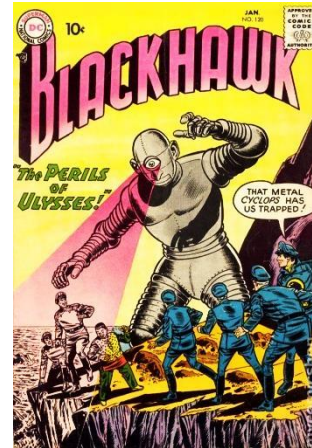
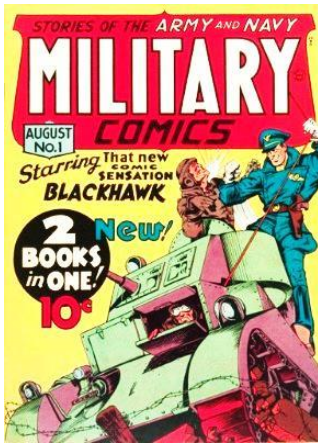
*'I know best! The **Blackhawks** are invincible as a unit!'*

*'Not without a woman's intuition, they're not!'*



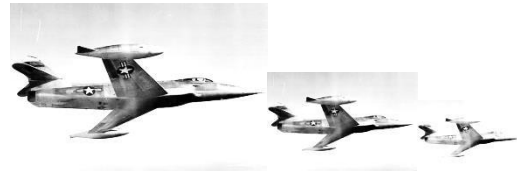
*'Finest gang of fighter pilots who ever lived! But if they stop flying, they're mediocre mush!'*

*'Oh, the **Blackhawks**! When are those "Old birds" going to grow up and let a woman join?'*



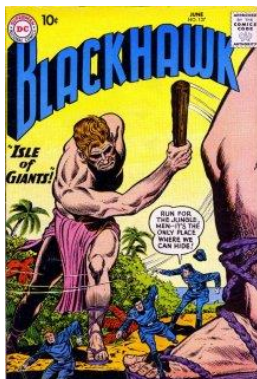
*'We're not retiring, not sitting back in our armchairs and watching football, not yet!*

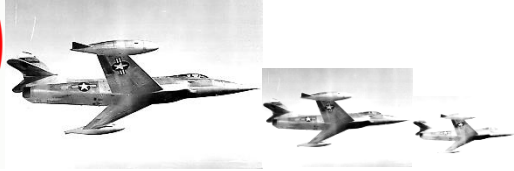
*'There's still so much left to do and undo!'*



*'The Blackhawks have been flying and fighting since 1941, 1941! Surely they've had enough by now, David!*

*'More myth than men? More legend than real heroics?'*





*'And they're gliding on their name and reputation? Wouldn't be the first or last time champions stayed too long at the front!*

*'David, the dustbin of history is filled with "Historians" who gave up on the **Blackhawks**...and I'm not going to be one of them!*

**'HAWK-A-A-A-A!'**



# R

# RONDOUT VALLEY GANDERS




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# THE SHADOW KNOWS...!


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*The Rondout Reader*  
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**The SHADOW Knows!**  
AN INDELIBLE SCRAPBOOK  
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1

May 2023  "It's your New York!"


*The Rondout Reader*  
From Eddyville, New York




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December 2023  "It's your New York!"

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March 2024  "It's your New York!"

*The Rondout Reader*  
From Eddyville, New York



**CREATING BATMAN**  
by Kevin Ahearn



# 3



*'Reach for it. Push yourself as far as you can.'*



OCTOBER 6, 1957

*Dear Diary,*

*If I'm going to be Lady Blackhawk, I've got to feel like the "First Lady of Vengeance"!*

*To feel like Lady Blackhawk, I've got to look like her!*



*I'll be going into battle, not to a costume party!*

*My style must be **Blackhawk!***



*I've got a "Hall of Fame" flight instructor who's teaching me all the ropes.*



*He's says I've got "talent". I should be soloing in no time flat!*

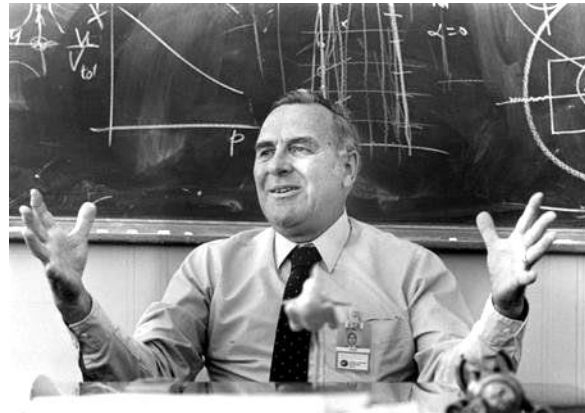


*Buckle up, **Blackhawks**, Zinda Blake, I mean **Lady Blackhawk**, will soon be taking wing!*

**HAWKA-A-A-A!**



*'The Soviet Union has conquered outer space!  
Let history take notice now and forever,  
We Russians were first!'*



*'Our proud nation has become "The seacoast of the universe"!*

*'Only the beginning, comrades!  
When we land on the moon, we  
will own the earth!'*



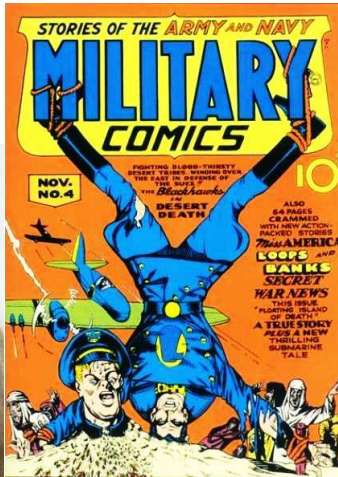
*'Western Europe is in our gunsights! Out time is coming!'*



*'And with the nuisance Blackhawks out of the way, sooner than anyone thinks!'*



*The Blackhawks used to be invincible as a unit!'*

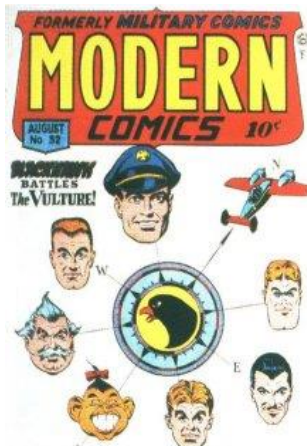
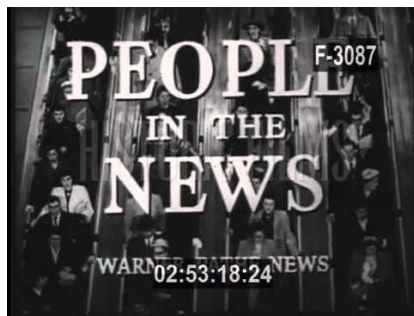


*'The greatest threat to has-been super-villains ever known.'*



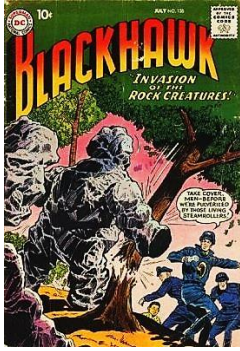


*'The Americans are so gullible. We'll keep feeding them small doses of socialism. We won't have to fight them. We'll so weaken their economy that they'll fall like overripe fruit into our hands!'*



*'What's happening to the **Blackhawks**? The once-valiant freedom-fighters are now fighting criminals!'*

*'What a letdown!'*



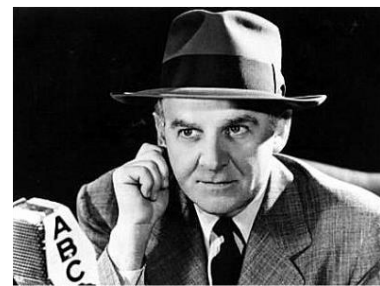
*'And monsters of all shapes and sizes!'*



*'And alien menaces from God knows where!'*



*'Seven of the most admired, most famous and sexiest men on the planet! Where're their women?'*



*'I've tapped all my South Pacific sources...nothing yet!'*





*'Not a sniff of scandal! Could it be  
...the "Angels of Vengeance" are queer?'*



*'Or they are very careful gentlemen!  
I'll go with my take, thank you!'*



*'And that's the way it is...  
'Show me **BLACKHAWK!**'*



*'Your Majesty, the **Blackhawks**  
are evolving as we speak!'*

*'So is our world, Prime Minister!  
The **Blackhawks** are trying to  
catch up!'*





*'The Nazis and the Commies couldn't intimidate the "Angels of Vengeance", yet now they challenge costumed creeps!'*



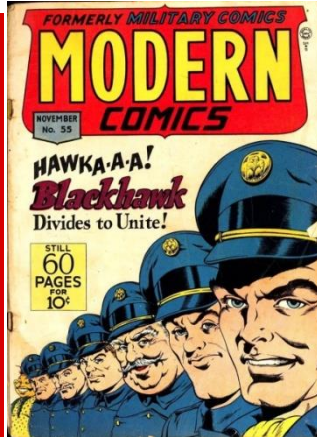
*'The Blackhawks find themselves limited by forces beyond their control.'*



*'Eastern Europe will miss them dearly. Liberated from the Nazis, the fear of Communist aggression!'*

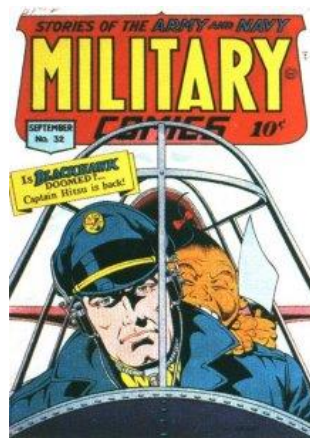


*'And they could always count on the "Angels of Vengeance" when the Russians got "pushy"!'*



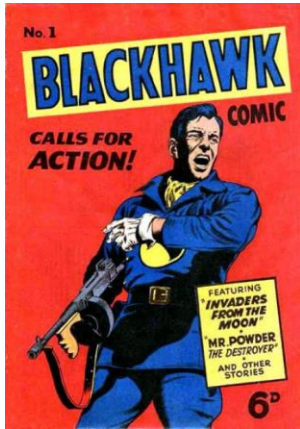
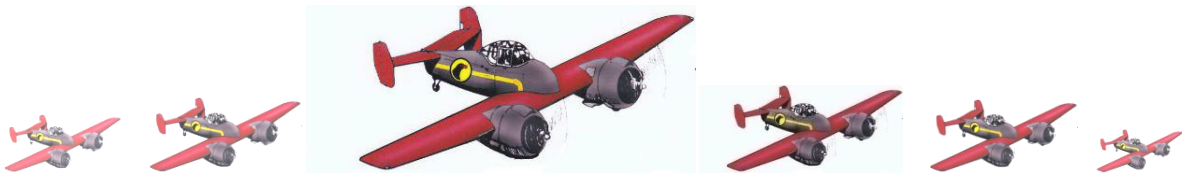
*'They fly American aircraft, depend on supplies, gas, bullets and bombs from the USA!'*

*'Make your point, Prime Minister! May your aim be accurate!'*



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

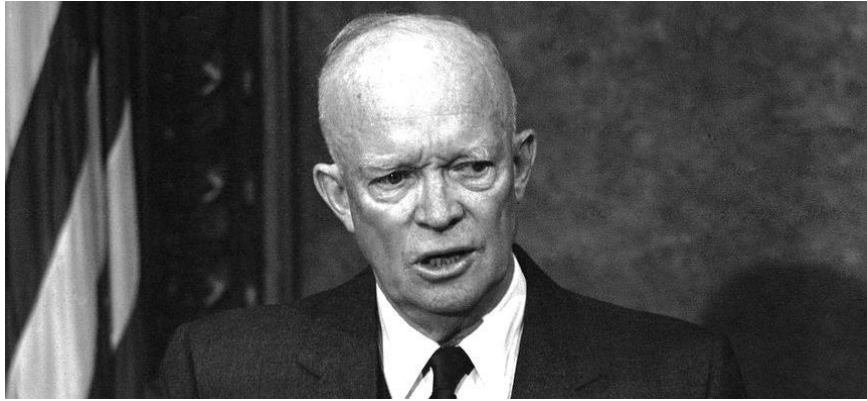
*'The greatest threat to fantasy foes ever known.'*



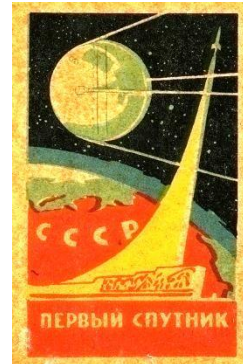
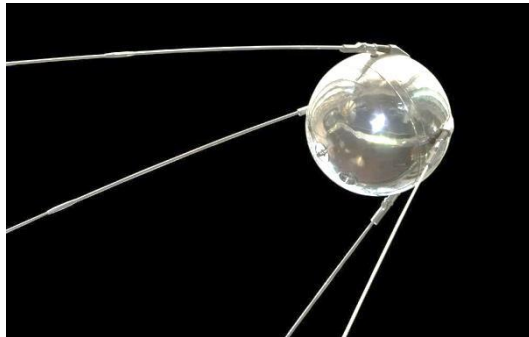
*'Never forget, Prime minister that **Blackhawk** and I go back to the darkest days of the Blitz!'*



*'Who would believe the **Blackhawks** run by the White House? The "Archangel of Vengeance" taking orders from anybody? No, no, a thousand times no! Because I know. Again, again and again I tried!'*



*'Without warning the United States is no longer seen as a leader!  
Because of this **Sputnik**, we are behind the Soviet Union!'*



*'A useless hunk of iron.'*



*'A technological Pearl Harbor!'*



*'The first man-made satellite was named **Sputnik**. The first living creature in space was **Laika**. The first rocket to the moon carried a Soviet flag. If a man orbits the earth this year, his name will be **Ivan**.'*



*'The Reds are way ahead of us and will do anything to keep their lead!'*

*'We find ourselves in a "Space Race" and also, a public relations battle!'*



*'Let's get the **Blackhawks** involved! The children love them and will be moved by the "Adventure in Space"!'*

*'What? Do tell me you put any credence in those "Legends". They're as real as the Roswell "UFO crash"!'*



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

*'The greatest threat to space aliens ever known.'*



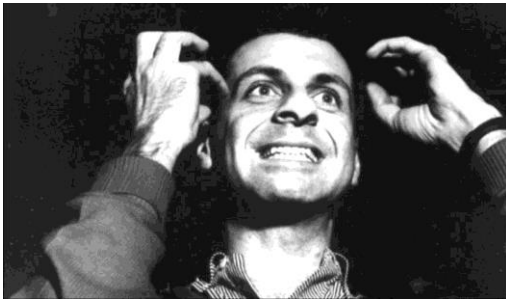
*'No, I've got a much better use for "Anti-Commie Heroes"! There's this Southeast Asian Civil War in Vietnam! Send the "Angels of Vengeance and be done with it!'*



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



*'The greatest threat to lost causes ever known.'*



*'Surefire! Seven heroes versus endless Cong fanatics! Watta headline!'*

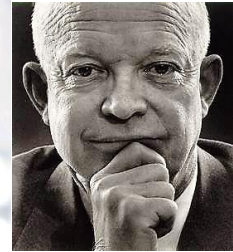


*'And when one or all is captured or killed? What will our reaction be?'*



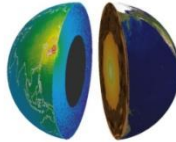
*'All America would be outraged! Our reply...imagine 100,000 US troops, 200,000, half a million GIs in Vietnam!*

***'The ultimate nightmare!'***



*'Good news and not so good, **Blackhawks!** The Queen has promised total support including mid-air refueling for anywhere we want to fly!*

*'But the Americans have banned us from Eastern Europe, and overflying Red China and the Soviet Union!'*

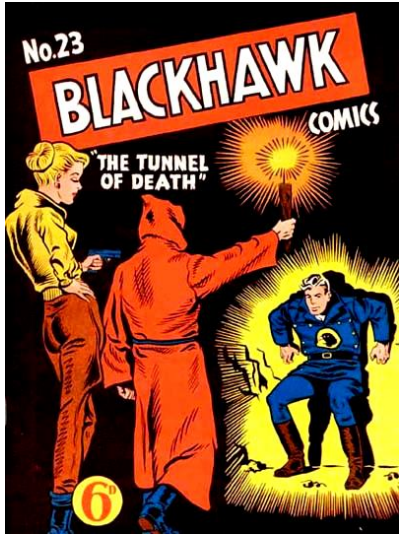


*'Wobbly woes! Red World, Free World, planet split in two!'*

*'We're only welcome in one! That's only half right!'*

*'Not allowed to fight Russians or Chinese anymore! Afraid we might hurt them?'*





*'We're left with wackos, weirdos and old Nazis!'*

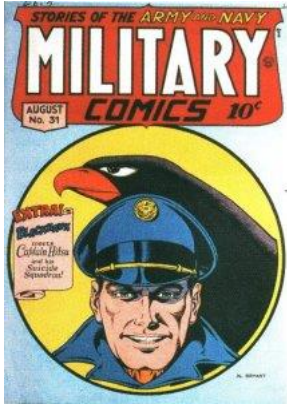


*'From "World History" to "Pop Culture"!'*



*'What kind of "Angels" will be become?'*





*'Not about "fighting for liberty" any more, but "defending free people"! Commie-fighting or crime-fighting, we are the **Blackhawks** and always will be!*



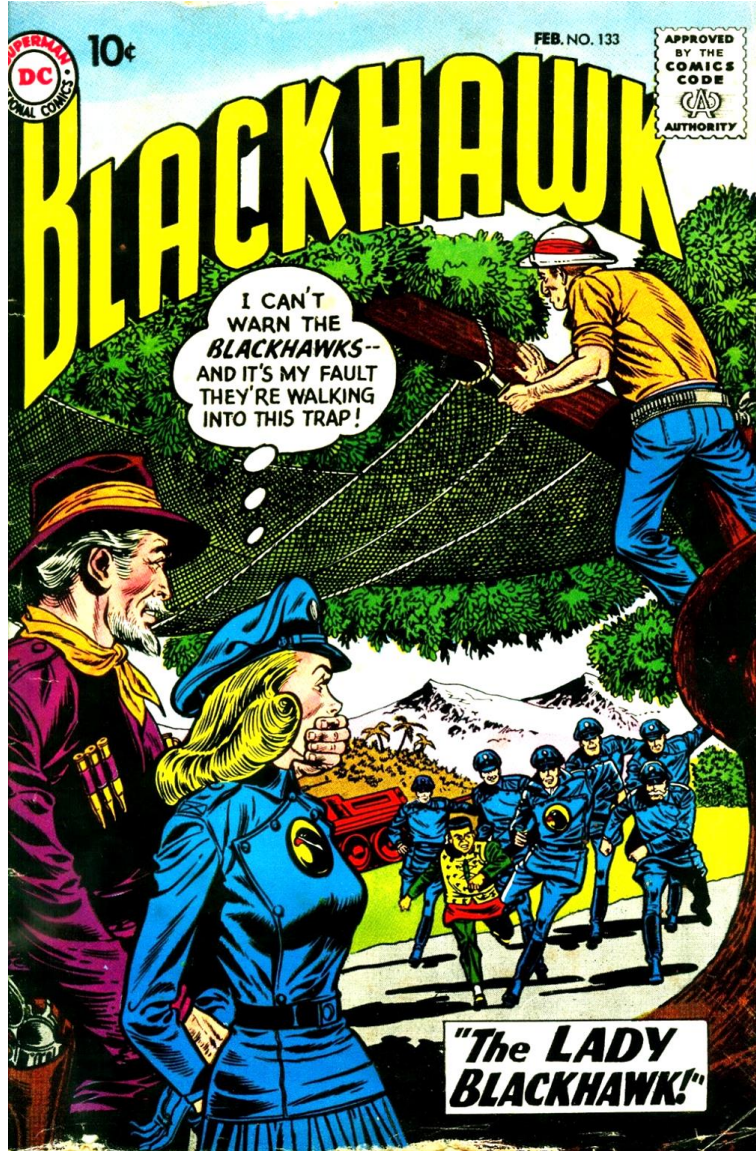
*'To all mobsters, monsters and space aliens from this or any other world, from this time and dimension and all others!*

*'Threaten the good people of earth and...*

*'We will show you **BLACKHAWK!**'*



*'**HAWKA-A-A-A!**'*



*'The woman who can create her own job is the woman who will win fame and fortune.'*



FEBRUARY 21, 1959

*Dear Diary,*

*No, I'm not **Blackhawk** material yet, but one day I will be!*

*I found that out the hard way. Over Central Africa, flying a recon mission to track the **Scavenger**, Olaf suddenly went missing!*



*No time to waste, I booked the first flight to Africa, First Class!*



*As we winged across the Atlantic, I hoped to return home in the same seat, but in full **Blackhawk** regalia, my uniform, cap and boots, safely packed.*

*Upon arrival, I dressed for action, rented a jeep (Outrageous rates!) and headed for the **Blackhawks** and the **Scavenger!***



*I came upon the team caught by a wildlife stampede! Only one way out of this...*



*I ran to the "Safari-Mobile" and drove it between the **Blackhawks** and the stampede!*





*'Sorry, but I am not your lost Olaf,  
I am Zinda, The First Lady Blackhawk!'*



*'A charming idea, Zinda!'*

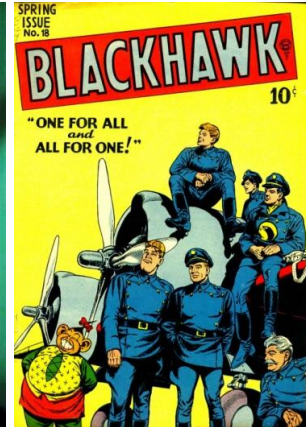
*'Whoa!...Hold it, Andre! We're grateful  
for your saving our lives, Miss Zinda!  
But the **Blackhawk** code definitely  
bars women from the team!'*



*'But...I have trained myself rigidly and copied  
every action of yours! That's how I could operate  
your Safari-Mobile!'*

*'Now...Do you accept me as a member!'*

The answer was **NO!**



*'Not yet, "Archangel of Vengeance"!'*



*"The Blackhawks are chauvinistic as a unit!"*

*"The greatest threat to women's liberation ever known!"*

After Zinda walked away alone...



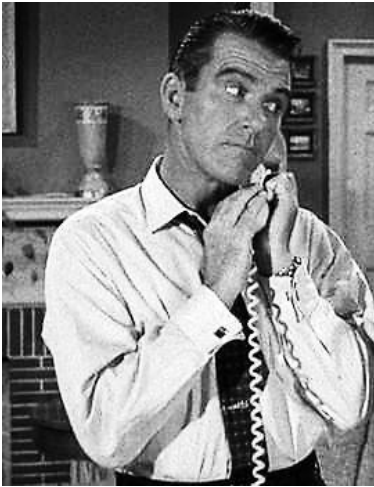
*'Most unfortunate turn of events.'*

*'A terrible waste! She's got that spirit!'*

*'But a woman on our team?'*

*'If she's as **Blackhawk** as she says she is, we'll see Zinda again!'*

In America, at the historic Blake estate...



*'What? You're kidding!'*

*'One of my vice presidents, at the airport, he spotted Zinda getting on a plane...for Africa'*



*'About Zinda, isn't it?'*

*'We should have anticipated this! Our determined daughter will see her **Blackhawk** obsession to the end!'*

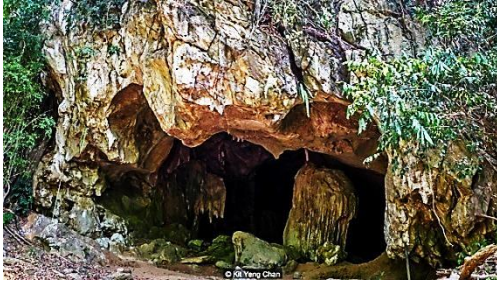
Meanwhile, back in the Dark Continent...



*'Too bad I don't have a Safari-Mobile!  
But there's no stopping me now!'*



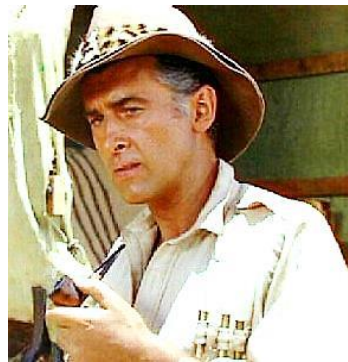
She came to a cave...with an air vent!



She peered in and saw Olaf, but...



*'The Scavenger!'*



*'A female Blackhawk!  
Blond, blue-eyed bait!'*

The team didn't walk into a trap, they ran!



Together with the **Blackhawks**, but not how she'd planned.



Behind bars in the **Scavenger's** trophy chamber...



*'One of my special **Blackhawk** types of tricks. Try it on the bars!'*



*'Why not? We'll all take turns!'*



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



*'Especially with a woman on the team!'*

Out of the trophy chamber, the team of eight snuck through the high grass to pounce of the **Scavenger** and his cohorts when...



The team rallied quickly. Helped by tear gas suddenly billowing out of Zinda's high heels, the fight was not a long one.



After the **Scavenger** and his crew were behind bars...



Zinda was only getting started. Before she boarded her first class flight home, she alerted “The gentlemen of the press” that she’d soon be arriving at Idlewild Airport in New York City.

Of course, she flew in full uniform!



Upon landing, the press lay in ambush mode, making her feel very important.



*'Hello, everybody. I'm Zinda Blake, and I will show you*  
**LADY BLACKHAWK!'**

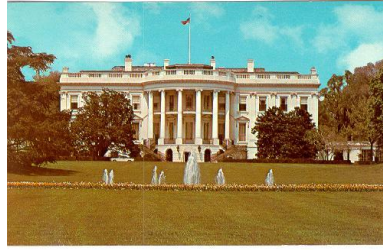
# Daily Planet

## ZINDA BLAKE

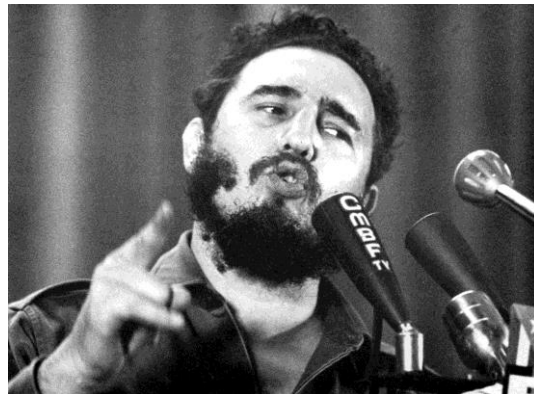
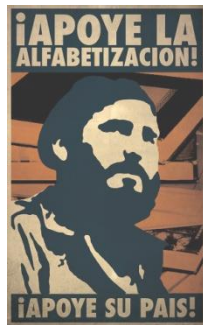


**“FIRST LADY OF VENGEANCE”!**

by Clark Kent



*'This administration wants to leave no loose ends, but Cuba will not be "solved" overnight. I have authorized the CIA to recruit, arm, and train an army of Cuban exiles to one day invade and free their homeland from this loudmouth dictator!'*



*'Yet another tinhorn tyrant!  
An ideal task for the **Blackhawks!**'*

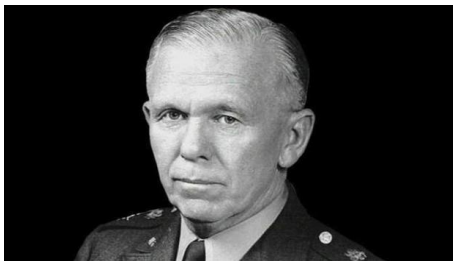


*'**Los Falcones Negros** are no strangers in Latin America!'*



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

*'Now with a woman in their ranks!!'*

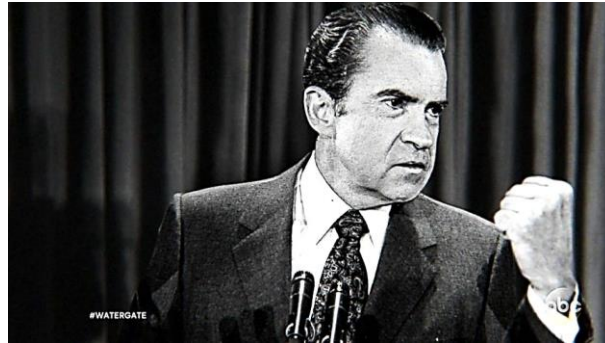


*'I disagree, Mr. President. The Blackhawks have become "Americanized"! Anything they do will be linked to us!'*

*'I could put our forces on alert, but Castro is a diplomatic challenge, not the DOD's!'*



*'Our CIA "patriots" cannot invade Cuba without dedicated air support. The Blackhawks will be a decision for my successor!'*



*'When your job becomes mine, Mister President, my policy will be crystal clear...*

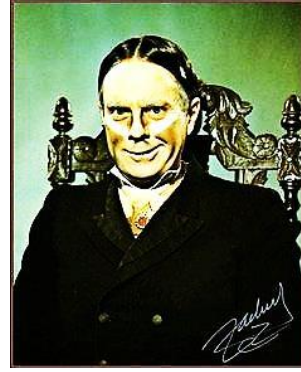
*'Show me **BLACKHAWK!***

# Psychology Today



***Our BLACKHAWK!***  
***Is ZINDA BLAKE for real?***





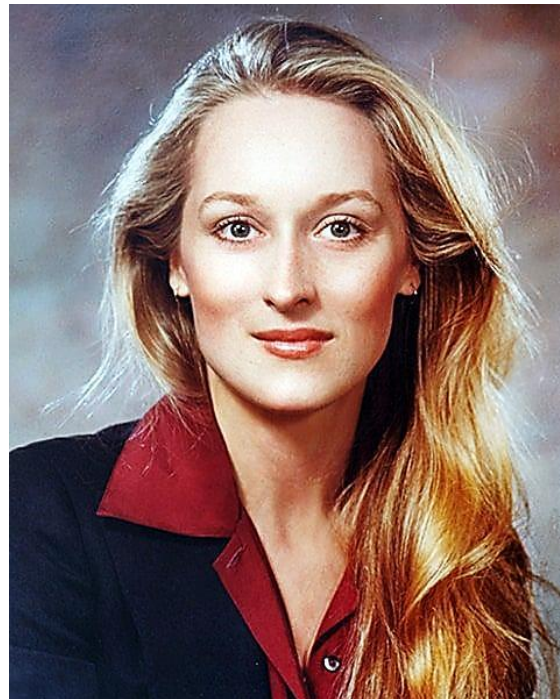
*'We love Lady Blackhawk! She's shown us a woman can do any job a man can, including being a Blackhawk!'*

*'Dreams do come true! Lady Blackhawk is proof!'*

*'Does she turn into a hungry hawk when the moon is full?'*

# VOGUE

**Zinda ☯ Blake**



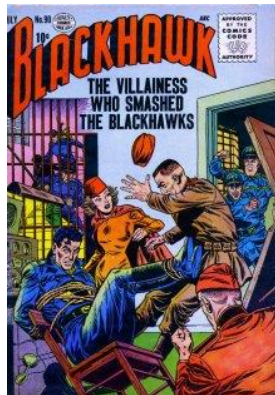
**Charming us, will she change the BLACKHAWKS?**



*'The Press are in a frenzy,  
Your Majesty!'*



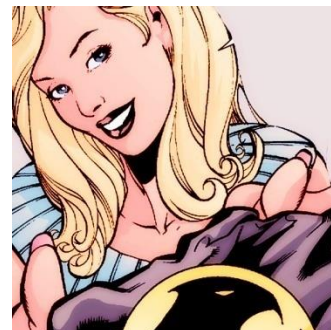
*'As they should be!  
The **Blackhawks** have  
dealt with formidable  
females, but none like  
Zinda Blake!'*



*'She's beautiful! She brave!  
And she's bright!'*

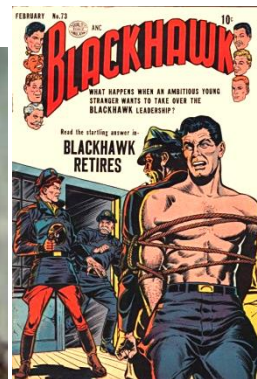


*'But is she BLACKHAWK?  
Does she have that "Angel  
fire" burning inside her?'*





*'And if she does?'*



*'Then the "Archangel of Vengeance" has one hell of a mission on his hands!*

**'HAWKA-A-A-A!'**

Back on **Blackhawk Island...**

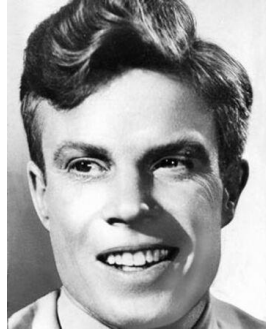




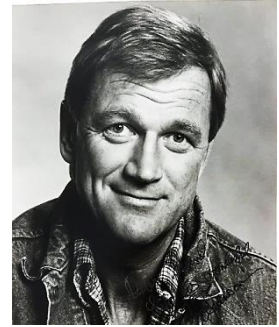
*'Sacre bleu. I miss Zinda already!'*



*'As do I, as well!'*



*'She had guts and beauty for the team!'*



*'What's this code about women?'*



*'Must we stay 100% macho?'*

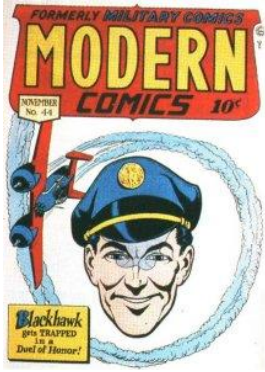


*'Donnevetter! These are changing times!'*



*'Wait a minute! What are you guys saying?'*





*'All right, all right! I miss her, too!'*

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