



BLACKHAWK

IN THEIR TIME, THE BLACKHAWKS HAVE BATTLED MANY A BIZARRE FOE... BUT NEVER HAVE THEY BEEN MENACED BY AN ENEMY SUCH AS THIS. FOR THESE WERE MARTIANS, WITH UNIQUE WEAPONS FROM OUTER SPACE, DEDICATED TO THE CONQUEST OF EARTH. TO ACCOMPLISH THEIR MISSION, THEY HAD TO REMOVE THE BLACK KNIGHTS, BUT FIRST THEY HAD TO TRANSFORM THEIR LEADER INTO...

THE HUMAN ROCKET

YOU SEE, **BLACKHAWK**, YOUR MEN HAVE ENTERED MY TRAP TO SAVE YOU!

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! I ORDERED THEM NEVER TO SACRIFICE THEIR LIVES TO TRY TO SAVE MINE!



IN THE CRISP MORNING AIR, FIVE BLACKHAWK JETS STREAK SKYWARD TO PATROL THE VITAL AREA ABOUT **BLACKHAWK ISLAND**...

NO MATTER HOW SURE WE MAY BE THAT THE SECRET OF OUR ISLAND WHEREABOUTS IS SECURE, WE MUST ALWAYS MAINTAIN OUR DAWN PATROL TO GUARD AGAINST ENEMIES WHO MAY SEEK US OUT!

ANDRE REPORTING-- ZE NORTH SEA LANE EES CLEAR! OVER AND OUT!

OKAY, ANDRE!... COME IN, HENDRICKSON!





BLACKHAWK



CHECK POINT ON SOUTH SEA LANE 155 OKAY--OVER AND OUT...

SUDDENLY, AS BLACKHAWK HEARS A SOUND, HE WHIRLS...

ABRUPTLY, THE AWED LEADER SHAKES OFF HIS SHOCK, AND...



WHO ARE YOU? HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

YOU ARE OUR PRISONER, BLACKHAWK!

GUESS AGAIN, BUSTER. YOU'RE TRESPASSING ON MY HOME GROUNDS!

AS BLACKHAWK ROCKS THE INTRUDER WITH A BLOW...

WITHIN SECONDS, THE SHEER WEIGHT OF THE INVADERS TAKES ITS TOLL...



QUICKLY! SEIZE HIM!

A BLOW...

GREAT GOSH-- A GANG OF THEM!

YOU ARE AS STRONG AND COURAGEOUS AS WE HAVE HEARD, BLACKHAWK! I MUST RELIEVE YOU OF YOUR BELT RADIO! WE KNOW IT IS USED FOR COMMUNICATION AMONG THE BLACKHAWKS!

WHY, THEY'RE-- THEY'RE FROM ANOTHER PLANET--!

YES, OUR SPACE RADIO TOLD US MUCH ABOUT YOU AND YOUR MEN! THAT IS WHY, BEFORE WE MARTIANS INVADERS EARTH, WE FIRST HAVE TO SMASH THE BLACKHAWKS AND USE THEIR ISLAND AS A WAR BASE!

THERE ARE SIX OTHER BLACKHAWKS YOU'LL HAVE TO CONQUER! YOU'LL NEVER SUCCEED!

WRONG, BLACKHAWK. WE HAVE PLANS FOR THEM, TOO!





BLACKHAWK



QUICKLY, BLACKHAWK IS SEALED WITHIN AN INCREDIBLE HUMAN ROCKET...

TRAPPED... ABOUT TO BE LAUNCHED INTO OUTER SPACE, AND THERE'S NO WAY TO ALERT MY MEN!

FIRE!

AT JET SPEED, BLACKHAWK IS PROPELLED TOWARD THE STARS...

A--A MARTIAN INVASION OF EARTH... AND I'M HELPLESS... WHERE WILL I LAND? WHAT DO THEY PLAN TO DO TO THE OTHERS?

AS THE BLACKHAWK TEAM FLIES HOMEWARD...

ACH DU LIEBER! A ROCKET-- UND DERE'S A MAN INSIDE! ANDRE! OLAF-- LOOK!

AS ANDRE GUIDES HIS CRAFT TOWARD THE STRANGE MISSILE...

SACRE BLEU! EET EES BLACKHAWK-- HEADED FOR OUTER SPACE! QUICK! GAIN ALTITUDE! WE MUST STOP EET!

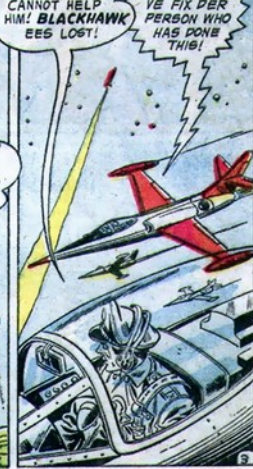
FRANTICALLY, THE BLACKHAWKS CLIMB IN PURSUIT...

PY YIMINY! IT BAN TRAVELING FASTER THAN OUR TOP SPEED!

HIMMEL! HOW CAN YE STOP IT!

AH, MES AMIS... WE CANNOT HELP HIM! BLACKHAWK EES LOST!

RETURN TO DER BASE! YE FIX DER PERSON WHO HAS DONE THIS!





BLACKHAWK



AND AS THE JETS ROAR HOMEWARD, A LONE CASTAWAY EYES THEM FORLORNLY...



SO LONG, MEN... WHEREVER I'M GOING, OR WHATEVER HAPPENS TO ME... I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!

SOON AFTER...

ACH! DERE DEY ARE! FIX DEM GOODT!

OUI!

HALT! ADVANCE ONE STEP FURTHER, AND YOUR LEADER DIES!



THEN, AFTER THEY HAVE HEARD THE FANTASTIC PLOT...

Y-YOU ARE MARTIANS... PLANNING TO INVADE EARTH! AND YOU SENT BLACKHAWK INTO OUTER SPACE?

CORRECT! AT THIS MOMENT, HE IS ON OUR INVASION PLANETOID OUTSIDE THE EARTH'S ORBIT...



... WHERE YOU MUST AGREE TO JOIN HIM, AS HOSTAGE, OR I SHALL SEND A MESSAGE TO GENERAL TANG TO ORDER HIS DEATH!

SACRE... WE MUST DISCUSS ZE SITUATION AMONG US!



MEN, EVEN IF WE DEFEAT THOSE MEN, WE CAN'T STOP THE INVASION FROM HERE!

DOT IS RIGHT! YE CAN ONLY HOPE TO SAVE DER EARTH BY SMASHING DER ENEMY ON DOT PLANETOID! OUI!

BLACKHAWK WOULD BE SHOCKED IF WE RISKED ZE WORLD'S SAFETY TO SAVE HIM-- BUT EET EES ZE ONLY WAY WE CAN HELP ZE EARTH!

FINALLY...

WE HAFF DECIDED TO ACCEPT YOUR TERMS!

READY THE ROCKET!



SHORTLY, A MIGHTY MARTIAN ROCKET SOARS THROUGH THE HEAVENS THROUGH THE HEAVENS WITH SIX EARTHLING PRISONERS...



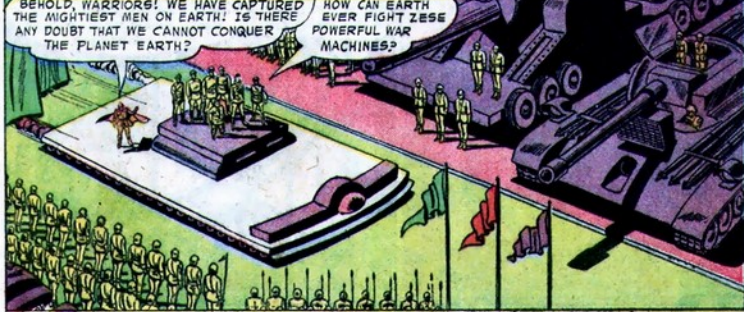
THEN... TWENTY MINUTES PASS! THEN, ON A PLANETOID IN SPACE A GRIM-FACED FIGURE LOOKS SKYWARD...



THEN, AS THE BLACKHAWKS ARE MADE PRISONERS...



LATER, THE FAMED TEAM IS PARADED BEFORE TANG'S ARMY...



WHEN THE "SPECTACLE" ENDS...



OBSERVE MY FORCES IN CRATER CANYON, ARMED WITH WEAPONS YOUR WORLD HAS NEVER KNOWN!





SILENT ROCKET SHIPS SHALL CARRY THEM TO EARTH! BUT ENOUGH! THROW THE BLACKHAWKS INTO THE BLACK LIGHT CELLS! WE MUST PUT OUR PLANS INTO ACTION!



SHORTLY...

SACRE! ZE BLACK LIGHT RAYS KEEP US CONFINED!

WE'D BETTER NOT TRY TO ESCAPE! THIS BLACK LIGHT HAS THE DESTRUCTIVE POWER OF A BLAST FURNACE ON MY METAL STOOL!



LATER... WHO'S THERE?

QUIET! I AM A FRIEND! YOU MUST TRUST ME!

THAT MACHINE--IT'S DRAWING SOME OF THE BLACKLIGHT BARS INTO IT!

YES, IT BREAKS DOWN THE MOLECULES OF THE BLACK LIGHT BARS! COME! WE MUST FREE YOUR FRIENDS QUICKLY!



WHEN ALL THE BLACKHAWKS HAVE BEEN FREED...

THERE IS LITTLE TIME TO EXPLAIN! TANG IS A RENEGADE, WHO FORMED AN ARMY TO INVADE EARTH! ONLY HE WISHES WAR!



I HAVE FREED YOU, BUT THERE IS LITTLE MORE I CAN DO--

HIS ARMY IS INSIDE THE CRATER, HIS WAR MACHINES, OUTSIDE! WITH YOUR HELP WE MIGHT UPSET HIS PLANS! LISTEN...

SOON, AS A SENTRY PATROLS THE CRATER ENTRANCE...

YI-J-I! THE BLACK LIGHT RAY BLOCKS MY PATH!



BLACK LIGHT RAYS NOW IMPRISON THE WARRIORS WITHIN THE CANYON! NOW, MARTIAN FRIEND, TELL US QUICKLY HOW TO RUN AN ELECTRONIC TANK!

YES, YES, **BLACKHAWK!** HERE IS WHAT YOU DO.



MOMENTS AFTERWARD...

TANG! YOUR MEN ARE HELPLESS IN THE CRATER! SURRENDER OR FACE THE CONSEQUENCES!

THE BLACKHAWKS--! BLAST THEM WITH YOUR RAY GUNS!



BUT AS MARTIANS LEVEL THEIR WEAPONS...

VOILA! I HAVE MELTED ZEM!



YOUR INVASION THREAT IS SMASHED, TANG! YOU HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO SURRENDER AND RETURN TO MARS FOR TRIAL!

YES, YES... I SURRENDER!

AND AFTER TANG AND HIS STAFF ARE REMOVED TO THE CRATER...

VOT DO VE DO NOW, BLACKHAWK? HOW CAN VE RETURN TO EARTH?

LET'S ASK OUR MARTIAN FRIEND, HENDRICKSON! THERE ARE OTHER PROBLEMS YET UNSOLVED!





BLACKHAWK

