



## Lockheed Blackbird: Beyond the Secret Missions (General Aviation)

By Paul Crickmore

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**Lockheed Blackbird: Beyond the Secret Missions (General Aviation)** By Paul Crickmore

In this book, expert author Paul Crickmore leads the reader deeper than ever before into the 'Black World' of the A-12 and SR-71 top-secret reconnaissance mission. For the first time, detailed first-hand accounts from CIA and USAF pilots bring to life the experience of flying highly classified missions in the Blackbird, whilst Allied and former Warsaw Pact fighter pilots describe their efforts to intercept the spy-plane. Travelling more than a mile every 2 seconds and flying fifteen miles above the earth's surface, the SR-71's performance capacities were truly awesome. This book draws on hundreds of newly declassified Top Secret documents and the experiences of the author's key military contacts to provide the most detailed information available on the SR-71.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“Author Crickmore has been involved in SR-71 operations to some extent and so is able to bring his own love of the aircraft to the reader... Full of photos, charts and technical information, this book is as good as it gets. It is a superb reference on the type and is one that every enthusiast of the aircraft needs to have on their shelf.” *Scott Van Aken, Modeling Madness (From the Trade Paperback edition.)*

#### About the Author

During his thirteen years at the London Air Traffic Control Centre, Paul Crickmore gained his Pilot's Licence and flew a large number of RAF and USAF fast jets. In October 1981, he was granted a special security clearance to fly in a KC-135Q during the operational refuelling of an SR-71 from RAF Mildenhall, granting him access to a world usually hidden from non-programme members. Crickmore has since become an expert authority on the Blackbird or 'Habu', and has written numerous articles and books about military aviation.

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**Shirley Parker:**

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