

Black helicopters

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Black helicopters are to the 1990s what snake oil was to the age of traveling salesmen pushing patent medicines, in that it is an example of a term that was seriously used by proponents but was so preposterous that the term took on a life of its own as a means of ridicule.

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A Black Helicopter spying on RationalWiki

Origins



Helicopters and tanks such as these were used by Pharaohs to terrorize the Ancient Egyptian population.

1993-1994 in their videos *America Under Siege* (Thompson) and *America In Peril* (Koernke). The book *Black Helicopters Over America* by Jim Keith followed shortly thereafter. Talk radio hosts picked up the term from there mostly to ridicule the idea and it took on a life of its own, largely as an ironic joke through talk radio and the internet.

The inspiration for this theory may come from the ones seen in the film *Capricorn One*, where they are used by the US government to chase down three astronauts trying to reveal that their mission to Mars was faked. The helicopters in the film behave more like sentient beings in their own right rather than vehicles, sometimes turning to face each other for no apparent reason other than pure dramatic effect.^[1]

Helicopters, but not as we know them

Some dare call it

Conspiracy



What *THEY* don't want you to know!

- A440
- Holy Lance
- Phantom island
- Sexual Bolshevism
- The Obama Deception
- Walid Shoebat

Sheeple wakers

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Black helicopters are said to be able to perform all kinds of maneuvers that ordinary helicopters cannot, as well as having a silent mode (those of us who live near airports or major hospitals wish helicopters *could* do that!). More recent variations have them as being unmanned drones or substitute them for FEMA ambulances, filling a similar role.

Not all black helicopter fans support the UN/NWO idea. A rival theory has it that they are in fact alien spacecraft in disguise. Sometimes this is mixed in with the NWO angle. Sometimes they're sighted near alleged cattle mutilation sites (either as perpetrators or as investigators.)

It's pretty much the aerial analogue to the Men in Black phenomenon.

Real black helicopters

That being said, the US government *does actually* use highly secretive "black" stealth helicopters. The 2011 United States Navy SEAL raid on the Abbottabad, Pakistan compound that resulted in the killing of Osama Bin Laden utilized two "stealthed" UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, which were heavily modified to reduce their heat, noise and radar signatures. The helicopters were stealthy enough to penetrate Pakistani airspace and operate, undetected, within a mile of a major Pakistani military training base. Following the raid, one of the helicopters was unable to take off, and the SEALs attempted to destroy it. Photos of the tail section from the destroyed Black Hawk were subsequently released by Pakistani media. The photo clearly shows a heavily faceted design unlike any known helicopter in existence. Despite that, the US government has never acknowledged the existence of such helicopters, and when asked about the photos, a Pentagon official stated that he would "absolutely not comment".^{[2][3]} It is believed that the US military continues to develop and operate similar stealth Black Hawks, for use by special forces units, out of the the Groom Lake remote detachment of Edwards Air Force base, commonly known as Area 51.^{[4][5]}



The tail section of an actual black helicopter used in the Bin Laden raid.

While most US Army helicopters are painted a dark olive drab color, helicopters belonging to the elite 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment ("Night Stalkers") operate highly modified MH-60s, MH-47s, and MH-6s that are painted black. Most of their missions are performed at night, hence the name and the black paint of their helicopters.

The [Boeing–Sikorsky RAH-66 Comanche](#)^w stealth attack helicopter was developed by the US Army during the late 90s. The Comanche had a radar cross section 360 times smaller than the Apache attack helicopter, and an acoustic signature purportedly 6 times quieter than any existing helicopters.^[6] The project was canceled in 2004 after only two prototypes were built.

Pop culture

The term has since been used almost exclusively in an ironic or sarcastic way to refer to any conspiracy theory which is particularly absurd and improbable. Black helicopters don't play much of a role in serious conspiracies any more, as the idea of perfectly silent helicopters flying about at night for no particular reason is a bit superfluous. Despite that, some Internet cranks who experiment with "Orgone energy" claim that they are being stalked by low-flying black helicopters.^[7] Their hypothesis is that their Orgone accumulators are generating a frequency that the Government/New World Order is trying to track. The same frequency, they claim, stops HAARP, and cures cancer, and creates rain, blah blah blah...^[8]

Black helicopters also feature prominently in the Mel Gibson vehicle, *Conspiracy Theory*.

“ What's that noise?
 It's those helicopters again.
 See 'em in the sky, they're always black
 What does that tell you, huh?
 U.N. troops wait in salt mines
 Under Detroit of all places
 To storm up from the sewers
 For door-to-door raids
 To take our guns.
 They're trying to take our guns.
 Feminazis and eco-terrorists
 I'm not making this up!

—LARD (Jello Biafra)^[9]

See also

- Kool-Aid drinker
- Tinfoil hat
- Men in black
- Black site
- Government involvement
- Targeted Individuals

External links

- The truth about black helicopters! (<http://zapatopi.net/blackhelicopters/>)

References

- ↑ See the Wikipedia article on Capricorn One
- ↑ <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/top-secret-stealth-helicopteprogram-revealed-osama-bin/story?id=13530693>
- ↑ You can see an attempted recreation of these helicopters in the film *Zero Dark Thirty*^W, but, as stated, the photos of the partially destroyed tail are the only known confirmation that the stealthed Black Hawks *exist all*.
- ↑ <http://foxtrotalpha.jalopnik.com/book-reveals-new-details-about-stealth-black-hawks-used-1734205517>
- ↑ <http://www.wired.com/2011/05/aviation-geeks-scramble-to-i-d-osama-raids-mystery-copter/>
- ↑ <http://www.sikorskyarchives.com/RAH-66%20COMANCHE.php>
- ↑ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6rUs6fjen14>
- ↑ As with any quack device, why should it do just one thing when it could do anything?
- ↑ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2LUqMH8x-I>

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