

Blood For The Baron!

Hi, my name is Jim Marshall, I'm the owner, creator and admin for the independent fan sites BloodForTheBaron.com and ActionForceRedux.com. I am the writer and editor for *Action Force Redux* comic, which is created for the G.I. Joe audience. I am seeking a publisher to produce 100 fully-plotted *Action Force Redux* issues, yielding thirty 100-page TPBs, ten 300-page digests and 100 deluxe reprint comics. *Action Force Redux* issues [001](#), [002](#), [003](#), [004](#) and the first [TPB](#) are all ready to print.

Action Force was a miniaturised version of Palitoy's *Action Man*, designed to complement Kenner's range of 3¼" *Star Wars* toys. The Action Force toy range was divided into four teams: the military *Z Force*; naval *Q Force*; *Space Force* and the *S.A.S.* Their enemies were the *Red Shadows*, an evil terrorist organisation led by the insane *Baron Ironblood*. Quite aside from his indestructible *Mutons* and cloned *Kraken* monsters, the Baron *brainwashed* his enemies, turning them into mindless slaves!

As part of their long-standing relationship, Palitoy released several Hasbro 12" *G.I. Joe* toys through their Action Man line. Toys such as *Bullet Man*, *Commander Power*, *Shield*, *Gor*, *Captain Cosmos*, *Gargon*, *the Intruder* and *ROM* were added to Palitoy's *Space Rangers*. When it came to Action Force, Hasbro granted Palitoy the use of several 3¼" *G.I. Joes*, which were *recoloured* to fit the assorted teams. The Action Force toys were incredibly popular, as was the comic, *Battle Action Force*.

Battle was an established anthology weekly war comic, sister-title to the sci-fi *2000 A.D.* *Battle* is notable for the gritty, realistic war tales *Charley's War*, *Rat Pack*, *Major Eazy*, *Johnny Red*, *The Sarge*, *H.M.S. Nightshade*, *D-Day Dawson* and much, much more. On June 4th 1983 *Battle* began a four-part promotional *Action Force* comic strip, ahead of the toy release. The story was presented across the double-page centre spreads and back covers, which were the only pages printed in colour.

Due to their instant popularity, five promotional Action Force *mini-comics* were then released with several Fleetway titles, continuing the story. On October 8th 1983 Action Force joined *Battle* full-time, changing the cover title to *Battle Action Force*. With over [20,000](#) registered Action Force fan-club members, *Battle Action Force* sales saw a massive *surge* in new readers.

Sadly, corporate restructuring resulted in Palitoy firing their entire design department in 1984. Action Man, Action Force and the Red Shadows were all cancelled overnight. The 1985 release of Action Force toys were all Hasbro's *G.I. Joes*, repackaged by Palitoy as A.F. and Cobra, their ranks augmented by factory overstock from the previous Action Force range.

Battle Action Force somehow weathered this chaotic transition with the revolutionary story *World Enemy Number One*, where Baron Ironblood betrayed his army of Red Shadows to Action Force, then reinvented himself as *Cobra Commander*. Driven by revenge, *Red Jackal* hunted him down to his jungle fortress, only to be mockingly remoulded as *Destro*. The Action Force teams were replaced by Major Flagg's *A.F.* counter-terrorism unit. Action Force and the Red Shadows were no more.

The 1985 A.F. and Cobra *relaunch* coincided with the tenth anniversary issue of *Battle Action Force*, dated March 9th 1985. However, even though they were no longer available to buy, Action Force *refused to die*! Time and again fan-favourites the Red Shadows, the *Black Major*, *Red Laser*, *Red Vulture* and *Red Wolf* returned to the pages of the new *Battle Action Force* to fight both A.F. and Cobra at once! The renegade Red Shadows helped soften the blow for their army of disappointed fans.

The last issue of *Battle Action Force* went on sale November 29th 1986, with the culmination of the five-month, grand finale *Operation Deep Cover*, with A.F. and Cobra going out in a blaze of glory. When Palitoy finally went out of business, their back-catalogue of Intellectual Properties transferred to Hasbro. *Battle* comic soldiered bravely on until January 23rd 1988.

I launched my first Action Force website BloodForTheBaron.com on February 24th 2003. It has only gone from strength to strength, reaching over [17,000,000](#) hits per month! I was the sole moderator for the BFTB.UK forum from 2003 to 2013, overseeing many artistic projects. I have worked diligently for the last 22 years to establish the Action Force connection to the G.I. Joe community, confident that there is a huge market just begging for new Action Force and Red Shadows material!

In 2013, I compiled the *Action Force Complete Works* ten-volume 30th Anniversary compendium of the original *Battle Action Force* comics. I am also the archivist and graphic designer behind the 300-page *Action Force Palitoy Collectors' Guide* and *Action Force Palitoy Declassified* Kickstarter books, as well as the *Action Force 30th Anniversary Commemorative Special*, *Action Force 40th Anniversary Special* and the *Action Force Palitoy Photobook*. I have created a presentation gallery of my self-published, non-profit projects for you here: BloodForTheBaron.com/BFTB. All of my works are available for publication.

Action Force Redux

Action Force Redux is an all-new weekly web-comic and monthly printed title, fully plotted for 100 issues. Written as an anthology, the 24 pages of content are broken down into four six-page strips. With four separate artists assigned six pages a month, deadlines should be easily met. This format provides the layout for the web-comic ActionForceRedux.com. The web-comic is designed to run three weeks ahead of the printed release, so that audience demand would already be primed.

The weekly chapters would be shared across social media. My Christmas 2024 Facebook post received over **30,000** views in one week. This ongoing free promotion would last for the entirety of the printed run. After the 100 monthly issues are finished, *Action Force Redux* could then be reprinted as thirty 100-page trade paperbacks. Enthusiasts will surely want both, as the four concurrent storylines would be rearranged into read-order. Please see the [TPB](#) for the finished proof of concept.

The art team I have assembled boasts a strong pedigree: **Robert Atkins** (*G.I. Joe, Spider-Man, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Transformers*); **Brian Atkins** (*Final Street, Family Graves*); **Geoff Senior** (*Action Force, Transformers, Zoids, Death's Head, Dragon's Claws, Judge Dredd, To the Death*); **Kev Hopgood** (*Action Force, Iron Man, Warhammer, Zoids*); **Patrick Goddard** (*2000 A.D., Judge Dredd, Sniper Elite*); **Alejandro Cabral** (*G.I. Joe, Action Force: Millerverse, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Ghostbusters, Tales from the Crypt, Eternal Descent*); **Mariano A'Q** (*Masters of the Universe*); **Rodolfo Valenzuela** (*Aztec, Loaiza Fortun*); **Kerowack!** (*M.A.S.K. '85, M.A.S.K. '86*); colourists **Simon Gough** (*G.I. Joe, Transformers, Deathstroke, Savior*) and **Michael Collins Otu**, columnist **Ian Wheeler** (*Doctor Who, Crikey!*) and cartoonist **Alan Schell** (*Action Force: Millerverse*).

Additional artists who have expressed interest in joining the anthology are: **Martin Griffiths** (*Action Force, Action Man, Transformers, Thundercats, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Ghostbusters, Doctor Who, Knights of Pendragon, Death's Head*); **Chris Weston** (*2000 A.D., Judge Dredd, Swamp Thing, J.S.A., The Invisibles, Starman, Lucifer, The Authority*); **Clint Langley** (*2000 A.D., Judge Dredd, Warhammer, Guardians of the Galaxy*); **Ben Willsher** (*2000 A.D., Judge Dredd, Doctor Who, Deadline*); **Colin MacNeil** (*2000 A.D., Judge Dredd, Warhammer*); **Simon Fraser** (*2000 A.D., Tales of the Night Watchman, Kingsman*); **Rufus Dayglo** (*2000 A.D., Judge Dredd, Tank Girl*); **Mick McMahon** (*2000 A.D., The Last American*); **Shaky Kane** (*2000 A.D., Judge Dredd, Deadline*); **Dan Cornwell** (*2000 A.D., Roy of the Rovers*) and **Lyndon Webb** (*To the Death, Unit 666*).

The [Action Force Redux 001-100 Masterplan](#) magazine is designed as a crash-course in Action Force lore for new readers and prospective publishers, please could you start there? Or you may prefer to watch BloodForTheBaron.com/masterplan. Or, if you would like to read the more thorough project synopsis, please see the [Action Force Redux 001-100 Sourcebook](#). Every one of the 400 chapters is written to both draw the reader in and to move the story along the fully-plotted timeline.

Written to dovetail into the original continuity, *Action Force Redux* issues 001-012 are set during *World Enemy Number One*, to flesh-out the fall of the Red Shadows with a series of prologues, interludes and epilogues. The first story arc also explores the unanswered questions for the original characters who were suddenly conscripted into the new A.F. and Cobra armies.

Issues 013-020 are set among the renegade Red Shadows strips such as [Revenge of the Red Shadows](#) and [School For Snakes](#). The fourth story arc is an epilogue set after *Battle Action Force*, following on from [Operation Deep Cover: Battleground](#). Issues 021-024 then utilise the alternate [German Action Force](#) toy line concept for a time-jump! An [Anti-Terror Team](#) story set in 2011 serves as both a future preview and as a bonus finale, twenty years after the destruction of the Red Shadows!

With issue 025, *Action Force Redux* becomes a continuation of the original *Battle Action Force* story. Issues 025-084 follow a five-year arc in real time; 1987 sees the return of the Red Shadows in *Blood Day*; but then a Cobra coup in 1988 changes everything; 1989 has the Red Shadows battling Cobra in *The Iron War*; 1990 unleashes a full-blown alien invasion and 1991 is the climactic battle for Earth itself! Issues 085-096 bring the story full circle by exploring the origins of the main characters. *Action Force Redux* draws to a close with the four-part finale 'What if Baron Ironblood DIDN'T become Cobra Commander?'

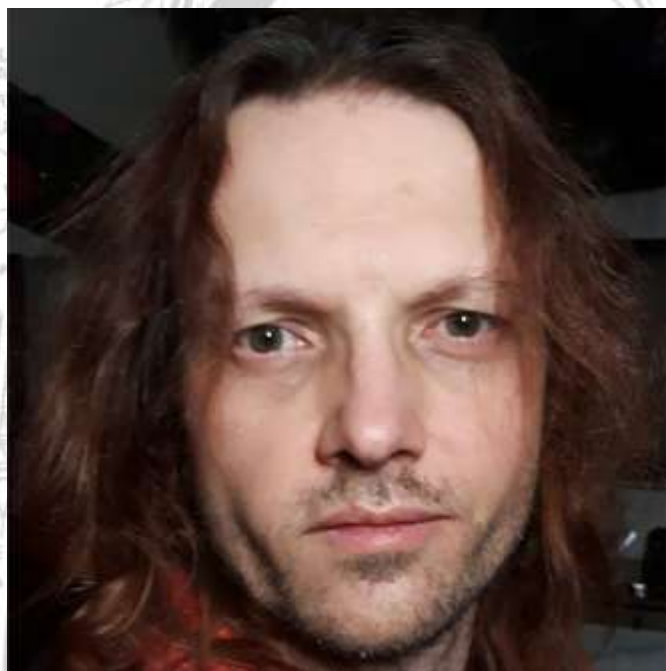
For the *Battle Action Force* 50th anniversary in 2033, *Action Force Redux* could be repackaged as ten 300-page *Complete Works* books. There is also a fourth print option, which is to rearrange the entire run as *Action Force Redux Deluxe* weekly. Every four issues of the original anthology could be split into individual 'artist edition' printings, using the relevant B covers.

Thank you very much for your time, I really hope you like my ideas and would like to work with me. If you are interested in joining forces, you can reach me through [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [BlueSky](#) and [X](#) or my e-mail bloodforthebaron@gmail.com.

Palitoy's

ACTION FORCE

Redux



My name is Jim Marshall. I'm the creator and admin for the Action Force fan sites BloodForTheBaron.com and ActionForceRedux.com. I moderated the BFTB.UK forum from 2003 to 2013. I'm the archivist and graphic designer behind the books [Action Force Palitoy Collectors' Guide](#), [Action Force Palitoy Declassified](#), the [Action Force 30th Anniversary](#) and [Action Force 40th Anniversary](#) specials and the [Action Force Complete Works](#) set. I'm also the writer and editor for [Palitoy's Action Force Redux](#) comic.

I was born on April 6, 1974 in Birmingham, but luckily I was whisked away to Somerset before I developed the accent. I didn't have the easiest of childhoods, my little world of toys and comics got me through a lot of it. I was raised on *Asterix*, *Battle Action Force* and *2000AD*. These days my comic collection must number in the thousands.

I left home at the age of 19 to hit the road as lead singer with the hard rock bands *Switchblade* and *SkinTrade*, touring extensively across the UK. I moved to Nottingham to seek my fame and fortune. I haven't found it quite yet.

I launched the first of my Action Force websites BloodForTheBaron.com on February 24th 2003. As the BFTB.UK forum moderator, I promoted creative projects such as the [Muton World Tour](#), [BFTB Colouring Project](#) and [Custom of the Month](#) across the GI Joe community.

Our love of the Red Shadows toys and comics caught on in America, with [Devil's Due Comics](#) taking notice of our efforts by [reinventing](#) the Red Shadows for their *GI Joe: A Real American Hero* comic. [IDW Comics](#) also did the same.

BFTB.UK gained further notoriety with the discovery of the lost Action Force team [Special Weapons Force](#), solving the decade-long [Mystery Flash](#) enigma. [Hasbro](#) produced a new Red Shadows convention boxset for [Joecon 2010](#).

I have [worked diligently](#) for 22 years to [establish](#) the Action Force connection to the G.I. Joe fandom, confident that there is a huge market for [new Action Force comics](#). I also have several other fully-realised projects available.

Forever Endeavour

The rock opera of the galaxy! The misadventures of an intergalactic rock band, on a mission to save reality. A multimedia extravaganza incorporating 100 comics and cartoons, ten concept albums, films and graphic novels.

Mirrorrim

A dark, sci-fi fantasy comic, where a realm of directly opposing characters and ideologies intersects with our own. My goal with this project is to leave behind a blueprint for humankind to reach the stars, encouraging diversity and co-operation over destruction and disaster.

The Wolfblood Prophecies

The comic-book adaptation of the series of novels by my mother, Avril Silk. A young girl with mind-bending powers is trapped in a colourful dystopian nightmare, making 100 fully-plotted issues. Please see her website AvrilSilk.com.

Action Force: Hasbro U.K. Collectors' Guide

A 300-page book, planned in conjunction with Action-Force.dk, covering the Action Force toys from 1987-1990. Adapted from the BloodForTheBaron.com toys archive.

G.I. Joe: Hasbro U.K. Collectors' Guide

A 300-page book, planned in conjunction with Action-Force.dk, covering the G.I. Joe U.K. toys from 1991-1994. Adapted from the BloodForTheBaron.com toys archive.

Action Force: The Norse

Another potential 300-page Action Force book, covering all of the variant Scandinavian [Action Force Nordic](#) releases from 1987-1992. Very much a work in progress.

Palitoy's

ACTION FORCE

Redux

ACTION FORCE Redux Sourcebook

ACTION FORCE Redux 01

ACTION FORCE Palitoy Photobook

ACTION FORCE 30th Anniversary Commemorative Special

ACTION FORCE Palitoy Collectors' Guide

ACTION FORCE Palitoy Declassified

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 1

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 2

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 3

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 4

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 5

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 6

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 7

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 8

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 9

ACTION FORCE The Complete Works - Volume 10

Action Force Redux 001A 001B 002A 002B 003A 003B 004A 004B, Action Force Redux 001-100 Masterplan,
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Action Force The Complete Works 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10.

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