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This U.S. Army Rangers photo depicts an MH-60L Black Hawk helicopter, known as Super 6-4, being piloted by Chief Warrant Officer Michael J. Durant. It is in the skies above Mogadishu on October 3, 1993. Not long after this photo was taken, Super 6-4 was struck by a Somali RPG (rocket-propelled grenade).

No dead or wounded soldiers are left behind. That's the rule.

Sometimes a wounded soldier is taken prisoner, or a dead soldier's body is grabbed by an angry mob, before a rescue team arrives. But everything humanly possible is done to get everyone out.

In order to rescue the crew of "Super 61", the crash site had to be secured. But how was that to happen with angry Somalis, in overwhelming numbers, encircling a small group of soldiers?

Elite or not, the Americans were at a serious disadvantage.

Ignoring the odds against them, U.S. troops figured out a rescue plan for Wolcott and his crew. Every soldier knew he could be the next to die as each man went in to secure the site.

Then the unthinkable happened.

Another Black Hawk - "Super 64" piloted by CWO3 (Chief Warrant Officer 3) Mike Durant - was ALSO hit and went down.

An urban battle was about to ensue.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/BLACK-HAWK-GOING-DOWN-Black-Hawk-Down>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/BLACK-HAWK-GOING-DOWN-Black-Hawk-Down>

Black Hawk Down - Super 64 in Flight before Crash

On October 3, 1993 Chief Warrant Officer Michael J. Durant is piloting his MH-60L Black Hawk helicopter, known as Super 64, in the skies above Mogadishu, Somalia.

This photo depicts Durant and Super 64 in flight that day.



Not long after this U.S. Army Rangers photo is taken, Super 64 is attacked by a Somali RPG (rocket-propelled grenade). The Department of Defense tells us [what happened](#) after the Black Hawk goes down:

Chief Warrant Officer Michael J. Durant pilots Super 6-4, an MH-60L Black Hawk helicopter, over Mogadishu on Oct. 3, 1993. Super 6-4 was the second helicopter to crash during the Battle of Mogadishu when it was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade.

Durant and his crew survived the crash. Somali fighters eventually captured Durant and killed his crew along with Master Sgt. Gary Gordon and Sgt. 1st Class Randy Shughart, who provided sniper cover after the crash and volunteered for insertion to hold off the advancing enemy.

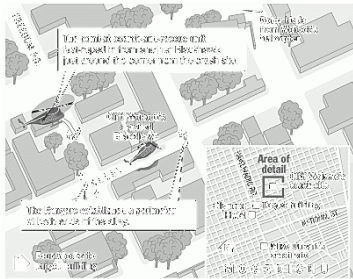
Gordon and Shughart both received the Medal of Honor posthumously.

Click on the image for a better view.

Photo by unnamed photographer working for the U.S. Army Rangers. Public Domain.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Black-Hawk-Down-Super-64-in-Flight-before-Crash>



Graphic of Rescue Plan for Wolcott and His Crew

Drawing by Matthew Ericson, courtesy Philadelphia Inquirer's web site on *Black Hawk Down*.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Graphic-of-Rescue-Plan-for-Wolcott-and-His-Crew>



Black Hawk Down - Super 64 Goes Down

Short video clip, from *Black Hawk Down*, directed by Ridley Scott, produced by Jerry Bruckheimer and released by [Sony Pictures](#).

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