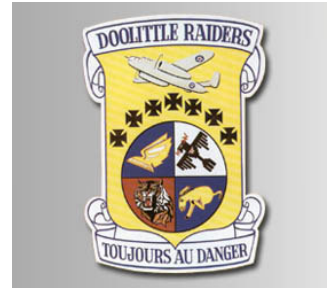




USS Hornet CV-8 Doolittle Raid

- Exhibit Outline -

The USS Hornet Museum, located at Alameda Point, California, is creating a permanent exhibit whose goal is to educate the public about the Navy's roll in the famous World War II action called the "Doolittle Raid."



While many elements of this operation have been well documented, the vast majority of the focus was on the 80 Army Air Force fliers lead by LtCol James Doolittle. Many documentaries (TV, film, and book) tend to focus on the period that began with the aircraft launch from *Hornet's* flightdeck on April 18, 1942.

Members of the public know far less about the underlying naval support that made this daring and inspiring "Army/Navy Joint Action" such a success. Some of the areas the museum exhibit will focus on include:

- the pre-war collection of military and industrial target information by a U.S. Naval Attache in Japan that provided the basis for all target identification and mapping
- the initial concept outline for a long-range bomber raid and creation of a 30-page feasibility study conducted by the staff of CNO Ernest King (mid-January 1942)
- the February 2 experiment during *Hornet* CV-8 sea trials, when two B-25 bombers took off from the ship just outside the Chesapeake Bay, proving the validity of the concept
- the three-week period in March when a Navy flight instructor tutored the USAAF pilots in aircraft carrier launch techniques
- the two day period when the 16 B-25 bombers were loaded aboard *Hornet* at the Alameda NAS and spent the night at anchorage in the SF bay
- the rendezvous of Navy ASW blimp L-8 with *Hornet* while at sea just outside of SF Bay, delivering aircraft parts to the ship and returning mail to the mainland
- *Hornet* sailing orders and the ongoing training and preparations during the sea cruise (i.e., interaction between USN and USAAF personnel, support of aircraft, etc)
- the period after the raid launch when *Hornet* sailed to Pearl Harbor to prepare for the battle of the Coral Sea (which she wasn't able to make) and then Midway