

MISSION:

VICTORY

Objective: ESCAPE



□ Stop 1

This WW2 cat now sits on a deck.
Once three thousand feet underwater, a wreck.
But from 1943 to 45,
It helped Navy pilots rule the skies.
If a Japanese Zero forced them to defend,
Odds were 19 to one, this airplane would win.
If you can't find this plane immediately,
Take a few steps closer to the library!

What two-digit number appears on the tail & body of this WW2 giant?

□ Stop 2

This plane was known for its inverted gull wings.
And for the sound it made like whistling.
Its engine the most powerful of its kind,
And it had one of the biggest propellers you'd find.
It was tricky to land this plane on a boat.
It often would stall on an angled approach.
To make it better for carrier landings,
They added a stall strip on the front of one wing.

Name it:

□ Stop 3

MEOW here's another cat, related to the first.
It was superior in every way when it entered service.
Wasn't known for combat, but some races that it won.
Its dominance soon faded when the jet came along.

What numbered air group is spelled out on the side of this NAVY plane?

□ Stop 4

Why is this ARMY beast so proudly displayed?
Because it was part of the Doolittle Raid.
It wasn't meant to take off from a boat,
But after Pearl Harbor, our country lost hope.
So 16 bombers and 80 brave men
Headed for China by way of Japan.
That fearless mission lifted American spirits.
And those pilots earned medals for a life without limits.

Name it:

___ - ___

□ Stop 5

This isn't a superhero of marvel fame.
Although it is famous for more than its name.
This folded-wing bird flew over the drink.
Dropping torpedoes causing ships to sink.
From carriers these Navy planes were flown,
And some controlled the first Navy assault drones.
One of its pilots named BUSH needed to bail.
As he took fire this machine started to fail.
Still the pilot took aim and stayed in his dive
Parachuted into the ocean and managed to survive.

Write the 5-digit number on the side of this plane here:

___ - ___ - ___ - ___ - ___

Add the first and last number:

$$\bigcirc + \bigcirc = \square$$

□ Step 6

This green plane stands out across the pale,
With an un-American symbol on its tail.
German knifemakers at WW2's height
Came up with an idea that truly changed flight.
Planes with piston engines were less of a threat
Once designers created this combat jet.
Instead of cylinders, it had turbines that spun.
A new, improved power, the jet age had begun.

What 6-digit number is on the tail of this plane?

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□ Step 7

This bird is massive, 115 feet wide
With a storied past it barely survived.
Important people, it was known to transport.
When the Japanese surrendered, this plane was in port.
It flew to China not long after that.
It got caught in a typhoon, was broken and scratched.
Fortunately, its story did not end that day.
This flying boat was restored and is now here on display.

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□ Step 8

Look inside this cockpit and you'll note
Eight men working on this famous flying boat.
The most beautiful plane in the fleet it was called,
But the reason was not for its looks at all.
If your plane took fire, and you had to bail out,
Your rescue would most likely come from this scout.
Not only was this plane a sight for sore eyes,
It spotted the Japanese while watching the skies.
And at one point these planes were painted in black
To carry out undercover, night attacks.

Name it:

_ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ _ _

□ Step 9

Silent But Deadly, this plane was a champ.
It was fearless and resolute as it rolled off the ramp.
At the Battle of Midway, this dive bomber
Sank 4 Japanese carriers after they attacked Pearl Harbor.
With nerves of steel, its pilots took aim
While 200 bullets pierced the body of this plane.
The trick to its magic was high degree dives,
And the one you see here was one of few to survive.

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□ Step 10

HINT: LOOK UP!

What is that Edna the Third that I see?
No cockpit, no windows, what could she be?
This odd bird was the first assault drone.
For the Navy it was a real milestone.
This one was used for the first drone strike ever.
The one you see here is the only survivor.

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□ Step 11

HINT: LOOK UP!

For enemy fighters this plane was key.
It was used as a Japanese kamikaze.
It was light. It was fast. It was easy to fly.
But if it ever got hit, it would fall from the sky.
It had the advantage at the first of the war,
But it didn't take long for the allies to score.
Trading ruggedness for this green plane's high speed.
Our Wildcat gained ground with the help of a WEAVE.

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□ Step 12

One of these cats hangs up overhead.
It's the sturdy opponent to the Japanese Zed.
It was strong. It was rugged. Its weapons unmatched.
And it gained advantage thanks to a THACH.
Its warrior pilots were WW2 heroes
And were the first to take on those famous War Zeros.

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Have you discovered the keys to history?

Unscramble your RECTANGLED blanks.



The **LAST** five stops give you this check.
You started this journey trapped on this flight deck:



A month and a day is the second key.
This is a day of **VICTORY**.
Look at **Stops 7, 6, and 5**
Hint: The date is after July!



The **FIRST** four stops give you the end of a span
The year we celebrated Victory over Japan.



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