

ADDENDUM



NORTH AMERICAN B 25B MITCHELL

A HIGH DEFINITION TRIBUTE TO THE "DOOLITTLE RAIDERS"

For Microsoft Flight Simulator



B-25J MANUAL ADDENDUM

U.S.S. HORNET AIRCRAFT CARRIER IS PRODUCED BY REDWING SIMULATIONS AND IS AVAILBLE ON THE MSFS 2024 MARKETPLACE

NORTH AMERICAN B-25B MITCHELL

THE "DOOLITTLE RAIDERS"

This additional package consists of a model of the B-25B version of the Mitchell. Pre-dating the B-25J, this version was highly modified to enable it to take off from an aircraft carrier.

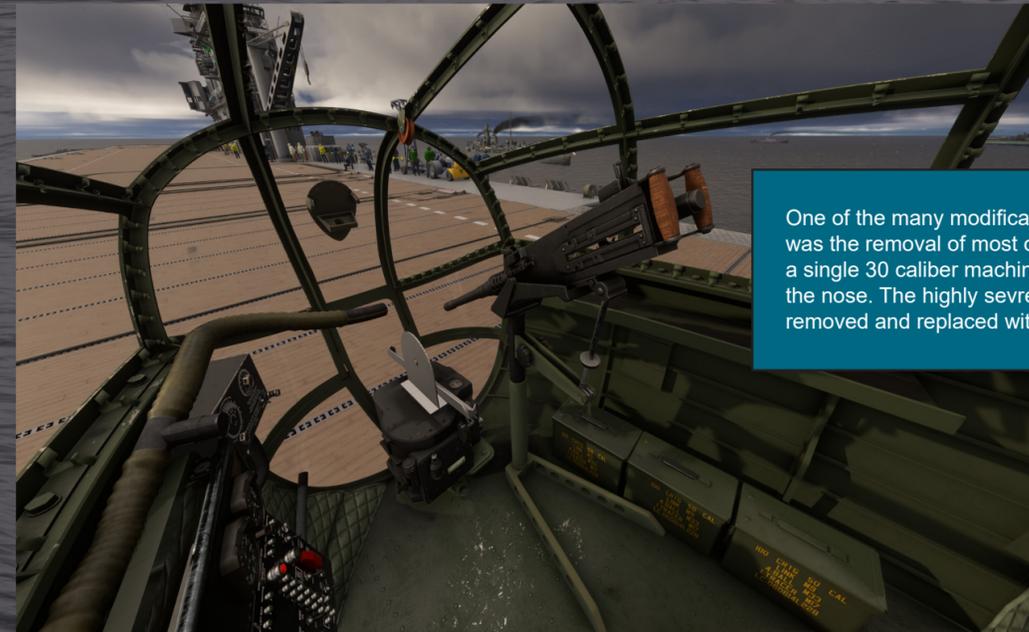
The carrier in question was the U.S.S. Hornet, a CV8 class carrier which was selected for a daring mission to launch 16 B-25s to attack Japan in the wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Led by Lt. Cmdr James Doolittle, the mission took place on the 18th April 1942 and has become legend.

To make it possible to launch from a carrier, the B-25Bs were modified by lightening the airframes and removing much of the defensive armour. A single 30 caliber Browning Machine Gun was carried in the nose and two more in the rear upper turret. To fool the enemy into thinking the aircraft had a tailgunner, two painted broomsticks were attached to the tail perspex tailcone!

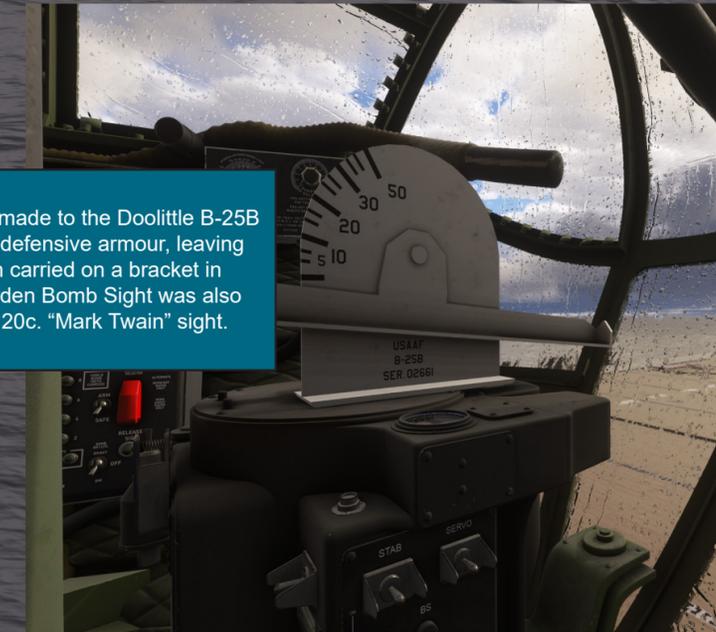
Each B-25B carried a payload of 4 x 500lb bombs and the highly secret Norden bombsight was removed for fear of it landing in enemy hands. In its place was a device invented by one of Doolittle's men at a cost of 20c. Called the Mark Twain, it was a simple contraption made of two pieces of alloy.

On the day, the weather was far from helpful with very limited visibility, rough seas coming over the bow and 35 knot headwinds. However, all 16 aircraft launched successfully and flew on to Japan to carry out the raids. Because of low fuel, the aircraft were not expected to return but land, hopefully, somewhere in neutral China.

The raid was successful in that it fulfilled its primary objective which was to lower the moral of the enemy and raise it back home. Some damage was inflicted but was minimal. 14 of the crews returned to the U.S. and all but one B-25 were destroyed in crashes. Doolittle received the Medal of Honour and a promotion to Brigadier General.



One of the many modifications made to the Doolittle B-25B was the removal of most of the defensive armour, leaving a single 30 caliber machine gun carried on a bracket in the nose. The highly secret Norden Bomb Sight was also removed and replaced with the 20c. "Mark Twain" sight.



Flying off a carrier.

There are certain procedures you **MUST** employ for a successful launch from the carrier. Firstly, wherever your carrier is positioned, there must be a 45 knot headwind straight down the deck. You will **NOT** take off successfully without this key component.

The payload/fuel drop-down menu in the simulator must be adjusted to give an all -up takeoff weight of no more than 29,000lbs.

Position your B-25 as far astern as you can on the deck. Drop the flaps to **FULL DOWN**. Hold her on the brakes until you have **MAXIMUM POWER** established and manifold pressures steady.

Release the brakes and steer carefully and quickly to the left of the deck to clear the tower structure with your wingtip. As you pick up speed, raise the nose gear off the deck as soon as possible to provide more lift from the wings. As you near the end of the deck, pull back on the stick but be careful not to stall as you come off the end.

Lower the nose to pick up speed and do not be tempted to raise it to climb until well clear of the carrier and flying at at least 135 knots. Once clear, raise flaps to 20 and start to climb if needed. You are going to be travelling at low altitude so stay down at 100- 150 ft. above the water.

“Piece of cake.”



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You're virtually there.

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