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BATTLE OF MIDWAY

The Turning Point

TIMELINE OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS JUNE 4, 1942

0700

Enterprise and Hornet begin launching

0838

Yorktown launches

1020

Enterprise and Yorktown torpedo squadrons attack.

★ 1022-1026

Enterprise and Yorktown dive bombers attack and hit Akagi, Kaga, and Soryu.

1208

Japanese dive bombers attack Yorktown.

1441

Torpedo planes attack Yorktown.

1445

Yorktown hit.

1455

Yorktown abandons ship.

1500

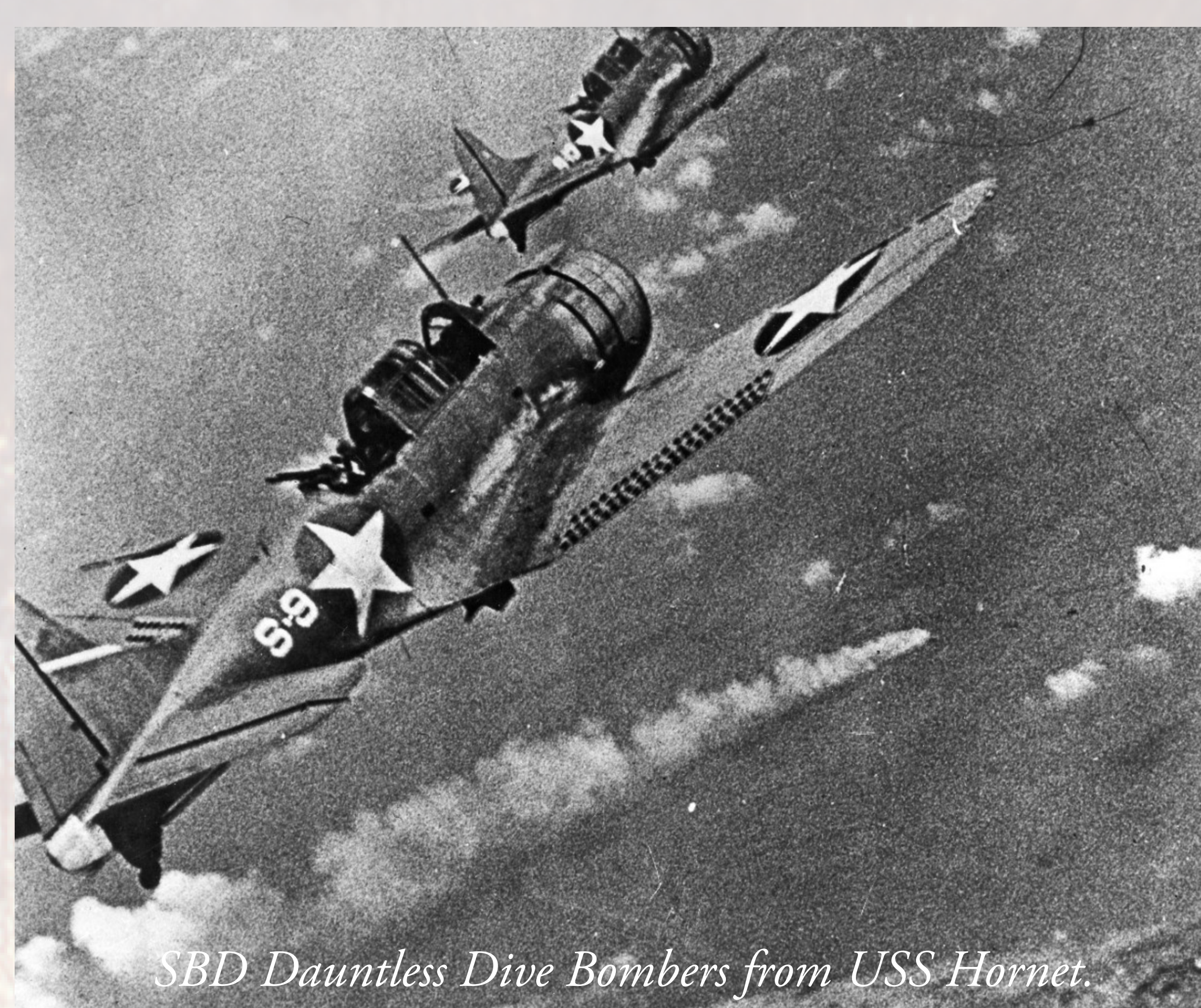
B-17s take off from Midway.

1810

Two B-17s attack BB and damaged CV.

1830

Six B-17s attack damaged CV and DD.



SBD Dauntless Dive Bombers from USS Hornet.

U.S. and Japanese armed forces fought during the Battle of Midway, June 3-7, 1942 at and near the Midway Atoll in the central Pacific Ocean.



Painting by Griffith Baily Coale, 1942.


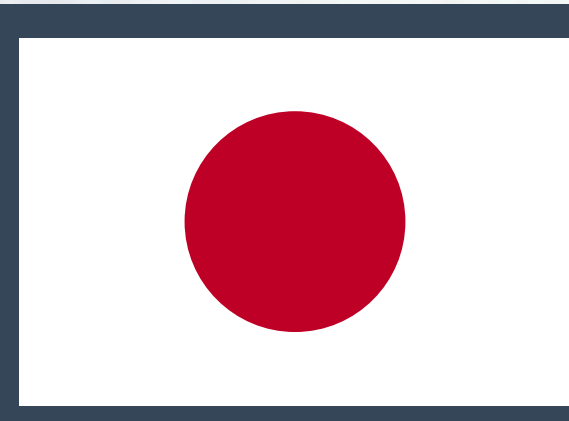
The victory at Midway represents a strategic turning point for the U.S. in Japan's war in the Pacific. Before the battle, Japan possessed naval superiority over the U.S. Afterward, opposing fleets were balanced and the U.S. soon took the offensive.

As a result of the battle on June 4th, the Japanese carriers Akagi, Kaga, and Soryu were hit and sank. The Japanese carrier Hiryu escaped the initial attack, but U.S. dive bombers found, bombed, and sank her.

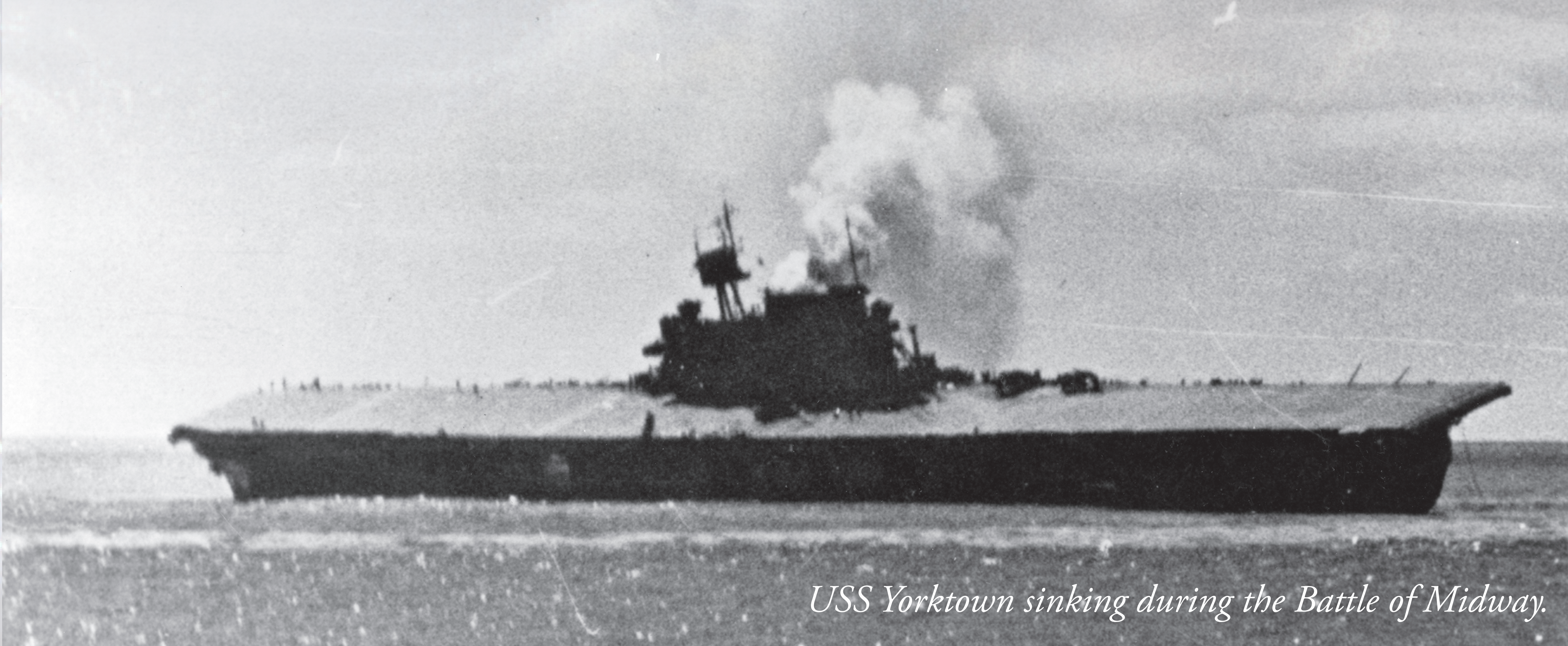


A representation by Bel Geddes showing the attack on Hiryu.

BATTLE OF MIDWAY: SUMMARY OF LOSSES

		
CARRIERS	1	4
AIRCRAFT	150	256
MEN	307	2,204

Midway was a great success in U.S. Navy history. The only strategic regret might have been failing to locate and attack Hiryu before its aircraft struck Yorktown.



USS Yorktown sinking during the Battle of Midway.