

# A History of WW2 in 25 Airplanes

*Air Space Magazine*



This May, one of the largest formations of World War II aircraft ever assembled in the United States—as many as 70 fighters, bombers, trainers, and transports—will fly over the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The sky parade will take place May 8, 2015, 70 years after VE Day (a public holiday declared in the United States to celebrate the 1945 Allied victory in Europe) and is part of a three-day event to honor World War II veterans, both those who fought the war and those who worked at home to build their aircraft, tanks, and ships. Called the “Arsenal of Democracy” flyover, the event is being organized by the Commemorative Air Force, the General Aviation Manufacturers Association, The International Council of Air Shows, the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, and the Texas Flying Legends Museum. *Air & Space/Smithsonian* is the media sponsor for the event and is including World War II-era airplane spotter cards in its May issue to help viewers recognize the aircraft flying overhead on May 8.

The United States produced more than 300,000 airplanes in World War II. Here are 25 of the most celebrated types, most of them still flying today.