

# 100 Years of Global Partnerships and Security

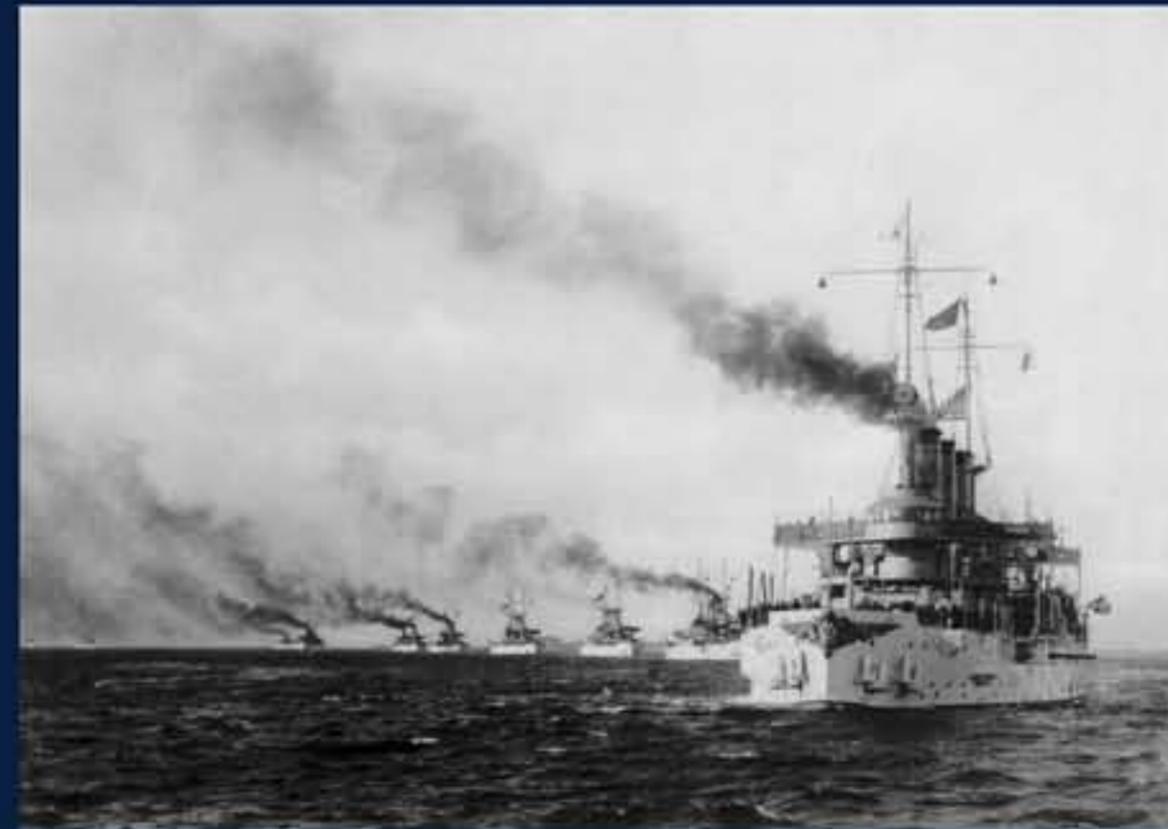
*"Theodore Roosevelt's vision in 1907 was clear — America was a respected world power, with a strong Navy leading the way. Now, 100 years later, the future of the United States as a great nation continues to depend on our continued maritime superiority."*

The Honorable Donald C. Winter  
Secretary of the Navy



Theodore Roosevelt's Great White Fleet  
1907-1909

# 100 Years of Global Partnerships and Security



Theodore Roosevelt's Great White Fleet



# Reflect on the Past

## ...Focus on the future

In December 1907, Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States, sent a portion of the Atlantic Fleet on a world tour to test naval readiness, establish global presence, generate international goodwill, and garner enthusiasm for the U.S. Navy. Sixteen battleships and 14,000 men embarked on an historic voyage that steamed 43,000 miles and made 20 port calls on six continents. Painted white with gilded scrollwork on their bows, the participating ships became known as the "Great White Fleet."



**"A good Navy is not a provocation to war. It is the surest guaranty of peace."**

*President Theodore Roosevelt, December 2, 1902, second annual message to Congress.*

**100 years ago, the Great White Fleet made history by sailing around the world. Today, the U.S. Navy operates around the world 24/7.**

### Peace through strength

The historic deployment sent a clear message: America is a respected world power, with a strong Navy leading the way. Our Navy remains an essential element of U.S. power, deployed around the world 24/7, assuring friends, deterring potential adversaries, forging cooperative partnerships to maintain security at sea, and defending our country.

As the U.S. Navy reflects on its past, we focus on the future... committed to a deployable forward presence that maintains capability for sustainment with minimal footprint ashore.

### A tradition of partnership

Today, informed by its diplomatic tradition, the U.S. Navy continues to work with partners to deter aggressors, protect the right to operate freely at sea, and provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief around the world.

Our new Maritime Strategy – "A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower" – emphasizes the need for increased global cooperation to promote global peace and prosperity.

### Commitment to defending our nation

A great Navy cannot be built overnight and requires sustained support. Our fleet is strong because of the support of our Sailors and Marines, their families, the U.S. Congress, and the American public.

Honoring the 100th anniversary of Theodore Roosevelt's Great White Fleet deployment underscores our commitment to sustaining a Navy and Marine Corps responsive to the challenges of the 21st century.

