

# AMERICA ★ INDEPENDENCE ★ FREEDOM

Presence Then & Presence Now

1777

The first ship to carry the name America was a 74-gun man-of-war that was gifted to France in appreciation of the partnerships with the new nation.

1861



The next America was a racing yacht turned Confederate Civil War blockade runner turned Union blockader.

1917



Passenger liner America saw service as a troop transport in World War I.

1965



The Kitty Hawk-class carrier USS America (CVA 66) served for 30 years and supported action in Vietnam, Lebanon, Libya, Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and Bosnia.

TODAY



Commissioned October 2014, the versatile USS America (LHA 6) is the first in her class of amphibious assault ships equipped to handle the future of joint multinational maritime expeditionary operations.

1776



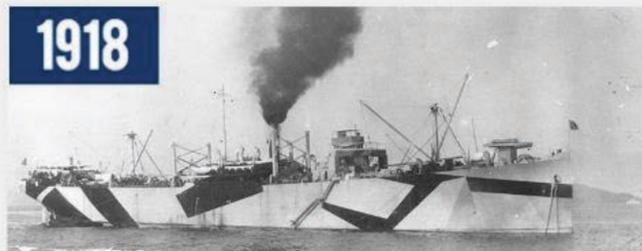
The first Independence, a Continental sloop, sailed with Ranger and John Paul Jones when Ranger received the first national salute of our flag.

1814



Ship-of-the-line Independence joined frigate Constitution protecting Boston Harbor during the War of 1812.

1918



Steamer Independence was one of the Navy's shortest-lived ships, making only one cargo run to Europe before being decommissioned four months after she was commissioned.

1943



USS Independence (CVL 22) was the first aircraft carrier to bear the name and served with distinction during World War II.

1959



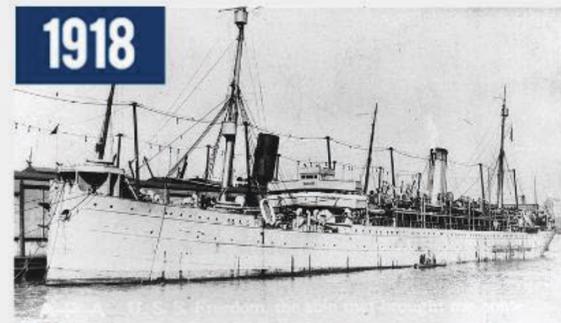
USS Independence (CVA 62) served for more than 39 years, being action during the Cuban Missile Crisis, Vietnam, and Desert Storm.

TODAY



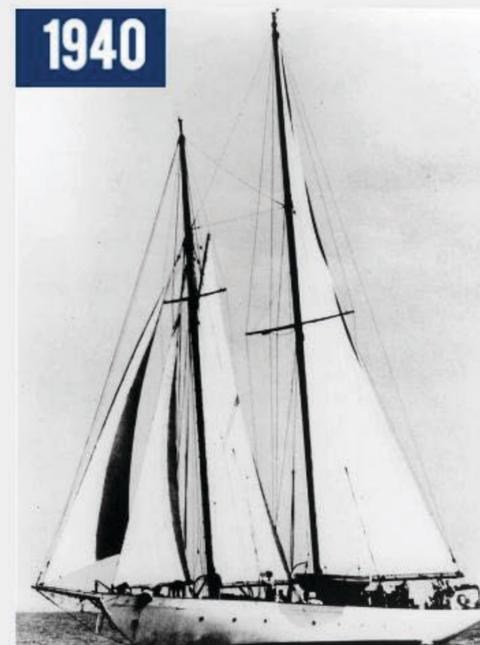
Commissioned January 2010, USS Independence (LCS 2), a Littoral Combat Ship, can operate in shallow waters and evolve with an ever-changing battle space.

1918



The first Freedom began as German Warship SS Wittekind built in 1894 and was renamed Freedom in 1918. She was acquired by the Navy in 1919 as a member of the Navy's Cruiser and Transport Force.

1940



Auxiliary schooner Freedom (IX 43) was the second ship of this name to be acquired by the Navy. She was assigned to the Naval Academy where she served in a non-commissioned status through 1962.

TODAY



Commissioned November 2008, USS Freedom (LCS 1) is a response to the Navy's need for smaller, multipurpose warships that operate in littoral or coastal water.

Sources: Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC) Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships. Photos: Official U.S. Navy photos from NHHC Photo Archives and navy.mil. Artwork: Navy Art Collection, NHHC. Infographic by: Annalisa Underwood, NHHC Communication and Outreach Division.

