Distinguished Visitors

In an image-conscious age, there is no better way to show world leaders and distinguished visitors what the Navy can do than for them to see it first hand. TR was the Navy’s showship during its 1995 deployment, hosting world leaders and dignitaries from the Mideast and Europe, in addition to several thousand tourists during various port calls — most notably a visit by a certain talk show host named Oprah.

When the Bosnian air strikes were passed into USS AMERICA’s hands and deployment-ending Atlantic crossing complete, even Secretary of the Navy John Dalton paid a visit to the ship. There he awarded the Navy Unit Commendation to the TR Battle Group.

Clockwise from top: King Hussein of Jordan sits in an F-18 in TR’s hangar bay, Oprah Winfrey tours the flight deck, Secretary of the Navy John Dalton awards the TR Battle Group a Navy Unit Commendation, and NATO’s Southern Europe Commander Adm. Leighton Smith comes aboard.