

## PREFACE

FM 100-1, *The Army*, expresses the Army's fundamental purpose, roles, responsibilities, and functions, as established by the Constitution, Congress, and the Department of Defense. As the Army's cornerstone document, FM 100-1 defines the broad and enduring purposes for which the Army was established and the qualities, values, and traditions that guide the Army in protecting and serving the Nation.

This manual is a primer on the history, legal origins, and justification of the Army. It describes how the Army works to “provide for the common defense” and “promote the general welfare.” It explains the Army’s strategic role in national security. It describes how Army forces accomplish their assigned missions as a component of unified or joint commands, integrating the capabilities of the other services to achieve national military objectives.

FM 100-1 provides a foundation for the Army’s basic operational doctrine, expressed in FM 100-5, *Operations*, and joint doctrine, set forth in Joint Pub 3-0, *Doctrine for Joint Operations*. All other Army doctrine flows from the principles and precepts contained in this manual. The American Army is a doctrine-based, value-centered organization committed to serving the nation.

"To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace."

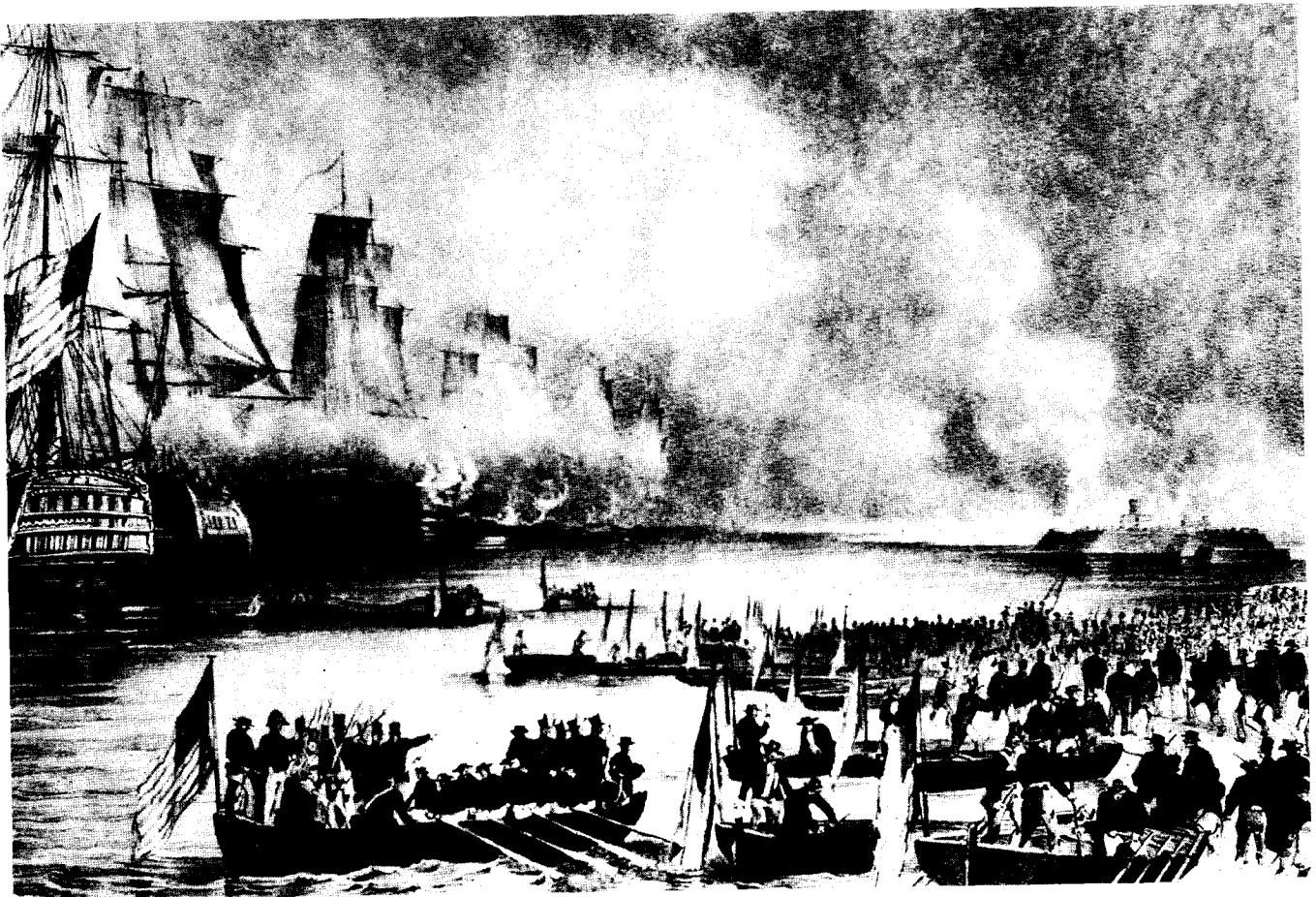
George Washington  
1790

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### VERACRUZ: LONG RECORD OF SUCCESSFUL JOINT OPERATIONS

In 1846, to bring the government of Mexico to terms, the United States planned to occupy the capital, Mexico City. General Zachary Taylor was unable to threaten the capital. President Polk dispatched 12,000 troops under Lieutenant General Winfield Scott to land at Veracruz and march directly to Mexico City. Navy Commodore David Conner had undisputed command of the Gulf. Scott’s transports joined Conner at anchorage a few miles south of Veracruz, creating the largest American amphibious fleet until World War II. Scott and Conner picked a strip

of beach three miles south of Veracruz for the landing. The assault force transferred to surf boats. Mexican cavalry appeared, but withdrew. On signal from General Scott's command ship, the first wave headed for the beach and landed, not under fire, but to cheers from the fleet and the strains of the "Star Spangled Banner." Veracruz surrendered after a three-day bombardment by naval guns afloat, and with Army and Navy guns ashore. With 300 Marines, who fought the first inland battle in Marine Corps' history, Scott rapidly moved inland and seized Mexico City. Scott and Conner's successful cooperation created a model for future joint operations.



Landing the Army at Veracruz, 1846