

ADMIRAL SANTIAGO BOLÍBAR PIÑEIRO

Admiral of the Fleet

He was born in September 18th 1950 in Pontevedra. He was promoted to Sub-lieutenant in 1975.

As Sub-lieutenant he was assigned to the following units: frigates "ANDALUCIA" and "VICENTE YÁÑEZ PINZÓN" and destroyer "MÉNDEZ NÚÑEZ". Promoted to Lieutenant in 1978, he served on board the frigates "BALEARES"



and "CATALUÑA" before being assigned to the Naval Academy as Company Commander and Instructor. Afterwards he embarked on board the Spanish sail training ship "JUAN SEBASTIÁN DE ELCANO" during her training cruise in 1986.

He was promoted to Lieutenant Commander in 1988 and was assigned to different posts in the Fleet Staff and later to the Naval Air Arm in charge of the Weapons Division.

He was promoted to Commander in 1995 and appointed Chief of the Intelligence Division at the Fleet Staff during two years. In 2001 he was promoted to Captain and appointed Secretary of the Spanish Navy General Staff. He was again promoted to Rear Admiral in 2005 and was assigned as Chief of the Communication and Information Systems (CIS) Division at the Spanish Navy HQ and Chief CIS of the Spanish Navy, and, from September 2006 he was assigned Commander, Spanish Navy Strike Group (composed by the aircraft carrier and the amphibious ships). In May 2008 he was promoted to Vice Admiral and assigned command of the Arsenal de Ferrol.

He was promoted to Admiral and assumed his duties on April 8, 2011.

As Admiral of the Fleet has primary responsibility for the preparation and generation of the Force, as well as the planning, direction and control of the execution of the permanent missions assigned to the Spanish Navy in peacetime.

He is also the Maritime Situation Awareness and Security Operations Commander, under of the operational command of the CHOD.

Admiral Bolívar has been the Commanding Officer of the following units: Offshore tug "MAHON" as a Lieutenant; the offshore patrol vessel "CHILREU" and the historic ship "SANTA MARIA" as a Lieutenant Commander, as well as the other two Caravels built to celebrate the 5th Centenary of the Discovery of America (1990/1992), sailing 27,000 miles in the course of 300 days at sea; the frigate "BALEARES" as a Commander (1999/2000). As a Captain he was assigned Commanding Officer of the Combat Evaluation Centre (CEVACO) from September 2000 to June 2002 and Commanding Officer of the Spanish training

ship "JUAN SEBASTIÁN DE ELCANO" (2002/2003) during its 75th training cruise, when the ship sailed around the world for the 10th time. As Rear Admiral, as Commander of the SP Strike Group, he also commanded the Operative Amphibious Force 150 deployed in Lebanon from flagship "GALICIA" in 2006.

He also commanded the Tactical Group while on Exercise GALIBER 07 in 2007, first two month deployment for the Spanish Navy Combat Group in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic from flagship "PRÍNCIPE DE ASTURIAS". In 2008, he commanded the Amphibious Force in Exercise ESPABRAS 08 from flagship "GALICIA" on a two-month deployment in the Atlantic, carrying out exercises in Brazil and Canary Islands.

He is a specialist in Gunnery and has completed the following courses: Naval-Air Operations, Gun Fire Coordination at the Division level, Naval War College and NATO Defense College in Rome. He also attended the promotion course for Spanish Armed Forces Flag Officers.

Admiral Bolívar has been awarded sixteen Spanish and foreign decorations such as Grande Ufficiale of the Italian Republic and the Great Merit Cross of the Spanish Guardia Civil.

Fond of sailing since he was 6, he is married and has five children.