

## BIOGRAPHY OF REAR-ADMIRAL Denis BERTRAND



Rear-Admiral Denis Bertrand was born on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1965 and joined the French naval academy in September 1985.

During his career, he has spent 15 years at sea all over the world, has been posted in Tahiti, Brest, Djibouti, Toulon, Paris, Brussels and Tours and has developed 4 main skills.

Most of his career was devoted to **operations at sea**. He served as operation officer on board the LPD « Dumont d'Urville » (88-89), executive officer of the hydrographic ship « l'Estafette » (89-90), navigation officer of the ASW destroyer « Tourville » (90-91), head of the detection department on board the ASW destroyer "Georges Leygues" (93-96) and operation officer of the ASW destroyer « Jean de Vienne » (98-99). He has been posted three times as **commanding officer at sea**, first of the LPD EDIC 9052 in Djibouti (91-92),

then of the frigate « Commandant Birot » and finally of the ASW destroyer « Latouche-Treville » in Brest (09-11). He took part in numerous operational deployments all over the world, in support of the French Submarine deterrence force as well as in crisis management, protection or humanitarian operations, in the Atlantic and Northern Europe, the Caribbean Sea, the Pacific Ocean, South East Asia (99-00), the Persian Gulf, the Horn of Africa, the Mediterranean and the Adriatic seas.

He also developed an expertise in **human resources** with postings such as military assistant to the Admiral commanding the French naval academy (96-98), head of the officer recruitment department within the French Navy recruitment service (02-04), head of the Training department of the Cadet training squadron on board the helicopter-carrier "Jeanne d'Arc" (04-06). This long experience led him to be posted as deputy director naval personnel (career manager), at the Navy military personnel department (14-16).

He also gained a special experience in **foreign relations** and capability development as he was posted for three years at the French military delegation to the European Union (06-09). During the French presidency of the E.U. (2<sup>nd</sup> semester 08), he used to be the chairman of the EU Military Committee capability working group which gathered experts of the 27 member states of the EU.

Additionally, he also practiced **intelligence** at a high level when he was posted as deputy head of the analysis and production department within the French military intelligence directorate (DRM) from 2012 to 2014, a period during which numerous crises took place in Mali, Central African Republic, Syria, Iraq, Ukraine...

Thanks to this wide and rich experience, he has become since the 8<sup>th</sup> August 2016 Joint commander armed forces in French Polynesia and Commander of the French Polynesian and Pacific maritime zones.

Rear-Admiral Denis Bertrand is graduated of the French Naval Academy (88), of the Detection officer course (93), of the French War College (02) and of the Higher Command and Staff Course (CHEM) and the College of Defense Studies (IHEDN) (12).

Denis Bertrand is an officer of the Legion of Honor and of the National Order of Merit. He also received the gold medal of the Defense National, the French medal for the former-Yugoslavia operations and for the Tsunami relief operations, the NATO and WEU medal for the ex-Yugoslavia operations.

Fond of rugby that he used to play as full-back, Rear-Admiral Denis Bertrand is married with Anne with whom he had 6 children.

### Promotions :

*Cadet* : 1<sup>st</sup> September 1985  
*Enseign 2<sup>nd</sup> class.* : 1<sup>st</sup> August 1987  
*Enseign 1<sup>st</sup> Class* : 1<sup>st</sup> August 1988  
*Lieutenant* : 1<sup>st</sup> August 1992

*Lieutenant commander* : 1<sup>st</sup> October 1997  
*Commander* : 1<sup>st</sup> October 2001  
*Captain* : 1<sup>st</sup> December 2006  
*Rear-Admiral* : 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016