

GENERAL F. JAVIER GARCÍA ARNAIZ



Nominated by H.M. the King, the 4-star General (*General del Aire*) F. Javier García Arnaiz began his duties as the twentieth Spanish Air Force (SpAF) Chief of Staff on July 27th, 2012.

Under the direct authority of the Minister of Defense, he is responsible for the organization, training and equipping of 24.000 active-duty and civilian forces. He is also member of the National Defense Council.

General Arnaiz was born and primarily educated in Madrid. He joined the SpAF in 1972 and, after completing his studies in the Spanish Air Force Academy, he was posted to his first assignment in the 12th Fighter Wing, Torrejon Air Base, at that time equipped with F-4C.

Since then he had the opportunity to develop his fighter pilot career at three different operational wings: the aforementioned 12th Wing (F-4 and F-18), the 15th Fighter Wing (F-18) at Zaragoza Air Base and the 21st Fighter Wing (F-18) at Morón Air Base. He has accumulated around 4000 flying hours, mainly on board of the F-4 and the F-18.

In 2000, colonel Arnaiz was nominated Commander of the 12th Fighter Wing, flying the F-18 aircraft.

In addition to his pilot activities, General Arnaiz has been assigned to several Staff Officer positions such as the Air Combat Command, the Chief of Staff Office and the Air Force Staff.

His international experience is also wide. Among others, he's had the following assignments: Balkans Operations, UNPROFOR Air liaison Officer in Bosnia-Herzegovina, SP representative to CAOC Vicenza for "Deliberate Force" Operation, Commander of the Forward Support Base (FSB) Herat, Afghanistan, in the ISAF mission and in 2006 he was designated Deputy Spanish MILREP to the NATO and EU Military Committees, in Brussels.

In 2010 General Arnaiz became SpAF Deputy Chief of Staff, and thereby responsible of the main organization committed to provide advice to the Chief of Staff. From this position he was promoted to Chief of Staff two years later.

In January 2016 he was appointed Director of the European Air Group.

General Arnaiz is married and has two children.

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EDUCATION

- Fighter and transport pilot.
- Air Staff Course.
- NATO Defence College Senior Course.
- Forward Air Controller.
- Flight Safety (USA).

LANGUAGES

- English SLP 4.4.4.4.
- French SLP 4.3.4.3.
- Italian SLP 3.3.4.3.

AWARDS

- Gran Cruz de la Real y Militar Orden de San Hermenegildo.
- Gran Cruz del Mérito Aeronáutico con distintivo blanco.
- Gran Cruz de la Orden del Mérito de la Guardia Civil.
- Cinco Cruces del Mérito Aeronáutico con Distintivo Blanco.
- Placa, Encomienda y Cruz de la Real y Militar Orden de San Hermenegildo.
- Cruz de la Orden del Mérito de la Guardia Civil con distintivo blanco.
- Medalla Plata al Mérito Policial.
- Medalla de las Naciones Unidas (UNPROFOR).
- Medalla OTAN (Antigua Yugoslavia).
- Medalla OTAN: No artículo 5 "ISAF"
- Gran Cruz del Mérito Militar de la República de Portugal.
- Medalla al Mérito Santos Dumont de la República de Brasil.
- Medalla Cruz Centenario Aviación Militar de la República de Chile.
- Grado de Oficial en la Orden de la Legión de Honor de la República Francesa.
- Medalla Mérito Aeronáutico Categoría de Gran Oficial de la República Oriental de Uruguay
- Distintivo de Mérito por Operaciones de Mantenimiento de la Paz.
- Distintivo de realización del curso NADEFCOL.
- Distintivo de permanencia en al Estado Mayor de la Defensa.

Madrid, february 2017