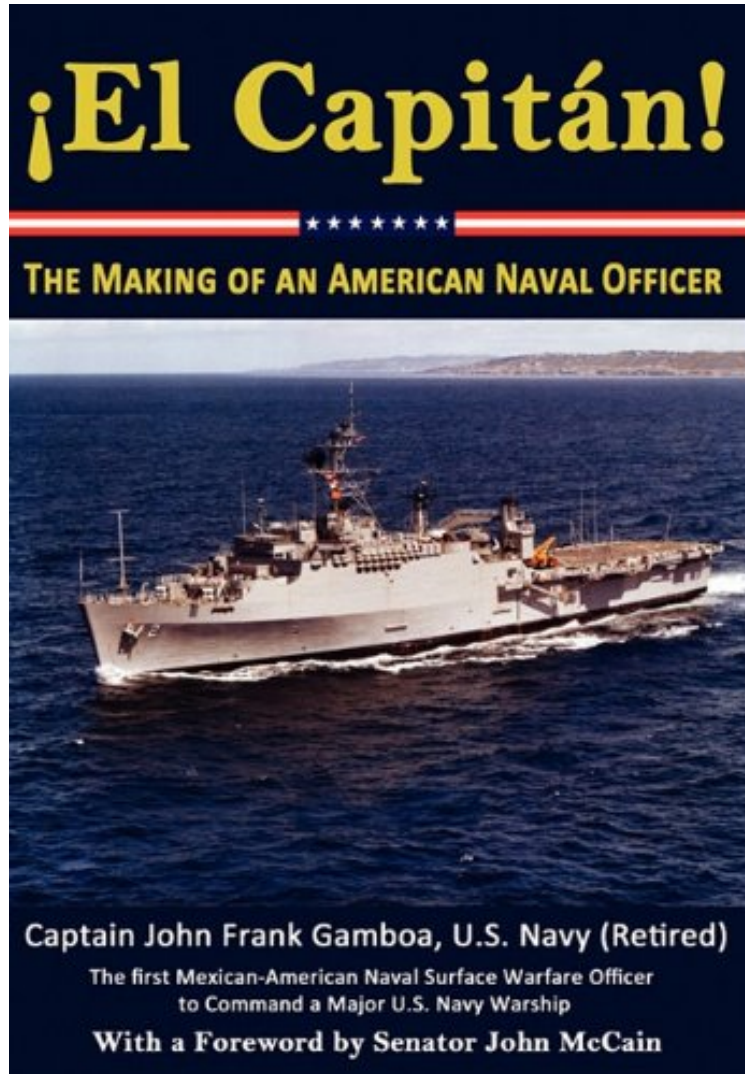


(Free download) El Capitan! The Making of an American Naval Officer

## El Capitan! The Making of an American Naval Officer

*John Frank Gamboa*

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**John Frank Gamboa : El Capitan! The Making of an American Naval Officer** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised El Capitan! The Making of an American Naval Officer:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A must read for those seeking to serve at sea By Anthony Alvizu This book recounts the journey of my former CO as he rises from the dry California desert to become the first Mexican American to command multiple ships at sea first as a Captain, then as a Commodore. The tone of the book is very straightforward. Captain Gamboa relates his impressions growing up in a poor but proud Mexican American immigrant family and finds inspiration via his schooling to seek out an appointment to the US Naval Academy. It

takes Captain Gamboa 2 years of extra schooling and an enlistment in the Army to finally qualify for the Academy. Once there the author takes us through the Academy years where he is introduced to his roommate - Senator John McCain. These circumstances lead the author to much bigger worlds than he imagined growing up Mexican American in Ca in the 40's and 50's. Once the author leaves the Academy to join the fleet, he meets the love of his life, the Lovely Linda. Throughout the book Linda is always present - to support his career, to pursue her own career all the while raising two great kids while the author spends the better part of his career ( 17 years) at sea. The love they have for one another is genuine, heartwarming and inspirational. The rest of the book details his experiences aboard a variety of ships and shore stations. It is filled with details about the Navy which any prospective officer candidate would be advised to learn. We see the professional and personal growth of the author as he struggles with his early assignments and finds his stride. Throughout the book the author share with us his management philosophy and provides concrete examples of his style of leadership working as he successfully struggles to carry out his many arduous tasks. The book is a heartwarming story of one of the many heroes who go to sea to protect this great country of ours. When one considers the authors background and the dedication and love he brings to the Navy one cannot help but be inspired. A note of full disclosure about the reviewer: I served briefly under Captain Gamboa on the USS Vancouver as a junior officer - the only Mexican American junior officer to serve under the good Captain in his thirty years of service to the Navy. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Served under Captain 1981 on board USS Vancouver LPD 2 ...By Robert Fletcher Served under Captain 1981 on board USS Vancouver LPD 2. Set the standard in my career and in life.

In 1958, Frank Gamboa became the first Mexican American from Owens Valley, California, to graduate from the United States Naval Academy. His memoir's focus is his professional development as a naval officer of the line from 1958 to 1988 in the U.S. Navy's surface warfare community. It highlights his duties, challenges and opportunities during more than 17 years of sea duty in destroyers, a cruiser, and six amphibious warships operating in the Navy's Second and Third Fleets; and in frequent and extended deployments in the Sixth and Seventh Fleets during the Cold War. ¡El Capitán! portrays the leadership, management, technical and seamanship skills required to succeed in shipboard billets ranging from division officer to commanding officer and squadron commander, in ranks from ensign to captain. It describes Gamboa's performance as the first Mexican-American naval surface warfare officer to command a major warship as a Commander, the first to command major warship as a Captain, and the first to command a squadron of amphibious warships as a captain. About the Author After leaving the Navy, Frank created Gamboa International Corporation, a management consulting company that he and Linda successfully operated in the private sector from 1994 to 2006. In 1989, he was elected Vice President of the Naval Academy Class of 1958 and continues to serve in that capacity. He and his wife, the former Linda Marie Lehtio, reside in Fairfax, Virginia. Their son, John Frank "Jack" Gamboa, Junior, and his daughter Emma live in Portland, Oregon. Their daughter Judith Ann Callsen and her husband Gary and her daughter Loren reside at Foxcroft School in Middleburg, Virginia.