

## Lieutenant Commander Nicolas du Chéné



Lieutenant Commander Nicolas du Chéné was born on 7 January 1979. He joined the French Naval Academy on 1 September 1998.

From 2000 to 2001, he took part in a course specialising in radar detection on board the helicopter-carrier *FS Jeanne d'Arc*. During this year of training, he discovered the Pacific Ocean, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, New Zealand and Australia.

From 2001 to 2003, he held the role of operations officer, then executive officer of the patrol boat *FS La Tapageuse* based in French Polynesia. He conducted several patrols, aid and search and rescue missions.

From 2003 to 2005, Lieutenant Commander Nicolas du Chéné was the assistant to the intelligence officer of the anti-submarine warfare destroyer *FS La Motte-Picquet* based in Toulon. He was also the principal warfare officer (PWO). In this role he was deployed to the Indian Ocean for a period of five months as part of the anti-terrorism operation *Enduring Freedom*. He also took part in several major NATO exercises in the Mediterranean Sea and conducted a surveillance mission in the eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

He was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on 1 August 2005.

From 2005 to 2006, he took part in the principal warfare officer (PWO) course at the Saint-Mandrier Naval Training Centre, near Toulon.

From 2006 to 2008, he was operations officer of the frigate *FS Premier Maître L'Her* based in Brest. His ship was deployed to the Indian Ocean for two four-month periods. The first stint was as part of the operation *Enduring Freedom*. The second tour was to protect vessels chartered by the World Food Program from pirates as they travelled between Kenya and Somalia.

From 2008 to 2010, Lieutenant Commander Nicolas du Chéné was assigned as an intelligence officer and AAW (anti-air warfare) officer of the anti-air warfare destroyer *Cassard* based in Toulon. While his ship was undergoing maintenance, the Lieutenant Commander was sent to Lebanon for four months in the TF 448 on board *FS Somme*, and then *FS De Grasse*, which were responsible for the training of the Lebanese Navy. Back in France, he worked with *FS Cassard* on several AAW deployment missions to protect *FS Charles de Gaulle* Carrier Strike Group from the eastern Mediterranean Sea to the Norwegian Sea.

On 23 July 2010, Lieutenant Commander Nicolas du Chéné became the commanding officer of the patrol boat *FS La Glorieuse* based in New Caledonia. On 1 November this year, Lieutenant Commander Nicolas du Chéné was promoted to his current rank.