

# Strategic Spanish Colonial Forts in the “New World”

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## ABOUT THE BOOK:

Shortly after Christopher Columbus arrived in the Americas, European monarchs realized the immensity of the lands he had stumbled on. But to exploit these riches they had to control the sailing routes between Europe and the New World so a struggle to control these routes began. Decades later a pattern of fortified locations emerged which, centuries later is still apparent. Although hundreds of forts were built in the new world during the colonial era, only a few emerged as strategically significant.

This booklet identifies strategic Spanish colonial era forts, provides a short historical overview and explains their importance from a military officer's perspective. It provides basic information and hopefully inspires others to research this topic further.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Galín Hernández was born and raised in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico in the same area where Christopher Columbus landed in 1493 during his second voyage to the new world. He graduated from the Community College of the Air Force (AAS), Cleveland Institute of Electronics (Broadcast Engineering), Inter American University of Puerto Rico (BA), Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (MAS), Air Command & Staff College and the Air War College. He is an FCC licensed Electronics technician, an FAA licensed Commercial Pilot and is fluent in both English and Spanish.

From 2002 to 2007, Galín taught at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, Georgia. During 2003 he was the Commander of the 491<sup>st</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Det-2, Ramstein Germany during Operation Iraqi Freedom. From 2007 – 2010 he served as the DHS Attaché at the U.S. Embassy, El Salvador and for a while as Regional DHS Attaché for all Central America.

In retirement Galín volunteers at the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument in St. Augustine, Florida with the Historic Weapons section. He is qualified on 1700's Spanish cannon crew positions and flintlock muskets. Galín has visited most of the forts in this book and hopes to visit the rest in the near future.



The author in historically accurate mid 1700's Spanish Militia Artillery uniform with a working replica Spanish fusil.

You can view Galín's videos on historic topics at:  
[www.youtube.com/@militiagalín/videos](http://www.youtube.com/@militiagalín/videos)

