

A Bit Of History



The armed forces of the United Arab Emirates, whose oft-used moniker "Little Sparta" hints at its extensive efforts to field an effective military. To be sure, the UAE Armed Forces are still far from being able to challenge any competitive army in the neighborhood (most importantly, that of Iran), but the military has undoubtedly made some improvements that set it apart from its counterparts within the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Just 60 years ago the only security forces in the Emirates were the armed retainers of the Ruling Sheikhs and a small British-led, locally-raised Arab force. Using a combination of direct oversight by rulers, investment in its nationals, engagement of expatriates and the purchase of cutting edge military hardware, the UAE Armed Forces has become, arguably, the most capable Arab military.

Jan 2022... In the same year, there was a military incident between Sharjah and Dubai that was deescalated by the intervention of the ruler of Abu Dhabi. Abu Dhabi is the largest and wealthiest part of the union, with 87% of the territory and the bulk of the oil reserves of the emirates. This imbalance initially led to fears by the other constituent emirates of losing their identities and political authority to a centralized authority dominated by Abu Dhabi. ...

The content of this documentation is intended for aviation simulation only and must not be used for real aviation operations.

Emirati armed forces

Ruler-controlled armed forces	Federally controlled armed forces	British-controlled armed forces
Abu Dhabi Defence Force (1965-76)	Union Defence Force (1971-74)	Trucial Oman Levies (1951-56)
Dubai Defence Force (1970-76)	Federal Armed Force (1974-76)	Trucial Oman Scouts (1956-71)
Central Military Command (1976-98)	UAE Armed Forces (1976-present)	Royal Air Force (1952-71)
Sharjah National Guard (1972-76)		British Army (1955-71)
Sharjah's re-established armed force (1984-90)		Royal Navy (1800s-1971)
Ras Al Khaimah Mobile Force (1969-76)		
Ras Al Khaimah's re-established armed force (1984-mid-1990s)		
Umm Al Quwain National Guard (1975-2006)		

القوات الجوية لدولة الإمارات
UAE AIR FORCE