

8. KUWAIT

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Major Changes

- The Kuwaiti Air Defense is undergoing a major upgrade to its Patriot AD missiles. Under this project Kuwait will receive the new GEM-T interceptors and upgraded radars.
 - The Kuwaiti navy is absorbing its new "al Nokatha" class (MKV) patrol boats of which 10 have been ordered.
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General Data

Official Name of the State: State of Kuwait

Head of State: Emir Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah

Prime Minister: Jabar al-Mubarak al-Ahmad al-Sabah

Minister of Defense: Khalid al-Jarrah al-Sabah

Chief of General Staff: Lieutenant General Mohammad Khaled Al-Kheder

Commander of the Ground Forces: Major General Khaled Saleh Al-Sabah

Commander of the Air Force: Major General Abdullaziz al-Jassim

Commander of the Navy: Major General Khaled Ahmed Abdullah

Area: 17,820 sq. km. (including 2,590 sq. km. of the Neutral Zone)

Population: 3,600,000

Type	Details
• Foreign forces	South Korea (135 troops), US (23,000 troops)
• Forces abroad	CTF-152
• Joint maneuvers	Bahrain (2012), Egypt (2010), France (2008), Italy (2008), Iraq (2011), Jordan (2001), Pakistan (2007), Saudi Arabia

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Type	Details
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security agreements 	(2011), UAE (2009), UK (2011), US (2012) Belarus (2001), France (2007), GCC countries, Germany (2007), Iran (2002), Italy (2003), NATO (2006), PRC, Russia, South Africa(2002), UK, US

Arms Trade

Arms Procurement and Security Assistance Received

Country	Type	Details
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military training 	Training cadets from Air Force and National Guards (2010)
France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arms transfers 	VBL APCs (2009), Upgrading of P-37 BRL vessels (2010)
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military training 	Trainees in France (2012)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military training 	Training of Special Forces, Training cadets from National Guards (2011)
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance aid 	Operating of naval dockyard (2008)
UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military training 	Training of National Guard (2008)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military training 	Training of Coast Guard (2010)
US	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arms transfers 	MKV patrol boats (2012), Patriot GEM-T and PAC-3 missiles (2012), Flight simulator (2010), PBs (2009), Upgrading Desert Warrior IFVs (2009), Upgrading of FPS-117 radar (2009), Desert Chameleon IFVs (2010), C-17 transport aircraft (2010), AIM-9X AAMs (2012), AGM-114R3 Hellfire ATGMs (2012)
US	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance aid 	Maintenance of F/A-18 aircrafts (2012), Maintenance of Apache Longbow helicopters (2012)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military training 	Advisers with Kuwaiti National Guard (2012)

Arms Sales and Security Assistance Extended

Country	Type	Details
Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities 	Logistics base for Canadian forces in Afghanistan (2011)
US	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance 	Annual grant for US force in Kuwait
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities 	Facilities for US forces, stationing of Air Control radar

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Defense Production

	M	P	A
Air force equipment			
• Jurnass UAV	✓		
Note:	M - manufacture (indigenously developed)		
	P - production under license		
	A - assembly		

Strategic Assets

NBC Capabilities

Nuclear capability

No known nuclear activity. Nuclear cooperation accords with Egypt. Party to the NPT.

Chemical weapons and protective equipment

Fuchs (Fox) ABC detection vehicle (11), Personal protective equipment, unit decontamination equipment.

No known CW activities. Party to the CWC.

Biological weapons

No known BW activities. Party to the BWC.

Command and Control Assets

Name	Description
Air defense	
ADGE	National Early Warning system, combining ground-based and aerostat radars, and linking national command center with AD assets.
Belt of Cooperation	Joint GCC communication network, combining national Aerial surveillance assets of GCC members.
Sky Guard	Local command and control system for AD assets
Border Surveillance	
BSS	National border surveillance system. Linking command centers with CCD, sensors, and ground surveillance radars.

Armed Forces

Order-of-Battle

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
General data					
• Personnel	15,500	15,500	15,500	15,500	15,500

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Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
(regular)					
Ground Forces					
• Number of brigades	7	7	7	7	7
• Tanks	293 (483)	368 (483)	368 (483)	368 (483)	368 (483)
• APCs/AFVs	690 (920)	710 (940)	716 (946)	740 (970)	740 (970)
• Artillery	147 (177)	147 (177)	147 (177)	147 (177)	147 (177)
Air Force					
• Combat aircraft	39 (58)	39 (58)	39 (58)	39*	39
• Transport aircraft	5	5	5	5	5
• Helicopters	39 (48)	39 (48)	39 (48)	43 (48)*	43 (48)
Air Defense Forces					
• Heavy SAM batteries	11	11	11	11	11
• Medium SAM batteries	6	6	6	6	6
Navy					
• Combat vessels	10	10	10	10	10
• Patrol craft	86	86	86	87	91

* Due to change in estimate.

Personnel			
	Regular	Reserves	Total
Ground Forces	11,000	24,000	35,000
Air Force	2,500		2,500
Navy	2,000		2,000
Total	15,500	24,000	39,500
Paramilitary			
National Guard	10,000		10,000
Civil Defense	2,000		2,000

Ground Forces

Formations

	Independent brigades / groups	Independent battalions
Armored	3	
Mechanized	2	
Artillery	1	
Border Defense	1	
Royal Guard	1	
Commando		1

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	Independent brigades / groups	Independent battalions
Total	8	1

Tanks

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
MBTs				
High quality				
• M1A2 Abrams	218	218	1994	
• M-84	200	150	1990	
Subtotal	418	368		
Medium and low quality				
• Chieftain	45	0	1977	
• Vickers Mk 1	20	0	1970	
Subtotal	65	0		
Total	483	368		

APCs/AFVs

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
APCs				
• M-113	230	60	1981	8 M-901 ITV
• Fahd	60	+	1994	
• M577	40	40	1995	Artillery command post vehicle
Subtotal	330	~100		
IFVs				
• Desert Chameleon	29	29	2010	
• Pandur	60	60	1998	Various models; With National Guard
• BMP-3	120	120	1995	
• BMP-2	76	76	1988	
• Desert Warrior	254	254	1994	To be upgraded
Subtotal	539	539		
Reconnaissance				
• Pandur LCT 90mm	10	10	1998	
Light armored vehicles				
• Panhard VBL	40	40	1997/2009	With National Guard
• Shorland S600	22	22	1998	With National Guard
• TM170	21	21	1994	National Guard

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Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
• Condor-2	8	8	2000	National Guard
Subtotal	91	91		
Total	970	740		

Artillery

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Self-propelled guns and howitzers				
• 155mm PLZ-45	75	75	2000	
• 155mm M109 A2/A3	23	23	1986	
• 155mm AMX-13 F-3	18	0		In storage, offered for sale
• 155mm GCT AuF-1	12	0	1992	In storage, offered for sale
Subtotal	130	100		
Mortars, under 160mm				
• 120mm RTF-1	~15	~15		
• 107mm	6	6		
Subtotal	~20	~20		
Rockets				
• 300mm Smerch (BM9A52-2)	27	27	1995	
Total	177	147		

Logistics and Engineering Equipment

AARDVARK Mk.3 flail, M88 ARVs (14)

Anti-Tank Missiles

Model	Launchers	Missiles	Since	Notes
• AT-4 Spigot	+	80	1994	
• AT-5 Spandrel	+	240	1994	
• AT-10 Bastion	+	600	1995	
• BGM-71E/F TOW-2 RF	82	+	1995	
• M-901 ITV	8	+		
• M-47 Dragon	+	+		
Future procurements				
• TOW-2A/B RF				To be mounted on IFVs

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Air Force

Order-of-Battle

Category	Quantity	In service	Notes
• Combat	39	39	
• Transport	5	5	
• Helicopters	48	43	

Combat Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Advanced multi-role				
• F/A-18C/D	39	39	1992	Being upgraded; Fewer pilots than aircraft.
Total	39	39		

Transport Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
• Boeing 737-200	1	1		
• L-100-30 Hercules	3	3	1971	To be upgraded
• DC-9	1	1	1976	
Total	5	5		
Future procurement				
• C-17 Globemaster	1			Arrived
• KC-130J	3			Delivery by 2013; Transport/Tankers

Training and Liaison Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Jet trainers				
• Hawk 100	11	11	1985	
Piston/Turbo-prop				
• S-312 (Shorts Tucano)	18	8	1995	
Total	29	19		

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Helicopters

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Attack				
• AH-64D Apache	16	16	2007	
• SA-342K Gazelle	16	13	1974	
Subtotal	32	29		
Medium transport				
• SA-330 Puma	7	5	1975	
• AS-365A Dolphin	2	2	2005	With police aviation wing
Subtotal	9	7		
Light transport				
• EC-135	2	2	2001	With police aviation wing
Naval combat				
• AS-332 Super Puma	5	5	1985	
Total	48	43		

Advanced Armament

Air-to-air-missiles

AIM-9M Sidewinder, AIM-7F Sparrow (200), AIM 120C AMRAAM (80)

Air-to-ground-missiles

AGM-65G Maverick (300), AGM-84 Harpoon (40), AS-11, AS-12, HOT, AGM-114 Hellfire (300)

Bombs

Paveway II laser-guided

Future procurement

AIM-120C AMRAAM (120)

Note: Numbers in parentheses refer to the number of missiles purchased, not to current inventory levels.

Air Force Infrastructure

Aircraft shelters

In airfields; for combat aircraft; under reconstruction

Military airfields : 3

Al-Ahmadi, al-Jahra (Ali al-Salam), Kuwait International Airport

Air Defense Forces

Surface-to-Air Missiles

Model	Batteries	Launchers	Since	Notes
Heavy Batteries				
• MIM-104 Patriot	5		2003	Being upgraded

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Model	Batteries	Launchers	Since	Notes
PAC-2				with GEM-T
• MIM-23B Improved HAWK	6		1977	
Total Medium Batteries	11			
• Aspide 2000	6	24	2005	Each battery constitutes 2 sections, each with 2x Aspide 2000 launchers, 2x Oerlikon 35mm
Shoulder-launched missiles				
• FIM-92A Stinger		+		
• Starburst		48	1997	Approx. 250 missiles
Total Future procurement		~50		
• Patriot PAC-3	5			Upgrading of existing batteries, with GEM-T and PAC-3 missiles

Other Air Defense Systems

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Air defense systems (missiles, radars and guns)				
• Skyguard AD system (Egyptian Amoun)	6	6		Each battery constitutes 2 sections, each with 2x Aspide 2000 launchers, 2x Oerlikon 35mm
Short-range guns				
• 40mm Bofors L-70/L-60	+	+		Unconfirmed
• 35mm Oerlikon-Buhrle 2x35 GDF-002	+	+		Part of Skyguard AD
• 23mm ZSU 23x4 SP (Gun Dish)	+	+		
• 20mm Oerlikon GAI	+	+		

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Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Radars				
• TPS-75	1	1	2012	Operated by US forces
• AN/FPS-117 (Seek Igloo)	1	1		Being upgraded
• AN/TPS-32	1	1		
• Tiger (TRS-2100)	1	1		
• TRS 22XX	+	+		
Aerostat with airborne radars				
• KCLASS	1	1	2003	71M aerostat Mounted with AN/TPS-63 and AR-900 intelligence system

Navy

Combat Vessels

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
MFPBs			
• Istiklal (FPB-57)	1	58.1/410	4xExocet MM40 SSMs 1x76mm gun 2x40mm guns
• Sanbouk (TNC-45)	1	44.9/255	4xExocet MM40 SSMs 1x76mm gun 2x40mm guns
• Um- Almaradim (P-37 BRL)	8	42/245	Being upgraded 4xSea Skua SSMs 1x40mm gun 1x20mm gun
Total	10		

Patrol Craft

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
• Intisar (OPV-310)	4	31.5/150	1x20mm gun 1x12.7mm MG
• Manta	0	14/10	3x12.7mm MGs 12 non operational
• Shaheed (FPB)	3	33.3/104	1x20mm gun

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Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
100K)			2x12.7mm MGs
• Subahi	10	35/104	1x20mm gun 2x12.7mm MGs
• MK-V	5	27.3/54	With Coast Guard Being delivered. 1x27mm gun 2x12.7mm MGs 16 troops
• Kassir Inshore Patrol crafts (Austal)	3	21.6m	
• Victory team (P-46)	16	14/ 8.5	2x12.7mm MGs
• Inshore Patrol crafts	50	10-12m	33 Al-Sha'ali class, and 17 Cougar class inshore PBs carrying 12.7mm MGs
Total	91		
Future procurements			
• MK V	10	27.3/54	Delivery in progress, 1x27mm gun 2x12.7mm MGs 16 troops

Landing Craft

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
• al-Tahaddy LCU	2	43/215	80 tons
• Saffar (Loadmaster) LCU	1	33/420	
• LCU (ST Marine)	1	49/300	
Total	4		

Auxiliary Vessels

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
• Sawahil (Dorrah Support ship)	1	55.4/545	2x12.7mm MGs
Future procurement			
• Nautilus (Swiftship 176) SDV	2	54m	Under negotiations 1x27mm Gun 2x12.7mm MGs

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Naval Infrastructure

Naval bases (including Coast Guard): 6

Kuwait City (Shuwaikh), al-Qulaya (Ras al-Qalaya), Umm al-Hainam, al-Bida, Verba, al-Harian

Command and Control systems

Coastal defense system comprising of cameras and other sensors

Ship maintenance and repair facilities:

A 190-meter floating dock at Kuwait City, repair capacity 35,000 dwt
