



# Defending the Lion City

## The Armed Forces of Singapore



TIM HUXLEY

---

# Contents

Foreword	v
Tables, figures and maps	viii
Glossary of acronyms and abbreviations	ix
Preface and acknowledgements	xvi
Introduction	xviii
1 The Singapore Armed Forces' origins and early years	1
2 Defence policy, threat perceptions and strategy	24
3 Command and control	73
4 Personnel	93
5 Singapore's army	122
6 The Republic of Singapore Air Force	141
7 The Republic of Singapore Navy	159
8 Defence procurement, R&D and industry	172
9 Regional and international links	196
10 Political and administrative roles	229
Conclusion	248
Appendix 1—Summary of forces	258
Appendix 2—Paramilitary forces	264
Notes	268
Bibliography	300
Index	325

---

# Tables, figures and maps

## TABLES

2.1	Singapore's defence budgets and actual defence spending, 1966–2000	28
2.2	Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia: strategic comparisons, 2000	64
5.1	Major Singapore Army formations, 2000	125
8.1	Selected major defence equipment contracts with foreign suppliers, 1990–2000	174
10.1	Reservist and retired senior officers in civil service and parastatal posts, 2000	234
10.2	Reservist senior officers in the Cabinet, 2000	238

## FIGURES AND MAPS

2.1	Singapore and its sub-regional locale	32
3.1	Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) organisation, 2000	82
5.1	Singapore Army organisation	124
6.1	Republic of Singapore Air Force organisation, 2000	142
7.1	Republic of Singapore Navy organisation, 2000	161
7.2	Singapore: major military installations	167