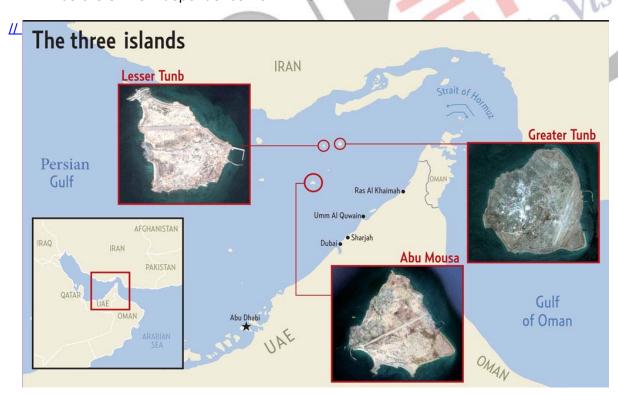


The Greater Tunb, The Lesser Tunb, and Abu Musa Island

Source: ET

Recently, **Iran** called in China's ambassador to lodge a protest over a joint statement made by **China** and the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** regarding the sovereignty of the Abu Musa, Greater Tunb, and Lesser Tunb islands.

- These are small disputed islands between Iran and UAE, located at the entrance of the Strait of Hormuz in the Persian Gulf.
- Iran claims that the islands were historically part of Persian territories until they were occupied by the British in the early 20th century.
- After British forces withdrew in 1971, Iran took control of the three islands, considering them an integral part of its territory.
- According to the UAE, the islands belonged to the emirate of Ras al-Khaimah until Iran allegedly seized them by force just days before the formation of the Emirati Federation in 1971 before UAE's independence from Britain.



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