

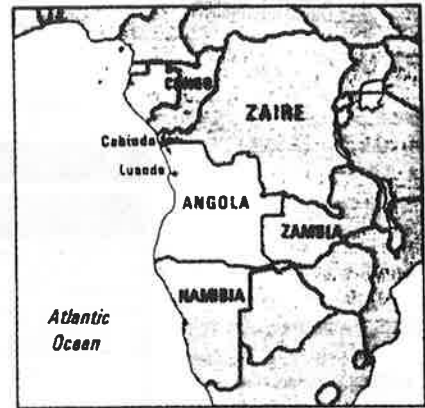
ANGOLA

MEF G-2: CG II MEF//G-2//  
Telephone: STU-III AV 484-8095

Theater J-2: USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE//J-2//  
Telephone: STU-III AV 430-8003

DIA DB Desk Code: DIA WASHINGTON DC//DB-8D//  
Telephone: STU-III AV 243-4377

Embassy Defense Attache: DIA WASHINGTON DC//DAH-6//  
Telephone: STU-III AV 243-0597

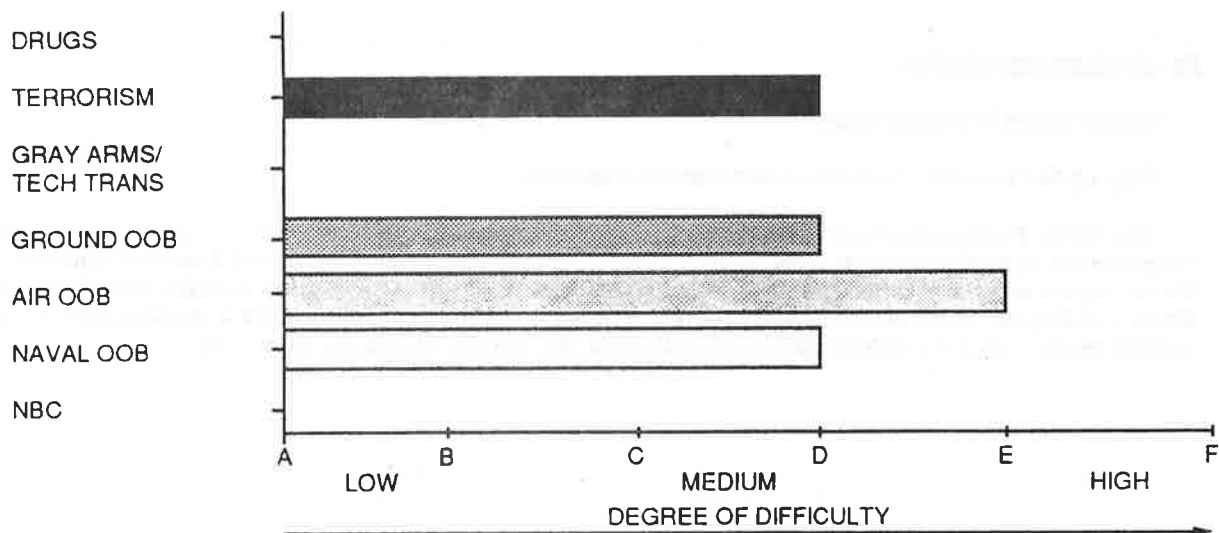


SUMMARY

Angola has, in recent years, been characterized by intensification of the civil war, its involvement in regional conflicts, and turmoil within the government. Although the regime in power maintains close links with Cuba and the Soviet Union, it has begun to seek better relations with the U.S. and the moderate African states. However, conflict continues on a sporadic basis primarily with insurgent forces. The U.S. has supported the insurgents against the communist Government in Luanda but believes that Angola must solve its problems without external interference. Although Angola is the third largest trading partner of the U.S. in sub-Saharan Africa, overall U.S. equity is low. Main U.S. interests involve Angolan petroleum. Angola provides a support base for an insurgent group, the African National Congress, which operates in South Africa and uses terrorist tactics against civilians and government officials. Within the region, Angola maintains the third largest air force, and the fourth largest army and navy. Most military equipment is obtained from the Soviet Union. Technical military training and assistance has been provided by Cuban, Soviet, and German advisors.

Located on the southwest coast of Africa, Angola is about twice the size of Texas. It consists of a narrow coastal plain which joins plateau and highland regions. There is a large desert in the south and significant jungle surrounding the enclave of Cabinda on the northwest coast. Other than on the coastal plains, Angola is poorly suited for cross-country movement of vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is normally limited to less than 1,000 meters in about two-thirds of the country. While NGF ships are able to approach the coast to provide support for operations ashore they would be out-ranged by Angolan coastal defense weapons. Coverage of the country by 1:50,000 scale maps is not available. Although port facilities are quite satisfactory there are no airfields that can receive C-5 aircraft. Key installations include oil fields. The Atlantic ARG operating in the Mediterranean would require in excess of six days to reach Angola.

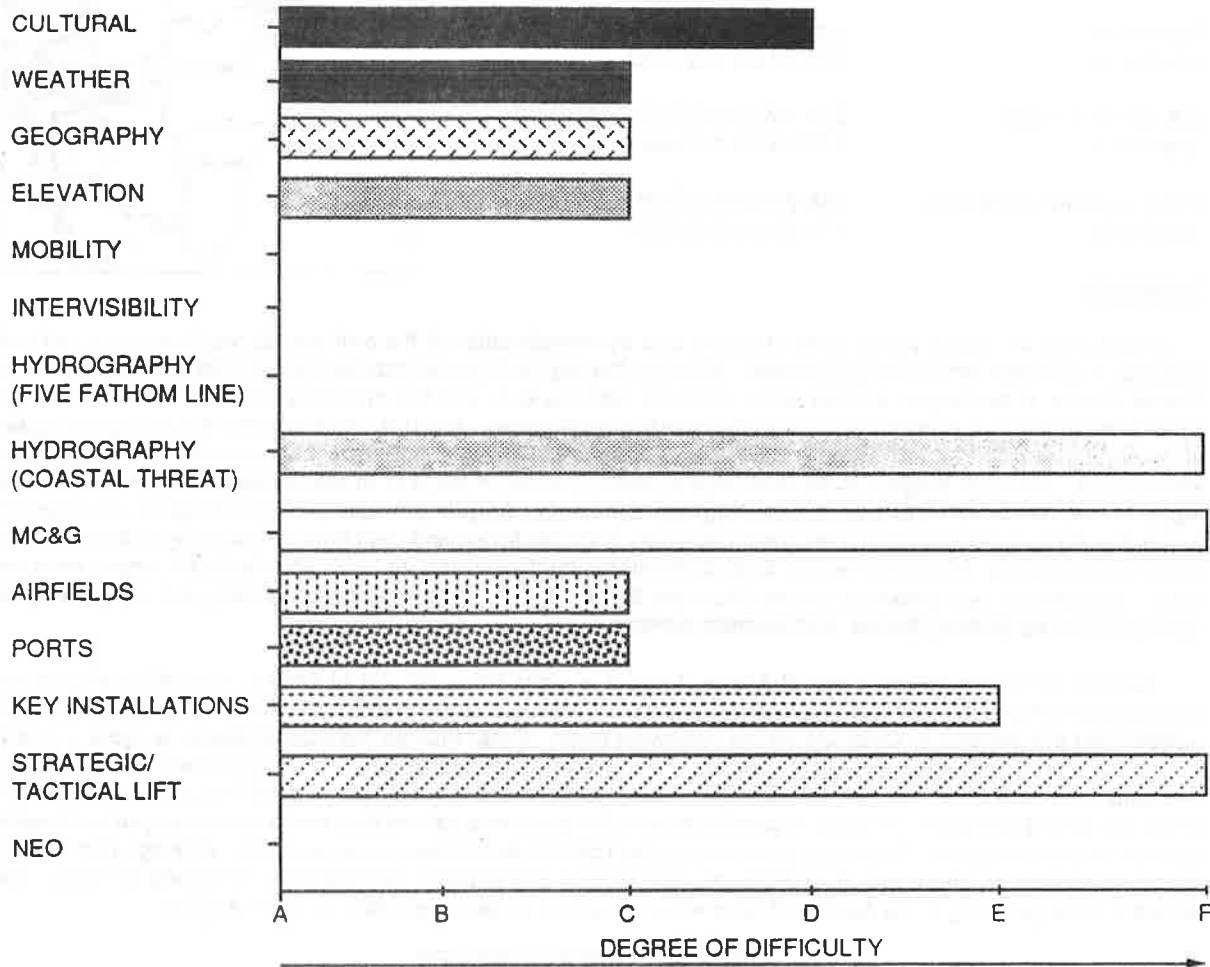
ANGOLA - THREAT SUMMARY



Angola - 1

# FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

## ANGOLA - TERRAIN AND LOGISTICS SUMMARY



### Existing Ongoing Conflicts

- Marxist regime backed by **Cuba**.
- Ongoing civil war with UNITA rebels and Cabinda dissidents.

This former **Portuguese** colony continues to wage its own civil war with the National Union for the Total Independence of **Angola** (UNITA) rebel group and some remaining dissidents in its oil-rich **Cabinda** Province. A Marxist regime with backing from **Cuba** controls the capital, **Luanda**. There has been progress between **South Africa** and **Angola** to settle matters in **Namibia** and possibly **Cabinda** but probably not in **Angola** itself, for the antigovernment UNITA movement seems well entrenched, with the country virtually partitioned.

U.S. Equities in Angola

- Overall U.S. equity is high.

Although the **Angolan** Government maintains close links with the **Soviet Union** and the **Eastern** bloc, in recent years it has sought better relations with the **West** and the moderate **African** states. However, conflict continues with **South Africa** over independence for **Namibia** and internally with insurgent forces. The U.S. supports the insurgents against the Communist Government but believes **Angola** must solve its problems without outside interference. **Angola** is the third largest trading partner of the U.S. in sub-Saharan Africa. The primary U.S. import from **Angola** is petroleum. U.S. investment in **Angola** is centered on the petroleum sector.

Direct Inv (Mil of \$)	Exports (Mil of \$)	Imports (Mil of \$)	U.S. Aid (Mil of \$)	Total Equity (Mil of \$)	U.S. Citizens	\$ Rating		Total Numerical Rating	Overall U.S. Equity
							Rating		
251	87	729	-	1,067	-	3	0	3	Low

Terrorism

- **Angola** provides a support base for insurgents employing terrorist tactics in **South Africa**.

**Angola** provides a support base and installations for the **African National Congress (ANC)** which carries out guerrilla operations against **South Africa**. While chiefly a political and insurgent organization, in recent years it has turned to urban terrorism. The ANC has reportedly bombed energy and transportation targets, government officials, security targets, and recently civilians.

# FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

## General Ground OOB

- Fourth largest ground OOB in the region.

Infantry	Tank OOB	Artillery	Army Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Reg/Exp	T-62	Bloc	50	6	186	D

Ground OOB consists of 36,000 personnel of which 24,000 are conscripts. There is an acute shortage of personnel with technical training. Training assistance is provided by Cuban, Soviet, and East German advisors. Tanks: PT-76, T-34, T-54, T-55, T-62; Artillery: 122 mm, 130 mm, 152 mm, SU-100 SP.

## General Air OOB

- Third largest air OOB in the region.

Air OOB	Close Air	AAW (IAD)	Air Force Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Bloc	Early Smart	Bloc	2	6	138	E

Fighter Aircraft: MiG-21, MiG-23; Close Air: Mi-24, Su-22; Air Defense: SA-2, SA-3, SA-6, SA-7, SA-8, SA-9, SA-13, SA-14, and SA-16 SAMs and AA guns, plus supporting air surveillance radars and command and control facilities. Over 20 radars are reported operational in Angola. These sites use a variety of Soviet surveillance and search radars including Tall King, Spoon Rest, Bar Lock, Flat Face, Squat Eye, and Side Net systems. The sites reportedly provide integrated coverage up to 20,000 feet.

## General Naval OOB

- Fourth largest naval OOB in the region.

Naval OOB	S/S Missiles	Patrol Craft	Navy Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Small Surface	Bloc	Bloc	2	6	118	D

Ships: none; SSMs: SS-N-2B; Patrol Craft: 6 Fast Attack Craft-Missile (Ex-Soviet) with SSMs, guns, and radars; 4 Fast Attack Craft-Torpedo (Ex-Soviet); 4 Large Patrol Craft (Ex-Portuguese); 11 Coastal Patrol Craft (5 Ex-Soviet, 6 Ex-Portuguese).

## Culture (Language and Religion)

Primary language - Portuguese (Bantu)  
Primary religion - Catholic

There is a moderate cultural difference between Angola and the U.S.

Weather

Average Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit)	Average Relative Humidity (Percent)	Average Annual Rainfall (Inches)	Rating
71-81	77	13	Dry/Hot

Angola's climate is diverse. The southern regions and the coastal plain up to **Luanda** are semiarid, particularly the desert in the southwest. The north has two seasons; from May to October it is dry and cool; during the November to April rainy season, it is extremely hot and humid.

General Geographic Conditions

URBAN	DESERT	JUNGLE	MOUNTAINOUS
	X		

Operational Elevation

<2,000 FT	<4,000 FT	<6,000 FT	>6,000 FT	>9,000 FT	>12,000 FT
			X		

Angola consists of a plateau and upland regions with elevations to about 6,000 feet rising from a narrow coastal strip. There is also a desert in the south and a tropical rain forest covering the enclave of **Cabinda** on the northwest coast.

General Cross-Country Mobility

- Angola is generally unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles.

Conditions for tracked and wheeled movement are best on the coastal plains and in areas of moderate relief and low vegetation. Approximately two-thirds of Angola offers poor to unsuitable terrain for the movement of tracked and wheeled vehicles. In these areas, movement is restricted by escarpments, forest areas, and savanna.

Intervisibility (Line of Sight)

- Poor, with line of sight distances normally limited to less than 1,000 meters in about two-thirds of the country.

About two-thirds of Angola presents terrain conditions which limit line of sight distances to less than 1,000 meters. These areas are characterized by escarpments, forest areas, and savanna. Only on the coastal plains and in areas of moderate relief and low vegetation would direct visibility exceed 1,000 meters.

Hydrography (Five Fathom Line)

- NGF platforms are able to approach the coast to provide satisfactory support for operations ashore.

DMA Chart #	5 Fathom Line from Shore (Meters)	NFG Rating
57260/57262	1,500	Good

# FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

## Hydrography (Coastal Threat)

- Significant coastal threat.

Maximum Capability Coastal Defense Weapon	Maximum Range of Weapon (Meters)	Rating (Compared with 5"/54-cal)
130 mm M-46	27,000	Threat Advantage

## MC&G Shortfalls

- 1:50,000 scale map coverage for **Angola** is not available.

1:50 New	1:50 Old	Some 1:50	MSI Avail	1:250 New	None
			X		

## Airfields

- Highly accessible by air, with more than one airfield that can handle C-5 aircraft.

Number of Airfields	Type Aircraft (C-5, C-141B, C-130) Accommodated	Airfield Utility (Unconstrained/Constrained)	Rating
11	4 C-141B 6 C-130 1 Inactive C-130	1/10	>5/C-130

Airfields	Type Aircraft	Comments
Benguela	C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Cabinda	C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Cuito Cuanavale	C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Huambo	C-141B, C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Luanda/4 de Fevereiro	C-141B, C-130	-
Luena (Luso)	C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Malanje	C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Menvague East	C-141B, C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Negage	C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Saurimo	C-141B, C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Wako Kungo	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Inactive.

**Ports**

- Good port facilities to receive strategic sealift.

Major Ports	Harbor Size	Channel/Anchorage Depths (Feet)	Cargo Pier Depth (Feet)	Cranes
Luanda	Small	Over 76/Over 76	31-35	Yes
Lobito	Small	Over 76/Over 76	31-35	Yes
Mocamedes	Small	Over 76/31-35	51-55	Yes

**Key Installations**

Oil fields are found in the **Cuanza River** basin, and along the coast at **Tobias** (about 120 kilometers south of **Luanda** and in the **Cabinda** Enclave.

U.S. Embassy	Communications	Highways	Railroads	Major Ports	Primary Airfields	Pipeline	Oil Field	NBC
None	- Fair telecomm - 2 Satellite stations - 29 Radio stations - 2 TV stations	73,828 km	3,075 km	3	11	- Crude oil	Yes	None

**Strategic and Tactical Lift**

The **Atlantic ARG** with its embarked **MEU** which normally operates in the **Mediterranean Sea** would require in excess of six days to reach **Angola**. The **AAF/ACB** can arrive within 24 hours but these elements do not possess a forcible entry capability.

**NEO**

- NEO conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions in **Angola** would not be difficult.

Embassy Staff	Evacuees	Inland Objective (nm)	Rating
0	0	2 (Luanda)	A

Note: In **Angola**, the following factors are of little significance:

- Drugs
- Gray Arms/Technology Transfer
- NBC

