

DJIBOUTI

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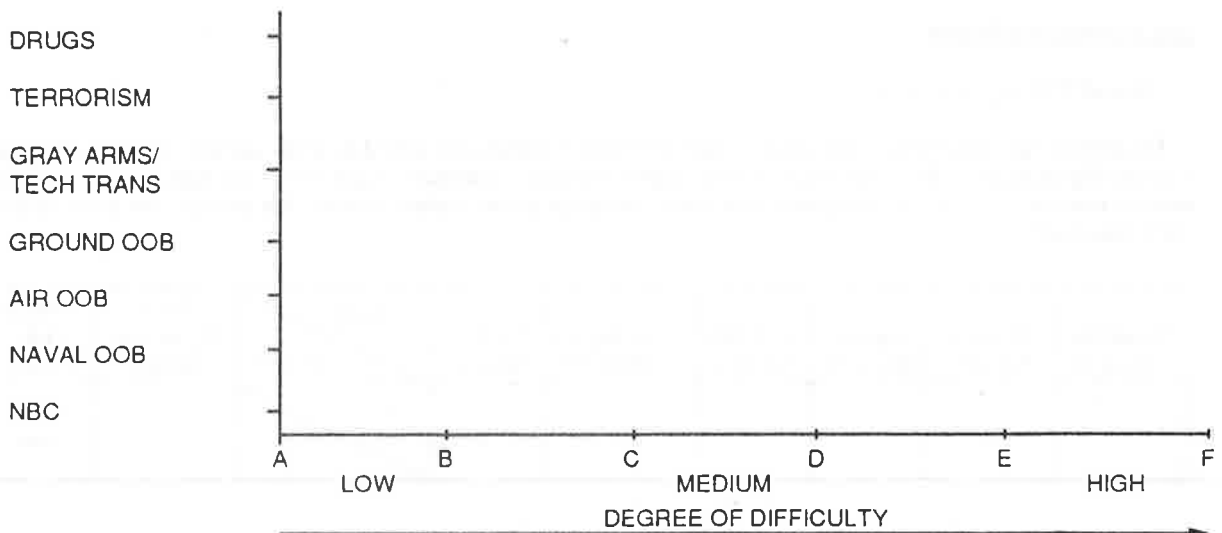
NOTE: DATT FOR YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC IS ACCREDITED TO THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI.

SUMMARY

The Republic of **Djibouti** is located in northeast **Africa** on the **Gulf of Aden**. The **Djiboutian** Government generally adapts positions consistent with **U.S.** and Western interests. Overall **U.S.** equity in **Djibouti** is low. The **U.S.** provides the country about \$3 million in economic assistance annually and **Djibouti** has permitted the **U.S.** Navy access to its seaport and airport. The **Djiboutian** army is very small with about 2,870 volunteers and its air force and navy are practically negligible. A **French** garrison is based at **Djibouti** and provides the country's primary defense as well as training for the small military force.

With the Arabic language and Islamic religion, the culture of **Djibouti** is much different from that of the **U.S.** The climate is hot and humid with little rainfall. The country's topography is divided into three regions: the coastal plain; mountains further inland; and a plateau behind the mountains. Most of the terrain is bare, dry, and desolate, marked by sharp cliffs, deep ravines, burning desert sands, and thorny shrubs. About two-thirds of the country is suitable for cross-country movement of vehicles. In over one-half of **Djibouti** the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) would normally be greater than 2,000 meters. Hydrographic conditions would not constrain NGF support and the 5 inch gun employed by most **U.S.** Navy platforms would have the range advantage over **Djiboutian** coastal defense weapons. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to the northern-most corner of **Djibouti**. There is one airfield available which can receive C-141B aircraft and one major port with moderate capabilities to accommodate strategic sealift. **Djibouti** has no industrial facilities and few key installations outside the port and airfield. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU could reach **Djibouti** in between two to four days. With few potential evacuees and the probable evacuation site (**Djibouti** city) on the coast, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in this country would not be difficult.

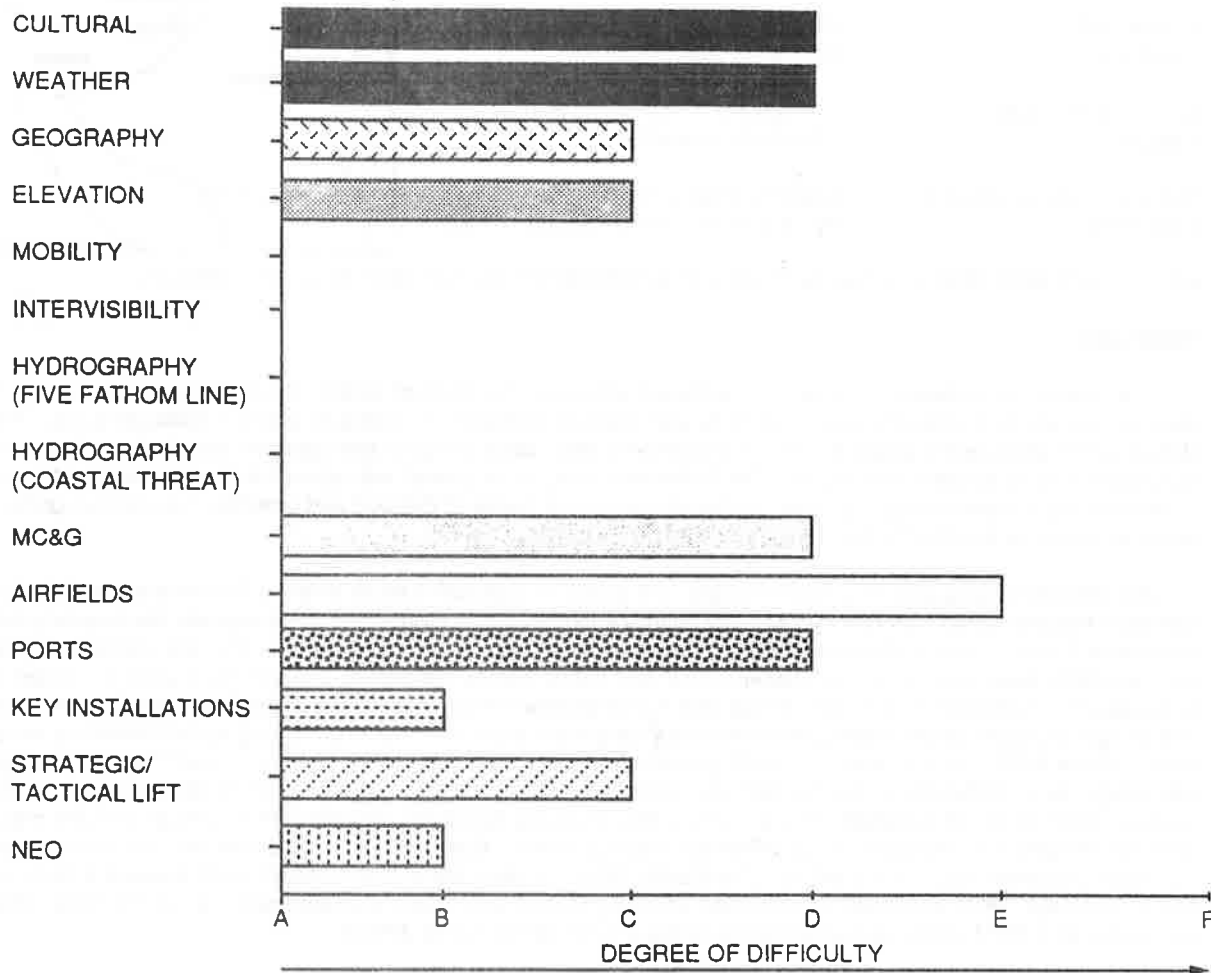
DJIBOUTI - THREAT SUMMARY



Djibouti - 1

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## DJIBOUTI - TERRAIN AND LOGISTICS SUMMARY



### U.S. Equities in Djibouti

- Overall U.S. equity is high.

The **Djiboutian** Government generally adapts positions in consonant with U.S. and Western interests. The U.S. provides **Djibouti** about \$3 million in economic support annually. **Djibouti** has permitted the U.S. Navy access to its seaport and airport, and with increased U.S. naval presence in the **Indian Ocean**, that access has become even more important.

Direct Inv (Mil of \$)	Exports (Mil of \$)	Imports (Mil of \$)	U.S. Aid (Mil of \$)	Total Equity (Mil of \$)	U.S. Citizens	\$ Rating Rating	Total Numerical Rating	Overall U.S. Equity
-	-	-	3	3	15	1 1	2	Low

General Ground OOB

Infantry	Tank OOB	Artillery	Army Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Reg/TR	None	Mortars	3	1	54	A

Ground OOB consists of 2,870 volunteers. A **French** garrison is based in **Djibouti** and provides the country's primary defense as well as training for the small force structure. Tanks: none; Artillery: 81 mm mortars.

General Air OOB

Air OOB	Close Air	AAW (IAD)	Air Force Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Props	None	None	Negligible	1	11	A

Fighter Aircraft: none; Close Air: none; Air Defense: none.

General Naval OOB

Naval OOB	S/S Missiles	Patrol Craft	Navy Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Small Surface	None	Sm Gun Boats	Negligible	1	31	A

Ships: none; SSMs: none; Patrol Craft: 3 Small Coastal Patrol Craft.

Culture (Language and Religion)

Primary language - Arabic (Somali, Afar, French)  
Primary religion - Islam

There is a significant cultural difference between **Djibouti** and the **U.S.**

Weather

Average Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit)	Average Relative Humidity (Percent)	Average Annual Rainfall (Inches)	Rating
77-95	75	5	Dry/Hot

The climate of **Djibouti** is torrid, and rainfall is sparse and erratic. From May to October during the monsoon temperatures can reach 113 degrees Fahrenheit. Humidity is high all year and the area is prone to earthquakes.

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## 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			

**Djibouti** is situated in northeast **Africa** on the **Gulf of Aden**. The country has three regions: the coastal plain; mountains further inland; and a plateau behind the mountains. The land is bare, dry, and desolate, marked by sharp cliffs, deep ravines, burning sands, and thorny shrubs.

## General Cross-Country Mobility

- **Djibouti** is generally suited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles in about two-thirds of the country.

In approximately two-thirds of **Djibouti** cross-country movement is feasible. Over the remaining third of the country, tracked and wheeled movement would be severely restricted due to steep slopes, steep-sided valleys, and seasonal flooding.

## Intervisibility (Line of Sight)

- Optimum, with line of sight distances normally exceeding 2,000 meters in over half the country.

Over half of **Djibouti** is bare, dry, and desolate and suitable to accommodate line of sight distances exceeding 2,000 meters. Other areas of the country are more limited by mountain slopes, and steep-sided valleys.

## 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
62093/62094	1,830	Good

## Hydrography (Coastal Threat)

- Limited coastal threat.

Maximum Capability Coastal Defense Weapon	Maximum Range of Weapon (Meters)	Rating (Compared with 5"/54-cal)
81 mm Mortar	4,595	U.S. NGF Advantage

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Public Release Approved  
2021 Dated Information

## MC&G Shortfalls

- Limited map coverage.

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

Just the northern-most corner of **Djibouti** on the coast has coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps.

## Airfields

- Accessible by air, with one airfield that can handle C-141B aircraft.

Number of Airfields	Type Aircraft (C-5, C-141B, C-130) Accommodated	Airfield Utility (Unconstrained/Constrained)	Rating
1	1 C-141B	1/0	1/C-130

Airfields	Type Aircraft	Comments
Djibouti/Amboali	C-141B, C-130	-

## Ports

- One major port with moderate capabilities to accommodate strategic sealift.

Major Ports	Harbor Size	Channel/Anchorage Depths (Feet)	Cargo Pier Depth (Feet)	Cranes
Djibouti	Small	36-40/51-55	31-35	Yes

## Key Installations

**Djibouti** has no industry and few modern facilities. **Djibouti's** railroad links the country's harbor area with **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**.

U.S. Embassy	Communications	Highways	Railroads	Major Ports	Primary Airfields	Pipeline	Oil Field	NBC
Djibouti	- Fair urban telecomm - 3 Radio stations - 2 TV stations - 2 Satellite stations	2,800 km	97 km	1	1	None	None	None

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## Strategic and Tactical Lift

The Pacific ARG with its embarked MEU could reach **Djibouti** in two to four days. 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 **Djibouti** would not be difficult.

Embassy Staff	Evacuees	Inland Objective (nm)	Rating
22	15	2 (Djibouti)	B

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

- Drugs
- Terrorism
- OOB (Ground, Air, Naval)
- Gray Arms/Technology Transfer
- NBC