

# FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

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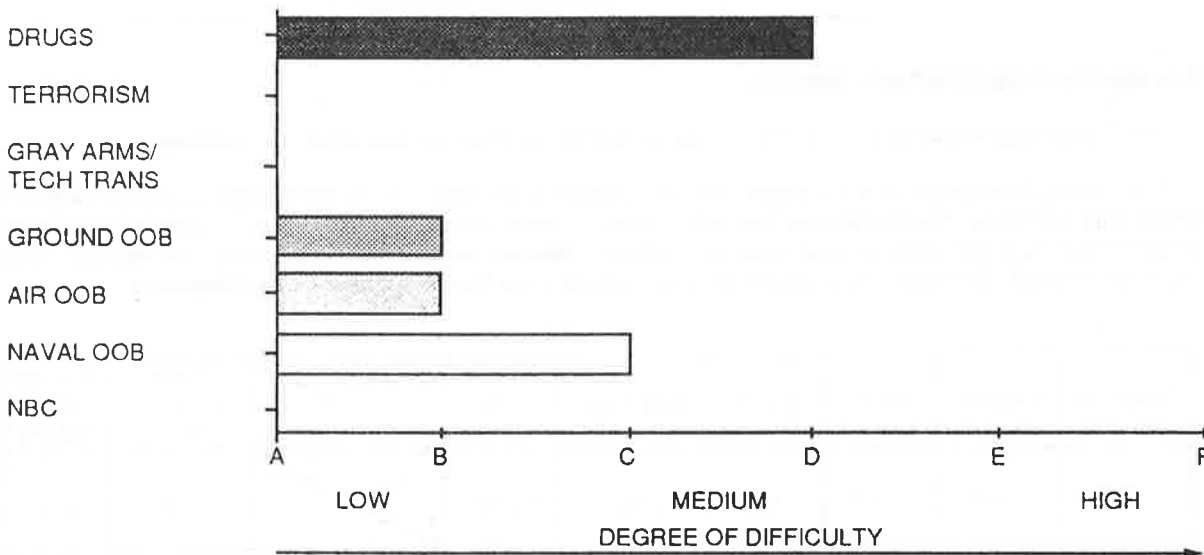


### SUMMARY

The **Dominican Republic** is geographically the largest and most populous democratic country in the **Caribbean**. It associates closely with the **U.S.** and other states of the inter-**American** system. **U.S.** firms account for nearly all foreign private investment in the **Dominican Republic** and bilateral trade is important to both countries. Because of numerous small airfields and ports, the **Dominican Republic** has become a favored staging area and refueling stop for narcotics traffickers from **South America** smuggling cocaine into the **U.S.** Although the armed forces are relatively modest, they are well trained and equipped to fight internal guerrilla movements.

A maritime tropical climate and mountainous terrain with dense ground cover would pose some problems for **U.S.** military operations in this country. A mountain range with some high elevations crosses the middle of the country. The rough terrain makes conditions generally unsuitable for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. Likewise, the broken terrain, dense forrests, and frequent heavy rainfall causes the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) to be less than 1,000 meters. The 1:50,000 scale maps which are available for the **Dominican Republic** may be somewhat outdated. While several C-5 capable airfields are available in this country, the four major ports have restricted capabilities to accommodate strategic sealift. The estimated time required for a MEU on the **U.S.** east coast to embark on amphibious ships and deploy to the **Dominican Republic** is in excess of six days. With an approximate number of evacuees that could reach 69,000, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in this country would require an extraordinary effort.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - THREAT SUMMARY

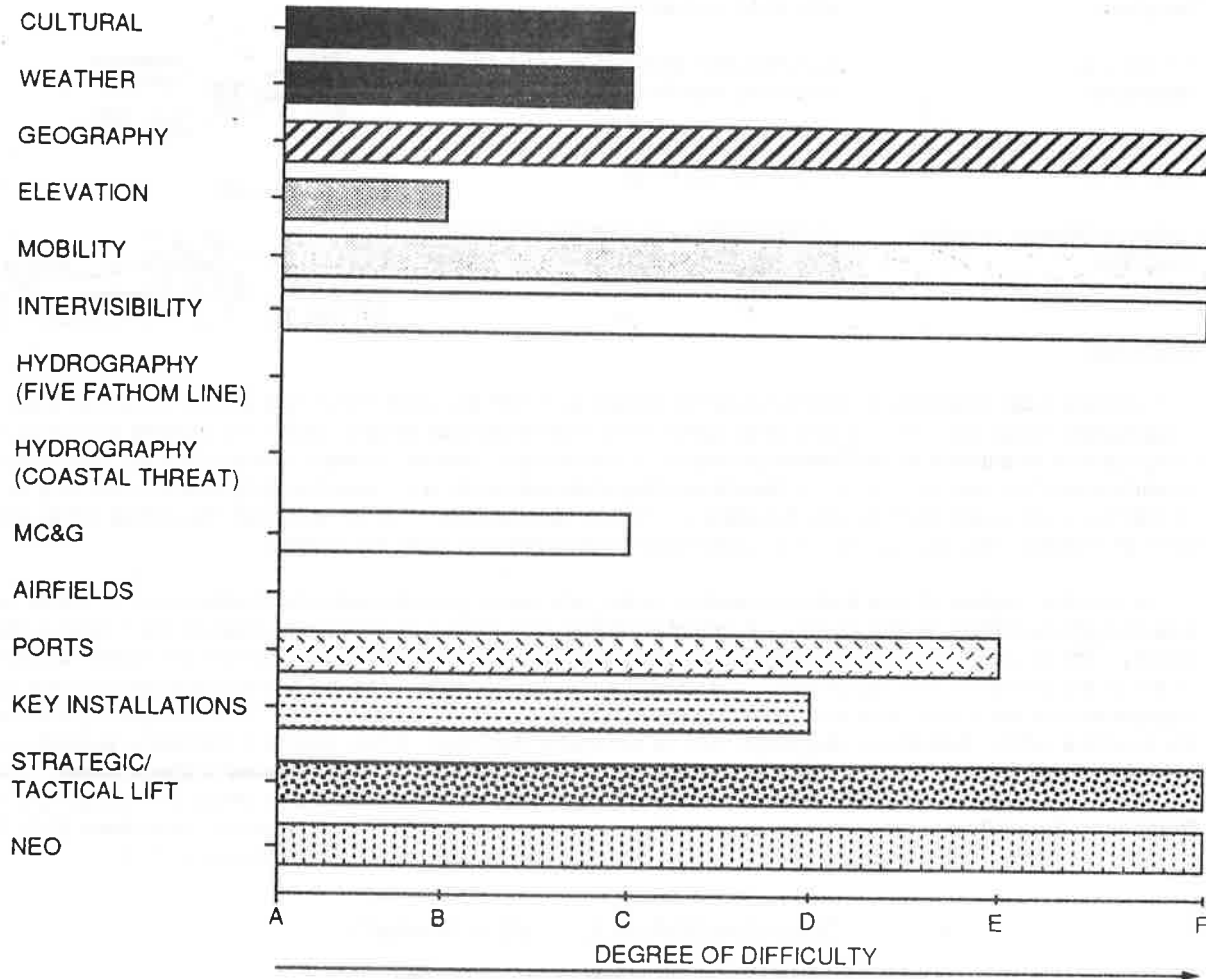


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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - TERRAIN AND LOGISTICS SUMMARY



## U.S. Equities in the Dominican Republic

- The **Dominican Republic** is a country friendly to the **U.S.**, strategically located in the **Caribbean**.

This country is geographically the largest and most populous democracy in the **Caribbean**. It shares the island of **Hispaniola** with **Haiti**. The **Dominican Republic** maintains cordial relations with the **U.S.** It is located near **Cuba**, as well as astride major shipping lanes between the **Gulf of Mexico** and **Europe**. Bilateral trade is important to both countries, and **U.S.** firms account for nearly all foreign private investment in the **Dominican Republic**.

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
86	1,142	1,217	62	2,507	69,000	4 6	10	High

Drug Threat

Drug Production	Drug Processing	Precursor Chemicals	Money Laundering	Transit Point
				X

- Staging area and refueling site for cocaine traffickers.

The **Dominican Republic** has become an ideal staging area and refueling stop for traffickers smuggling cocaine into the **U.S.** Some marijuana is also transshipped by traffickers, who are attracted by the island's 63 airstrips.

Consolidated Threat

In the region of **Latin America**, the **Dominican Republic** is involved only in the drug threat.

General Ground OOB

Infantry	Tank OOB	Artillery	Army Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Reg/TR	LAV	Howitzers	13	1	84	B

Ground OOB includes about 13,000 volunteers. The army is well trained and equipped to fight internal guerrilla movements. Tanks: AMX-13, M-41A1; Artillery: M-101.

General Air OOB

Air OOB	Close Air	AAW (IAD)	Air Force Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Props	Props	Early AAA	5	1	36	B

Fighter Aircraft: P51D, T-34B; Close Air: T-28D; Air Defense: AA guns.

General Naval OOB

Naval OOB	S/S Missiles	Patrol Craft	Navy Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Frigate	None	Lg Gun Boats	15	1	56	C

Ships: 1 Frigate and 5 Corvettes with guns and radars; SSMS: none; Patrol Craft: 7 Large Patrol Craft; 8 Coastal Patrol Craft.

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## Culture (Language and Religion)

Primary language - Spanish (French and English)  
Primary religion - Catholic

There is a relatively small cultural difference between the **Dominican Republic** and the **U.S.**

## Weather

Average Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit)	Average Relative Humidity (Percent)	Average Annual Rainfall (Inches)	Rating
77-86	64	56	Mixed

The **Dominican Republic** has a maritime tropical climate. Ocean currents and year-round trade winds moderate the heat of the tropics.

## 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				

A mountain range with the highest peaks in the **Caribbean** crosses the middle of the country. The **Cibao**, a large fertile valley to the north is a major agricultural area.

## General Cross-Country Mobility

- The **Dominican Republic** is generally unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles.

Conditions for tracked movement are perennially unsuited in about 80 percent of the country due to steep hills and mountains, severely dissected plains, dense forests, and swamps and marshes. In the remainder of the country--chiefly the nearly flat rolling plains in the southeast, and in the valleys of the **Rio Camu** and **Rio Yaque de Norte**--conditions are fair, but may preclude movement during the wet season.

## Intervisibility (Line of Sight)

- Poor, with line of sight distances generally less than 1,000 meters.

A large part of the **Dominican Republic** consists of mountains, rough plains, dense ground cover, and swamps with thick growth. These terrain conditions plus the heavy rainfall would limit line of sight distances to under 1,000 meters in practically all of the country except for the nearly flat rolling plains in the southeast.

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## 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
25848	732	Good

## Hydrography (Coastal Threat)

- Limited coastal threat.

Maximum Capability Coastal Defense Weapon	Maximum Range of Weapon (Meters)	Rating (Compared with 5"/54-cal)
105 mm M-101	11,000	U.S. NGF Advantage

## MC&G Shortfalls

- Complete coverage with old 1:50,000 scale maps.

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

## Airfields

- Accessible by air, with one airfield that can accommodate C-5 aircraft.

Number of Airfields	Type Aircraft (C-5, C-141B, C-130) Accommodated	Airfield Utility (Unconstrained/Constrained)	Rating
10	3 C-5 4 C-130 3 None	1/9	>1/C-5

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Airfields	Type Aircraft	Comments
Arroyo Barril (Samana City)	None	-
Barahma	None	-
Cabo Rojo	None	-
Cibao International (Santiago)	C-130	Airfield has obstacles. Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Constanza Air Base	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
De Las Americas International	C-5, C-141B, C-130	-
La Romana	C-130	Airfield has obstacles. Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Puerto Plata International (La Union)	C-5, C-141B, C-130	Narrow taxiway for C-5s.
Punta Cana	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
San Isidro Air Base	C-5, C-141B, C-130	Daylight only.

## Ports

- Four ports with restricted capability to accommodate strategic sealift.

Major Ports	Harbor Size	Channel/Anchorage Depths (Feet)	Cargo Pier Depth (Feet)	Cranes
Santa Domingo	Small	31-35/36-40	31-35	Yes
Rio Haina	Small	36-40/-	36-40	Yes
Barahona	Small	31-35/41-45	31-35	Yes
Cabo Rojo	Small	31-35/41-45	31-35	-

## Key Installations

Communications, transportation, and industrial facilities are relatively numerous and gradually improving.

U.S. Embassy	Communications	Highways	Railroads	Major Ports	Primary Airfields	Pipeline	Oil Field	NBC
Santo Domingo	- Good telecomm systems - 123 Radio stations - 18 TV stations - Satellite stations	12,000 km	1,655 km	4	10	- Crude oil - Refined products	None	None

Strategic and Tactical Lift

The time required for a MEU on the **U.S.** east coast to embark on amphibious ships and sail to the **Dominican Republic** is in excess of six days. The AAF/ACB can arrive within 24 hours but these elements do not possess a forcible entry capability.

NEO

- Due to the very large number of potential evacuees in the **Dominican Republic** (69,000), NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be complex and require additional support.

Embassy Staff	Evacuees	Inland Objective (nm)	Rating
30	69,000	0 (Santo Domingo)	F

Note: In the **Dominican Republic** the following factors are of little significance:

- Terrorism
- Gray Arms/Technology Transfer
- NBC

