

EXECUTIVE COUNTRY PROFILES

This section consolidates the summary descriptions of expeditionary environment countries found elsewhere in this document. The 69 country summaries are listed separately and alphabetically for the regions of Africa, Asia/Pacific, Europe/Mediterranean, Middle East/Southwest Asia, and the Western Hemisphere.

AFRICA

ALGERIA

Algeria is the second largest nation in Africa and has a coastline stretching 620 miles. Its foreign policy is one of independence and nonalignment and is frequently a leading proponent of the Third World viewpoint in international affairs. In recent years U.S. relations with Algeria have significantly improved. The U.S. and Algeria are trading partners and the U.S. imports some Algerian petroleum products. Over 300 U.S. citizens live in the country. In the region, Algeria has the largest air OOB and second largest ground and naval OOBs. Most of the military equipment is furnished by the Soviet Union and, Soviet advisors assist with operational training. The armed forces are oriented primarily toward its borders with Morocco and Libya. Over the past several years, defense related expenditures have amounted to between six and almost 10 percent of its total budget.

The Algerian culture is different from that of the U.S. The topography consists of three zones parallel to the Mediterranean Sea and separated by mountain ranges. There is a fertile plain along the coast backed by the Tellian Atlas Mountains. In the central region there is a high plateau followed to the south by the Saharan Atlas Mountains. In the south there is mainly desert. Generally, the summers are hot and dry with rain in the winter. Dust and sandstorms frequently occur between February and May. About two-thirds of Algeria is suitable for cross-country movement of vehicles. Average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) usually exceeds 2,000 meters except when limited by weather conditions. NGF ships can approach the coast to provide support for operations ashore, but would be severely out-gunned by coastal defense weapons. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is restricted to coastal areas around Algiers, Mostaganem, and Tlemcen. Airfields are numerous but cannot accommodate C-5 aircraft. There are excellent port facilities to receive strategic sealift. Key installations include a number of oil fields. The Atlantic ARG with its embarked MEU could reach Algeria in less than two days. With over 300 potential evacuees, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would not be difficult.

ANGOLA

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.

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DJIBOUTI

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.

ETHIOPIA

Located on the **Horn of Africa**, **Ethiopia** is bordered in the northeast by the **Red Sea**. About ten insurgent movements are active within the country ranging from separatists to royalists. The **Eritrean** guerrillas in the north have been the most active. In recent years drought has caused wide spread starvation and death. Overall **U.S.** equity in **Ethiopia** is low. While in the past the **U.S.** has provided **Ethiopia** with significant amounts of humanitarian aid, relations between the two countries has been poor due to differences over **Ethiopian** foreign policies and human rights. **Ethiopia** has one of the largest armed forces on the **African** Continent. Since the war with **Somalia** in 1977 and 1978, the army has grown to about 250,000 troops. The **U.S.** was **Ethiopia's** major arms supplier until 1977 when the country began receiving massive arms shipments from the **Soviet Union**, and incurred a debt estimated at over \$3.5 billion. The **Ethiopian** military has been engaged recently on two fronts: in the north against the **Eritrean** and **Tegrean** insurgent groups and in the east and southeast against ethnic **Somali** guerrillas.

There are more than 40 different ethnic groups within **Ethiopia** and the culture is vastly different than that of the **U.S.** **Ethiopia's** terrain consists of a high central plateau mixed with mountains. Elevations are highest just before the **Great Rift Valley** which splits the plateau diagonally. The plateau has a number of rivers crossing it and slopes to the lowlands of the **Sudan** in the west and the **Somali** plains in the southeast. The climate is temperate in the highlands and hot in the lowlands. Over half of **Ethiopia** is suited for the cross-country movement of vehicles and average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) exceeds 2,000 meters in large portions of the country. Hydrographic conditions permit **NGF** ships to approach the coast and support operations ashore but would be out-gunned by **Ethiopian** coastal defense weapons. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to **Addis Ababa**, and the port cities of **Missawa** and **Aseb**. Adequate airfields and ports are available but there are few other key installations. The **Pacific ARG** would require in excess of six days to reach **Ethiopia**. Due to the over 700 evacuees, and the 356 nautical miles distance to **Addis Ababa**, **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions would be very difficult.

KENYA

Kenya is bounded by **Somalia**, **Ethiopia**, the **Sudan**, **Uganda**, **Tanzania**, and the **Indian Ocean**. The **U.S.** and **Kenya** maintain cordial relations, and overall **U.S.** equity is moderate. More than 140 **U.S.** firms are represented in **Kenya** and **U.S.** business interests amount to about \$350 million. Over 9,000 **U.S.** citizens reside in the country. **Kenya** has become a transit point for southwest **Asian** heroin enroute to west **Africa**, **Europe**, and the **U.S.** Use of heroin in **Kenya** is growing and small amounts of marijuana are grown and consumed locally. The military services are small, with a total strength of about 16,000 members. The army is the dominant service with about 13,000 personnel, followed by the air force, and navy. Although the **Kenyan** military has strong ties to the **United Kingdom**, **Kenya** also looks to the **U.S.**, **Canada**, **Israel**, **France**, **Germany**, **India**, and **Pakistan** for military equipment and technical training.

Kenya's population is quite varied. Traditional herders, Arab Muslims, and cosmopolitan residents of **Nairobi** all contribute to the culture, which is different from that of the **U.S.** **Kenya** has a striking topographical diversity. In the west there is the **Great Rift Valley**, significant mountains such as **Mount Kenya** (17,040 feet), and high, sweeping plateaus. The northern three-fifths is arid, consisting mainly of semidesert. About 85 percent of the population and almost all of the economic activity is found in the southern two-fifths of the country. The climate on the coast and immediate interior is tropical, but becomes more temperate at the higher elevations. Much of **Kenya** is generally suited for cross-country movement of vehicles and the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) normally ranges between 1,000 and 2,000 meters. **NGF** platforms are limited by the hydrography in their ability to approach the coast and deliver support. A shortfall for ground operations is the absence of 1:50,000 scale map coverage. A major port and four airfields are available and key installations are situated in and around the principal cities. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked **MEU** would require four to six days to reach **Kenya**. Due to the over 9,000 potential evacuees, and the 235 nautical miles distance to **Nairobi**, **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** would be difficult.

LIBERIA

The commitment of **U.S.** Marines to the crisis torn west **African** country of **Liberia** continues on with poor prospects for peace or stability in the foreseeable future. On August 5, 1990, after a long period afloat off the capital city of **Monrovia**, the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (**MEU**) established a security force ashore at the **American Embassy** compound and nearby communications facilities and assisted in the evacuation of 1705 **Americans** and foreign nationals. The 22nd **MEU** was later relieved by the 26th **MEU**. President Samuel Doe's death on September 10 and the failure of the five-nation west **African** peacekeeping force to ameliorate the situation has caused chaos and disorder to continue. The civil war shows no promise of quick resolution, with reports of starvation in **Monrovia** and rebel leaders Prince Johnson and Charles Taylor both claiming to be president. **U.S.** equity in **Liberia** is moderate. For many years, the **U.S.** has been **Liberia's** primary trading partner and has provided the country with significant amounts of economic and military assistance. Until recently, up to 4,000 **U.S.** citizens resided in **Liberia**. The country has a small ground **OOB**, with about 5,300 troops and air and naval **OOBs** that are practically negligible. Most military equipment and training has been obtained from the **U.S.** The army services are all engaged in fighting the rebel groups in and around **Monrovia**.

The population of **Liberia** includes at least 16 distinct ethnic groups and descendants of emancipated slaves from the **U.S.** Ethnic unrest is a major cause of the present disorder. The culture of **Liberia** is quite different from that of the **U.S.** **Liberia** lies within the tropical rain forest and the climate is hot and humid year-round. The terrain consists of a coastal plain, rising to a rolling plateau and low mountains near the inland borders. The country is generally unsuited for tracked movement due to the dense vegetation and broken terrain. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters mainly because of the ground cover and frequent heavy rainfall. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is restricted to the coastal area extending from **Monrovia** to **Buchanan**. Airfields and ports are available to receive strategic lift and other key installations include **U.S.** telecommunications facilities. The **Atlantic ARG** with its embarked **MEU** would require in excess of six days to reach **Liberia**.

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MADAGASCAR

Madagascar, the world's fourth largest island, is located 250 miles off the southeast coast of **Africa**. **U.S.** equity in this country is low. Relations between the two suffered during the 1970's but have improved since then. The **U.S.** is **Madagascar's** second largest market and fifth major supplier. The country has potentially large oil deposits and **U.S.** oil companies have undertaken extensive exploratory drilling efforts. The Popular Armed Forces of **Madagascar** number about 22,000 personnel. A portion of the ground OOB has been designated the Intervention Force with the mission to deploy rapidly to areas of internal and external threat. Currently **Madagascar** relies heavily on the **Soviet Union** for military equipment and training. **North Korea**, **France**, and the **U.S.** also have military assistance programs with **Madagascar**. Reports indicate there have been **Cuban** trainers in the country.

Madagascar's population is predominantly of mixed **Asian** and **African** origin. The **Malagasy** language of **Malayo-Polynesian** origin is understood throughout the island. **French** is also spoken. Most people practice a form of animism combined with ancestor worship as their religion. The culture of **Madagascar** differs significantly from that of the **U.S.** The climate of the coastal region is hot and humid throughout the year while it is more temperate in the central highlands. The island's interior consists of a high plateau averaging about 6,000 feet above sea level. The highlands descend gradually to the coast in the west but the transition is more abrupt in the east. The coastal plains are suitable for cross-country vehicular movement while this kind of mobility is precluded in the central highlands. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is normally limited to less than 1,000 meters due to the rough terrain and significant ground cover. While the hydrography permits **NGF** ships to approach the coast and provide limited support for operations ashore, their 5-inch guns would be out-ranged by **Malagasy** coastal defense weapons. A serious shortfall for ground combat operations in **Madagascar** is the absence of 1:50,000 scale maps. Airfields are available to accommodate **C-141B** aircraft, but the one major port has poor capability to receive strategic sealift. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked **MEU** would require four to six days to reach **Madagascar**.

NAMIBIA

Namibia, formerly known as **South West Africa**, was administered by **South Africa** for a number of years. When other **African** nations charged **South Africa** with exploiting **Namibia**, fighting broke out primarily between **South African** forces and the Marxist **South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO)** supported by **Angola** and **Cuba**. In 1988, a **U.S.** mediated plan was agreed upon by **South Africa**, **Angola**, and **Cuba** which called for withdrawal of **Cuban** troops from **Angola** and black majority rule in **Namibia**. After free elections in 1989, **Namibia** became an independent nation in early 1990. Its president is the **SWAPO** guerrilla leader **Sam Nujoma** who apparently has dropped his Marxist rhetoric in favor of democratic ideals. The **U.S.** presently maintains no permanent diplomatic or consular representation in **Namibia** but **U.S.** Embassy officials in **South Africa** monitor developments in the country. **Namibia's** economy depends heavily on mining and ranching, with these resources concentrated in the hands of foreigners and the white minority. **Namibia** has no armed services, although now that it is independent it may soon establish some military capability.

With indigenous **Africans** of diverse ethnic origins and a minority white population, primarily **South African**, **British**, and **German**, the culture of **Namibia** is quite different from that of the **U.S.** The climate is mainly hot and dry. Periods of excessive winter drought alternate with short periods of heavy summer rainfall. Most of the country consists of a high plateau averaging about 3,600 feet above sea level. There is significant desert in both the coastal and inland regions. **Namibia** is generally unsuited for cross-country vehicular movement due to the broken terrain of the high plateau. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters in over 50 percent of the country. A problem for the conduct of ground operations in **Namibia** is the absence of 1:50,000 scale maps. One airfield is available at **Windhoek** to receive **C-5** aircraft but the one major port at **Walvis Bay** has poor capability to accommodate strategic sealift. The **Atlantic ARG** with its embarked **MEU** would require in excess of six days to reach **Namibia**. **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions in would be difficult due to the 142 nautical miles distance from the coast to **Windhoek**.

SOMALIA

Somalia is strategically located on the **Horn of Africa**, along the southern approaches to the **Red Sea** and the **Suez Canal**. **U.S.-Somalia** relations are currently excellent and **U.S.** equity is low. The **U.S.** Agency for International Development conducts a program of assistance within the country. The **U.S.** also provides relief to the numerous refugees in **Somalia** who are fleeing **Ethiopian** oppression in the **Ogaden** territory. Through a mutual agreement, **U.S.** forces are allowed access to **Somali** ports and airfields. **Somalia** has a modest size army of 61,300 troops and a small air force and navy. Most **Somali** military equipment was obtained from the **Soviet Union** between 1972 and 1977, half of which was lost during the 1977 **Ogaden War**, and much of the remainder is rapidly deteriorating. The **Somali** Government has turned to Western countries for new and modern weapon systems. Western aid has centered on small deliveries of defensive arms, training, and improved maintenance. The **P.R.C.**, **Egypt**, **Italy**, **Saudi Arabia**, and the **U.S.** have provided most of **Somalia's** recent military assistance. The **Somali** military has been faced with challenges from two separate insurgent groups which attack government facilities and benefit from foreign support.

Somalia's culture is quite different from that of the **U.S.** **Somalia** has a year-round hot climate, monsoon winds, and irregular rainfall with recurring droughts. **Somalia's** coast extends 1700 miles along the **Gulf of Aden** in the north and the **Indian Ocean** in the east. Northern **Somalia** is hilly, while the central, and southern areas are flat. **Somalia** is well suited for cross-country vehicular movement, and the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) normally exceeds 2,000 meters. Hydrographic conditions allow NGF platforms to approach the coast within range of targets ashore, but these platforms would be out-gunned by coastal defense weapons. A shortfall for combat operations in this country is the absence of 1:50,000 scale maps. More than one airfield is available to receive C-5 aircraft, but there are no ports capable of accommodating strategic sealift. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between four to six days to reach **Somalia**. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would pose some difficulties due to the over 150 potential evacuees.

SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa's policy is to deny political rights and equal economic opportunity to the black majority which is a major cause of instability in the country. If **South Africa's** policies remain unchanged, racial confrontation and conflict can be expected. **U.S.-South African** relations have suffered due to **South Africa's** position on racial issues. To demonstrate its opposition to apartheid, the **U.S.**, in conjunction with the **United Nations**, has embargoed arms sales to **South Africa**. The **U.S.** supplies 15 percent of **South Africa's** imports and buys about 8 percent of its exports. Over 9,000 **U.S.** citizens live in **South Africa**. **South Africa** has its own clandestine program for weapons sales to Third World countries and allegedly has received illicit nuclear technology from **Israel**. **South Africa** has one of the largest armed forces in the region. The armed forces are capable of conducting counterinsurgency and conventional operations within **South Africa** and neighboring states. The country is thought to possess chemical weapons and reportedly used these weapons in **Angola**. **South Africa** may be trying hard to develop nuclear weapons.

South Africa lies at the southern tip of the **African** Continent and has a 2,700 mile coastline. The independent **Kingdom of Lesotho** is situated within the east-central part of **South Africa**. The terrain consists of a narrow coastal zone and an extensive interior plateau and mountainous region. The climate is generally moderate with sunny days and cool nights. Due to broken terrain, the country is mainly unsuited for cross-country vehicular movement. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) would be normally limited to less than 1,000 meters. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is restricted to **Capetown**, **Port Elizabeth**, **Durban**, and **Maseru** in the enclave of **Lesotho**. Airfields and ports are adequate to accommodate strategic lift. Key installations may include facilities for nuclear and chemical weapons. The **Atlantic** and **Pacific** ARGs would both require in excess of six days to reach **South Africa**. Due to over 9,000 potential evacuees, and the distance to **Pretoria**, the probable evacuation site, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be extremely difficult.

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SUDAN

Sudan is situated to influence both the **Arab** and **African** communities. There has been protracted civil war between Government forces and insurgents backed by **Ethiopia** and **Libya**. The **U.S.** has overall low equity in **Sudan**, and bilateral relations are good. The **U.S.** and **Saudi Arabia** provide a large amount of **Sudan's** economic assistance. Investment by **U.S.** companies is about \$187 million. The present drought threatens to cause severe famine and death. **Sudan** has a 54,000-member army supported by a small air force and navy. The military is hampered by old, poorly maintained equipment left over from **Soviet** assistance. A **U.S.** assistance mission is working to upgrade equipment and logistics. **Sudan** also receives military assistance from **Arab** and **European** countries and **China**. **Sudan** has a mutual defense treaty with **Egypt**.

Sudan's population is composed of two cultures, **Arab** and **black African**, and effective association between them poses a primary internal problem. Both cultures are different from that of the **U.S.** **Sudan's** climate varies from hot and dry in the desert regions of the north to tropical in the south. From south to north, **Sudan** has three primary zones: tropical forest and savanna; vast swampland, open semitropical savanna, and scrublands; and sandy, arid hills lying between the **Red Sea** and the **Libyan** and **Sahara Deserts**. In the north and central desert areas, cross-country vehicular movement is feasible while the remainder of the country is unsuited. Average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters in over half the country due to tropical jungle and covered swampland in the south and the broken terrain in the northeast. **NGF** platforms can approach the coast within range of targets ashore, but would be out-gunned by **Sudanese** coastal defense weapons. A shortfall for combat operations is the absence of 1:50,000 scale maps. There are several airfields and one major port with marginal capabilities to accommodate strategic air and sealift. The **Pacific ARG** would require in excess of six days to reach **Sudan**. Due to the over 700 potential evacuees, and the 330 nautical miles distance to **Khartoum**, the probable evacuation site, **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions would be quite difficult.

TUNISIA

Tunisia is the smallest of the **North African** countries and has a 1,000 mile coastline on the **Mediterranean Sea**. **U.S.-Tunisian** relations in recent years have generally been good. The only temporary setback occurred in 1985 when **Tunisia** mistakenly perceived that the **U.S.** supported an **Israeli** raid on the **PLO** headquarters outside of **Tunis**. Overall **U.S.** equity in **Tunisia** is low. As the country's fourth ranking trade partner, the **U.S.** buys 6.6 percent of **Tunisia's** exports and provides 5.8 percent of its imports. About 675 **U.S.** citizens live there. **Tunisia** has relatively small armed forces with a combined strength of about 38,000 personnel and has looked mainly to the **U.S.** and **France** for military assistance. With the military aid it received, **Tunisia** has acquired a squadron of **F-5** aircraft, **M-60** tanks, assorted surface-to-air missiles, and extensive military training (primarily in the **U.S.**) for its personnel.

While most **Tunisians** are Muslim, there is a small Jewish population and roughly 50,000 **Europeans** in residence. The majority of the people live along the coast or in the major cities. **Tunis**, the capital, industrial center, principal port, and largest city, has just under 20 percent of the population. The culture of **Tunisia** is much different from that of the **U.S.** Northern and central **Tunisia** have mild, rainy winters and hot, dry summers while in the south it is hot and dry year-round. The country's topography consists of a well-watered and fertile northern area, a central coastal plain, and primarily desert in the south. Several mountain ranges extend into **Tunisia** from neighboring **Algeria**. Conditions are generally suited for cross-country vehicular movement and the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) normally ranges between 1,000 and 2,000 meters. Coverage of the country by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to the northern area down to about the **Gulf of Gabes**. Airfields are available to accommodate **C-141B** aircraft and there are three major ports with moderate capabilities to receive strategic sealift. Key installations include at least eleven oil fields. The **Atlantic ARG** operating in the **Mediterranean** could reach **Tunisia** in less than two days. Due to the presence of about 675 potential evacuees, **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions in **Tunisia** would present a number of difficulties.

UGANDA

Uganda lies astride the equator in the center of **Africa**, bounded by **Kenya**, **Tanzania**, **Rwanda**, **Zaire**, and **Sudan**. Since the removal of **Idi Amin** in 1978, **U.S.** relations with **Uganda** have remained cordial. In recent years, **Uganda** has improved its human rights record, and the **U.S.** has provided modest humanitarian aid. Despite **Uganda's** many natural resources and great potential for development, chronic political and economic instability have combined to produce a continuing economic decline that has left the country among the world's poorest. **Uganda** has a small army of about 20,000 troops and an air force that is practically negligible. It is an inland country with no navy. Discipline and training in the armed forces are poor and deserters provide recruits for insurgent groups. At various times **Cuba**, **North Korea**, **Libya**, and the **Soviet Union** have all provided military aid to **Uganda**.

Uganda's population is predominately rural, and its density is highest in the southern regions. With **English** widely spoken and a predominate Christian faith, the culture of **Uganda** is not greatly different from that of the **U.S.** **Uganda** has a moderate climate which is pleasant most of the year. A large part of **Uganda** is plateau ranging from about 3,000 to 6,000 feet above sea level, and thick jungles frequently prevail. Approximately 18 percent of the country is covered by water, swamp, and mountains. Much of northern **Uganda** is well suited for tracked movement. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters in all but parts of the northern region. A shortfall to combat operations in **Uganda** is the absence of 1:50,000 scale map coverage. There are three airfields available which can receive C-141B aircraft. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked **MEU** would require between four to six days to reach **Kenya** and then need to move overland more than 500 miles to enter **Uganda**. Total deployment is estimated at more than six days. Likewise, with about 400 potential evacuees, and a distance of about 521 nautical miles from the coast off **Kenya** to **Kampala**, the probable evacuation site, **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions would be very difficult.

ZAIRE

Zaire is located in the heart of the **African** continent and pursues a policy of nonalignment. It is a underdeveloped country with more than 200 different ethnic groups. The **U.S.** has maintained close relations with the President **Joseph Mobutu** despite his reputation for extreme repression and widespread corruption. **Zaire** is presently facing an increasing insurgency problem. **Cuban**-trained secessionists have been active since the late 1970s and have proven to be a serious threat. **Mobutu** plans to increase his armed forces to 100,000 personnel to counter this threat. The armed forces consist of an army of 22,000 troops and a small air force and navy. Conditions and morale are poor, and soldiers receive little training at a few schools within the country but a small amount of foreign training has been obtained from the **U.S.**, **U.K.**, **France**, **Belgium**, **Italy**, and **Morocco**.

French is the primary language but 700 local languages and dialects are spoken. Based on language and religion, the culture of **Zaire** is considered to be moderately different from that of the **U.S.** The climate is hot and humid with much rainfall in the north and west. Conditions in the south central and eastern areas are cooler with less rainfall. Central **Zaire** is a basin-shaped plateau sloping to the west and covered by tropical rain forest. This area is surrounded by mountainous terraces in the west; plateaus merging into savannas in the south and southwest; and dense grasslands extending beyond the **Zaire River** in the north. High mountains are found in the extreme eastern region. **Zaire** is generally unsuited for cross-country vehicular movement and the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. Hydrographic conditions would restrict **NGF** platforms from approaching the coast to engage targets ashore. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is available only for the area around **Kinshasa**. Two airfields are available to receive C-5 aircraft, but the one major port has poor capability to accommodate strategic sealift. Key installations include oil fields. The **Atlantic ARG** with its embarked **MEU** would require in excess of six days to reach **Zaire**. Due to the over 3,000 potential evacuees, and the 217 nautical miles distance from the coast to **Kinshasa**, the most probable evacuation site, **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions would be very difficult.

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ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe is a landlocked country in south-central **Africa**, bordered by **Zambia**, **Mozambique**, **South Africa**, and **Botswana**. **Zimbabwe** became independent in 1980. Animosity between political factions and sabotage committed by former guerrilla fighters have posed the major threats to stability and security of **Zimbabwe**. Relations with **South Africa** are poor, yet **Zimbabwe** must depend on **South Africa** for communication links with the outside world. **Zimbabwe** is important to the West as it is the only major producer of high-quality chromium outside the **Soviet Union**. Although 2,450 **U.S.** citizens reside there, overall **U.S.** equity in **Zimbabwe** is low. The armed forces number 46,000 army troops and a small air force which recently purchased new jet fighters from **China** and transport helicopters from **Italy**. The **U.S.**, **U.K.**, **Pakistan**, **North Korea**, and **China** have all provided military training to **Zimbabwe**.

The population of **Zimbabwe** consists of about 8.8 million blacks, 100,000 whites, 20,000 persons of mixed race, and 10,000 **Asians**. Some blacks are Christian, although many practice traditional beliefs. The culture is considered to be moderately different from that of the **U.S.** Although the country lies within the tropics, its climate is subtropical and temperatures vary with altitude. A plateau of modest elevation covers the central region. It is crossed from southwest to northeast by a higher plateau called the "highveld". From the central plateau the land slopes north and south. There are mountains along the eastern border with **Mozambique**. Due to broken terrain and heavy ground cover, **Zimbabwe** is unsuited for cross-country vehicular movement and average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is restricted to the cities of **Harare** and **Gutu**. One airfield can receive C-5 aircraft. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require about six days to reach the coast of **Mozambique**. From there, the MEU would need to move at least 200 nautical miles by tactical lift to enter **Zimbabwe**. Total deployment is estimated at between six and eight days. With over 2,000 potential evacuees, and a distance of 243 nautical miles from the **Mozambique** coast to **Harare**, the probable evacuation site, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult.

ASIA/PACIFIC

AFGHANISTAN

Soviet forces occupied Afghanistan and battled Afghan rebels for nine years. A UN-mediated agreement was signed in 1988 providing for the withdrawal of Soviet troops, creation of a neutral Afghan state, and repatriation of millions of Afghan refugees. Afghan rebels rejected the agreement and vowed to continue the resistance while a Soviet backed government remained in control. The U.S. has never recognized the communist regime in Kabul and since the Soviet withdrawal has continued to assist the Afghan resistance and the displaced refugees. Overall U.S. equity in Afghanistan is low. This country is the largest producer of opium in Southwest Asia with an output of 700 to 800 metric tons in 1988 and remains a principal source for this drug in European and U.S. markets. The Afghan Government has sponsored violent terrorist attacks against Afghan refugees and other civilians in Pakistan. Because of its involvement in both opium production and terrorism, Afghanistan should be considered as a serious source of concern. The country has a moderate size army with about 50,000 troops, a small air force, and no navy. Most of its military equipment is provided by the Soviet Union. Training and morale in the armed forces is marginal.

Afghanistan is a landlocked country divided from southeast to northeast by towering mountain ranges. Small valleys intersperse the mountains and large desert areas. Due to the rugged and broken terrain, cross-country movement of tracked and heavy wheeled vehicles is not feasible in about two-thirds of the country. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters because of the geographic conditions. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is restricted to the northern Afghan border area with the Soviet Union. While there are no airfields that can handle C-5 aircraft, two airfields are available that can accommodate C-141B aircraft. The Pacific ARG with its embarked MEU would require in excess of six days to reach Afghanistan. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in Afghanistan would be very difficult due to the 582 nautical miles distance to Kabul, the most likely evacuation point.

BANGLADESH

With a long history of turmoil, disorder, and frequent coups in the Government, Bangladesh was declared an Islamic Republic in 1988. Chronic destitution among the densely crowded population has been worsened by the decline of jute, a primary crop, as a major world commodity. Bangladesh remains one of the world's poorest countries. While recent U.S.-Bangladesh relations are cordial, overall U.S. equity in this country is low. The U.S. maintains a bilateral trade association with Bangladesh and provides the country about \$140 million a year in aid. Over 700 U.S. citizens reside there. The ground OOB consists of about 82,000 volunteers modeled and organized along British regimental lines. The majority of military equipment is acquired from the Soviets and Chinese. Bangladesh maintains a small air force with two fighter squadrons and one bomber squadron. The navy is limited to three frigates and several coastal patrol craft.

With a culture much different from the U.S., a wet/hot climate, and largely jungle terrain, military operations in Bangladesh would be quite difficult. The region is generally unsuited for tracked vehicle movement due to the continually wet alluvial plains, cut by streams and swamps. The thick ground cover and frequent heavy rainfall would limit the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) to less than 1,000 meters. Hydrographic conditions would prevent NGF platforms from approaching the coast to provide support for operations ashore. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is not available for Bangladesh. Airfields are available to receive C-5 or C-141B aircraft, but there are no ports able to accommodate strategic sealift. There are few key installations in this country. The Pacific ARG with its embarked MEU would require between four to six days to reach Bangladesh. Due to the over 700 potential evacuees and the 135 nautical miles distance to the most likely evacuation site (Dhaka), NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult.

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BURMA

Insurgency in **Burma** is pursued by ethnic groups motivated by demands for secession or autonomy. Most insurgents depend largely on the narcotics trade for financial existence. The Mong Tai Revolutionary Army, an insurgent group that operates in the **Burmese-Thai** border region, extorts protection from heroin factories in order to finance its war against the **Rangoon** Government and rival Insurgents, the **Burmese** Communist Party. Overall **U.S.** equity in **Burma** is low. Specific **U.S.** interests in this country include bilateral cooperation to suppress the illicit drug trade, assistance to **Burmese** economic development, commercial access, and cultural exchanges. About 150 **U.S.** citizens live there. **Burma** is the world's largest opium producing country with an output of 1,065 to 1,500 metric tons in 1988. Production reportedly increased in 1989 due to favorable climatic conditions and a decrease in government eradication efforts. **Burma** has an army of 170,000 volunteers plus a relatively small air force and navy. In addition to counterinsurgency, the mission of the armed forces include internal security, territorial defense, assistance to the national administration, and civic action. **Burma** purchases small amounts of military equipment and training from various countries including the **U.S.** and **Western Europe**. In the area of NBC, **Burma** is reportedly producing mustard gas for chemical weapons.

Burma has a significant cultural difference from the **U.S.**, a wet/hot tropical climate with heavy coastal rainfall, and geography that includes mountains in the north, east, and west and a dense jungle interior. About two-thirds of the country is not suited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 500 meters due to the broken terrain, thick vegetation, and frequent rainfall. Hydrographic conditions off the coast would prevent NGF platforms from moving in close enough to provide support for operations ashore. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is not available for **Burma**. The three primary airfields and one major port would be constrained to handle strategic lift. Communications and ground transportation facilities are adequate at best. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between four and six days to reach **Burma**.

INDIA

India is located adjacent to important **Indian Ocean** trade routes. The **U.S.** is **India's** largest trading partner and an important source of foreign economic assistance. Almost 5,000 **U.S.** citizens reside in **India**. Opium is produced for legal purposes but there is concern that it is being diverted to illegal trafficking. **India** is involved in money laundering and acts as a transit point for **Pakistani** and **Burmese** heroin and precursor chemicals enroute to refineries. Sikh terrorism has been on the rise with attacks against government and civilian targets. **India** has begun to develop weapons systems and is expected to become an arms exporter in the future. Due to involvement in drugs, terrorism, and gray arms/technology transfer, **India** deserves attention by military planners. **India** has the second largest ground, air, and naval OOBs in the region. Military equipment is obtained from the **U.S.S.R.**, **U.K.**, **France**, and **Italy**. **India** may have chemical weapons with means of delivery and may be developing nuclear weapons.

India has a climate that varies from tropical in the south to temperate in the north. The topography ranges from a mountainous northern border, to northern plains, desert in the northwest, rolling hills in the northeast, and a southern peninsula with moderate elevation. **India** has a culture much different from the **U.S.** It is generally well suited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) normally ranges between 1,000 and 2,000 meters. Hydrographic conditions permit NGF ships to provide some support for operations ashore, but would be out-gunned by coastal defense weapons. A major shortfall for military operations in this country is the absence of 1:50,000 scale maps. Airfields and ports are quite sufficient to handle strategic lift. Key installations for military planning include oil fields. It is estimated that the **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require two to four days to reach **India**. Due to about 5,000 potential evacuees, and the 458 nautical miles distance to the probable evacuation site (**New Delhi**), NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **India** would be very difficult.

INDONESIA

Indonesia is an archipelago of more than 13,500 islands extending 3,000 miles along the equator from mainland **Southeast Asia** to **Australia**. The archipelago forms a natural barrier between the **Indian** and **Pacific Oceans**, making the straits between the islands strategically and commercially important. Little known conflict continues on the **Indonesian** island of **Timor** between insurgents and Government forces. Reports indicate that in 14 years of fighting, one-third of the population of **East Timor Province** has died due to civil war and famine. Overall **U.S.** equity in **Indonesia** is high. Total trade amounts to about \$4.5 billion annually with the **U.S.** importing some of **Indonesia's** oil. Over 12,000 **U.S.** citizens reside there. **Indonesia** is a transit point for heroin, opium, hashish, and precursor chemicals, and there have been reports of increased drug trafficking in the resort area of **Ball**. Besides an army of 216,000 regulars, **Indonesia** maintains the fourth largest naval capability in the region. The air force is also well equipped with a recently upgraded air defense network. There have been allegations that **Indonesian** forces used chemical weapons against the insurgents in **East Timor**.

The larger **Indonesian** islands consist largely of coastal plains, mountainous interiors, and heavy jungle vegetation. The country has an equatorial climate with more temperate heat and humidity in the upland areas. The **Indonesian** culture is much different from that of the **U.S.** The islands are generally unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles due to the thick jungle and mountainous conditions. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is normally limited to less than 1,000 meters because of the broken terrain, jungle, and frequent heavy rainfall. Coverage of **Indonesia** by 1:50,000 scale maps is absent except for the area around **Jakarta**. Airfields and ports are numerous and capable of receiving strategic lift. Key installations in the country include oil fields. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between two to four days to reach **Indonesia**. Due to the over 12,000 potential evacuees, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Indonesia** would be very difficult.

JAPAN

Due to its economic power and international role, **Japan** has become one of the most important countries in the world community. The close relationship with **Japan** is the cornerstone of **U.S.** policy in **Asia**. **Japan** is the **U.S.**'s largest trading partner after **Canada**. Concerns are growing about the **U.S.** trade deficit with **Japan** caused by **Japanese** market restrictions. **U.S.** equity in **Japan** remains high and almost 42,000 **U.S.** citizens reside there. Terrorism has continued at a generally low level in **Japan** with periodic attacks by radical leftist groups. In 1987, the **Soviets** obtained technology from a **Japanese** firm which was used to produce quieter submarine propellers. Due to its involvement in terrorism and illicit technology transfer, **Japan** deserves attention by military planners. **Japan** has an army of 156,000 volunteers, and the third largest air force and navy in the region. **Japan** is suspected of having chemical weapons.

Four-fifths of **Japan** is mountainous and is one of the most densely populated nations in the world. **Japan's** climate ranges from subtropical on **Okinawa** to cool on the island of **Hokkaido**. **Japanese** culture is quite different from that of the **U.S.** About three-fourths of **Japan** is unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles due to the mountains, hills, and forests. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. NGF platforms can approach the coast within range to support operations ashore, but would be out gunned by **Japanese** coastal defense weapons. There is complete coverage of **Japan** by older 1:50,000 scale maps, but some may be outdated. There are airfields and ports capable of receiving strategic airlift and sealift. Key installations include communications, transportation, and industrial facilities as well as possible storage sites for chemical weapons. The **Pacific ARF** with its embarked MEU would require between four and six days to reach southern **Japan** and more than six days to arrive at northern **Japan**. NEO conducted by a MEU would be very difficult due to over 40,000 potential evacuees.

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MALAYSIA

In **Malaysia**, the possibility of a revived communist insurgency along the border with **Thailand** is viewed with great seriousness. The U.S. supports **Malaysia** through cooperation in the areas of narcotics enforcement and military assistance programs. Overall U.S. equity in **Malaysia** is moderate. In bilateral trade, the U.S. receives about 14 percent of **Malaysia's** exports and provides 26 percent of its imports. Over 2,000 U.S. citizens reside there. **Malaysia** is an important heroin processing center and transit site, exporting drugs primarily to **Europe** and **Australia**. The country has moderate size armed forces which have been mainly directed at containing the communist insurgency. Recently, a major program has been initiated to expand and modernize the military to meet both internal and external threats. The army in particular is being reorganized and its equipment upgraded. **Malaysia** is a member of the Five-Power Defense Arrangement with the U.K., **Australia**, **New Zealand**, and **Singapore**. Under the arrangement, small **Australian** air units are stationed in **Malaysia**.

Malaysia has a culture significantly different from that of the U.S. The climate is mainly hot and humid with large amounts of rainfall. The country is basically broken into two regions, the **Malay Peninsula** which borders with **Thailand**, and **East Malaysia** which occupies the northern part of the island of **Borneo**. On the peninsula, a range of forested mountains runs north and south and is flanked on the east and west by coastal plains. **East Malaysia** is composed of a broad, swampy coastal plain, drained by wide rivers which merge into hills and mountains of the interiors. Most of **Malaysia** is covered with dense jungle. Due to these conditions, at least two-thirds of **Malaysia** is unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) would be less than 500 meters due to the adverse terrain and frequent heavy rainfall. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is not available for **Malaysia**. Airfields and ports are satisfactory to handle strategic lift entering the country. Key installations include oil fields on both the **Malay Peninsula** and **East Malaysia**. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between two and four days to reach **Malaysia**. Due to the over 2,000 potential evacuees, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Malaysia** would be very difficult.

NORTH KOREA

Since 1950, **North Korea** has maintained a large, well-equipped armed force. Overall U.S. equity in **North Korea** is low. The U.S. maintains no diplomatic representation and conducts no trade with this country. Terrorist attacks by **North Korea** are evidenced by the 1987 bombing of a **South Korean** airliner and the 1983 assassination of **South Korean** officials in **Burma**. **North Korea** has provided training and support to international terrorist groups. It is suspected that **North Korea** supplies large quantities of major weapons to **Iran** as well as other Third World countries. **North Korea** illegally acquired U.S.-made Hughes helicopters in order to improve its military posture. The **North Koreans** have one of the largest armed forces in the **Asia/Pacific** region. They reportedly possess stocks of chemical weapons and the means of delivery. **North Korea** rates particular attention by military planners due to its involvement in terrorism, gray arms/technology, chemical weapons development, and its large ground, air, and naval OOBs.

North Korea's culture is different from that of the U.S. Mountains and hills cover nearly all of the country, with narrow valleys and small plains in between. The climate is temperate with July and August the warmest months. In the winter, snowfall is generally light, but the ground is covered for long periods. Conditions are poor for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters because of the broken terrain, forested areas, and cultivated plains. Hydrographic conditions at some locations along the coast would prevent NGF platforms from providing support for operations ashore. **North Korean** coastal defense weapons would be able to out-gun the standard U.S. NGF weapon (5"/54 cal). Mapping is available for the country by older 1:50,000 scale maps, but they may be outdated. More than one airfield and port are considered capable of receiving strategic lift. Key installations may include facilities for the production and storage of chemical weapons. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require in excess of six days to reach **North Korea**.

PAKISTAN

Recent conflict in **Pakistan** has included the **India - Pakistan** War, tribal and political insurgencies, and confrontations with the Government of **Afghanistan**. Overall **U.S.** equity in **Pakistan** is moderate. The two countries are major trading partners and the **U.S.** provides long-term military and economic aid. Over 2,800 **U.S.** citizens reside in the country. **Pakistan** is the third largest producer of opium in **Southwest Asia**. In 1988, there were 127 terrorist incidents in **Pakistan**, most of which were attributed to the **Afghan** Government. **Pakistan** has the sixth largest ground OOB in the **Asia/Pacific** region. Its air and naval OOBs are also of substantial size. **Pakistan** has military equipment from the **U.S.**, **Soviet Union**, **China**, the **U.K.** and **France**. Indications are that **Pakistan** possesses chemical weapons with delivery means and is developing nuclear weapons.

Pakistan's culture is different from that of the **U.S.** There are mountainous conditions along the western border with **Afghanistan**. The climate ranges from hot near the coast to temperate in the interior uplands. Conditions are suitable for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles only in the eastern plains, and valleys of the northern mountains. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) varies between 1,000 and 2,000 meters. NGF ships can approach the coast and provide some support for operations ashore, but would be out-gunned by **Pakistani** coastal defense weapons. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to central **Pakistan**, including **Islamabad**, and the borders with **Afghanistan** and **India**. Airfields are adequate but ports have limited capabilities. Key installations are suspected to include facilities for production and storage of chemical and perhaps nuclear weapons. The **Pacific ARG** could reach **Pakistan** in less than two days. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult due to the over 2,800 potential evacuees and the 616 nautical miles distance to the likely evacuation site (**Islamabad**).

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Papua New Guinea is located in the southwest **Pacific** about 100 miles northeast of **Australia**. It consists of the eastern half of the island of **New Guinea**, the **Bismark Archipelago**, and several other islands. The **U.S.** and **Papua New Guinea** maintain friendly relations and overall **U.S.** equity in the country is moderate. The two nations are trading partners and the **U.S.** has about \$420 million in direct investments there. Over 3,500 **U.S.** citizens reside in **Papua New Guinea**. The country has a small ground OOB composed of 2,900 volunteer personnel. Both the air and naval OOBs are negligible. Most of the military support is provided by **Australia**.

The culture of **Papua New Guinea** is quite similar to that of the **U.S.**, with English being the primary language and Protestant the main religion. The most predominate characteristic of this country is its wet/hot climate and mountainous, jungle covered terrain. The average annual rainfall in many areas is over 200 inches. The main island (eastern **New Guinea**) contains about 85 percent of the land area. In recent years there has been considerable urban drift toward **Port Moresby** and other major centers. Due to the severe terrain and climatic conditions, cross-country movement of tracked vehicles would be restricted to the narrow coastal lowlands. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) would be limited to less than 500 meters due to the rough terrain, thick ground cover, and frequent heavy rainfall. Hydrographic conditions would somewhat limit the ability of NGF ships to approach the coast and provide support for operations ashore. Another significant shortfall for military operations is that map coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is not available. An airfield and a major port are able to receive strategic lift. There are few key installations in this country due mainly to the harsh geographic and climatic conditions which inhibit development, particularly in the interior. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between two to four days to reach **Papua New Guinea**. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in this country would be very difficult due to the over 3,500 potential evacuees.

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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

There is potential for renewed conflict between **Taiwan** and the **People's Republic of China (PRC)**. U.S. equity in the **PRC** is high. The two countries conduct bilateral trade and the **U.S.** is the **PRC's** third largest trading partner. With increased normalization, direct **U.S.** investment in the **PRC** has increased significantly. Over 2,500 **U.S.** citizens reside in the country. The **PRC** is a transit point for precursor chemicals and heroin moving to and from the **Golden Triangle**. The **PRC** provides illicit weapons to a number of Third World countries. The **PRC** rates special attention because of its involvement in both drug trafficking and gray arms trade. The **PRC** continues to maintain the largest army, navy, and air force in the **Asia/Pacific** region. Efforts are underway to make the military leaner, and better equipped in the 1990s. The **PRC** may have a chemical weapons production capability and may be expanding its stocks of nuclear weapons.

There is a cultural difference between the **PRC** and the **U.S.** The **PRC** is almost entirely in the temperate zone and has a mixed climate. Cross-country movement of tracked vehicles is precluded in most of the country except for the northern desert plains. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is generally limited to less than 1,000 meters. Hydrographic conditions prevent NGF ships from coming within range to provide support for operations ashore. When they are able to approach the shore, they would be out-gunned by **Chinese** coastal defense weapons. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to scattered areas throughout the **PRC**. Key installations include facilities for the production and storage of nuclear and chemical weapons. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between two to four days to reach the **Chinese** coast. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult due to over 2,500 potential evacuees and the 124 nautical miles distance to **Beijing**, the most likely evacuation site.

PHILIPPINES

Nationalist ambitions, ethnic animosities, oligarchic oppression, and religious persecution all influence the continuing instability in the **Philippines**. A communist insurgent group, the **New People's Army (NPA)** has spread terror and destruction across the country. The economy continues to deteriorate and the **Aquino** Government is threatened by a series of coup attempts. Overall **U.S.** equity is high. Negotiations are underway to renew the leases on **U.S.** bases which are due to expire in 1991. The **U.S.** is the country's largest trading partner and over 120,000 **U.S.** citizens reside there. The **Philippines** exports marijuana as well as quantities of this drug obtained from **Thailand**. It is a transit point for **Golden Triangle** heroin and **South American** cocaine enroute to various lucrative markets. The **Philippines** deserves special attention because of its involvement in drug trafficking and terrorism. The **Philippine** armed forces are of moderate size.

There is a small cultural difference between the **Philippines** and the **U.S.** The climate is tropical with warm, humid conditions and heavy rainfall. About 95 percent of the population is concentrated on the eleven largest islands where the terrain is mostly mountainous. Cross-country movement of tracked vehicles is restricted primarily to the central **Luzon** plain. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is generally limited to less than 1,000 meters due to the mountainous terrain. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps exists for most of the country except for parts of western **Luzon**. Airfields and ports are adequate to receive strategic lift. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU could be expected to reach the **Philippines** in less than two days. Due to the very large number of potential evacuees (over 120,000), NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be extremely difficult.

SOUTH KOREA

South Korea occupies a strategic location on the **Korean** peninsula among the **Chinese**, **Japanese**, and **Soviet** spheres of influence. **U.S.** equity in **South Korea** is high. This country has become the seventh largest trading partner of the **U.S.** About 39,000 military personnel are stationed in **South Korea** and over 10,000 **U.S.** citizens reside there. **South Korea** has the fifth largest ground OOB in the region composed of about 520,000 troops. It also has a relatively large air force and navy, equipped with modern weapon systems. An air defense network is deployed along its northern border with **North Korea** and the coastal waters to the southwest. **South Korea** is thought to possess stocks of chemical weapons.

South Korea has a culture significantly different from that of the **U.S.** It has a temperate climate with hot, rainy summers and cold, dry, and windy winters. The terrain consists of partially forested mountain ranges separated by deep, narrow valleys. There are cultivated plains along the coasts, mainly in the west and south. Cross-country movement of tracked vehicles is possible in the valleys and plains during certain parts of the year. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters due to the dissected terrain, forests, and cultivated areas. Intervisibility would be particularly restricted in the rugged east coastal and central interior. NGF platforms can approach the coast and provide a limited degree of support for operations ashore but would be confronted by a significant **South Korean** coastal defense threat. Coverage of the country is available by old 1:50,000 scale maps, but are likely to be outdated. There are several airfields and ports to accommodate strategic lift. Key installations may include production and storage facilities for chemical weapons. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between four to six days to reach **South Korea**. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be difficult due to over 10,000 potential evacuees.

SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS

For purposes of this examination, the **South Pacific Islands** include **Fiji** and the **Solomon Islands**. The **U.S.** maintains cordial relations with these island nations and **U.S.** equity is low. About 500 **U.S.** citizens reside on the islands. **Suva**, the capital city of **Fiji**, is the local headquarters for the **U.S.** Agency for International Development (AID) which administers assistance to the entire region. **Fiji** has a small ground OOB consisting of about 5,000 volunteers. Units have served with the **United Nations** forces in **Lebanon** and the multinational force in the **Sinal**. **Fiji's** contributions to peacekeeping in the **Middle East** and **Africa** are unique for a nation of its size. No military forces are maintained by the **Solomon Islands**; a police force of about 500 provides internal security. Prior to independence, the **Solomons** were administered by the **U.K.** as a protectorate and the **U.K.** continues to be responsible for the defense of these islands from outside attack.

The cultures of the **U.S.** and the **South Pacific Islands** are quite similar. The larger islands of both **Fiji** and the **Solomons** are mountainous with dense, tropical jungle. The climate is hot and humid with heavy annual rainfall. Collectively, these islands present terrain conditions not conducive to cross-country movement of tracked and wheeled vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 500 meters due to the mountains, thick ground cover, and frequent heavy rainfall. A serious shortfall for military operations in these islands is the absence of 1:50,000 scale map coverage. While airfields and ports are adequate to receive strategic lift, there are few other key installations of military significance. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between four to six days to reach the islands. Due to the over 500 potential evacuees, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Fiji** and the **Solomons** would pose some difficulties.

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SPRATLY ISLANDS

The **Spratly Islands**, located in the **South China Sea**, are the center of a multinational dispute. These islands are significant because they occupy locations in important sea lanes and are believed to contain valuable oil and gas resources. **China, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Taiwan** all claimed sovereignty to some of the islands in this complex. In 1987, **Chinese** and **Vietnamese** warships operating in the area opened fire on each other with considerable damage and casualties. These countries continue to maintain warships in the vicinity of the **Spratlys**. **Malaysia** claims possession of the southern **Spratlys**, and has been conducting naval operations in the islands for at least nine years. The **Philippines** claim the northern **Spratlys** which it calls the **Kalayaan Islands**. **Taiwan** occupies **Itu-aba** island, the largest of the **Spratlys**, maintaining a weather station and a contingent of marines there. The islands are of little interest to the **U.S.** other than for their strategic location in the **South China Sea**. They have no indigenous population and no armed forces.

The **Spratlys** consist of numerous small islands. Some of the larger ones contain jungle growth and scrub vegetation. Most, however are small flat and desolate, with coral outcrops. They are unsuitable for cross-country vehicular movement and the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) would be less than 1,000 meters. Coverage of the **Spratlys** by 1:50,000 scale maps is not available. There are no airfields, ports or key installations. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU could reach the **Spratlys** in less than two days.

SRI LANKA

Recent conflict in **Sri Lanka** has occurred as a result of grievances and aspirations of the Tamil community. Militant Tamils have sought to create a separate state in **Sri Lanka's** Northern and Eastern Provinces where Tamils predominate. The **U.S.** enjoys a cordial relationship with **Sri Lanka**. While **U.S.** equity in this country is low, the **U.S.** provides developmental aid and serves as **Sri Lanka's** largest export market. Almost 700 **U.S.** citizens reside there. Tamil separatists use terrorist tactics, including assassinations of officials in pursuit of their objectives. They have also demonstrated a growing capability to mount quasi-military operations against targets such as police stations and government facilities. **Sri Lanka** has a modest ground OOB and a small air force and navy. These forces' primary mission is internal security but have been somewhat ineffective in dealing with the Tamil insurgents.

Sri Lanka is located in the **Indian Ocean** off the southeast coast of **India**. A plain, only slightly above sea level, makes up the northern half of the island while the center and south consist of hills and mountains. There is a uniformly tropical climate, with hot, humid conditions and heavy rainfall. **Sri Lanka's** culture is different from that of the **U.S.** About 50 percent of the people live in the southwest quarter of the island where agriculture is most favorable. Cross-country movement is severely restricted over most of **Sri Lanka** due to the broken terrain, forests, plantations, rice fields, and streams. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is not available. The ports and airfields can effectively handle strategic lift. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between two to four days to reach **Sri Lanka**. Due to 700 potential evacuees, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be quite difficult.

THAILAND

Drug trafficking, a communist insurgency, minority unrest, and fighting in neighboring **Cambodia** are all continuing problems. **Thailand** is strategically important because it controls the land route from **Asia** to **Malaysia** and **Singapore**. **U.S.** equity in **Thailand** is high. The **U.S.** has over \$1 billion in direct investment in **Thailand** and in recent years has provided over \$50 million in economic and military assistance. About 10,000 **U.S.** citizens live there. **Thailand** has reduced opium cultivation to about 28 metric tons annually, but remains a refiner of heroin and a transit site for drugs departing the **Golden Triangle**. **Thailand** also has an active trade in precursor chemicals and is a money laundering center. The armed forces stress defense from external attack as their primary mission and internal security as a secondary role. The armed forces have a combined strength of about 239,000 personnel. **Laos** recently accused **Thailand** of using chemical weapons during a border incident.

Thailand has a different culture from that of the **U.S.** The climate is hot and humid with heavy rainfall particularly in the south. The topography consists of a central plain, an eastern plateau, a mountain range in the west, and the southern densely forested isthmus joining the country with **Malaysia**. Cross-country movement of vehicles is virtually impossible due to steep slopes, thick vegetation in the plains, numerous rivers, and coastal swamps. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (Intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. **NGF** ships can approach the coast to support operations ashore but **Thai** coastal defense weapons would provide significant opposition. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is restricted to the **Thai** borders with **Laos** and **Cambodia** and around **Bangkok**. Airfields are satisfactory to receive **C-5** aircraft but the major port at **Bangkok** is inadequate to handle sealift. Key installations may include facilities for chemical weapons. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked **MEU** would require between two to four days to reach **Thailand**. Due to about 10,000 potential evacuees, **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions would be extremely difficult.

VIETNAM

The **U.S.** has no diplomatic relations with **Vietnam** and **U.S.** equity in that country is nonexistent. Recent moves have been made toward normalization since the withdrawal of **Vietnamese** forces from **Cambodia** and the recent willingness of **Vietnam** to help recover the remains of **U.S.** servicemen reported missing during the war. **Vietnam** has supported terrorist actions by insurgents operating against the Government in **El Salvador**. Most foreign-made weapons used by these insurgents, are **U.S.** arms that were lost during the **Vietnam War** and later sold by **Vietnam**. Due to involvement with both terrorism and gray arms sales, **Vietnam** warrants special attention. **Vietnam** has the third largest ground **OOB** in the **Asia/Pacific** region with over one million personnel. It also has a moderate size air force and navy. There have been published reports that **Vietnam** recently used chemical and biological weapons while operating in **Laos** and **Cambodia**.

Vietnam has a culture significantly different from that of the **U.S.** It is a long, narrow country with a 1,400 mile coastline. There is a heavily populated valley in the north, coastal plains in the center, and the wide, often marshy river delta in the south. The remaining land consists of semi-arid plateaus and barren mountains, with stretches of tropical rain forest. The climate in the north is monsoonal, with a hot, humid wet season in summer and a warm, humid dry season in the winter. Southern **Vietnam** has a year-round tropical climate with varied heavy rainfall. The combination of mountains, jungle, and marshes preclude cross-country movement of vehicles in about three-fourths of **Vietnam**. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (Intervisibility) would normally be limited to less than 1,000 meters. **NGF** platforms can approach the coast to support operations ashore but these platforms could expect to be out-gunned by **Vietnamese** coastal defense weapons. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to coastal areas and the northern border with **China**. Several airfields and one port can receive strategic lift. The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked **MEU** would require between two to four days to reach **Vietnam**.

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EUROPE/MEDITERRANEAN

DENMARK

Located strategically at the mouth of the **Baltic Sea**, **Denmark** consists of the **Jutland Peninsula** projecting north from **Germany**, and about 406 islands, of which 100 are inhabited. The straits between these islands connect the **Baltic** and **North Seas**. **Greenland** and **Faroe Islands** belong to **Denmark**. There are close relations between the **U.S.** and **Denmark** and overall **U.S.** equity is moderate. About 225 **U.S.** firms do business in **Denmark** and over 4,000 **U.S.** citizens reside there. **U.S.** bases in **Greenland** are of significant value to Western defense. The factors of drugs, terrorism, gray arms/technology transfer, and NBC are of little significance in **Denmark**. The **Danes** have a ground OOB of about 10,200 regulars and 6,800 conscripts. The air OOB includes 7,000 personnel while the naval OOB has about 5,000. Military equipment is obtained from the **U.S.** and other **European** countries. Training is accomplished at the unit level, but in recent years there has been more concentration on specialized schools. Regular officers attend a tri-service military college in **Copenhagen**.

The **Danes** are a homogenous Gothic-Germanic people that have inhabited **Denmark** since prehistoric times. **Danish** is the principal language and about 97 percent of the people are affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church. There is a moderate cultural difference between **Denmark** and the **U.S.** The climate is temperate with mild winters, cool summers, and strong prevailing westerly winds. **Denmark** has mainly flat or rolling terrain, most of which is in use for agricultural, industrial, or residential purposes. About one-fifth of the population lives in **Copenhagen**. Cross-country movement of tracked and wheeled vehicles is possible, but generally unfavorable throughout most of **Denmark**. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is normally restricted to between 1,000 to 2,000 meters. There are old 1:50,000 scale maps available for **Denmark** but coverage is likely to be outdated. Airfields and ports are satisfactory to accommodate strategic lift. Key installations include offshore oil facilities in the **North Sea**. The **Atlantic ARG** would require between four to six days to reach **Denmark**. Due to over 4,000 potential evacuees in **Denmark**, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult.

GREECE

Greece is located in southeastern **Europe** on the southern tip of the **Balkan Peninsula**. It consists of a mainland and 1,400 islands. Disputes are ongoing between **Greece** and **Turkey** over oil rights in the **Aegean Sea** and the status of **Cyprus**. **U.S.** equity is high. The **U.S.** has defense installations in **Greece** which are used for strategic airlift, training, naval support, reconnaissance, storage of materials, and communications. Over 50,000 **U.S.** citizens reside there. **Greece** is a key transit point for drugs going to **Europe** and the **U.S.** The anti-American-Greek terrorist group 17 November has attacked **U.S.** interests in the country as well as **Greek** Government facilities. **Greece** transships illicit arms and high technology systems moving from **Europe** to embargoed countries. Because of its involvement in drugs, terrorism, and gray arms/trafficking, **Greece** rates special attention by military planners. The armed forces consists of about 215,000 personnel, of which 171,000 serve in the army, 20,000 in the navy, and 24,000 in the air force. **Greek** military concepts, doctrine, and training follow closely that of the **U.S.**

The **Greek** language dates back 3,000 years and **Greek** Orthodoxy is the established religion. Muslims, concentrated in western **Thrace**, are the only recognized minority. **Greek** culture is considered to be moderately different from that of the **U.S.** **Greece** has a temperate climate with mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers. About 80 percent of the terrain is mountainous or hilly. Due to the rugged conditions, **Greece** is basically unsuited for cross-country vehicular movement. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is normally limited to less than 1,000 meters. Hydrographic conditions do not limit NGF platforms from approaching the coast, but would be out-gunned by coastal defense weapons. A shortfall for operations in **Greece** is the absence of 1:50,000 scale maps. Airfields and ports are excellent. Key installations include offshore oil facilities in the **Aegean Sea**. The **Atlantic ARG** operating in the **Mediterranean** could be expected to reach **Greece** in less than two days. Due to over 50,000 potential evacuees, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult.

ITALY

Italy's position on the main routes between **Europe**, **Africa**, and the Near and Far East gives it great political, economic, and strategic importance. The **U.S.** and **Italy** have cordial relations and overall **U.S.** equity in the country is high. The two countries conduct substantial bilateral trade and numerous **U.S.** firms have investments in **Italy**. Over 92,000 **U.S.** citizens reside there. The **Italian Red Brigades** is one of the most lethal of the **European** terrorist groups. During the **Iran-Iraq War**, **Italian** firms were suspected of providing illegal weapons and explosives to **Iran**. Due to its association with terrorism and the gray/arms trade, **Italy** warrants the attention of military planners. **Italy** has a ground OOB consisting of about 50,000 regular troops and 215,000 conscripts. The air and naval OOBs are also of substantial size. Much of the military training is modeled after that of the **U.S.** **Italy** has shown a willingness to work closely with the **U.S.** and others on issues such as Middle East peacekeeping and combatting terrorism.

With the **Italian** language and Catholic religion, **Italy's** culture is not greatly different from that of the **U.S.** The climate is generally mild and **Mediterranean**, but there are wide variations between the north and south. **Italy** occupies a boot-shaped peninsula, extending southeast from the **Alps** into the **Mediterranean Sea**, with the islands of **Sicily** and **Sardinia** offshore. The terrain is primarily rugged and mountainous. About 75 percent of **Italy** is unsuitable for cross-country vehicular movement. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is normally less than 1,000 meters. While hydrographic conditions do not prevent NGF platforms from approaching the coast, these platforms would be out-gunned by **Italian** coastal defense weapons. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to the northeast, the southeast and the island of **Sicily**. Ports and airfields are quite satisfactory. Key installations include nuclear powered reactors and numerous industrial, communications, and transportation facilities. The **Atlantic ARG** which operates in the **Mediterranean** could reach **Italy** in less than two days. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult due to over 92,000 potential evacuees.

NORWAY

Norway occupies a strategic position in northwestern **Europe**, close to **Soviet** bases on the **Kola Peninsula** and adjacent to the sea lanes of communication between **Europe** and the **U.S.** The **U.S.** and **Norway** enjoy friendly relations and overall **U.S.** equity in this country is high. The two countries are active trading partners and a number of **American** firms participate in **Norway's** petroleum sector. About 13,500 **U.S.** citizens reside in the country. The factors of drugs, terrorism, gray arms/technology transfer, and NBC are of little significance there. The **Norwegian** army is a highly motivated, infantry heavy mobilization force composed of about 19,000 troops. The air force and navy are technically sophisticated organizations manned by a core of professionals. **Norway** is a staunch supporter of NATO but does not allow the stocking of nuclear weapons on its territory in peacetime or the stationing of foreign forces on its soil unless threatened with attack. However, in recent years military exercises including **U.S.** forces have been conducted in **Norway** and the Marine Corps maintains prepositioned equipment there.

The **Norwegian** language and Protestant religion predominate in the country and the **Norwegian** culture can be characterized as being moderately different from that of the **U.S.** The climate of **Norway** is cold and wet and is the most difficult of all the expeditionary environment countries. The winter weather tends to be less severe along the coast than it is inland. **Norway's** high plateaus and rugged mountains are broken by frequent valleys and numerous lakes. About 25 percent of the land is forested. Most of the terrain is unsuited for cross-country vehicular movement and the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is normally limited to less than 1,000 meters. While hydrographic conditions generally permit NGF ships to approach the coast, they are apt to be out-gunned by **Norwegian** coastal defense weapons. The country has complete coverage by old 1:50,000 scale maps, but some of these maps may be outdated. Airfields and ports in **Norway** are highly satisfactory. Key installations include offshore oil facilities. The **Atlantic ARG** which normally operates in the **Mediterranean** would require in excess of six days to reach **Norway**. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Norway** would be very difficult due to the over 13,000 potential evacuees.

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TURKEY

With a common border with the **Soviet Union**, **Iran**, and **Iraq**, and control of the straits leading from the **Black Sea** to the **Mediterranean**, **Turkey** occupies a position of strategic importance. Since 1947, the **U.S.** has loaned or granted **Turkey**, about \$4 billion in economic aid and more than \$9 billion in military assistance. Besides the 10,000 military personnel stationed at installations in **Turkey**, almost 5,000 **U.S.** citizens live there. **Turkey** provides an important route for **Asian** drug traffickers to move heroin and hashish to **U.S.** and **European** markets. Terrorist groups such as the **Kurdish Worker's Party** and **Armenian separatists** operate in **Turkey** and attack political and economic targets. Because of its involvement with drugs, terrorism, and gray arms/technology transfer, **Turkey** deserves special attention by military planners. With total personnel of more than 626,000, **Turkey's** armed forces are the second largest in NATO. Two NATO headquarters, Land South East and Sixth Tactical Air Force are located in **Izmir**. Major **U.S.** military organizations in **Turkey** are the Joint **U.S.** Military Mission for Aid to **Turkey** and the **U.S.** Logistical Group.

With the **Turkish** language and Islamic religion, **Turkey's** culture is significantly different from that of the **U.S.** The interior of the country has wide plateaus with high mountains surrounding them on all sides except the west. There are rolling plains in the west and fertile coastal plains in the southwest. About half of the **Turkish** people live in urban areas. Only parts of **Turkey**, in the inland areas, are suitable for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is generally limited to less than 1,000 meters due to the rough terrain and ground cover. Hydrographic conditions permit NGF platforms to approach the coast within range of targets ashore, but would be out-gunned by coastal defense weapons. A shortfall for operations in **Turkey** is the lack of 1:50,000 scale maps. Airfields and ports are satisfactory to accommodate strategic lift. The **Atlantic ARG** which normally operates in the **Mediterranean** would require less than two days to reach **Turkey**. NEO conducted by a MEU in **Turkey** would be very difficult due to the almost 5,000 potential evacuees and the 212 nautical miles distance from the coast to **Ankara**, the probable evacuation site.

YUGOSLAVIA

Yugoslavia geographically controls the land routes from Central and Western **Europe** to the **Aegean Sea** and **Turkish** straits. **U.S.** relations with **Yugoslavia** remain cordial. Overall **U.S.** equity in **Yugoslavia** is moderate. The **U.S.** ranks sixth among **Yugoslavia's** trading partners with a 4.7 percent share of total trade. Almost 4,000 **U.S.** citizens live there. **Yugoslavia** has a ground OOB consisting of 140,000 troops, of whom 95,000 are conscripts. The air OOB is composed of 37,000 personnel, MiG-29 aircraft, and an inventory of modern surface-to-air missiles. The naval OOB numbers 13,000 personnel. **Yugoslav** citizens have some military liability and receive various amounts of training. Recruits must serve for a period of 15 months.

Yugoslavia's population has the greatest ethnic and religious diversity in all of Eastern **Europe**. Besides the principal South Slavic groups, there are an additional 17 minorities. The special interests and concerns of these various factors have caused some problems for the **Yugoslav** Government. There is a significant difference in culture between **Yugoslavia** and the **U.S.** Much of the interior of the country is composed of lowland hills and plains. The remaining terrain is mainly mountainous. The **Dinaric Alps** runs parallel to the **Adriatic** coast. The climate along the coast is milder than in the interior. Due to the broken terrain, **Yugoslavia** is generally unsuited for cross-country vehicular movement. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is normally limited to less than 1,000 meters. Hydrographic conditions allow NGF ships to approach the coast, but their 5-inch guns would be out-ranged by coastal defense weapons. There is complete coverage of the country by old 1:50,000 scale maps. Port facilities are satisfactory for strategic sealift but airfields cannot accommodate C-5 aircraft. The **Atlantic ARG** which normally operates in the **Mediterranean** would require less than two days to reach **Yugoslavia**. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Yugoslavia** would be very difficult due to over 4,000 potential evacuees and the 161 nautical miles distance from the coast to **Belgrade**, the probable evacuation site.

MIDDLE EAST/SOUTHWEST ASIA

BAHRAIN

Bahrain has strategic significance through its oil fields and important location in the **Persian Gulf**. It also provides a convenient port-of-call for ships of the U.S. Navy's **Middle East Force**. **Bahrain** by itself, constitutes a negligible threat to the U.S. It is only through its oil resources in conjunction with other **Middle East** oil producers that this country can have an impact on the Western world.

With a considerable cultural diversity with the U.S. and a dry/hot climate, this country would present obstacles for military operations. Only small portions of **Bahrain** are suitable for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. While NGF ships can approach the coast to provide fair support for operations ashore, **Bahrain**, through its coastal defense weapons, could pose a substantial threat. Mapping of **Bahrain** is barely adequate through the use of old 1:50,000 scale maps. With many modern communications networks and key installations, detailed planning would be necessary for military operations in this country. Likewise, with over 300 potential evacuees in **Bahrain**, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal circumstances would require a strong effort.

EGYPT

Egypt is a strong U.S. ally in the **Middle East**. U.S.-**Egyptian** strategic cooperation, including joint military endeavors, have improved the capacity of both countries to respond to regional security threats. U.S. military support has helped **Egypt** update its defense inventory with modern equipment. **Egypt** is a large consumer of narcotics and a transit point for drugs intended for U.S. and European markets. **Egypt** has the largest air and naval capabilities in the region and the fourth largest ground OOB with about 320,000 troops. **Egypt** is alleged to possess chemical weapons and may have delivery systems for chemical warheads.

With a culture much different from the U.S., a dry/hot climate, and topography which is mainly desert, military operations in **Egypt** would present some difficulties. Large portions of the western and eastern desert plains are suitable for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. Although NGF ships can approach the **Mediterranean** and **Red Sea** coasts to provide fair support for operations ashore, the **Egyptian** coastal defense weapons could present a serious threat. Mapping of **Egypt** is limited, with 1:50,000 scale map coverage available only along the **Mediterranean** coast and south along the **Nile River** (including **Cairo**) to the town of **Al Minya**. **Egypt** is suspected of having facilities for storage and possible production of chemical weapons. Oil fields are mainly located on the **Sinai Peninsula** and offshore in the **Gulf of Suez**. The planning and execution of NEO by a MEU under normal conditions in **Egypt** would be highly difficult due to the presence of over 11,000 potential evacuees.

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IRAN

With a fundamentalist Moslem government and strong anti-U.S. sentiments, **Iran** is a major source of instability in the **Middle East**. Relations between the **U.S.** and **Iran** continue to be at a low point due to **Iran's** support for terrorism, including association with the hostage-takings in **Lebanon**. **Iran** is a significant producer of opium and a transit point for narcotics moving from **Pakistan** and **Afghanistan** to Western markets. **Iran** uses terrorism as a basic tactic against the **U.S.** and other Western influence, and also as a means to intimidate **Arab** nations in the **Persian Gulf**. This country is a major buyer of black market weapons and technology from **Europe** and other Third World countries. **Iran** has the second strongest ground OOB in the region (after **Iraq**) with about 305,000 experienced troops and a variety of weapons from many sources. It also has the third largest naval capability and fourth largest air OOB in the region. **Iran** reportedly used chemical weapons against **Iraq** and may have production facilities for biological weapons. It is suspected that **Iran** would like to develop nuclear weapons.

There is a distinct cultural difference between **Iran** and the **U.S.** which could significantly impact on military operations. Rugged terrain, generally unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles, and hot, humid summer conditions along the coasts would also pose problems for military planners. The average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters due to the extensive mountain ranges and irregular terrain. Hydrographic conditions will allow NGF ships to within range of some coastal targets, but **Iranian** coastal defense weapons could out-gun these ships. **Iran** has limited mapping although 1:50,000 scale maps are available for coastal areas along the **Persian Gulf** and **Gulf of Oman**, the capital **Tehran**, the area around **Lake Urmia** in the northwest, and scattered locations elsewhere. Facilities for the production and/or storage of chemical and biological weapons are suspected at unknown locations in **Iran**. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in this country would pose some problems due to the distance from the coast to the probable evacuation site (**Tehran** at 348 nm).

IRAQ

Iraq is strong militarily and has designs on becoming the dominant power in the oil-rich **Persian Gulf** area. It has used brutal, repressive measures against its own Kurdish minority. Overall **U.S.** equity in **Iraq** is low. **Iraq** has sponsored terrorist acts against **European** and **African** countries and presently provides safe haven for the notorious terrorist Abu Nidal. It is a major buyer of gray arms and illicit technology from all available sources. **Iraq** has the largest ground OOB in the **Middle East** with over 475,000 experienced regular troops and advanced **Soviet**-provided tanks and SSMs. It also has among the strongest air and naval capabilities in the region, backed by **Soviet** equipment and on-site advisors. **Iraq** is known to maintain quantities of chemical and biological weapons and is reported to have used these weapons against **Iran** and the Kurds. It is also suspected that **Iraq** is pursuing a nuclear weapons production capability.

With a hot, dry climate and strong anti-Western sentiment, military operations in **Iraq** would present a serious challenge. While the steep and desert region bordering **Saudi Arabia** and **Syria** is generally well suited for tracked movement, the northeast highlands bordering **Turkey** are not. The average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) is restricted to 2,000 meters or less mainly in the mountainous northeast and marshy southeast. The basic land-locked geography of **Iraq**, plus the poor hydrography at **Al Faw** and the considerable coastal defense threat in that area would all serve to limit the effectiveness of NGF support. The restricted map coverage would also adversely affect military operations in this country. Presently, 1:50,000 scale maps are available only for northeastern **Iraq** and the area east of **Basra** to the **Persian Gulf**. Accessibility to **Iraq** would be limited by the availability of only one airfield (**Baghdad**) which can handle C-141B aircraft (not C-5s) and one major port at **Basra** with marginal capabilities. The chemical/biological weapons complexes, oil fields, refineries, and communications networks in **Iraq** should receive priority consideration by military planners. NEO conducted by a MEU in this country under normal circumstances would present difficulty due to the distance (302 nm) from the gulf to the probable evacuation site (**Baghdad**) and the large number of potential evacuees (500).

KUWAIT

Kuwait has strategic significance through its oil resources, important location on the **Arabian Peninsula**, and its relationships with other **Arab** countries in the region. In recent years, strong ties have formed between the **U.S.** and **Kuwait** in the areas of trade and **Kuwaiti** defense. Within the **Middle East**, **Kuwait** has a relatively small armed force and is dependent on the **U.S.** and other friendly nations for protection against attack.

With a culture much different from the **U.S.** and intensely hot, dry summers, military operations in **Kuwait** would pose some problems. The terrain consists mainly of desert plains and trafficability of tracked vehicles is possible in about one-half of the country. Hydrographic conditions will allow NGF ships to approach the coast within range of most targets ashore but **Kuwaiti** coastal defense weapons could out-gun these ships. The most serious setback to military operations in **Kuwait** could be the lack of 1:50,000 scale maps. The numerous oil fields and refineries, as well as many vital communications networks, should require careful consideration by military planners. Also, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal circumstances would be very difficult due to the large number (2,500) of potential evacuees in **Kuwait**.

LEBANON

Lebanon is located on the eastern shore of the **Mediterranean Sea**, bounded by **Syria** and **Israel**, and forms a strategic bridge between the **West** and the **Middle East**. In recent years it has become a battleground for the diverse and hostile forces in the region. Combat ranges from sniping and unorganized street fighting to sophisticated electronic warfare and the use of surface-to-surface missiles. **Syria** has positioned sizable forces in **Lebanon** and engaged various Lebanese factions. **Lebanon** is a major narcotics producing and trafficking country, supplying heroin to **Europe** and the **U.S.**, as well as hashish to the **Middle East** and **Western** countries. The **Iranian** backed Hizballah group operates primarily in **Lebanon** and employs terrorism as a tactic to support its political and religious goals. **Lebanon** has a small armed force which is presently rather ineffective due to the political instability and civil war.

The considerable cultural difference between the **U.S.** and **Lebanon** as well as the presence of various potentially hostile forces could pose a variety of problems for **U.S.** military operations in the country. Only portions of **Lebanon**, mainly on the interior plain, are suited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. While NGF ships can approach the coast to provide good support for combat operations along the coast, **Lebanon**, through its organic coastal defense weapons could present effective opposition. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is available for most of **Lebanon** except for areas along the southern borders with **Israel** and **Syria**. The continuing civil war has inflicted massive damage on **Lebanon's** key installations and significant investment would be necessary for their reconstruction. With over 1900 potential evacuees, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Lebanon** would require precise planning and execution.

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LIBYA

Since 1969, when Colonel Muammar al-Qaddafi came to power through a coup, **U.S. - Libyan** relations have been increasingly strained because of **Libya's** foreign policies supporting international terrorism and subversion against moderate **Arab** and **African** Governments. Due to its involvement in numerous incidents of terrorism, the **U.S.** has imposed economic sanctions against **Libya**, ordered all **Americans** to leave the country, and frozen **Libyan** assets in the **U.S.** In recent years, Qaddafi has shown no sign of giving up terrorism, and **Libyan** agents continue to track and-kill opponents of the regime. Besides exporting terrorism, **Libya** is a major buyer of illegal weapons and technology from all available sources. **Libya** has the fifth largest ground, air, and naval OOBs in the region. Numerous regular force personnel receive training outside the country, mainly in the **Soviet Union**. **Libya** is believed to maintain stores of chemical weapons, and is suspected to have an interest in acquiring nuclear weapons.

Cultural differences and the hot/dry desert conditions of **Libya** could present obstacles to **U.S.** military operations in this country. The average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) is generally restricted to between 1,000 and 2,000 meters due to terrain contours and dusty windstorms. Although NGF ships can approach the coast to provide fair support for operations ashore, **Libyan** coastal defense weapons could pose a serious threat. Mapping of **Libya** is limited, with 1:50,000 scale map coverage available along the **Mediterranean** coast, but not inland. Marginal and constrained airfields and ports provide limited accessibility to this country. **Libya** has numerous key installations including oil fields and refineries.

NORTH YEMEN

The **U.S.** has helped to expand the security assistance program in **North Yemen** as well as providing this country with significant economic support. **North Yemen** has modest armed forces which would have difficulty in dealing with an attack from outside its borders. Almost all military training beyond the basic level is done outside the country mainly in **Egypt** and **Saudi Arabia**. Some foreign advisors are present in **North Yemen** to perform technical tasks and operate advanced equipment.

With a much different culture from the **U.S.**, a hot/dry climate, and mostly mountainous terrain, military operations in **North Yemen** would present some difficulties. While some parts of the coastal plains would allow trafficability, the country in general is unsuited for off-road movement of tracked vehicles. Due to the dissected terrain, the average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. Because of shallow water off much of the **Red Sea** coast, NGF platforms would have a poor capability to approach the coast and provide support for operations ashore. A most serious setback to military operations in **North Yemen** could be the lack of 1:50,000 scale maps. While **North Yemen** is accessible by air with one airfield that can handle C-5 aircraft it has no major ports to accommodate strategic sealift. Oil fields are located in the eastern part of the country near the town of **Marib**. Communications facilities are underdeveloped but gradually improving. In a crisis situation, it is estimated that the Pacific ARG with its embarked MEU could reach **North Yemen** in two to four days. Under normal conditions, NEO conducted by a MEU would be quite difficult due to over 2000 potential evacuees.

OMAN

While the Dhafari insurgents in southern **Oman** were all but wiped out in 1975, remnants of the group remain in the field and there is a possibility that this conflict may resume. There are also a number of border disputes ongoing between **Oman** and the **United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.)**. Oil is the major source of income for **Oman**, and this country has strong political ties to the **U.S.** In northern **Oman**, the tip of the **Ruus-al-Jebal** peninsula controls access to the **Strait of Hormuz** and the **Persian Gulf**. Under a **U.S.-Omani** agreement, the **U.S.** is provided access to **Omani** military facilities. These facilities are being upgraded for mutual use. **Oman** has a small armed force, which would have difficulty in defeating an attack from outside its borders.

A much different culture as well as a hot, dry climate and diverse terrain conditions would cause some difficulties for **U.S.** military operations in **Oman**. About two-thirds of **Oman** is unsuitable for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles due to the extensive volcanic mountain network and dissected geography. Due to adverse terrain and climatic conditions, the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. While **NGF** ships can approach the coast to provide adequate support for operations ashore, the standard naval gun (5 inch, 54 caliber) would be out-gunned by **Omani** coastal defense weapons. Only northern **Oman**, including **Muscat**, has coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps. A major drawback to operations in **Oman** is that this country has no major ports that can accommodate strategic sealift. Key military installations in **Oman** are being improved by the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**. With over 800 potential evacuees in **Oman**, **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions would require a significant effort.

QATAR

Qatar has importance through its oil production and refining capabilities and its strategic location along the western coast of the **Persian Gulf** adjacent to **Saudi Arabia** and the **United Arab Emirates**. It has a modest defense establishment which would have difficulty in dealing with an attack from outside its borders.

A much different culture from the **U.S.** and a dry, hot climate with temperatures reaching 120 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer would make military operations in **Qatar** quite difficult. While cross-country movement of tracked vehicles is better than many other **Middle East** countries, only about 40 percent of the country is trafficable. Mapping by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to central **Qatar** including the area around the capital of **Doha** on the east coast and the city of **Dukhan** on the west coast. Accessibility to **Qatar** by air is generally poor with only one airfield available at the city of **Doha**. This airfield can accommodate **C-141B** aircraft but not **C-5s**. The two ports in **Qatar** are also somewhat constrained by small harbors and limited channel/anchorage depths, and would have some difficulty in handling cargo ships with deep drafts. Numerous key installations, including oil fields and communications networks, would need to be considered during military operations. With over 500 potential evacuees, **NEO** under normal circumstances conducted by a **MEU** equipped with the aging **CH-46** helicopter would require a significant effort.

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SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Arabia is of major importance due to its oil reserves, strategic location on the **Arabian Peninsula** bordering **Kuwait**, **Iraq**, and **Jordan**, and because over 20,000 **U.S.** citizens reside there. **Saudi Arabia** is the largest trading partner of the **U.S.** in the **Middle East** and continued availability of oil from the country is important to the **U.S.** economy. In recent years, the **U.S.** has provided significant military support to **Saudi Arabia** to help strengthen its defenses from outside attack. As compared with other countries within the region, **Saudi Arabia** has moderate size armed forces equipped with many modern **U.S.**-supplied weapon systems. Military training is patterned after the **U.S.** armed forces.

With a culture quite different from the **U.S.**, a dry/hot summer climate, and topography which is mainly desert, ground combat operations in **Saudi Arabia** would present some difficulties. The northern part of the country is generally suited for cross-country movement of vehicles while the western highlands are basically unsuited due to the rugged terrain. The average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) is mainly limited to less than 1,000 meters. Although **NGF** ships can approach the **Red Sea** and **Persian Gulf** coasts to provide fair support, the **Saudi Arabian** coastal defense weapons could present a serious threat. There is limited mapping throughout the country with sporadic 1:50,000 scale map coverage along the **Persian Gulf**, the capital of **Riyadh**, and the area around **Jeddah** on the **Red Sea**. **Saudi Arabia** has many key installations, including oil fields, pipelines, refineries, and modern communication and transportation facilities which should be considered when planning military operations. Likewise, the planning and execution of **NEO** by a **MEU** under normal conditions would be exceedingly complex due to the presence of many **U.S.** citizens who might require evacuation.

SOUTH YEMEN

The **U.S.** has no formal diplomatic relationship with **South Yemen** because of the antagonism with which this **Arab** country views the **U.S.** The Government is modeled after the communist regimes of the **Soviet Union** and **Eastern Europe**. **Aden**, the principal city and capital, has served as a major training base for terrorists. **South Yemen** has actively provided weapons, explosives, and safe haven to terrorist groups. It has also reportedly been a transit point for gray arms shipments to other **Middle East** countries. **South Yemen** has moderate size armed forces with much of its equipment being furnished by communist countries. It intends to increase the size of its army to about 40,000 personnel. The **U.S.S.R.**, **East Germany**, **Cuba**, and **North Korea** have sent training missions to **South Yemen**.

Cultural differences, a hot, dry climate, and diverse terrain conditions would pose difficulties to **U.S.** military operations in **South Yemen**. With a mountainous interior and dissected terrain, cross-country movement of tracked vehicles would be generally limited to small flat areas along the coastal plain. The geographic conditions also cause the average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) to be limited to less than 1,000 meters. Although **NGF** ships can approach the coast along the **Gulf of Aden** to provide adequate support for operations ashore, significant opposition could be expected from **South Yemen** coastal defense weapons. Mapping of this country is very limited with 1:50,000 scale maps available only for the city of **Aden**. Airlift accessibility is also limited to one airfield at **Aden** which cannot handle **C-5** aircraft. Two moderate size ports are available at **Aden** and **Al Mukalla** to accommodate strategic sealift. In a crisis situation, it is estimated that the **Pacific ARG** with its embarked **MEU** could reach **South Yemen** in two to four days.

SYRIA

Acute political and social instability and expansionist intentions toward **Lebanon, Jordan, and Israel** characterize the position of **Syria** in the **Middle East**. Overall U.S. equity in **Syria** is low due mainly to **Syria's** adamant rejection of attempts to mediate peace in the area, its support for international terrorism, and close military ties with the **Soviet Union**. **Syria** is a transit point for illegal narcotics, as well as a heroin refining center. Its military forces allegedly profit from drug production and trafficking in **Lebanon's Bekaa Valley**. **Syria** is known to sponsor terrorism in the **Middle East and Western Europe**. **Syria** is also involved in acquiring illicit weapons and technology for a major arms buildup against **Israel**. **Syria** should receive special attention by military planners because of its association with all three threat categories of narcotics, terrorism, and gray arms/technology transfer. It has one of the largest armed forces in the **Middle East** and depends heavily on **Soviet** military equipment and technical assistance. **Syria** is reported to have a significant chemical weapons production capability to include the arming of **Soviet-supplied SS-21 SSMs** with chemical warheads.

A large cultural difference exists between **Syria** and the **U.S.** The rugged mountains and broken terrain in the west would present obstacles for military operations in **Syria**. Only portions of **Syria**, mainly on the eastern plain, are suitable for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters in large parts of the country due to the rough terrain and ground cover. While **NGF** ships can approach the coast to provide good support for operations ashore, **Syrian** coastal defense weapons would have them seriously out-gunned. Mapping by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to western **Syria** including the coastal area bordering the **Mediterranean**. **Syria** has one airfield that can accommodate **C-5** aircraft and two moderate size ports with depths exceeding 40 feet. Key installations include oil fields, refineries, and pipelines, as well as suspected factories for the production of chemical weapons. Due to over 1,000 potential evacuees in **Syria**, **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions would present numerous difficulties.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

For some years, the **U.S.** has enjoyed a friendly, informal and mutually advantageous relationship with the **United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.)**. This country has been an important source of petroleum for the **U.S., Western Europe, and Japan**. The **U.A.E.** is also a significant importer of goods from the **U.S.** It has moderate sized armed forces compared to other countries in the region and is equipped with fairly modern systems. The **U.S., France, and the U.K.** are the main suppliers of military equipment to the **U.A.E.** Expatriates from **Oman, Pakistan, and Jordan**, are heavily represented in the **U.A.E.** armed forces along with every other **Arab** country and **India**. The **U.A.E.** however, seeks to place its own citizens in leadership positions.

With an extreme cultural difference, a hot/dry climate, and primarily desert terrain, there would be some difficulties to overcome during **U.S.** military operations in this country. A major shortfall would be the limited mapping available. Only the northeastern part of the **U.A.E.** from the **Strait of Hormuz** to **Dubai**, and the area around **Abu Dhabi** have coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps. The country has several major airfields and ports to enable access by strategic airlift and sealift. There are a number of modern key installations in place throughout the country and many more new infrastructure projects are planned. **NEO** conducted by a **MEU** under normal conditions would be difficult due to the large number of potential evacuees (5,000).

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE

COLOMBIA

Colombia is the world's third largest producer of coca and the center of South American cocaine trafficking. It is involved in drug production and processing, and the distribution of precursor chemicals. Narco-terrorism is also a serious threat. Terrorist organizations operating in Colombia include the 19th of April Movement (M-19), the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), and at least three others. Colombia has medium sized ground, air, and naval Order of Battle (OOB) capabilities as compared to other expeditionary environment countries.

A wet/hot climate, mountainous terrain, and high elevation make Colombia one of the most difficult countries in South America in which to conduct operations. This country is generally unsuited for cross-country movement by tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line-of-sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. There is only partial coverage of this country by 1:50,000 scale maps. This coverage exists for locations such as Bogota, Medellin, Cali, Punta Chirambira and the northern coastal area. The 1:50,000 scale maps are not available for the large riverine networks along Colombia's borders with Venezuela to the northeast and Peru to the south. From the standpoint of key installations, Colombia has numerous industrial sites plus oil fields and pipelines for crude oil, refined products, and natural gas. The typical response time for a Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) on the U.S. east and west coasts to embark on amphibious ships and move to Colombia is in excess of six days. In terms of the potential number of evacuees (over 18,000) and the distance they must be transported (217 nautical miles from off the coast to Bogota), the conduct of Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) by a MEU would be very difficult. Colombia is accessible by air with three C-5 capable airfields (two are daylight only) and has three moderate size ports with Santa Marta having the best capabilities.

COSTA RICA

Costa Rica is a major trading partner with the U.S. and shares an interest in promoting democracy in Central America. This country is increasingly important as a transit point for narcotics, with estimates that 6 to 12 metric tons of cocaine are being transported through its territory yearly. Libyan terrorists are suspected of attacking U.S. citizens in Costa Rica. The armed forces of Costa Rica are practically negligible and this country would be hard pressed to defend itself from outside invasion.

With a hot, humid climate, dissected terrain, and thick ground cover, U.S. military operations in Costa Rica would prove difficult. A rugged, central massif runs the length of the country separating coastal plains. Trafficability by tracked vehicles would be severely limited and cross-country movement would be feasible only for foot troops. Due to the rough topography and jungle conditions, the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is restricted to the area around San Jose, the northern border with Nicaragua, the eastern coast on the Caribbean, and the southern border with Panama. One airfield is available at San Jose to accommodate C-5 aircraft. Costa Rica has three small ports, all having limited accessibility to strategic sealift. The estimated response time for a MEU on the U.S. east and west coasts to embark on amphibious ships and sail to Costa Rica is in excess of six days. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in Costa Rica would be quite difficult due to the sizeable number (20,000) of potential evacuees.

CUBA

The primary U.S. equity in Cuba is the naval base at **Guantanamo Bay**. U.S. relations with Cuba have suffered in recent years due to its support for violent political change and its plans for expanding revolution in the Caribbean basin. Cuba is located along some of the primary drug routes from **South America** to the U.S. and has acted as a transit point for narcotics and provided support to traffickers. For nearly 30 years Cuban President Fidel Castro has been instrumental in sponsoring terrorism within **Latin America** and elsewhere. Cuba maintains close ties with the M-19 insurgent group in **Colombia** and has helped them acquire arms, training, and supplies. Because of its involvement in drug trafficking, terrorism, and gray arms/technology transfer, Cuba deserves special attention by military planners. This country also has the most experienced and powerful armed forces in **Latin America**. Most of its military equipment is obtained from the **Soviet Union**. Cuba reportedly has stocks of chemical weapons and allegedly used these weapons during the recent conflict in **Angola**.

With a semitropical climate and predominately flat or gently rolling terrain, Cuba would not pose as many problems to U.S. military operations as many other **Latin American** countries. The country is generally suitable for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles and the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) normally ranges between 1,000 and 2,000 meters. While U.S. NGF platforms are able to approach the coast to provide adequate support for operations ashore, they are likely to be out-gunned by Cuban coastal defense weapons. The 1:50,000 scale maps which are available for Cuba may be somewhat outdated. The primary Cuban airfield outside of the U.S. facility at **Guantanamo Bay** is located at **Havana**. There are three major ports other than **Guantanamo Bay** but they have limited capability to handle strategic sealift. The estimated time required for a MEU on the U.S. east coast to deploy to Cuba is between two and six days.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

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 forests, 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.

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EL SALVADOR

In **El Salvador**, recent conflict has caused Government instability and extreme hardship for the population. Right-wing death squads financed by wealthy exiles commit assassinations and acts of terrorism. Left-wing guerrillas, supported by **Cuba** and the **Nicaraguan Sandinistas**, conduct raids and disruption; while U.S.-backed Government forces battle both sides. Land reform continues to be the central issue of dispute. U.S.-**Salvadoran** relations have been cordial and close. The U.S. provides assistance to the **Salvadoran** Government in its efforts to build democratic institutions and promote stability. **El Salvador** is reported to be a transit point for cocaine enroute to the U.S. from **South America**. The terrorist group FMLN operates in this country, primarily in **San Salvador**, and is sponsored and supported by **Cuba**, the **Nicaraguan Sandinistas**, the **Soviet Union**, and **Vietnam**. In the **Western Hemisphere**, **El Salvador** constitutes a serious problem due to its internal turmoil and its involvement in terrorism and narcotics. The country has moderate sized armed forces which, through support from the U.S., has improved its capabilities against the insurgents.

With a hot, humid climate and mountainous terrain with dense ground cover, U.S. military operations in **El Salvador** would present some difficulties. Due to steep hills and mountains, cross-country movement of tracked vehicles would be impractical in most of the country. The dissected land and thick vegetation would limit the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) to less than 1,000 meters. There are parts of the northern border with **Honduras** which lack coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps. A major shortfall in **El Salvador** is that it has no major ports that can accommodate strategic sealift. The estimated response time for a MEU on the U.S. east and west coasts to embark on amphibious ships and move to **El Salvador** is in excess of six days.

GRENADA

The island of **Grenada** is strategically located adjacent to sea lanes off the coast of **South America**. This country can be an influence in the region without the risks and costs of continental involvement. In October 1983 a joint U.S.-**Caribbean** force landed in **Grenada** after a breakdown in civil order to evacuate U.S. citizens and help restore the peace. A U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) mission assists the **Grenadian** Government in its reconstruction and development efforts. The security in **Grenada** is maintained by the Royal **Grenada** Police Force which includes an 80-man paramilitary unit and a 30-man Coast Guard. The U.S. Army and Coast Guard provide periodic training for these forces.

Grenada is a volcanic island with a central mountainous rain forest and tropical climate. While cross-country movement of tracked vehicles is generally feasible on the cultivated coastal plains, it would not be possible in the heavily forested ridges of the interior. The broken terrain, thick ground cover, and frequent heavy rainfall would limit the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) to less than 1,000 meters. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is not available for **Grenada**. The **Point Salines** International Airport can handle C-5 aircraft and the port at **St. George** can readily accommodate strategic sealift. Major infrastructure improvement involve the upgrading of road, electricity, and communications systems. The estimated time required for a MEU on the U.S. east coast to embark on amphibious ships and deploy to **Grenada** is in excess of six days. Due to the large number of potential evacuees (1,020), NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Grenada** would be difficult.

GUATEMALA

In **Guatemala**, there are continuing domestic, economic, and social problems as well as human rights violations. The **Guatemalan** Government conducts ongoing counterinsurgency operations against communist guerrillas. Relations between the **U.S.** and **Guatemala** have been good and the **U.S.** has helped this country address many of its problems. The **U.S.** exports oil from **Guatemala** and strives to maintain a mutually beneficial trade relationship. **Guatemala** produces a relatively small amount of opium and marijuana and acts as a transit point for cocaine moving to the **U.S.** and precursor chemicals being shipped to **South America**. The URNG is a terrorist group sponsored by **Cuba** which operates in **Guatemala** to promote disorder and instability. Within the region, close attention should be paid to **Guatemala** by military planners due to its involvement in both drug trafficking and terrorism. This country has a moderate sized army, but a small air force and navy. Some military personnel receive training in the **U.S.** and other countries in the region.

Most of the country is mountainous with a fairly narrow coastal plain on the **Pacific** side and fertile river valleys bordering the **Caribbean**. The climate is temperate in the highlands and semitropical on the coasts. Due to the mountainous terrain, **Guatemala** is generally unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The geography, together with frequent heavy rainfall, normally limits the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) to less than 1,000 meters. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is available for most of **Guatemala** except for the northern extension called the Department of Peten. While more than one airfield is available to handle C-5 aircraft, only one port, with limited capability, can accommodate strategic sealift. Key installations include oil fields in the **Rubelsanto** area. The estimated time for an east coast MEU to embark on amphibious ships and deploy to **Guatemala** is in excess of six days. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Guatemala** would be very difficult due to the 6,500 potential evacuees.

HAITI

Haiti is one of the most underdeveloped and repressed states in the **Western Hemisphere**. Government instability and human rights violations have prevailed through numerous regimes. The **U.S.** has sought to foster constructive and cooperative relations with **Haiti** which occupies an important location on the western third of the island of **Hispaniola** in the **Caribbean Sea**. While **U.S.** equity in **Haiti** is not high, about 6,000 **U.S.** citizens reside in the country and a bilateral trade relationship is maintained. **Haiti** is being used increasingly as a transshipment center for cocaine moving to the **U.S.** from **South America**. It has a small, poorly trained and equipped armed force. Military officers are frequently involved in corruption and attempts to overthrow the government.

Haiti consists of rough, mountainous terrain and has a generally semiarid climate. Cross-country movement of tracked vehicles would not be possible in most of the country due to the broken terrain, swamps, and marshes. The geography and significant ground cover also limits the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) to less than 1,000 meters. Coverage of this country by older 1:50,000 scale maps is likely to be outdated. **Port-au-Prince** International Airport is able to accommodate C-5 aircraft but the single major port, also at **Port-au-Prince**, has restricted capability to receive strategic sealift. The estimated response time for a MEU on the **U.S.** east coast to embark on amphibious ships and move to **Haiti** is in excess of six days. Due to the potential requirement to evacuate about 6,000 persons from **Haiti**, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult.

HONDURAS

Honduras feels threatened by the conflict in **El Salvador** and by potential further aggression and hostility of the **Nicaraguan** Sandinistas. It is the least developed country in **Central America** and faces serious economic and social problems. The **U.S.** and **Honduras** maintain close, cordial relations and work together to promote stability in the region. With moderate overall equity in **Honduras**, the **U.S.** supplies about 35 percent of the country's imports and buys more than half its exports. About 3,000 **U.S.** citizens reside in **Honduras**. In recent years, **Honduras** has been a transit point for **Colombian** cocaine moving to the **U.S.** Several terrorist groups sponsored by **Cuba** and the **Nicaraguan** Sandinistas operate in **Honduras** to promote disorder and instability. **Honduras** has a small armed force which in the past has been poorly trained but recently seems to be improving. In response to the threat of insurgency, **Honduras** has concentrated on building a mobile deterrent force with a strong counterterrorism capability.

With a hot, humid climate, mountainous terrain, and heavy vegetation, **Honduras** would pose some difficulties for **U.S.** military operations. These conditions would preclude cross-country movement of tracked vehicles in most of the country. The steep hills and mountains, dense forests, and frequent abundant rainfall would limit the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) to less than 1,000 meters. While the hydrography would permit NGF platforms to approach the coast and provide adequate support for operations ashore, **Honduras** coastal defense weapons would present a significant threat. A serious shortfall for military operations would be the absence of 1:50,000 scale map coverage for eastern **Honduras** and the border area with **El Salvador**. Three airfields are available to handle C-5 aircraft but there is only one major port with limited capabilities to accommodate strategic sealift. By modern standards, communications and ground transportation facilities in **Honduras** are generally poor. The response time for a MEU on the **U.S.** east and west coast to embark on amphibious ships and proceed to **Honduras** is estimated to be in excess of six days. Due to the large number of potential evacuees (3,000), NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Honduras** would be very difficult.

JAMAICA

Jamaica has a strategic location in the **Caribbean Sea** astride the main sea lanes for the **Panama Canal**. The **U.S.** maintains close, cooperative relations with this country and overall **U.S.** equities there are substantial. Over 120 **U.S.** firms have operations in **Jamaica** and almost 5,000 **U.S.** citizens reside there. The island serves as a transit point for drug traffickers moving cocaine from **South America** to the **U.S.** **Jamaica** also produced about 405 metric tons of marijuana in 1988. The country has a very small army of 2,000 regular troops which is inadequate to contain any significant internal conflict or resist foreign invasion. The size of the air force and navy is negligible.

The climate of **Jamaica** is hot and humid most of the year and the terrain is mountainous. The island is generally unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles due to the steep slopes and unfordable streams in the interior highlands. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is limited to less than 1,000 meters because of the rough terrain, dense ground cover, and frequent heavy rainfall. The mapping of **Jamaica** by older 1:50,000 scale maps may be somewhat outdated. Airfields and ports are satisfactory to provide good accessibility by strategic lift. Although most main roads are paved, they are often narrow and winding through the mountains. The time required for an east coast MEU to embark on amphibious ships and move to **Jamaica** is estimated to be in excess of six days. Due to the large number of **U.S.** citizens in **Jamaica** (4,803), NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult.

MEXICO

Mexico has strategic importance due to its location on the southern border with the U.S. **Mexico** and the U.S. maintain close and cordial relations. Overall U.S. equity in **Mexico** is high with over 322,000 U.S. citizens residing there. Despite a program by the Government to stop drug trafficking, **Mexico** is a leading producer of heroin and marijuana. It also acts as a major transit point for cocaine entering the U.S. Terrorist groups such as the **Salvadoran FMLN** and the **Guatemalan URNG** are permitted to maintain offices in **Mexico City** where they can arrange and coordinate the acquisition of illicit weapons. Through its involvement in narcotics, terrorism, and gray arms transfers, **Mexico** constitutes a very serious concern to U.S. interests. With an army of 105,000 regular troops, **Mexico** has the third largest ground OOB in **Latin America**. The **Mexican** air force and navy are significantly smaller than the army. Training and morale in the armed forces are below average and most regulars are rural mestizos or Indians who have failed to find work elsewhere.

The climate of **Mexico** is mixed and ranges from tropical to desert. The geographic conditions vary considerably from low desert plains and jungle-like coastal regions to high plateaus and rugged mountains. **Mexico City**, with a population of about 20 million, is estimated to have the largest urban concentration in the world. About two-thirds of **Mexico** is generally suited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) normally varies between 1,000 and 2,000 meters. A major shortfall for military operations in this country is the lack of 1:50,000 scale maps. Airfields and ports in **Mexico** are satisfactory to accommodate most strategic lift requirements. Key installations include oil fields and nuclear power plants under construction. Depending on the destination in **Mexico** (north, central, or south) the time required for a MEU on the U.S. east or west coast to embark on ships and arrive could range from between two days to more than six. Because of the numerous U.S. citizens in **Mexico**, NEO by a joint U.S. force, including a MEU, would be a major endeavor.

NICARAGUA

Despite the election of Violeta Chamorro and the trend toward democracy in **Nicaragua**, the Sandinistas still remain a strong force in the Government. After ten years of civil war between the former Sandinista Government and the U.S. backed Contra rebels tensions remain high, particularly in rural areas. The Sandinistas continue to control the powerful Defense and Interior ministries within the new Government and military ties to **Cuba** and the U.S.S.R. reportedly remain strong. U.S. efforts are focused on assisting the new Government and promoting democratic ideals. The economy is in poor condition with an \$11 billion foreign debt. **Nicaragua** is a suspected transit point for cocaine moving from **South America** to the U.S., and Government officials have allegedly been engaged in drug trafficking. **Nicaragua** has provided training and safe haven to terrorist and guerrilla groups such as the FMLN operating in **El Salvador**. **Nicaragua** should be considered a serious concern due to its involvement in narcotics trafficking and terrorism. The **Nicaraguan** ground OOB is the largest in **Latin America**, but the Chamorro Government plans to reduce this force by one-third. All the services possess significant amounts of **Soviet** equipment.

Due to the dense forests, mountains, and swampy eastern coastal plain, cross-country movement of tracked vehicles would be precluded in about three-fourths of **Nicaragua**. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) would be limited to less than 1,000 meters due to broken terrain, thick vegetation, and frequent heavy rainfall which obscures visibility. While hydrographic conditions permit NGF platforms to approach the coast and provide support for operations ashore, opposition could be expected from **Nicaraguan** coastal defense weapons. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is absent in much of eastern **Nicaragua**. An airfield is available to handle C-5 aircraft but port facilities are constrained. The time necessary for a MEU from the U.S. east or west coasts to arrive in **Nicaragua** is estimated to be in excess of six days. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult due to the large number of potential evacuees (1,800).

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PANAMA

Due to instability and disorder in **Panama** caused by **Panamanian** strongman General Manuel Noriega, **U.S.** forces were dispatched in late 1989 to take action against Noriega and protect **American** interests. **U.S.** forces quickly gained control and captured Noriega who presently awaits legal action in the **U.S.** **Panama** is important for its strategic location on the isthmus which connects **North** and **South America** and for having the **Panama Canal** which runs between the **Pacific** and **Atlantic Oceans**. The **U.S.** has high overall equity in **Panama** and seeks to promote its economic, political, and social development. Over 11,000 **U.S.** citizens live in **Panama**. In recent years, **Panama** has been a principal money-laundering center for the **South American** cocaine trade and transit site for cocaine and precursor chemical shipments. **Panama**, and particularly General Noriega, has been implicated in the furnishing of illegal arms to terrorist groups in **El Salvador** and **Colombia**. Due to its involvement in drug trafficking; terrorism, and gray arms/technology transfer, **Panama** constitutes a serious threat to **U.S.** interests. **Panama** has a small army of 6,000 volunteers and its air force and navy are practically negligible.

Panama's topography is mostly mountainous and hilly with dense tropical forests in the eastern regions. The climate is tropical with heavy rainfall, particularly on the **Atlantic** side. Because of the terrain conditions, cross-country movement by vehicle would be infeasible. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) would be limited to less than 1,000 meters due to the broken terrain, heavy ground cover and frequent heavy rainfall. There is 1:50,000 scale map coverage for most of **Panama** except for portions along the **Atlantic** side. Airfields and ports are satisfactory to handle strategic lift. The time required for a MEU to arrive from the **U.S.** east or west coasts would be in excess of six days. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be very difficult due to over 11,000 potential evacuees.

PERU

In **Peru**, the main sources of conflict are the insurgent groups, drug production and trafficking, foreign debt, and extensive poverty. Although the **Peruvian** Government has indicated support for democracy, reduced drug trafficking, and control of terrorism, progress in these areas remains slow. Overall **U.S.** equity in **Peru** is high. The **U.S.** is **Peru's** largest trading partner with recent exchange totaling about \$1.6 billion. Over 7,000 **U.S.** citizens live in **Peru**. It is the world's largest producer of coca with up to 124,000 metric tons in 1988, and provides the main supply of coca paste for **Colombian** cocaine refineries. The Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) is the primary insurgent group in **Peru**. This organization is believed to be allied with drug traffickers and uses terrorist tactics to spread disorder and accomplish its goals. **Peru** constitutes a serious concern because of its involvement in narco-terrorism. **Peru** has moderate size armed forces and has embarked on an arms modernization program. It has acquired tanks, artillery, surface to air missile systems, and helicopters from the **Soviet Union**. These acquisitions have made **Peru** a formidable force in **South America**, causing **Chile** and **Ecuador** some concern.

Peru is generally unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles due to the rugged **Andes Mountains** and thick jungle forests in the eastern lowlands. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) is generally limited to less than 1,000 meters due to terrain and weather conditions. While **NGF** platforms can provide adequate support for operations ashore, they would be out-gunned by **Peruvian** coastal defense weapons. Coverage of **Peru** by 1:50,000 scale maps is generally lacking except for spotted areas along the coast. Airfields and ports are available to accommodate entry by strategic lift. Key installations include oil fields on the northern coast and the northern **Salva** area. It is expected that it would take in excess of six days for a MEU on the **U.S.** east or west coasts to reach **Peru**. Due to over 7,000 potential evacuees, NEO conducted by a MEU would be very difficult.

SURINAM

Surinam occupies an important position on the South American mainland near Brazil and adjacent to oil tanker routes from South America. The U.S. maintains cordial relations with Surinam and is Surinam's largest trading partner. Due to human rights violations in 1982, when the Government executed several prominent opposition leaders without trial, the U.S. suspended economic and military assistance. The Government subsequently came under democratic leadership in 1988. Surinam has a very small army of 2,700 troops, no air force, and a negligible sized navy. Training is provided to the army by up to 200 Libyan military advisors. Brazil also provides some military assistance and training.

With significant cultural differences, a tropical climate with heavy rainfall, and dense jungle, U.S. military operations in Surinam would be quite difficult. The country is generally unsuited for cross-country vehicular movement due to coastal swamps, thick forests, and wet conditions. The terrain and weather of Surinam would limit the average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) to less than 1,000 meters. The hydrography adjacent to Surinam would prevent NGF platforms from approaching the coast within range to provide support for operations ashore. A significant shortfall is the absence of 1:50,000 scale map coverage. Surinam lacks a major port to accommodate strategic sealift. However, one airfield is available which can handle C-5 aircraft. There are not many key installations in Surinam. Roads and bridges are few and austere and large parts of the country are accessible only by helicopter or foot. The time required for a MEU on the U.S. east coast to embark on amphibious ships and deploy to Surinam would be in excess of six days.

VENEZUELA

Venezuela occupies a strategic position on major sea and air routes between North and South America. The U.S. and Venezuela share common objectives of strengthening democratic institutions and overall U.S. equity in this country is high. Venezuela is a major trading partner with the U.S. and exports significant amounts of oil. The U.S. has about \$2.1 billion in direct investment in Venezuela and over 20,000 U.S. citizens live there. Venezuela is a transit point for precursor chemicals and cocaine moving to and from South America. It is also a producer of as much as 2,000 metric tons of marijuana. The terrorist group *Bondera Roja* operates in Eastern Venezuela to attack Government installations and spread disorder. This group also coordinates with Colombian insurgents to pursue terrorist goals throughout the region. Because of its involvement in both drugs and terrorism, Venezuela deserves special attention by military planners. Venezuela has moderate size armed forces which has developed into one of the most modern and professional among Latin American countries.

The topography of Venezuela ranges from the Andes Mountains in the northwest, to plains extending south and east, to high plateaus, and rolling hills in the far south and east. The climate varies from tropical along the coast and inland river valleys, to temperate at the higher elevations. About 80 percent of the population lives in cities and towns along the coast and in the Andes. Over half of the country, mainly in the coastal and plain regions, is suited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles. The average standoff distance for engagement by line of sight weapons (intervisibility) generally ranges from 1,000 to 2,000 meters. While hydrographic conditions would permit NGF platforms to approach the coast and provide adequate support for operations ashore, they would be out-gunned by Venezuelan coastal defense weapons. Coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps is limited to portions of the Caribbean coastal area. Airfields and ports are quite satisfactory to handle strategic lift. Key installations include oil fields as well as numerous modern and expanding communications, transportation, and industrial facilities. The time required for a MEU to move to Venezuela from the U.S. east coast is estimated to be in excess of six days. NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in Venezuela would be very difficult due to over 20,000 potential evacuees.

