

KUWAIT

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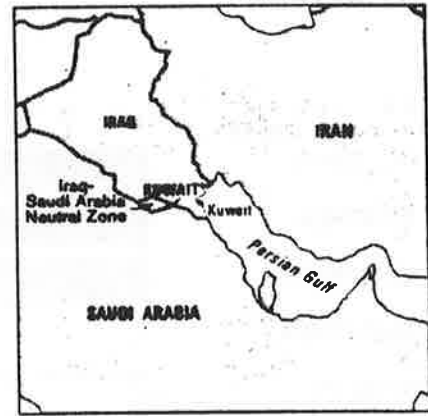
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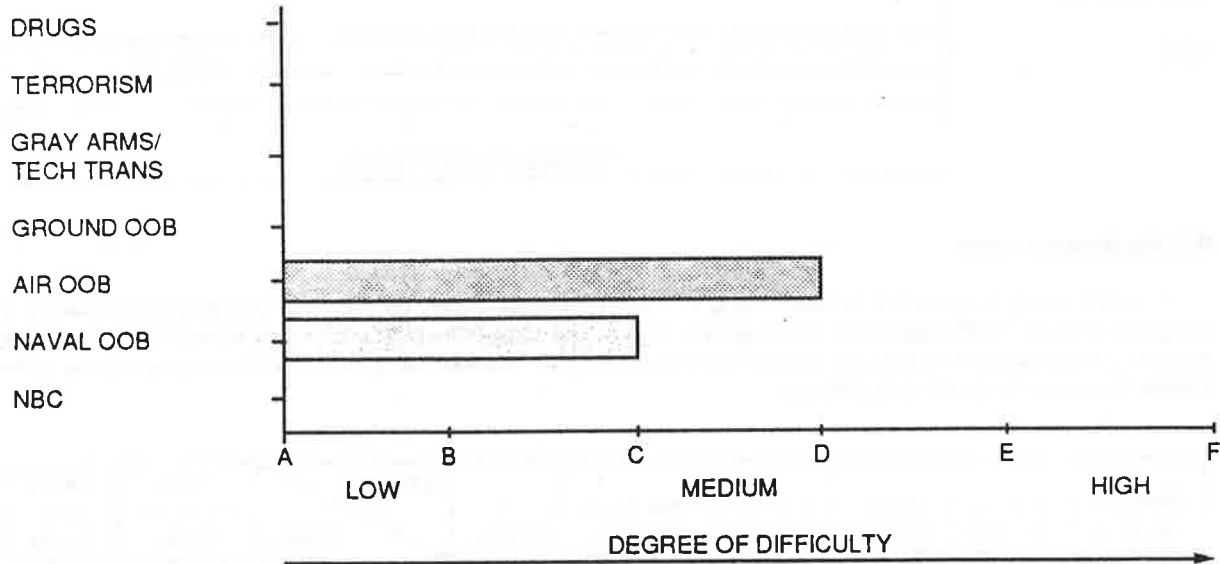


SUMMARY

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.

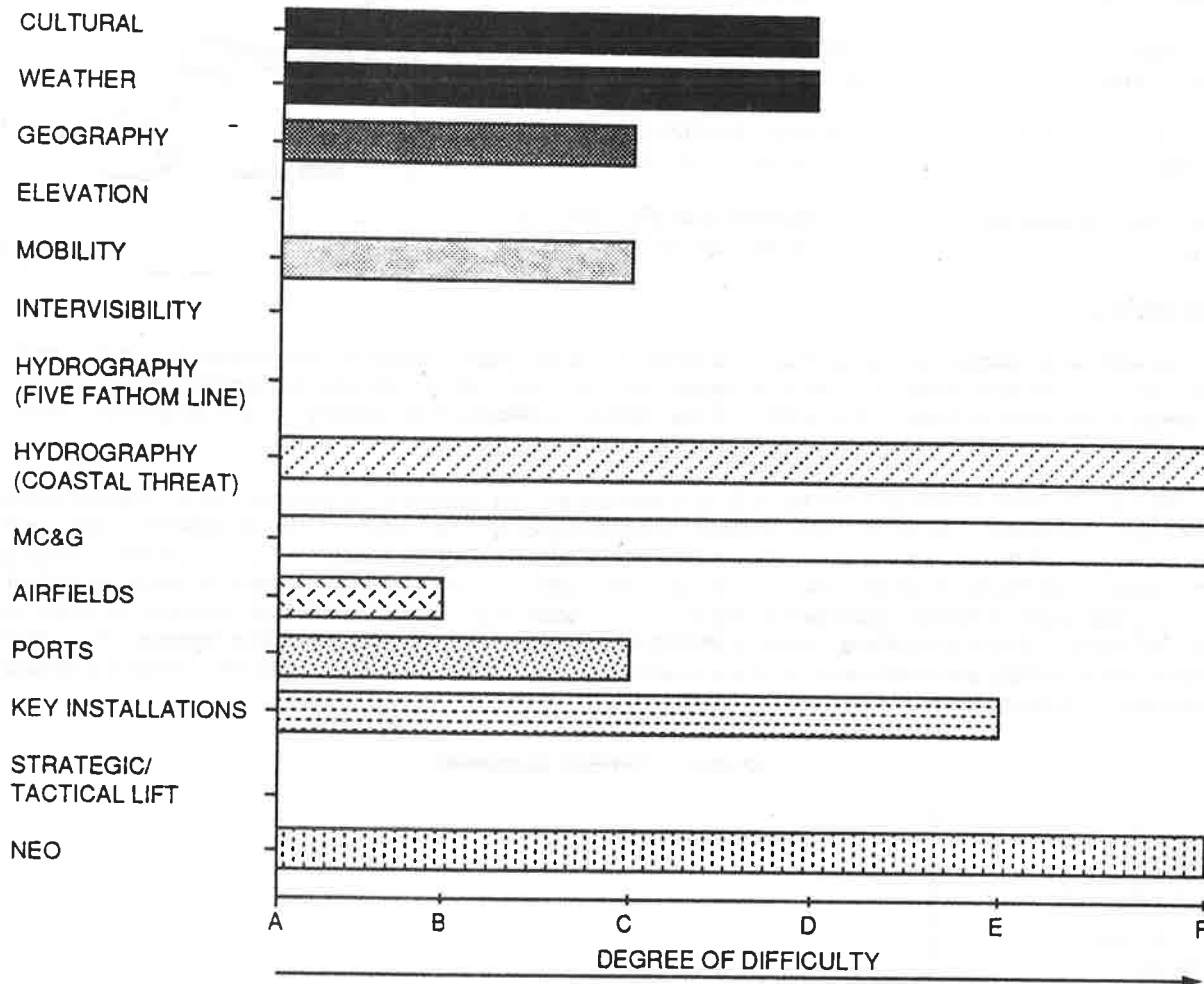
With a culture much different from the **U.S.** and intensely hot, dry summers, military operations in **Kuwait** would pose some problems. The terrain consists mainly of desert plains and trafficability of tracked vehicles is possible in about one-half of the country. Hydrographic conditions will allow **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**.

KUWAIT - THREAT SUMMARY



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KUWAIT - TERRAIN AND LOGISTICS SUMMARY



U.S. Equities in Kuwait

In recent years, cooperation between the U.S. and Kuwait has increased due to efforts to ensure freedom of navigation through the Persian Gulf for Kuwaiti oil in U.S. flag ships. The U.S. is currently Kuwait's second largest supplier (after Japan) and provides substantial military support. Kuwait comprises the fifth largest market in the Middle East for U.S. goods and services.

Direct Inv (Mil of \$)	Exports (Mil of \$)	Imports (Mil of \$)	U.S. Aid (Mil of \$)	Total Equity (Mil of \$)	U.S. Citizens	\$ Rating Rating	Total Numerical Rating	Overall U.S. Equity
7	505	587	-	1,099	2,500	3 4	7	Medium

Consolidated Threat

In the **Middle East, Kuwait** constitutes a negligible threat to the **U.S.** in the areas of drugs, terrorism, and gray arms/ technology transfer.

General Ground OOB

Infantry	Tank OOB	Artillery	Army Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Draft/TR	LAV	Howitzers/SP	16	5	61	A

Ground OOB includes 16,000 troops, all of whom are conscripts. Officers are recruited mainly from the ruling clan to ensure loyalty. The army remains heavily dependent on foreign training assistance although there are plans to create new military colleges and technical schools. Tanks include the Centurion, Chieftain, and Vickers Mk 1 while the main artillery piece is the M-109 155-mm SP howitzer.

General Air OOB

Air OOB	Close Air	AAW (IAD)	Air Force Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Early Radar	Early Smart	Bloc	2	5	117	D

Fighter Aircraft: Mirage F-1BK, Mirage F-1CK; Close Air: A-4KU, TA-4KU; Air Defense: Improved HAWK, SA-6, SA-7, and SA-8 SAMs. Enhancements have recently been made through the acquisition of 3-dimensional radars. Also, a product improvement program has been initiated to use the AN/TSQ-73 command and control system with HAWK SAMs.

General Naval OOB

Naval OOB	S/S Missiles	Patrol Craft	Navy Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Small Surface	HE	ASUW/Antiair	1	5	56	C

Ships: None; SSMs: Exocet; Patrol Craft: 8 Fast Attack Craft-Missile with SSMs, guns, countermeasures, fire control, and radars; 5 Large Patrol Craft; 39 Coastal Patrol Craft.

Culture (Language and Religion)

Primary language - Arabic (Persian and English)
Primary religion - Islam

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

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Weather

Average Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit)	Average Relative Humidity (Percent)	Average Annual Rainfall (Inches)	Rating
69-85 -	55	5	Dry/Hot

Intensely hot and dry summers; short, cool winters. Rainfall averages five inches or less annually.

General Geographic Conditions

URBAN	DESERT	JUNGLE	MOUNTAINOUS
	X		

Kuwait is situated in the northeast corner of the **Arabian Peninsula**, bounded on the north and west by **Iraq**, on the south by **Saudi Arabia**, and on the east by the **Persian Gulf**.

Operational Elevation

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

General Cross-Country Mobility

- Portions of **Kuwait** are suitable for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles.

The topographical characteristics of **Kuwait** consist primarily of desert plains with extensive sand dunes, sebkhas (crusted surface over soft ground), and steep-sided wadis. About one-half of this region offers suitable terrain for cross-country trafficability of wheeled and tracked vehicles.

Intervisibility (Line of Sight)

- Optimum

Kuwait consists almost entirely of flat rolling desert and mud flats. Line of sight distances would mainly exceed 2,000 meters except during occasional heavy cloudbursts and sand storms.

Hydrography (Five Fathom Line)

- NGF ships are able to approach the coast and provide good support for operations ashore.

DMA Chart #	5 Fathom Line from Shore (Meters)	NFG Rating
62433	5,490	Good

Hydrography (Coastal Threat)

- Serious coastal threat.

Maximum Capability Coastal Defense Weapon	Maximum Range of Weapon (Meters)	Rating (Compared with 5"/54-cal)
Frog SSM	70,000	Threat Advantage

MC&G Shortfalls

- Major shortfalls due to no coverage by 1:50,000 scale maps.

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

Airfields

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

Number of Airfields	Type Aircraft (C-5, C-141B, C-130) Accommodated	Airfield Utility (Unconstrained/ Constrained)	Rating
4	1 C-5 2 C-141B 1 C-130	1/3	1/C-5

Airfields	Type Aircraft	Comments
Ahmadi Ahmed al Jaber Air Base Ali al Salem Air Base Kuwait International	C-130 C-141B, C-130 C-141B, C-130 C-5, C-141B, C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC. Daylight/VFR only. Daylight/VFR only.

Ports

- Two ports with small harbors and depths over 40 feet.

Major Ports	Harbor Size	Channel/Anchorage Depths (Feet)	Cargo Pier Depth (Feet)	Cranes
Mina al Ahmadi Al Kuwayt	Small Small	Over 76/Over 76 26-30/41-45	46-50 31-35	Yes Yes

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Key Installations

Kuwait is an oil rich country with numerous onshore and offshore oil fields. Oil refineries are located in central **Kuwait** and along the southeastern coast near the **Kuwait-Saudi Arabia Neutral Zone**. Communications networks are excellent with direct-dial links available to most countries. All-weather highways run north to **Iraq** and south to **Saudi Arabia**. Most-principal roads are at least four lanes.

U.S. Embassy	Communications	Highways	Railroads	Major Ports	Primary Airfields	Pipeline	Oil Field	NBC
Kuwait	- Excellent International/ adequate domestic telecomm - 4 Radio stations - 3 TV stations - 5 Satellite stations	2,600 km	None	2	4	- Crude oil - Refined products - Natural gas	Yes	None

Strategic and Tactical Lift

The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked **MEU** could reach **Kuwait** in less than two days. The **AAF/ACB** can arrive within 24 hours but these elements do not possess a forcible entry capability.

NEO

- Due to about 2,500 potential evacuees in **Kuwait**, NEO conducted by a **MEU** would be very difficult.

Embassy Staff	Evacuees	Inland Objective (nm)	Rating
84	2,500	3 (Kuwait)	F

Note: In **Kuwait** the following factors are of little significance:

Drugs
Terrorism
Gray Arms/Technology Transfer
NBC