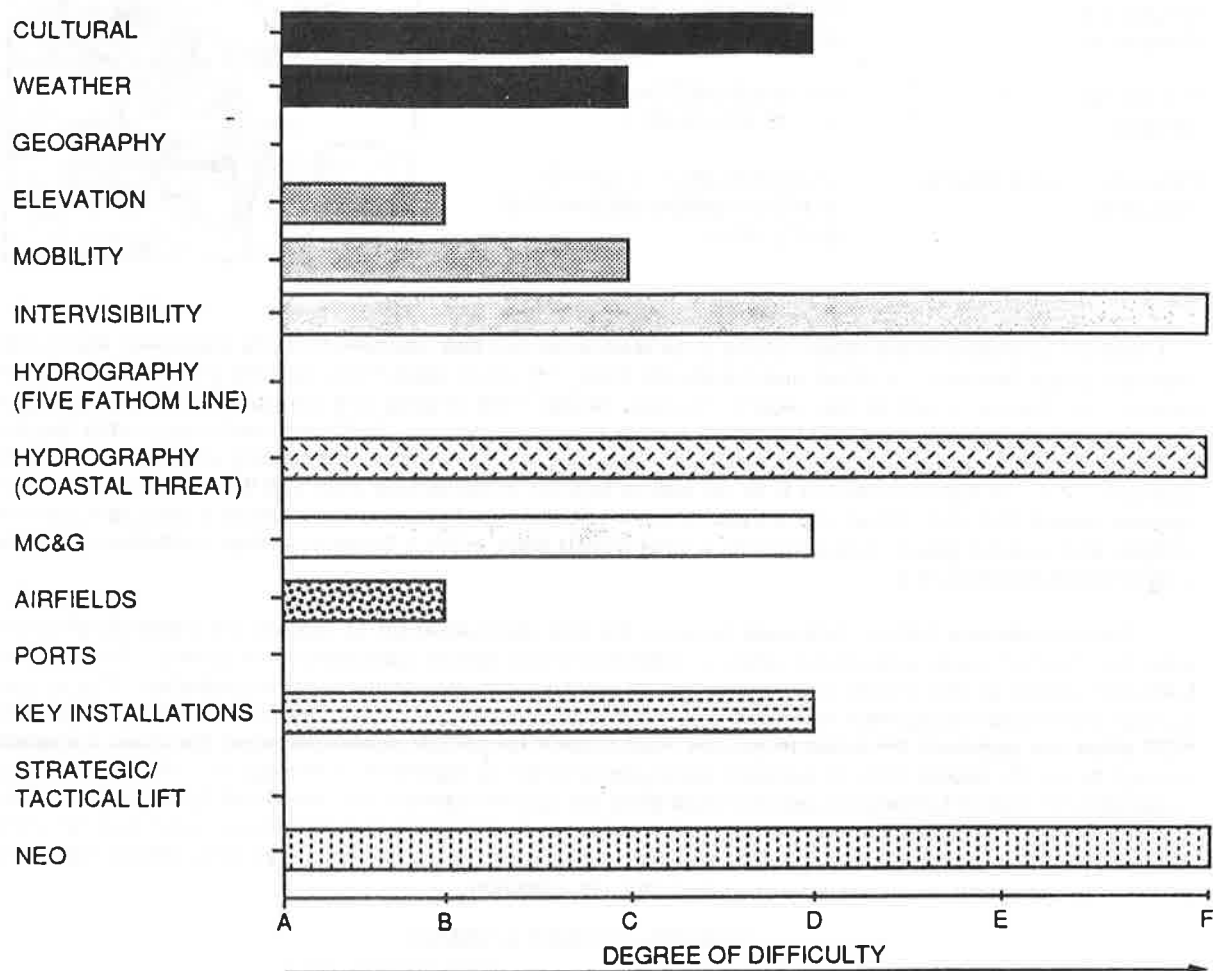




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## LEBANON - TERRAIN AND LOGISTICS SUMMARY



### Existing Ongoing Conflicts

- Displaced **Palestinians**, **Syrian** encroachment, and political instability cause serious conflict.
- Continuous war and violence have all but destroyed this country.

The current conflict in **Lebanon** is technologically and politically complex. Combat ranges from sniping and unorganized street fighting to sophisticated electronic warfare and the use of surface-to-surface missiles. The weapons and tactics reflects the spectrum of battle from neighborhood versus neighborhood to superpower versus superpower. Two problems lie at the heart of the conflict. These are the disposition of **Arab** and **Palestinian** Christians and the need for a new homeland for **Palestinians** since the creation of **Israel**. There have been numerous peacekeeping forces in **Lebanon** but none have been very effective. Recently, **Syria** has positioned sizable forces in **Lebanon** and engaged Christian **Lebanese** forces. **Syria** would like to expand its borders to include **Lebanon**.

U.S. Equities in Lebanon

- Lebanon forms a strategic bridge between the **West** and the **Middle East**.

**Lebanon** is strategically located on the eastern shore of the **Mediterranean Sea**, bounded by **Syria** and **Israel**. It has traditionally been a bridge between the **West** and the **Middle East** but in recent years has become a battleground for the diverse and hostile forces in the region.

| Direct Inv<br>(Mil of \$) | Exports<br>(Mil of \$) | Imports<br>(Mil of \$) | U.S. Aid<br>(Mil of \$) | Total Equity<br>(Mil of \$) | U.S.<br>Citizens | \$ Rating<br>Rating | Total<br>Numerical<br>Rating | Overall<br>U.S.<br>Equity |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2                         | 97                     | 34                     | -                       | 133                         | 1,900            | 1<br>3              | 4                            | Low                       |

Drug Threat

- Leading producer of hashish
- **Syria** conducts trafficking in the **Bekaa Valley**.

| Drug<br>Production | Drug<br>Processing | Precursor<br>Chemicals | Money<br>Laundering | Transit<br>Point |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| X                  |                    |                        |                     | X                |

**Lebanon** continues to be 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 assessment of **Lebanon** takes into account the limited control of the central Government. **Syria** controls an estimated 65 percent of the country, including the strategic **Bekaa Valley** where crops are cultivated and processed and trafficking originates.

Terrorism

- Hizballah and other **Middle East** factions promote terrorism.

The Hizballah group operates primarily in **Lebanon** and employs terrorism as a tactic to support its political and religious goals. The group seized at least eight foreigners in 1988, including U.S. Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel W. R. Higgins who was assigned to **United Nations** peacekeeping duties in **Lebanon**. Other groups conducting terrorist attacks in **Lebanon** have included **Palestinian** factions, **Lebanese** Christian militias, and **Lebanese** Shia and Sunni fundamentalists.

Consolidated Threat

In the **Middle East**, **Lebanon** constitutes a serious threat by its involvement in drugs and terrorism which are two of the three consolidated threat categories (drugs, terrorism, and gray arms/technology transfer).

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## General Ground OOB

| Infantry | Tank OOB | Artillery | Army Size (Thousands) | Quality | Total Capability Value | Rating |
|----------|----------|-----------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|--------|
| Reg/Exp  | M-48     | Howitzers | 15                    | 8       | 103                    | C      |

Ground OOB includes about 15,000 troops, most of whom are volunteers. The army is presently rather ineffective due to political instability and civil war. Syrian, Palestinian, and Israeli forces occupy parts of the country. A military academy for officers and technical school for NCOs was previously in existence, but due to the current situation it is not known if they are open. Tanks: AMX-13, M-41, M-48; Artillery: D-30, M-46, M-50, M-101A1, M-102, M-114, M-198, M-1938

## General Air OOB

| Air OOB      | Close Air | AAW (IAD) | Air Force Size (Thousands) | Quality | Total Capability Value | Rating |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------|---------|------------------------|--------|
| Day/VFR Jets | Props     | Early AAA | 1                          | 8       | 49                     | B      |

Fighter Aircraft: F-70 Hunter; Close Air: AS-11/12 ASM, SA-342 Gazelle; Air Defense: AA guns

## General Naval OOB

| Naval OOB     | S/S Missiles | Patrol Craft | Navy Size (Thousands) | Quality | Total Capability Value | Rating |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|--------|
| Small Surface | None         | Sm Gun Boats | Negligible            | 8       | 38                     | A      |

Ships: None; SSM: None; Patrol Craft: 4 Small Gun Boats, 2 Speed Boats

## Culture (Language and Religion)

Primary language - Arabic (French, and English)

Primary religion - Islam

There is a large cultural difference between **Lebanon** and the **U.S.**

## Weather

| Average Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit) | Average Relative Humidity (Percent) | Average Annual Rainfall (Inches) | Rating |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| 63-75                                    | 64                                  | 35                               | Mixed  |

The climate is typically **Mediterranean** and resembles that of southern **California**. Temperatures rarely exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit during the summer, but humidity is high.

General Geographic Conditions

| URBAN | DESERT | JUNGLE | MOUNTAINOUS |
|-------|--------|--------|-------------|
| X     |        |        |             |

The urban population of **Lebanon** is mainly concentrated in **Beirut**. The country's principal topographic features are a narrow coastal plain behind which are the high **Lebanon Mountains**, the fertile **Bekaa Valley** and the **Anti-Lebanon Mountains** extending to the **Syrian** border.

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

Trafficability is restricted in the mountainous areas, with movement limited to roads. The interior plain, however, is well suited for tracked movement.

Intervisibility (Line of Sight)

- Poor, with line of sight distance limited to less than 1,000 meters.

The mountain ranges which cover much of **Lebanon** would restrict line of sight distances to well under 1,000 meters. Only on the narrow coastal plain and the interior plain behind the mountains would line of sight visibility exceed 1,000 meters.

Hydrography (Five Fathom Line)

- Good NGF support for operations ashore.

| DMA Chart #    | 5 Fathom Line from Shore (Meters) | NFG Rating |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 56043 (Beirut) | 1,000                             | Good       |

Hydrography (Coastal Threat)

- Coastal defense weapons have significant capability.

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

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## MC&G Shortfalls

- Limited map coverage.

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

1:50,000 scale map coverage is available for most of **Lebanon** except for the areas along the southern borders with **Israel** and **Syria**.

## Airfields

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

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

| Airfields            | Type Aircraft      | Comments |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Beirut International | C-5, C-141B, C-130 |          |

## Ports

**Lebanon** has one major port at **Beirut** with excellent capabilities to accommodate strategic sealift.

| Major Ports | Harbor Size | Channel/Anchorage Depths (Feet) | Cargo Pier Depth (Feet) | Cranes |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Beirut      | Medium      | 61-65/Over 76                   | 46-50                   | Yes    |

## Key Installations

The civil war has inflicted massive damage on **Lebanon's** economic infrastructure. **Beirut** and southern **Lebanon** have been particularly hard hit. Industry, housing, roads, telecommunications, and water-supply systems will require major reconstruction to attain pre-civil war condition. One estimate indicates it will take a 10-year investment at a rate of \$1.2 billion annually to reconstruct the country.

| U.S. Embassy | Communications  | Highways | Railroads | Major Ports | Primary Airfields | Pipeline    | Oil Field | NBC  |
|--------------|---|----------|-----------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------|------|
| Awkar        | - Telecomm disrupted<br>- 8 Radio stations<br>- 15 TV stations<br>- 3 Satellite stations<br>(Note: some are inoperable) | 7,370 km | 378 km    | 1           | 1                 | - Crude oil | None      | None |

Strategic and Tactical Lift

The Atlantic ARG with its embarked MEU, which normally operates in the Mediterranean Sea, could reach Lebanon 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 the large number of potential evacuees in Lebanon (1900), NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions would be difficult.

| Embassy Staff | Evacuees | Inland Objective (nm) | Rating |
|---------------|----------|-----------------------|--------|
| 0             | 1,900    | 0 (Beirut)            | F      |

Note: In Lebanon the following factors are of little significance:

Gray Arms/Technology Transfer  
NBC

