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## SOMALIA

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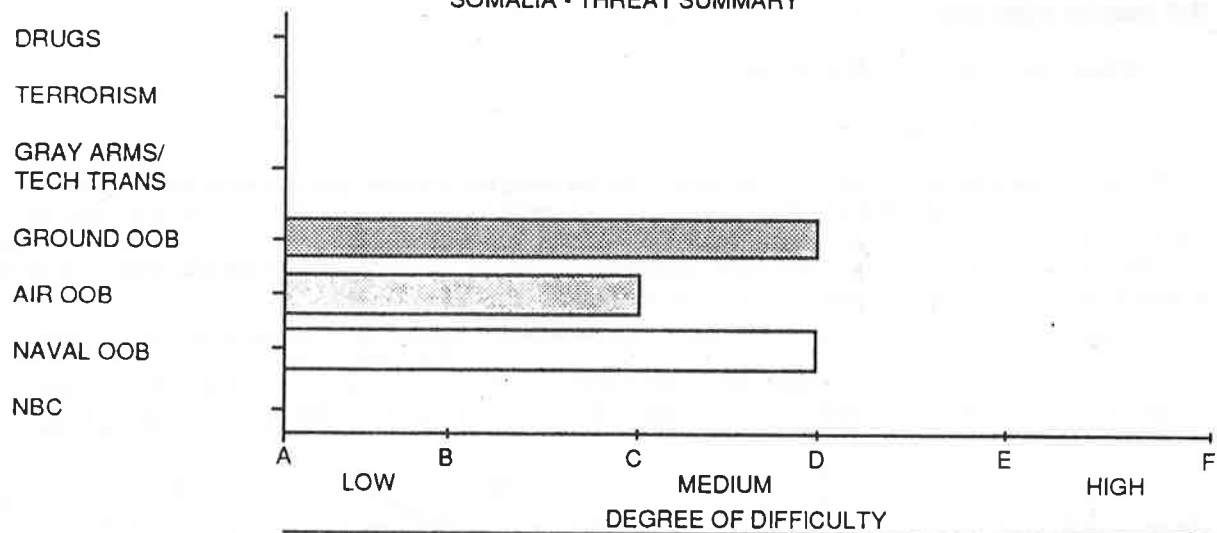


### SUMMARY

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.

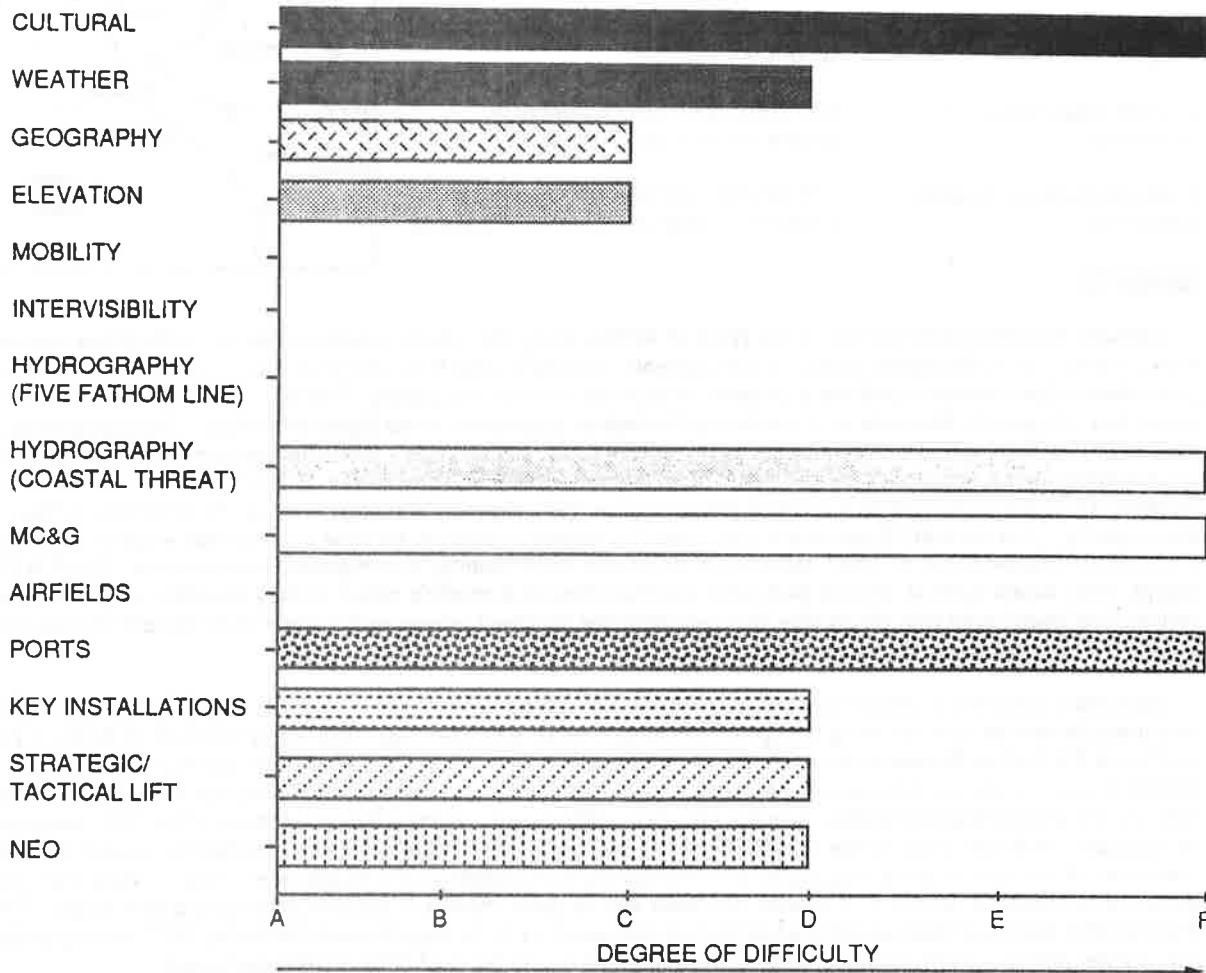
### SOMALIA - THREAT SUMMARY



Somalia - 1

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## SOMALIA - TERRAIN AND LOGISTICS SUMMARY



### U.S. Equities in Somalia

- Strategic location on the **Horn of Africa**.
- Overall **U.S.** equity is high.

The country has a strategic location on the **Horn of Africa** along the southern approaches to **Bab el Mandeb** and the route through the **Red Sea** and **Suez Canal**. **U.S.-Somali** relations are excellent. The **U.S.** Agency for International Development conducts a program of assistance in **Somalia**. The **U.S.** also provides relief to the over 600,000 refugees in this country who are fleeing **Ethiopian** oppression in the **Ogaden**. **Somalia** allows **U.S.** forces access to its port and airfield facilities. About 150 **U.S.** citizens reside in the country.

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
-	62	-	65	127	150	1 1	2	Low

General Ground OOB

Infantry	Tank OOB	Artillery	Army Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Reg/Exp	T-54	Bloc	61	2	173	D

Ground OOB consists of 61,300 troops of which 30,000 are conscripts. Training is considered poor. Past training assistance has been provided by the **Soviets**, **Cubans**, and the **Chinese**. The **U.S.** has provided some aid but most Western and Arab nations have shown restraint. Tanks: Centurion, M-47, T-34, T-54, T-55; Artillery: D-44, M-198, M-1938, M-1942, M-1944, S23.

General Air OOB

Air OOB	Close Air	AAW (IAD)	Air Force Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Day/VFR Jets	Day Jet Atk	Bloc	3	2	95	C

Fighter Aircraft: MiG-17, MiG-21; Close Air: MiG-17; Air Defense: Redeye, SA-2, SA-3, SA-6, and SA-7 SAMs and AA guns.

General Naval OOB

- Fifth largest naval OOB in the region.

Naval OOB	S/S Missiles	Patrol Craft	Navy Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Small Surface	Bloc	Bloc	1	2	113	D

Ships: none; SSMs: SS-N-2 Styx; Patrol Craft: Fast Attack Craft-Missile (Ex-Soviet) with SSMs, guns, and radars; Fast Patrol Craft-Torpedo and Patrol (Ex-Soviet); Large Patrol Craft (Ex-Soviet).

Culture (Language and Religion)

Primary language - Somali (Arabic)

Primary religion - Islam

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

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## Weather

Average Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit)	Average Relative Humidity (Percent)	Average Annual Rainfall (Inches)	Rating
75-88	78	11	Dry/Hot

**Somalia** has a year-round hot climate, seasonal monsoon winds, and irregular rainfall with recurring droughts. The monsoon seasons are during October-November and March-May with the periods in between being hot and humid.

## General Geographic Conditions

URBAN	DESERT	JUNGLE	MOUNTAINOUS
	X		

## Operational Elevation

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

The coast of **Somalia** extends for 1,700 miles along the **Gulf of Aden** and the **Indian Ocean**. The northern part of the country is hilly, while the central and southern areas are flat. Two rivers flow from **Ethiopia** south across the country to the ocean.

## General Cross-Country Mobility

- **Somalia** is well suited for cross-country vehicular movement.

The lowlands of **Somalia**--along the **Indian Ocean**-- are favorable for tracked movement. The remainder of the country, particularly the highlands along the coast of the **Gulf of Aden**, would limit tracked movement due to the rugged hills and dissected plains.

## Intervisibility (Line of Sight)

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

The northern part of **Somalia** is hilly, while the central and southern regions are flat with sparse vegetation. Line of sight distances exceeding 2,000 meters would be feasible in over half of this country.

## Hydrography (Five Fathom Line)

- NGF platforms are able to approach the coast to provide satisfactory support for operations ashore

DMA Chart #	5 Fathom Line from Shore (Meters)	NFG Rating
61240	1,800	Good

Hydrography (Coastal Threat)

- Significant coastal threat.

Maximum Capability Coastal Defense Weapon	Maximum Range of Weapon (Meters)	Rating (Compared with 5"/54-cal)
180 mm S23	30,000	Threat Advantage

MC&G Shortfalls

- 1:50,000 scale map coverage of **Somalia** is not available.

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

Airfields

- Highly accessible by air, with more than 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	2 C-5 2 C-141B	0/4	>1/C-5

Airfields	Type Aircraft	Comments
Baledogle	C-141B, C-130	Airfield has obstacles. Daylight/VFR only.
Berbera	C-5, C-141B, C-130	Runway narrow for C-5s. Daylight/VFR only.
Kisimayu	C-141B, C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Mogadishu	C-5, C-141B, C-130	Daylight/VFR only.

Ports

- No major ports are available with capabilities to receive strategic sealift.

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## Key Installations

With the help of foreign aid, small industries such as textiles are being developed. There are no railroads in **Somalia**. The road network (about 21,600 km) includes 2,400 km of paved roads.

U.S. Embassy	Communications	Highways	Railroads	Major Ports	Primary Airfields	Pipeline	Oil Field	NBC
Mogadishu	- Minimal telecomm - 2 Radio stations - 1 TV station - 1 Satellite station	21,600km	None	0	4	- Crude oil	None (oil refining)	None

## Strategic and Tactical Lift

The **Pacific ARG** with its embarked MEU would require between four to six days to reach **Somalia**. The **AAF/ACB** can arrive within 24 hours but these elements do not possess a forcible entry capability.

## NEO

- Due to the over 150 potential evacuees, NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Somalia** would present some difficulties.

Embassy Staff	Evacuees	Inland Objective (nm)	Rating
144	150	2 (Mogadishu)	D

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

- Drugs
- Terrorism
- Gray Arms/Technology Transfer
- NBC