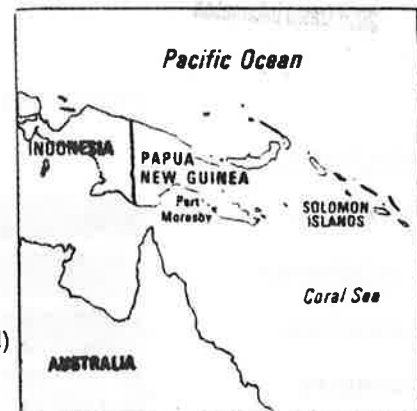


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PAPUA NEW GUINEA

MEF G-2: Telephone:	CG III MEF//G-2// STU-III AV 635-6910
Theater J-2: Telephone:	USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J-2// STU-III AV 477-7323
DIA DB Desk Code: Telephone:	DIA WASHINGTON DC//DB-2C// STU-III AV 243-2491
Embassy Defense Attache: Telephone:	USDAO CANBERRA AS//DATT// 011-061-62-705-000 (EMBASSY SWITCH) 011-061-62-705-807/8 (USDAO/ USCINCPACREP)

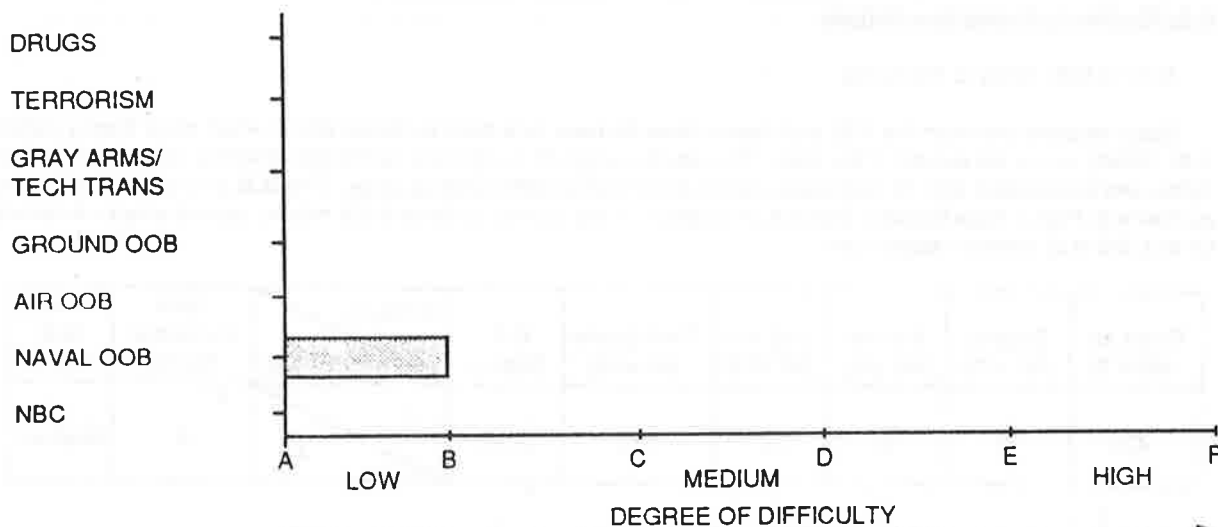


SUMMARY

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.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA - THREAT SUMMARY

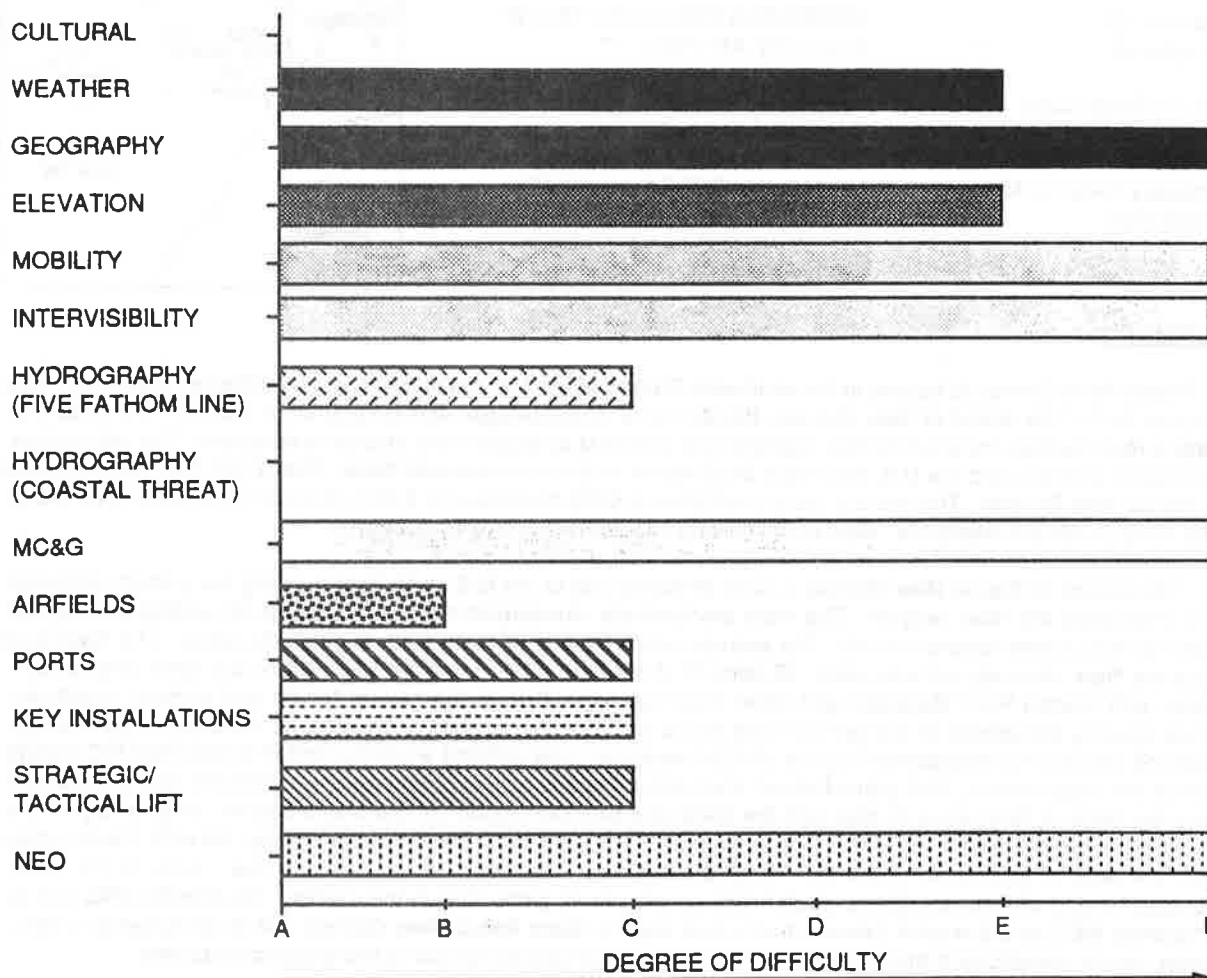


Papua New Guinea - 1

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PAPUA NEW GUINEA - TERRAIN AND LOGISTICS SUMMARY



U.S. Equities in Papua New Guinea

- Overall U.S. equity is moderate.

Good relations between the U.S. and Papua New Guinea date back to World War II when more than a million U.S. military personnel served in the area. This country supports a vigorous democratic tradition, respect for human rights, and cooperation with its neighbors and the international community at large. The U.S. is a substantial trading partner with Papua New Guinea, and U.S. investment in the country is about \$420 million, second only to Australia. Over 3,500 U.S. citizens reside there.

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
420	21	91	2	534	3,580	2 4	6	Medium

General Ground OOB

Infantry	Tank OOB	Artillery	Army Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Reg/TR	None	None	3	2	45	A

Ground OOB consists of a 2,900 person volunteer force. **Australia** provides considerable training for the **Papua New Guinea** Defense Force. Personnel needing technical training in particular have been sent to **Australia**. Officers undergo training at a joint service college in-country under a modified **Australian** curriculum. Tanks: none; Artillery: none.

General Air OOB

Air OOB	Close Air	AAW (IAD)	Air Force Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Props	None	None	Negligible	2	12	A

Fighter Aircraft: none; Close Air: none; Air Defense: none.

General Naval OOB

Naval OOB	S/S Missiles	Patrol Craft	Navy Size (Thousands)	Quality	Total Capability Value	Rating
Small Surface	None	Lg Gun Boats	Negligible	2	42	B

Ships: none; SSM: none; Patrol Craft: 8 Large Patrol Craft.

Culture (Language and Religion)

Primary language - English (Pidgin English, Tribal)

Primary religion - Protestant

There is very little cultural difference between **Papua New Guinea** and the **U.S.**

Weather

Average Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit)	Average Relative Humidity (Percent)	Average Annual Rainfall (Inches)	Rating
81	80	40-300	Wet/Hot

This country lies totally within the tropics and its climate is monsoonal. Average rainfall is high with many areas receiving over 200 inches annually. Temperatures are not extreme for a tropical region. Lowland and coastal temperatures average about 80 degrees Fahrenheit while interior temperatures vary with elevation.

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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	

Papua New Guinea is located in the southwest **Pacific** about 100 miles northeast of **Australia**. It includes the eastern half of the island of **New Guinea**, the **Bismark Archipelago**, and several other islands. Thickly forested mountains cover much of the interior areas with lowlands along the coasts. There has been a considerable urban drift in recent years towards **Port Moresby** and other major centers.

General Cross-Country Mobility

- **Papua New Guinea** is generally unsuited for cross-country movement of tracked vehicles.

Cross-country vehicular movement is severely restricted to the narrow coastal lowlands and foothills. The dominating central mountain network and the swamps of the southwestern littoral deny cross-country movement throughout most of the nation.

Intervisibility (Line of Sight)

- Poor, with line of sight distance limited to less than 500 meters.

The main island of **Papua New Guinea** is composed of a complex system of mountains which extend from east to west. Precipitous slopes, knife-sharp ridges, and great outcroppings characterize the terrain. On the smaller islands, mountains cover much of the area. Ground cover consists of tropical rain forest, and swamps occupy large areas of the country. Due to the rough terrain and thick vegetation, line of sight visibility would be generally less than 500 meters over 90 percent of the country.

Hydrography (Five Fathom Line)

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

DMA Chart #	5 Fathom Line from Shore (Meters)	NFG Rating
73580/73581/73582	9,660	Fair

Hydrography (Coastal Threat)

- Limited coastal threat.

Maximum Capability Coastal Defense Weapon	Maximum Range of Weapon (Meters)	Rating (Compared with 5"/54-cal)
None	0	U.S. NGF Advantage

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2021 Dated Information

MC&G Shortfalls

- Coverage of **Papua New Guinea** by 1:50,000 scale maps is not available.

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
18	1 C-5 1 C-141B 14 C-130 2 None	2/16	1/C-5

Airfields	Type Aircraft	Comments
Buin	None	-
Buka	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Chimbu	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Goroka	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Hoskins	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Kavieng	C-130	-
Kieta	C-130	Daylight/VFR only.
Lae	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Madang	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Mendi	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Momote	C-130	Runway less than 6,000 feet. Daylight only. Low runway WBC.
Mount Hagen	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Nadzab	C-141B, C-130	Low runway WBC.
Port Moresby	C-5, C-141B, C-130	-
Rabaul	C-130	Daylight only. Low runway WBC.
Wapenamanda	C-130	Daylight/VFR only. Low runway WBC.
Wau	None	-
Wewak International	C-130	Daylight only. Low runway WBC.

Ports

One major port is available with satisfactory capabilities to receive strategic sealift.

Major Ports	Harbor Size	Channel/Anchorage Depths (Feet)	Cargo Pier Depth (Feet)	Cranes
Rabaul	Small	41-45/41-45	26-30	Yes

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Key Installations

Due to the terrain and climatic conditions, establishment of adequate transport and communication facilities has been difficult. Particularly in the interior of the country, these conditions inhibit development efforts and have a negative impact on all social, political, and economic progress.

U.S. Embassy	Communications	Highways	Railroads	Major Ports	Primary Airfields	Pipeline	Oil Field	NBC
Port Moresby	- Adequate telecomm - 31 Radio stations	19,200 km	None	1	18	None	None	None

Strategic and Tactical Lift

The Pacific ARG with its embarked MEU would require between two to four days to reach **Papua New Guinea**. 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 (over 3,500), NEO conducted by a MEU under normal conditions in **Papua New Guinea** would be very difficult.

Embassy Staff	Evacuees	Inland Objective (nm)	Rating
12	3,580	4 (Port Moresby)	F

Note: In **Papua New Guinea** the following factors are of little significance:

Drugs
Terrorism
Gray Arms/Technology Transfer
OOB (Ground, Air, Naval)
NBC