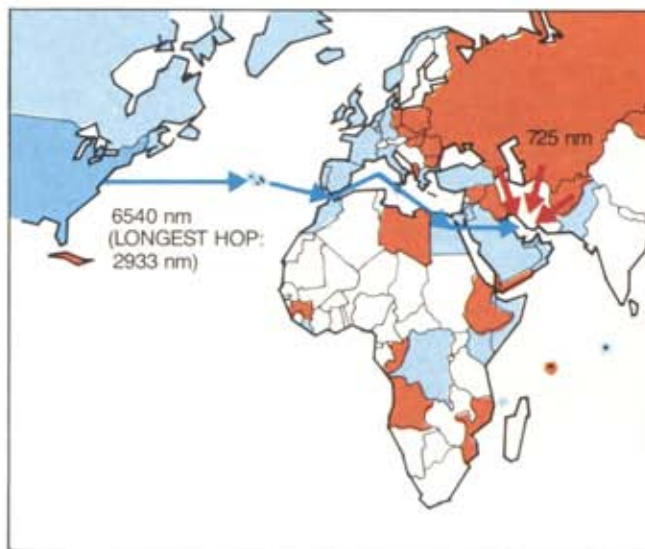
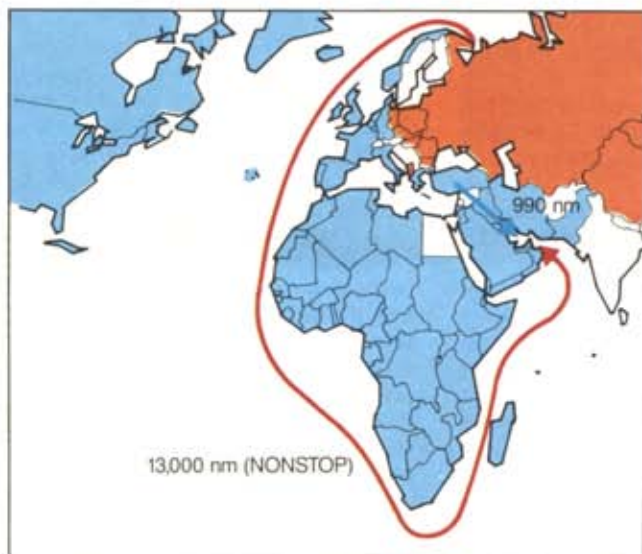


# The Chart Page

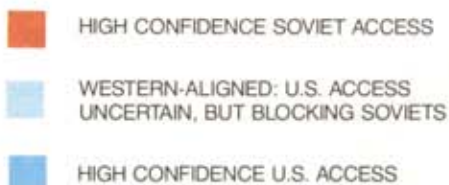
Edited by Colleen A. Bollard, STAFF EDITOR

## A WIDENING GAP TO THE GULF



These maps compare US and Soviet access to airfields or airspace in the mid-1950s (left) and today (right). Thirty years ago, the US could count on bases and overflight rights to reach the Persian Gulf quickly and could respond to a crisis well before the arrival of Soviet forces. Today—when access is more important than ever—the Soviets have the advantage. With US access to bases and airspace uncertain, we must anticipate that intercontinental airlift would be required to insert ground troops and that the Soviets would be there first.

Source of Data: The Commission on Integrated Long-Term Strategy



## THE DROP IN DEFENSE SPENDING

Defense Budget Authority  
(Dollars in Billions)

FISCAL YEAR	THEN-YEAR DOLLARS	CONSTANT '88 DOLLARS	PERCENT REAL CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR
1980	\$143.9	\$208.0	
1981	180.0	234.0	12.5
1982	216.5	262.2	12.1
1983	245.0	286.2	9.2
1984	265.2	301.1	5.2
1985	294.7	323.4	7.4
1986	289.1	310.4	-4.0
1987	291.0	304.1	-2.0
1988	292.0	292.0	-4.0

The Reagan Administration's defense recovery program—launched to correct the devastating military shortfalls of the 1970s—topped out in 1985. When the effect of inflation is factored out, defense budget authority has dropped by ten percent in the last three years. The services have been told to cut their budget requests by ten to twelve percent in each of the next five years, and the budget actually approved may take Pentagon spending even lower than that.

Source of Data: Senate Appropriations Committee