UNCLASSIFIED

OPERATION UNITED ASSISTANCE

INTSUM

11 0600Z November 14



<u>Executive Summary</u>: The security situation in Liberia is stable and is expected to remain so in the near term. On 10 NOV 14, the National Elections Commission issued two key election dates to the Liberian Legislature with 13 NOV 14 identified for campaigning and 16 DEC 14 for Midterm Senatorial elections. The election process is a critical step toward normalcy as Liberia works to both eradicate EVD and recover from its impacts. Germany's donation of USD \$30 million to the World Food Program, the largest donation to date to the WFP, will have an immediate positive impact on food shortages in the JOA.

Sierra Leone has seen a recent outbreak in a previously EVD-free district, further highlighting the need for EVD education in rural areas. Specifically, Koindadugu District, Sierra Leone, has confirmed over 60 cases since mid-October. As seen in rural areas in Liberia, reporting suggests people of Koingdadugu initially denied the veracity of EVD reports and dangers. However, after the rise of EVD cases and subsequent deaths, the town is asking for immediate support of medical supplies and equipment in order to stop the transmission of the EVD.

(U) Liberia

(U) The National Elections Commission (NEC) Submitted New Date for Midterm Senatorial Elections: On 14OCT14, President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf suspended the elections and mandated the NEC hold consultations with electoral stakeholders. This included political parties as well as national and international health authorities to determine the possibility of holding the elections in the wake of the national EVD crisis. On 10OCT14, the House of Representatives mandated the NEC conduct the elections by 20DEC14.¹ As of 10NOV14, the National Elections Commission submitted 16DEC14 as the tentative election date to the Liberian Legislature for approval. Authorities expect the new proposal to go through the Legislative process and approval this week. (http://allafrica.com/stories/201411101371.html) Campaigns will likely start on 13NOV for the upcoming Senate Elections on 16DEC.² Unknown at this time is what impact the directed State of Emergency will have on the electoral process and campaign efforts, especially concerning large crowds. Regardless, the election process is a critical step toward normalcy as Liberia works to both eradicate EVD and recover from its impacts.

(U) Germany Provides roughly 30 Million USD to help World Food Program (WFP): The United Nations World Food Program (WFP) has received USD \$30 million from Germany to support the food assistance to more than one million people affected by Ebola. To date, the donation is the largest contribution the WFP has received for the Ebola response. WFP has allocated the funds immediately for purchasing food and financing airlift operations to supply food to Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs) and affected communities. The airlift operations will provide more than 760 tons of SuperCereal Plus, a formulated supplementary food that helps prevent malnutrition. (http://reliefweb.int/report/liberia/germany-provides-24-million-help-wfp-meet-critical-food-needs-ebola-crisis) According to the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), border closures and quarantines have contributed to food shortages within the three major EVD-affected countries. As the number of Ebola cases increase in the JOA, the WFP continues to expand its response to keep up with the demand for food. The organization has already assisted with providing food to 1.3 million people in the affected countries.

(U) Local Populace Protest over Imprisoned Youth Leader at Monrovia Central Prison: As of 10NOV14, the National Ebola Coordination Center (NECC) indicated that approximately 100-150 locals were present around the Ministry of Public Works, the Monrovia Central Prison, and further north along Broad Street. Protesters began throwing rocks, bottles, and large pieces of scrap metal against the prison wall chanting, "Let the youth leader go, he does not have Ebola." Police officers proceeded to arrest protestors once they began throwing rocks and bottles at the Liberian National Police (LNP) officers. After approximately one hour, the National Police was able to disperse the crowd and the protest ended with minimal casualties. (Information obtained from local discussions) On 05NOV14, Jefferson T. Koijee, the National Youth Chairman of the Congress For Democratic Change (CDC), failed to secure a \$2,500 bond and was sent to the Monrovia Central Prison to await trial on charges of aggravated assault and kidnapping. It is possible the local populace will continue these demonstrations until they release the prominent figure from prison.

¹ http://legislature.gov.lr/house/news/2014/10/house-passes-joint-resolution-mid-term-senatorial-elections

² http://allafrica.com/stories/201411101371.html

(U) JOA

(U) Remote Sierra Leone Region Pleads For Help in Ebola Fight: Koinadugu, Sierra Leone is the last region affected by the Ebola virus. It is a remote, largely inaccessible mountainous region. Local people believe a trader, who died in the neighboring province of Kono, brought EVD to the area as he was brought to Koinadugu to be buried. Initially, there was denial about the virus, but recently the town is asking for medical supplies and equipment. According to John Marah, the head of the Red Cross in Sierra Leone, nine people are in the isolation center two of which are seriously ill. Approximately 60 cases have been confirmed and at least 200 people have been placed into quarantine in Koinadugu. (http://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-11-remote-sierra-leone-region-ebola.html) Due to Koinadugu's isolation and rough terrain, medical support will be restricted. Furthermore, with limited supplies and health care workers, it is likely resources will be routed to communities that are more easily accessible to optimize the results from spent resources. Koinadugu's request for outside help indicates that healthcare workers will generally be accepted amongst the populace. This article also highlights the gaps in understanding and training that persist throughout the tribal communities in the JOA.

(U) Weather

(U) 24 Hour Weather: Today, Weather looks generally favorable in the morning. In the early afternoon, the all regions in Liberia will experience isolated thunderstorms and showers beginning at 1400L in the North and South and 1600L in the Central region. This weather will move to the West and off shore by approximately 2000L with marginal impacts to aviation assets. Clouds will lower in the North and Central regions beginning at 2200L and lasting until sunrise on the 12th to have minimal impacts on rotary wing aviation.



(U) Five Day Weather Outlook: