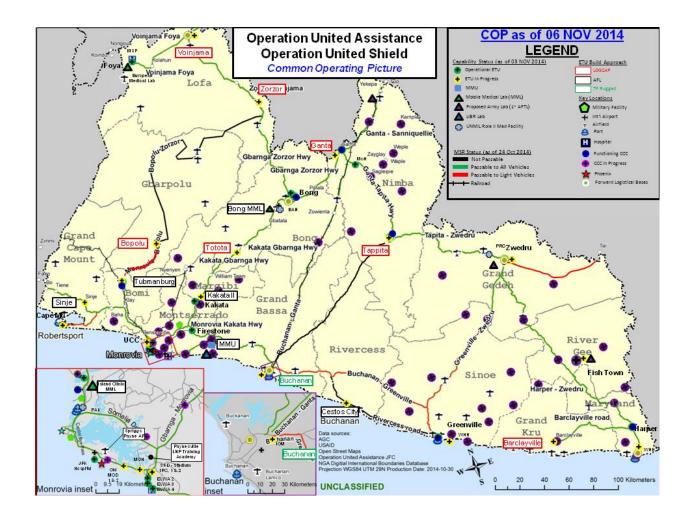
#### **UNCLASSIFIED**

# OPERATION UNITED ASSISTANCE INTSUM

# 06 0600Z November 14



Executive Summary: The security situation in Liberia is stable and is expected to remain so for the near term. In Liberia, President Sirleaf dedicated a treatment facility (Monrovia medical unit-MMU) to treat healthcare workers that have contracted EVD. This MMU is a critical component of health care worker (HCW) safety and is meant to reassure the HCW population that they will have adequate care if they contract EVD. Ultimately, this is also a key component in the GOL's ability to attract new HCWs to Liberia. The president of Sierra Leone plans to extend the State of Emergency for an additional nine months and wants to establish a more military approach to control the spread of EVD. Sierra Leone's mining industry has declined significantly due to reduced freedom of movement and the frustrated logistical chains out of the West Africa.

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# (U) Liberia

- (U) Liberian Thanksgiving Holiday (06NOV): Liberian Thanksgiving is on the first Thursday of every November and generally mirrors the United States Thanksgiving Day customs. Gatherings for special meals, concerts, and church worship are common and culminate with an auction for harvested fruits. (http://www.liberianobserver.com/news/thursday-thanksgiving-day) On 05 NOV, President Sirleaf declared the closing of businesses and public houses while calling for all individuals to gather at their place of worship. Assuming proper EVD protocols are followed, the call for gatherings is an excellent opportunity for the clergy to calm and educate the people on how to limit the spread of Ebola.
- (U) President Sirleaf Dedicates New Field Hospital. On 05NOV14, President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and U.S. Ambassador Deborah Malac opened a 25-bed field hospital in Charlesville, Margibi County. During the dedication, President Sirleaf praised the selflessness of health care workers. Both President Sirleaf and U.S. Ambassador Malac illustrated U.S./Liberian cooperation with the hospital. The new field hospital will only treat healthcare workers infected with Ebola. US and Liberian forces jointly constructed the center. (http://allafrica.com/stories/201411060001.html, http://www.npr.org/blogs/goatsandsoda/2014/11/05/361796044/u-s-military-response-to-ebola-gains-momentum-in-liberia) By going to the new field hospital, healthcare workers infected with Ebola will alleviate bed space in other ETUs. The field hospital's location near the Roberts International Airport will allow for the swift repatriation of any foreigners. This may attract more foreign volunteers to work other ETUs, including the new 100-bed Tubmanburg ETU located in Bomi County. The influx of health care workers and increase in bed space should increase the effectiveness of EVD fight.

## (U) JOA

- (U) Sierra Leone: Koroma Announces Adoption of 'Military Approach' To Contain Ebola. At the Miatta Conference Center in Freetown, the President of Sierra Leone, Ernest Bai Koroma, told the assembled tribal headmen/women, councilors and parliamentarians of the Western Area of Freetown that his government is now in a new phase in the Ebola War, which would involve a military approach. (http://cocorioko.info/?p=13485) As Sierra Leone continues to see an increase of EVD cases across the country, President Koroma is likely trying to empower the Sierra Leone military to alleviate tense situations and protect medical personnel. News agencies continually highlight local lack of adherence to medical safety practices to contain the virus, which is likely the driving force to President Koroma's speech.
- (U) Sierra Leone to Extend State of Emergency for Additional Nine Months. As of 05NOV14, the Sierra Leone Government will extend the original State of Emergency for an additional nine months if Sierra Leone fails to contain the Ebola epidemic. According to the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, the government will extend the State of Emergency, projected to last three months, due to a rise of reported Ebola cases. The western area, which includes the capital Freetown, accounted for 51 of 61 new cases reported over the past weekend. (AFO2014110538711489 Sierra Leone Extends State of Emergency 0600 GMT 04NOV 14) On 30JUL14, President Ernest Bai Koroma declared Sierra Leone's initial State of Emergency due to the Ebola outbreak. Security Forces began to establish quarantines on all centers and stricter airport measures, such as body temperature scans. The State of Emergency has been largely ineffective in containing the virus at this point; however, it will likely facilitate the President's ability to make decisions to support the U.K efforts.
- **(U)** Sierra Leone Extends State of Emergency to Additional Nine Months. As of 05NOV14, the Sierra Leone Government will extend the original State of Emergency for an additional nine months if Sierra Leone fails to contain the Ebola epidemic. According to the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, the government will extend the State of Emergency, projected to last three months, due to a rise of reported Ebola cases. The western area, which includes the capital Freetown, accounted for 51 of 61 new cases reported over the past weekend. (AFO2014110538711489 Sierra Leone Extends State of Emergency

#### **UNCLASSIFIED**

0600 GMT 04NOV 14) On Wednesday 30JUL14, President Ernest Bai Koroma declared Sierra Leone in a State of Emergency due to the Ebola outbreak. Security Forces began to establish quarantines on all centers and stricter airport measures, such as body temperature scans. The State of Emergency has been largely ineffective in containing the virus at this point; however, it will likely facilitate the President's ability to make decisions to support the U.K efforts.

#### (U) Weather

## (U) 24 Hour Weather:

We will experience isolated thunderstorms today as the easterly wave pushes through Liberia from 1400L to 0400L, moving westward through Liberia. We expect widespread showers and thunderstorms to impact rotary wing flights from 1600L to 2000L. Overnight, low clouds and visibility will marginally impact rotary wing flights inland between midnight and 0600L on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

# (U) Five Day Weather Outlook:

