

UNITED ASSISTANCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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28 September 2014



(U) **Executive Summary:** *There has been one significant report in the last 24 hours, a non-violent protest in the Elwa neighborhood of Monrovia. The protest disrupted traffic, but was eventually controlled by the local police force. The security situation in Liberia will probably remain stable in the near term. Liberia received 9,000 medical home kits with the intent to reduce the spread of Ebola at the household level where much transmission occurs. Sierra Leone reinforced the police force in the quarantined districts of Bombali, Moyamba, and Port Loko to reach the maximum effect in maintaining internal security and to assist in identifying and evacuating Ebola-affected persons. Senegal has opened the military air base outside Dakar to help transition humanitarian aid to affected countries.*

(U) **Liberia:**

(U) **Non-Violent Protest in Monrovia:** On 27 September, a small roadblock was emplaced on the main road through the Elwa neighborhood of Monrovia. An unknown number of civilians emplaced trash and four burning barrels in the road. The crowd continued to grow until 0930L, but was effectively controlled by local police. The area was cleaned up and the traffic was allowed to move freely after the incident. Motivation for the roadblock has not been reported, and the government labeled this event as a non-violent protest. *Elwa is one of the largest Ebola-affected areas in the capital. Prior incidents in Elwa resulted out of fear of the Red Cross burial team. This neighborhood has shown anger against the Red Cross details breaking burial traditions and not allowing the families to properly mourn the dead. Secondly, there are three ETUs in Elwa and people fear these locations are bringing Ebola to the neighborhood. This is a typical event in the lower income neighborhoods in Monrovia, probably mounted in hopes the government will respond with aid and additional support to the affected location.*



(U) **Delivery of Ebola Protection Kits:** On 25 September, Senegal delivered nearly 9,000 packages of gloves, soap, chlorine, and gowns to Liberia; the first step in a mass delivery of half a million household kits. Along with this effort, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) plans to deliver kits to 400,000 households. According to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the home kits are designed to eliminate secondary transmission at the family level; where the majority of victims contract the disease. *The home kits play a crucial role in reducing further infections, as many households do not admit their family members into treatment facilities and care for them at home. As the number of deaths continues to increase, the amount of international financial assistance is rising, which will improve prospects for halting the outbreak.*

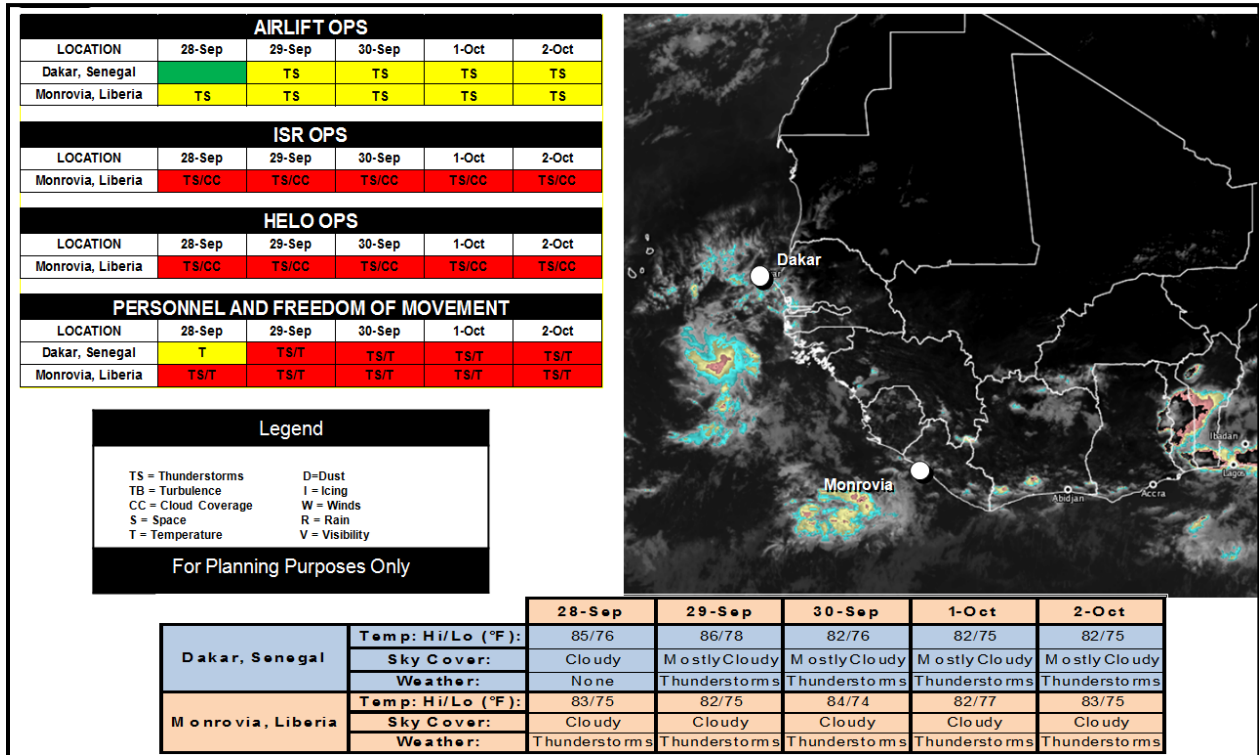
(U) **Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Addresses the United Nations High-Level Meeting:** On 25 September, Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf met with world leaders at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to discuss the Ebola crisis. Sirleaf stated the epidemic's consequences will reverse the gains in malaria as well as child and maternal mortality, stressing the confusion many Liberians feel on how it began and how it will continue to spread. She also noted the detrimental impact the disease has had and will continue to have on the economy to include loss of income and jobs, declining health services, commodity price increases, and limited mobility. *As world leaders meet to address the Ebola epidemic, international response will continue to increase, providing more financial assistance to combat the disease.*

(U) **JOA (Sierra Leone, Guinea, Senegal, Liberia):**

(U) **Senegal to Allow Air Traffic for Aid:** A military air base near Dakar has opened its corridors to allow humanitarian aid, to include medical personnel, supplies, and food to transition between Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea. All other border closures with Guinea still remain in effect. The air base was open to arriving cargo since late last week, but officials are still preparing to be fully operational. *Dakar will become a vitally important hub for logistical movement and a middle ground for personnel transversing between affected and unaffected countries on humanitarian business. The air base is possibly the French Air Force's Dakar-Ouakam Air Base, a section of the Dakar International Airport.*

(U) **Police Force Presence Increases in "Hot Spots":** On 24 September, Sierra Leone President Koroma authorized the containment of three additional areas; Port Loko, Bombali, and Moyamba in the west-central region, expanding to the coast. Following his decision, he reinforced the police force in the areas to help control the spread of Ebola and maintain security. The deploying police were educated on proper handling procedures when encountering Ebola contamination. The police force was exhorted to follow through with this key mission and reassured of the safety precautions. It was stressed that members of their unit had succumbed to the virus from visiting infected personnel while off duty, not while on duty and following safety protocols. *The authoritative lead the Sierra Leone government is taking will strengthen government stability in this time of crisis. By addressing concerns of their police force and reassuring the mitigations will build trust. President Koroma also mentioned the effectiveness of isolating Kenema and Kailahun districts, as they were "hot spots," but have decreased in Ebola infected numbers since their containment and also reminded them of the effectiveness of the "ose to ose" (house-to-house visits and lockdown) campaign from 19-21 September that uncovered over 100 infected persons across the country. The government of Sierra Leone is taking draconian measures that have been criticized by outsiders, but continue to yield positive results.*

(U) Weather:



(U) Dakar will have no thunderstorms in the area for today but will continue to receive sporadic isolated thunderstorms for the next 4 days. Temperature will decrease slightly over the next couple of days into the low 80s. Despite this, high humidity will cause heat indices to stay in the high 80s, impacting personnel in the area.

(U) The rest of the JOA will have no change to weather, still experiencing rain and thunderstorms heading into October. Rain will be light from ¼ to ½ inch throughout Liberia before the *next storm system moves through on the 29th bringing heavy rains up to 6 inches in the mountain regions of Liberia, causing increased risk of flooding along river areas.*