

# OPERATION UNITED ASSISTANCE INTSUM

01 0600Z November 14



**Executive Summary:** *The security situation in Liberia is currently stable and is expected to remain so in the near term. The reaction to EVD survivors varies between communities in all countries affected by EVD and requires the establishment of deliberate procedures to ensure proper reintegration back into the community. In turn, this will increase the overall willingness of EVD infected individuals to seek assistance from ETUs instead of hiding symptoms at home. Adapting health behavioral changes in communities takes time but is key in preventing further spread of EVD through local burial practices. The international community support for Liberia and its fight against EVD continues to grow. China's pledge to build, man, and operate an ETU in Liberia, along with their recent support for Ambulances, shows a continued focused effort by the international community in supporting Liberia's cause against EVD.*

**(U) Liberia**

**(U) Ebola Survivors Face Mixed Reactions in Liberia:** Liberia and Sierra Leone Ebola survivors face mixed reactions as they return home after contracting EVD. While some are welcomed back into their communities, most face discrimination and shame from the community. According to a UNICEF survey, 96 percent of Ebola survivors in Sierra Leone experienced some sort of discrimination. More than three-quarters of respondents told UNICEF they would not welcome back an Ebola survivor into their community. (<http://www.irinnews.org/report/100775/overcoming-ebola-stigma-takes-time>) ***The use of Reintegration Teams is vital to Ebola survivors. As an example, in September, Reintegration teams traveled to Lofa County, Liberia to educate community's leadership, population, and family members on EVD survivors. Although a small sample, the team's visit likely was an additional variable in reducing the discrimination and stigma against EVD survivors, subsequently increasing the probability of infected individuals seeking treatment.***

**(U) NECC Meeting Results:** The National Ebola Crisis Center (NECC) meeting discussed multiple EVD topics on 31OCT14. The NECC received a Stop Ebola Transmission (SET) brief, which focused on the strategy to create ownership of EVD symptom monitoring. Initial plans for this initiative will start at the individual and local neighborhoods with continued focus and emphasis at the national level. As briefed, the plan includes two monitors per home and one monitor per neighborhood. Part of the requirement for neighborhood monitors includes reporting on overall health status every two days.

Additional notes during the meeting included Professor Hans Rosling, the renowned Swedish medical doctor and statistician, stating Liberia must now have beds throughout Liberia instead of locations where "hot spots" exist. He also stated Liberia is now entering the second phase of the crisis, which he terms the "Logistics Phase", in order to prepare for the third phase of EVD, the "Eradication Phase." ***The SETs strategy for monitoring EVD is almost certainly months away and requires extensive coordination between district, county and national government entities. Regardless, Professor Hans Rosling's statement that Liberia should focus on beds "all over" Liberia rather than just Ebola "hot spots" highlights the need to improve the Liberian health infrastructure.***

**(U) Japan Donates Seven Ambulances to Liberia:** The Japanese Government donated seven ambulances valued at over USD \$400,000 to support the fight against EVD. The seven ambulances arrived in Liberia on 30OCT14 on board a chartered cargo flight at the Roberts International Airport. (AFO2014103141514496 *The New Dawn Online* in English: (<http://www.thenewdawnliberia.com>) ***These seven ambulances are part of 13 re-purposed vehicles destined for Liberia and Sierra Leone donated by fire departments from 10 prefectures in Japan. Ambulances are a critical piece of equipment in EVD treatment efforts.***

**(U) China to Dispatch People's Liberation Army Unit to Support Liberia:** In response to United Nation's call for a greater global effort against EVD, on 31OCT14 the Chinese Foreign Ministry released a statement signifying Chinese intent to support West Africa through the deployment of a squad of the People's Liberation Army (PLA). The PLA squad, which has experience from a 2002 outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), will build a 100-bed treatment centre in Liberia (exact location unknown), the first constructed facility run by a foreign country. The Chinese Director General of the Ministry's Department of African Affairs also said China would dispatch 480 PLA medical staff to treat Ebola patients. This event is the first time China deployed a whole unit of epidemic prevention forces and military medical staff abroad. (<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/31/health-ebola-china-idUSL4N0SQ7AJ20141031?feedType=RSS&virtualBrandChannel=11563>) ***China is one of the largest Asian donors to the EVD crisis. While there are a number of countries supporting ETU construction in Liberia, China will be the first country to build and run an ETU. The PLA has extensive experience supporting HA/DR efforts inside of China but relatively little experience outside of its borders. (Reference: 29OCT14 OUA INTSUM)***

**(U) Liberian National Police Charged Four Suspects with Murder in Grand Gedeh:** Police in Grand Gedeh County charged four individuals in connection with murder at the Prime Timber Production (PTP) Refugee Camp. The prime suspect in the murder works for CARE International Ebola Awareness at the camp. (<http://allafrica.com/stories/201410310162.html>) ***Established in 2011, the PTP Refugee Camp***

facilitated a location that Ivoirians could escape the 2010 post-election violence in Côte d'Ivoire. It is currently unknown if the suspect is part of the Ivorian refugees or a Liberian national inside the camp.

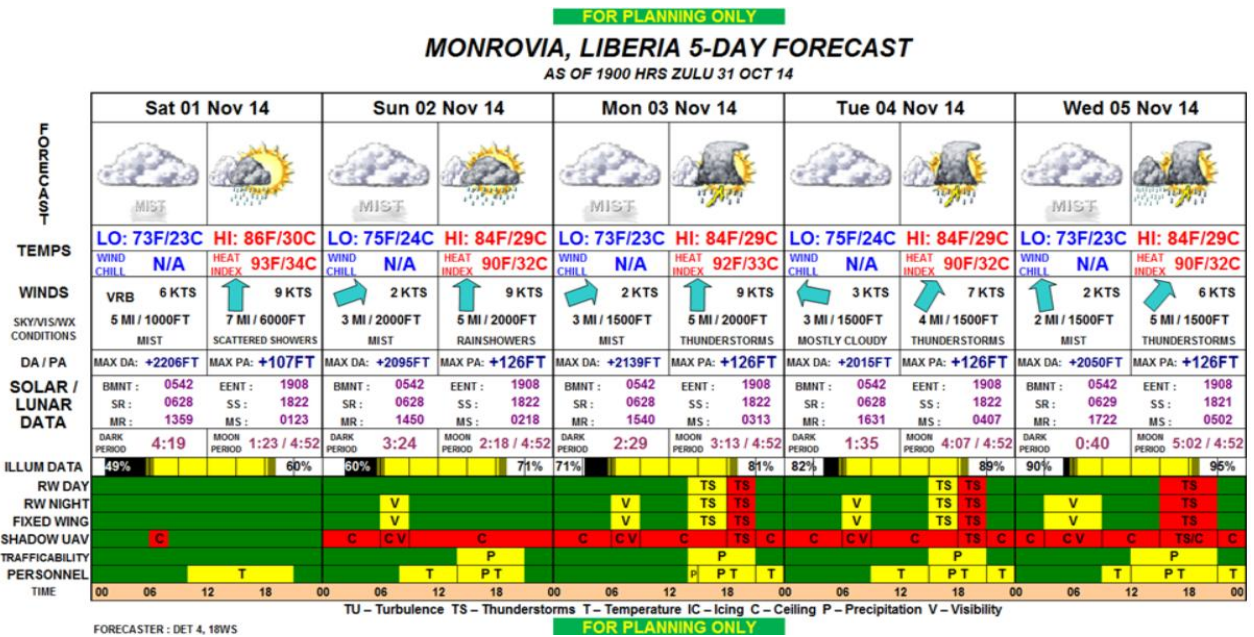
(U) JOA

(U) NSTR

(U) Weather

(U) 24 Hour Weather: Thunderstorms remain off the southern coastline with some isolated light fog inland and along the coastline causing marginal restrictions to rotary wing aviation. Thunderstorm coverage today will be significantly less, mainly confined to Maryland/Grand Kru counties in the South and Lofa counties in the north limiting flights to the extreme northern and southern parts of the country. Isolated showers along the coastline and a low/mid 90 heat index will impact personnel at Roberts and Spriggs airfields.

(U) Five Day Weather Outlook:



(U) Source Summary and Confidence Level Statement

(U) JFC UA J2 has high confidence in the assessment provided. Information in this report was derived from multiple open sources and organizational reporting on current information.