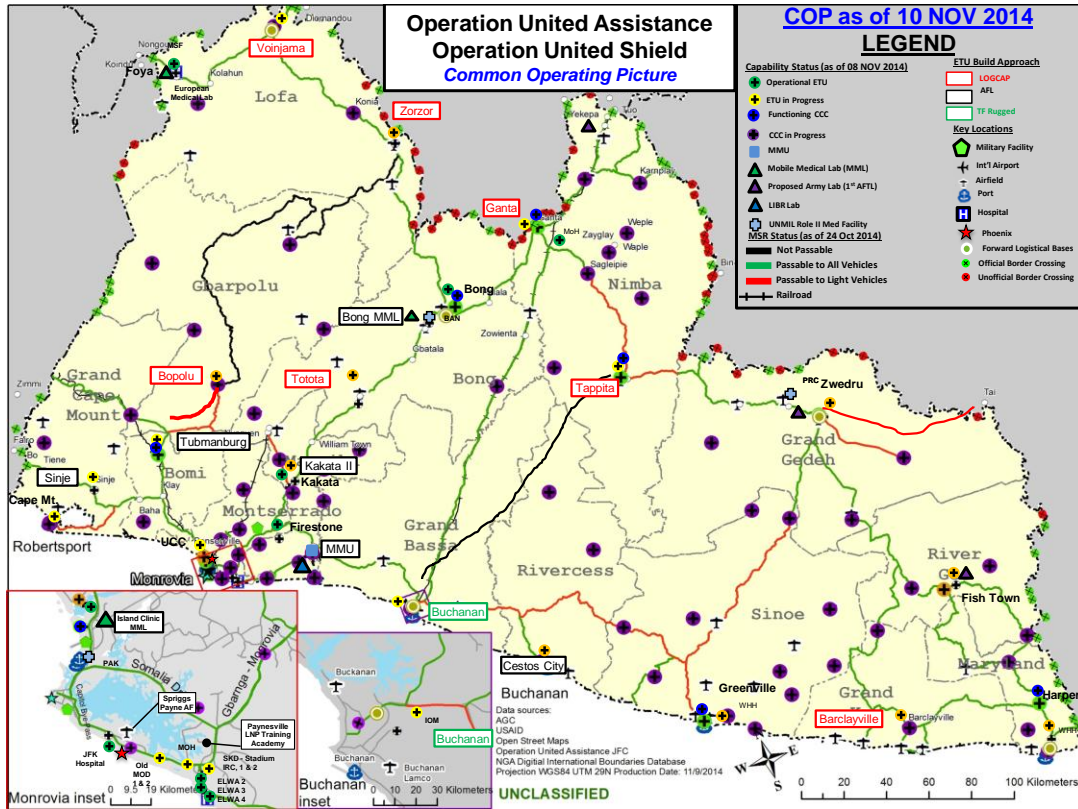


# OPERATION UNITED ASSISTANCE

## INTSUM

10 0600Z November 14



**Executive Summary:** *The security situation in Liberia is stable and is expected to remain so in the near term. Media reports and local discussions have noted a growth of optimism in Liberia, especially as EVD infected individuals are receiving treatment at ETUs and surviving the disease. Additionally, community level education and awareness remains one of the cornerstones of EVD prevention as seen in the recent EVD awareness training of Lofa County leaders and personnel. Lofa County continues to build upon its success and remains on the forefront of EVD education and social change in Liberia.*

**(U) Ebola Update.**

**(U) Awareness Campaign.** In Lofa County, the Action Global Communities organization trained 85 people in a three-day EVD-awareness workshop (5-7 November 14), that focused on EVD prevention and sensitization against denial. Town chiefs, religious leaders, community health and sanitation workers from all seven districts attended.

**(U) Liberia**

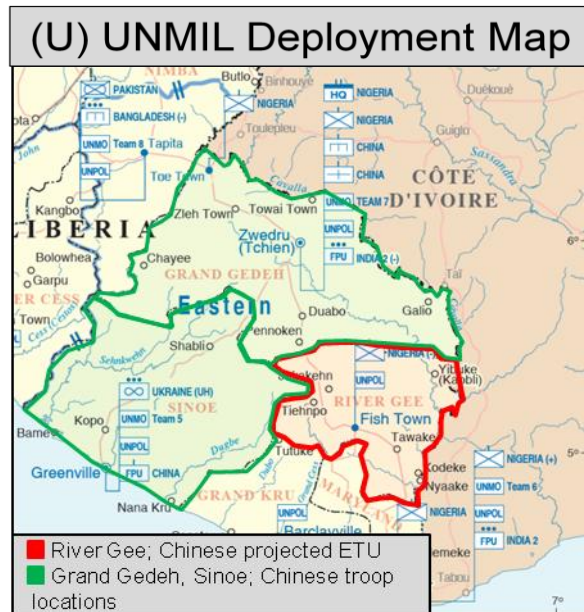
**(U) Chinese to Likely Establish ETU in River Gee.** Open source media continues to highlight the Chinese contribution to EVD efforts, including plans to establish an ETU in Liberia. Most of the construction material and workers are already in place with additional health workers expected to arrive in November. As of 06NOV14, a representative for the Chinese Foreign Ministry stated the ETU was scheduled to open within 30 days. Local County Health reports also indicate that ground clearance operations for the ETU are underway, likely putting the Chinese on schedule to complete the ETU by early December. The construction of a Community Care Center in Fish Town, the county capital, is currently underway as well. The establishment of CCCs in coordination with ETUs is essential in creating a systematic and layered approach to combating EVD.

([http://www.mofa.gov.lr/public2/2press.php?news\\_id=1345&related=7&pg=sp](http://www.mofa.gov.lr/public2/2press.php?news_id=1345&related=7&pg=sp)) **Although**

**the exact location of the ETU within River Gee is unknown, the placement of an ETU in River Gee makes sense, as it is centrally located between Chinese forces currently deployed to Grand Gedeh and Grand Kru Counties in support of UNMIL operations in the country. Reporting has also indicated China plans to use JK-05, a possible EVD anti-virus drug, to treat Chinese nationals working in Africa if infected with EVD. The establishment of the ETU would allow them to simultaneously test JK-05 and allow Chinese medical professionals to treat Chinese nationals. There has been no reporting indicating whether the Chinese will have lab testing capabilities with the ETU or if they will require external support.**

**(U) JOA**

**(U) Africa Cup of Nations in Jeopardy as Morocco Refuses to Host Over EVD Fears.** Morocco declined to host the 2015 Africa Cup of Nations soccer tournament because of fears the EVD might spread to their nation. Moroccan officials are primarily concerned with the impacts to their tourist industry, which accounts for a large portion of their overall GDP. The Confederation of African Football declined the request from Morocco to delay the tournament until next year and will decide by 12 November how to proceed, either moving the tournament location or canceling it altogether. Currently, no other country has offered to host the tournament, and Morocco will likely face significant penalties and leaves the CAF with minimal countries to utilize. (<http://www.theguardian.com/football/2014/nov/08/africa-cup-nations-jeopardy-morocco-ebola-fears>) **Overall, Morocco raises legitimate concerns when considering the security of its citizens and tourists. People from all parts of West Africa will travel to Morocco for the tournament, leading to increased exposure amongst people from different countries. Although it is unlikely this event would become a catalyst for a significant EVD spread, it cannot be excluded completely.**



**(U) FDA Plans to Expedite EVD Drug Trials.** As of 05NOV14, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released a statement revealing a plan to conduct multiple EVD vaccine clinical trials simultaneously. Dr. Luciana Borio, the head of the FDA's EVD response, outlined the plan at the American Society of Tropical Medicine conference in New Orleans. According to the plan, the FDA will test multiple drugs at the same time in an umbrella study, instead of testing each EVD drug in its own trial. The study will only have one control group that will not receive any experimental treatments. All of the patients who participate in the study will receive basic supportive care. Doctors conducting the trial will also analyze the data as it comes in, rather than waiting until the end of the study. (<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/news/articles/2014/11/05/us-officials-unveil-plan-to-test-ebola-drugs>) ***The FDA is attempting to expedite the process of developing and approving safe and effective EVD treatments. This will significantly reduce the amount of time needed before potential treatments are released.<sup>1</sup> Utilizing a single control group will allow for effective testing while reducing the number of participants who receive no experimental treatment. The continuous analysis of trial data will significantly advance the process of searching for the safest and most effective treatment.***

**(U) Red Cross Scales up Response Efforts in Mali:** Two hundred Red Cross volunteers mobilized to the communities of Bamako, Keys, Koulikoro, and Sikasso, Mali. The volunteers will go door to door in communities to provide information on how locals can prevent EVD from spreading. In late October, Mali confirmed its first case of EVD after a two-year-old girl traveled to the country from Guinea. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) released emergency funds in April to help the Mali Red Cross Society conduct EVD preparation activities. (<http://reliefweb.int/report/mali/red-cross-scales-response-efforts-following-confirmed-ebola-case>) ***In April 2014, the Malian Government, local villagers in southern Mali, and the IFRC took initiative in actively preparing for an EVD outbreak due to southern Mali's shared border with Guinea.<sup>2</sup> As of 08NOV14, Mali has shown success in preventing additional cases of EVD. Malian officials and World Health Organization (WHO) officials continue to follow 39-suspected contacts.<sup>3</sup> Precautions implemented by government officials and the local population likely allowed for the containment of the EVD virus in Mali. However, porous borders will allow civilians to travel through the JOA unhindered. Malian officials stated they intend to keep the border open with Guinea.<sup>4</sup> Open borders with Guinea will allow imports from Senegal, Guinea, and the Ivory Coast to flow into Mali, but implantation of the policy will also greatly increase probability of experiencing another EVD case in Mali<sup>5</sup>.***

**(U) United Nations (UN) and World Health Organization (WHO) Define New Guidelines for Burial Teams.** The WHO announced a new burial protocol for EVD victims. The guidelines focus on reducing the risk of exposure to EVD, while allowing family members to bury loved ones in accordance with religious rites. The new procedures demonstrate cultural respect for the dead and are more inclusive to family and religious leaders. In accordance with the new procedures, the burial team will meet with the family, offer condolences without wearing their personal protective equipment (PPE), and contact a religious leader to assist in burial procedures. The teams will explain the burial procedure and obtain a formal agreement with the family representative. The WHO believes these new procedures will reduce the number of secret burials that continue to cause new infections. The UN anticipates these new procedures will assist in achieving the goal of treating 70% of cases by 01DEC14. (<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/notes/2014/ebola-burial-protocol/en/>) ***The WHO introduced new procedures to mitigate community burial practices, lowering the chance of accidental infection of family members. The new procedure respects the family's rights, which may increase the public's acceptance of burial teams. Burial teams now meet with the family without their PPE, and that equipment remains off until after the burial team has negotiated with the family and evaluates the area for contamination. The new procedures will also likely increase the time between death and burial by requiring this formal agreement before proceeding. Due to the increased time***

<sup>1</sup> <http://health.usnews.com/health-news/news/articles/2014/11/05/us-officials-unveil-plan-to-test-ebola-drugs>

<sup>2</sup> <http://reliefweb.int/report/mali/mali-keeping-ahead-ebola>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2014/11/03/who-says-currently-no-ebola-cases-in-mali-3-contacts-sought/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/31/us-health-ebola-mali-idUSKBN01K14W20141031>

<sup>5</sup> 30OCT14 OUA INTSUM



requirements for burials, areas with greater numbers of EVD-related deaths will need additional personnel and equipment to sustain the sanitary removal of EVD victims. Lastly, these new procedures do not address what happens when burial teams cannot agree with the family members on burial rights. Overall, this new protocol will likely increase relations and cooperation between burial teams and local communities, which has lacked public support in some areas of the country.<sup>6</sup>

**(U) Weather**

**(U) 24 Hour Liberia Weather:**

Today, Weather looks generally favorable, in the North throughout the day. In the early afternoon, the South and Central regions in Liberia will experience isolated thunderstorms and showers beginning at 1400L in the South and 1600L in the Central region. This weather will move to the West Southwest and move off shore by approximately 2000L. Clouds will lower in the North and Central regions beginning at 2200L and lasting until sunrise on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

**(U) Five Day Weather Outlook:**

ISB – Dakar, Senegal										
Date	(AM) 10NOV (PM)		(AM) 11NOV (PM)		(AM) 12NOV (PM)		(AM) 13NOV (PM)		(AM) 14NOV (PM)	
Fixed Wing										
Personnel	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
Temp	79 F	89 F	78 F	89 F	78 F	88 F	79 F	88 F	79 F	88 F

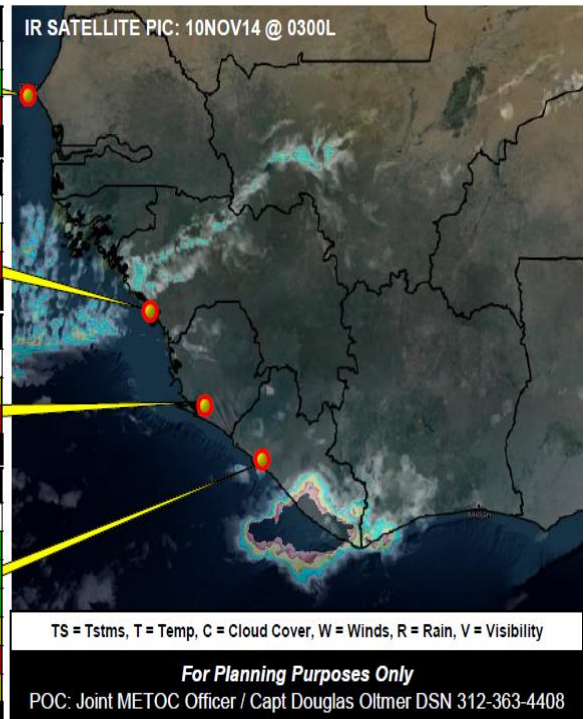
Conakry, Guinea										
Date	(AM) 10NOV (PM)		(AM) 11NOV (PM)		(AM) 12NOV (PM)		(AM) 13NOV (PM)		(AM) 14NOV (PM)	
Fixed Wing		TS	TS	TS	TS	TS		TS	TS	TS
Personnel	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T
Temp	75 F	85 F	76 F	84 F	74 F	85 F	75 F	86 F	75 F	87 F

Freetown, Sierra Leone										
Date	(AM) 10NOV (PM)		(AM) 11NOV (PM)		(AM) 12NOV (PM)		(AM) 13NOV (PM)		(AM) 14NOV (PM)	
Fixed Wing		TS		TS	TS	TS	TS	TS	TS	TS
Personnel	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T
Temp	74 F	86 F	74 F	86 F	76 F	85 F	76 F	85 F	77 F	86 F

Monrovia, Liberia										
Date	(AM) 10NOV (PM)		(AM) 11NOV (PM)		(AM) 12NOV (PM)		(AM) 13NOV (PM)		(AM) 14NOV (PM)	
RW Day				TS		TS		TS		
RW Night				TS		TS		TS		
Fixed Wing				TS		TS		TS		
Trafficability	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
ISR (FMV)	C/R	C/R	C/R	TS/C	C/R	TS/C	C	TS/C	C	TS/C
Personnel	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	R/T	T	R/T	T	R/T
Temp	74 F	87 F	72 F	88 F	73 F	87 F	74 F	86 F	74 F	85 F



<sup>6</sup> <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2014/08/04/liberia-ebola-victims/13564657/>