UNITED ASSISTANCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Info Cut-off: 200600L SEP 14

20 September 2014

Liberia Ebola Treatment Units



(U) Executive Summary: The transition of responsibility of internal security from the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) to the Liberia National Police (LNP), will free up the AFL to have a much greater impact on national EVD efforts. The announcement of a significant UN response to the EVD will have a positive impact. France's continued support of ETU sites in West Africa will create a more coordinated international response to control the virus outbreak and improving the international response image.

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(U) Social Media Trends and Sentiments in Liberia: Trending on Twitter over the past 24 hours, the French humanitarian worker who contacted Ebola is scheduled to receive a new treatment in Paris. *With the increasing pressure for foreign aid since the announcement of Operation United Assistance (OUA), the infection of a foreign aid worker will likely raise concerns with the Liberian population, fearing a negative impact for global support. It is unknown if other aid workers in the area were possibly exposed.* Social media data also indicated an increased concern over the possibility the Ebola virus would mutate and become transmissible via airborne exposure. UK scientists have claimed the prospect for such a mutation is remote. Social media also shows concerns about the killing of health workers in Guinea. *Attacks on health workers like the one in Guinea have potential to increase over infected regions in the near future. The lack of adequate treatment as well as little vacancy in hospitals will cause local populations to feel abandoned and some will attack against aid workers.*¹

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 Scientists see risk of mutant airborne Ebola as remote: LONDON, Sept (Reuters) - The Ebola virus raging thr... http://t.co/YjsScBloki

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 London scientists researching the Ebola virus going airborne.



(U) Liberia:

(U) **Online Volunteers Map Uncharted Ebola Zones:** Volunteers from various parts of the world are collaborating in a project called OpenStreetMap to build maps that will assist relief workers in Liberia. They will use satellite imagery to add details like population density and connecting paths between communities. These remote map makers give humanitarian groups vital tools for planning their ground campaign in combating Ebola.² *Global crowdsourcing response efforts in such open source mapping tools could aid NGO as well as military response efforts. The use of Open Street Map will have a positive impact on relief efforts, but due to the time involved in the verification process, the impact will be delayed.*

(U) **United Nations (UN) To Deploy New Health Mission:** According to press, on 18 September, the UN Security Council met for the first time to discuss the Ebola outbreak in West Africa citing it as a "threat to peace and security." Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated the UN will deploy a new emergency health mission to West Africa. The United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) has five priorities: controlling the outbreak, treating the infected, ensuring essential services, preserving stability, and preventing future outbreaks. However, the Secretary-General stated the effectiveness will be determined on support from the international community, citing that the UN set a list

² (U//FOUO) allAfrica, 19 SEP 14, (U) West Africa: Online Volunteers Map Uncharted Ebola Zones to Help Save Lives, cited portion classified: (U), overall document classified: (U)



^{1 (}U) Twitter, 18 SEP 14, (U) Social Media Trends and Sentiments in Liberia, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

of critical needs that total \$1billion over the next six months.³ With the UN launching a full-scale mission for the Ebola outbreak, this will assist the international community in controlling the virus outbreak in West Africa.

(U) **France opening more ETU sites in Guinea:** According to attaché reporting, France will open its third ETU site in Guinea in early November. On 18 September, an Ebola Response Team (ELRT) was sent down to assess possible sites for a 30-50 bed facility. A HQ site is planned to be set-up in Conarky, at the end of the recon mission, in order to coordinate operations on the ground and liaise with Guinean officials. Planned locations include the HQ in Conakry, logistics base in Nzerekore, treatment center in Macenta, and laboratory in Gueckedou.⁴ *France's continued support of ETU sites in West Africa will create opportunities for coordination between international authorities. Just as the UK is taking the lead in their former colony of Sierra Leone, the French are taking the lead in Guinea.*

(U) Weather:



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³ (U//FOUO) Cocorioko International, 18 SEP 14, UN to Deploy New Emergency Health Mission to West Africa Called UNMEER to Combat Ebola, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

⁴ (U//FOUO) DOD, E-MAIL, 191431L SEP 14, Update on the French Response to Ebola Crisis in Guinea, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U



(U) Monrovia will continue to see persistent rain with embedded thunderstorms throughout the forecast period. *These atmospheric conditions will make it very difficult for engineering and construction-based activities due to persistent and at times heavy rains. Furthermore, travel along all roads classified as "fair-weather" will be nearly impossible to traverse, due to the deterioration of ground conditions as 0.25 inches to 0.5 inches of rain is forecasted to occur on the 20th.* Roads classified as "all-weather" roads will be difficult to traverse during periods of heavy downpours. Forecasted thunderstorm activity

throughout the period can be expected to affect airfield operation at both Roberts International Airport and Spriggs-Payne Airport.

(U) Through the 22nd, Dakar will experience early morning thunderstorms. From the 23rd through the 24th the chance for rain continues but thunderstorms temporarily subside. Temperatures will remain in the mid 80s; however, conditions will remain marginal to personnel due to levels of high humidity producing heat indexes in the upper 80s to low 90s.