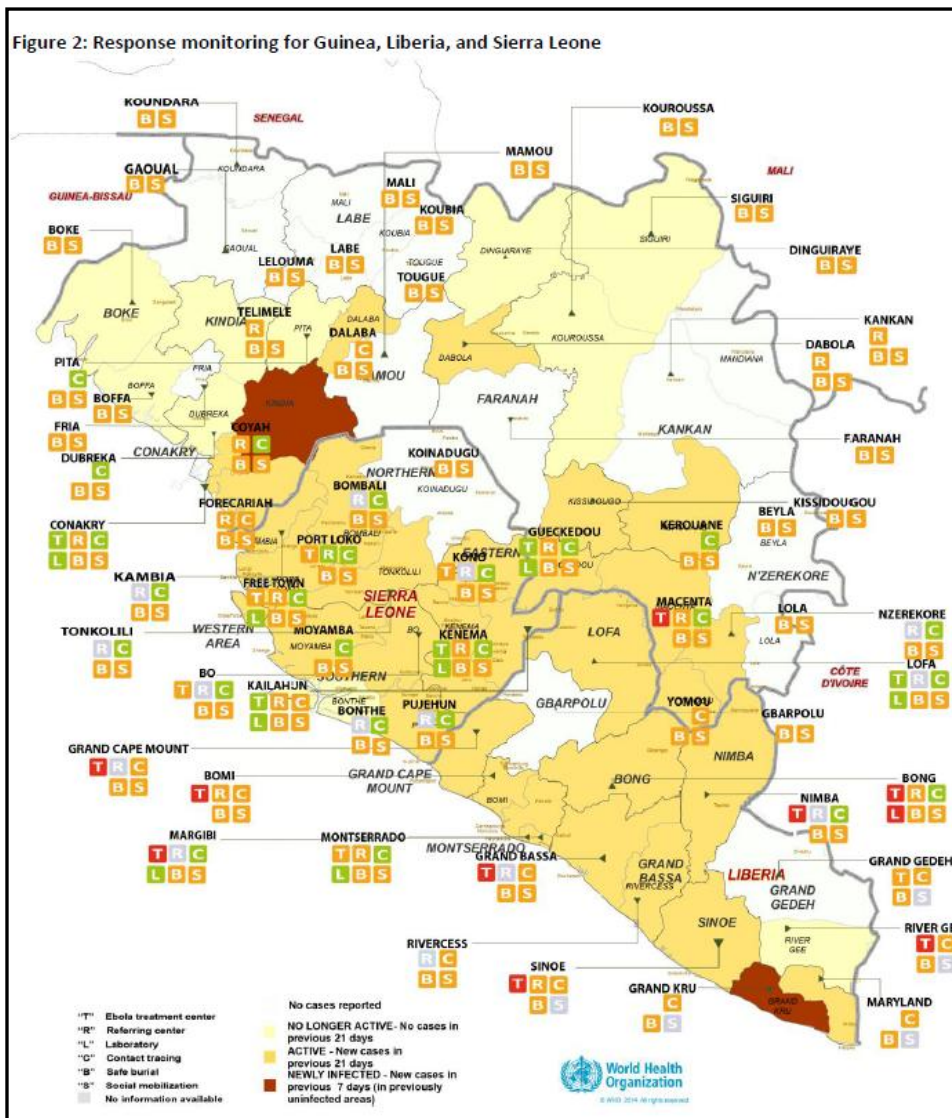


UNITED ASSISTANCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Info Cut-off: 290600L SEP 14

29 September 2014



(U) Executive Summary: *There has been one significant reports in the last 24 hours. A protest in Forechariah, Guinea erupted into an altercation between police and villagers while Red Cross workers attempted to remove infected bodies. The security situation in Liberia is likely to remain stable in the near term. The road conditions in Liberia continue to be nearly impassable due to heavy rains. The outbreak in Liberia has overwhelmed the already limited medical infrastructure. The movement of medical support in the country has not yet been able to provide the much-needed assistance.*

<sup>1</sup> (U) WHO, 26 SEP 14, (U) Who: Ebola Response Roadmap Update, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

**(U) Liberia:**

**(U) WHO Reports New Ebola Cases Declining:** As of 21 September, WHO notes the total number of probable, confirmed, and suspected cases in the current outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in West Africa are 6,263, with 2,917 deaths. The number of confirmed reported cases in Liberia is down for the most recent “Roadmap Update.” Although the official number is down, the WHO is attributing this drop in confirmed cases to the overwhelmed laboratories in Liberia. WHO believes that the medical labs are unable to process the amount of work to keep the confirmed case stats up to date.<sup>2</sup> *The situation in Liberia has overwhelmed the already limited medical infrastructure. The movement of medical support in the country has not yet been able to provide the much-needed assistance to Liberia. The medical labs are said to be working at or over capacity and have been for several weeks now. Until the non-Liberian medical labs can become operational and relieve the stress on the local medical staff, it is likely the statistics coming from the World Health Organization will not represent the true numbers of infected personnel.*

**(U) Mobile Medical Lab Site Survey:** On 27 September, the Mobile Lab Team surveyed the second site for a Liberian Mobile Ebola Lab in Bong County. The site will be placed on the large campus, 60 – 70 buildings, of Cuttington University (UTM: 29N438796778207). The main campus buildings including the administration, dormitories, cafeteria, chapel, and classrooms are approximately 300 acres, and the entire campus is approximately 1,500 acres. There are numerous private residences occupied by university staff on the campus grounds. The University is currently closed to students due to the Ebola outbreak. There are Non-Government Organization (NGO) medical staff from International Medical Corp (IMC) Staff occupying one dorm located in the central area of the campus, and the University has one operational-gas powered electric generator providing all power to the campus. The university has a second gas-powered electric generator that is not operational at the date of the site survey.<sup>3</sup> *This facility lacks the capability for a security or fire response, and medical assistance. The Mobile Lab site is only accessible using unimproved roads, increasing the challenge of getting the personnel and supplies to this location. This location is approximately a three and a half hour drive on unimproved roads from the current OUA JOC location.*

**(U) Armed Forces Liberian (AFL) Soldier’s Wife Died of Ebola:** Recently, an AFL soldier cared for his sick wife at home until her symptoms worsened. He brought his wife to the EBK Barracks for assistance. The soldier subsequently was diagnosed with EVD, and the wife died enroute to the Ebola Treatment Center (ETU) after leaving the EBK Barracks. A nurse at the barracks who took care of the soldier and his wife is now also infected. The soldier and the nurse are receiving care at a local ETU. No additional EVD cases have been connected to this event.<sup>4</sup>



<sup>2</sup> (U) World Health Organization, 24 SEP 14, (U) WHO: Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

<sup>3</sup> (U) OUA J2X, 29 SEP 14, (U) Mobile Lab – Cuttington University Security Assessment, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

<sup>4</sup> (U) OUA MED Planning Officer, 28 SEP 14, (U) Medical Planning Debrief, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

## UNCLASSIFIED

(U) **Liberian Doctor Quarantines Herself:** According to press, Dr. Bernice Dahn, Liberia's chief medical officer and deputy prime minister, placed herself under observation after her assistant died of Ebola. The Liberian government supports Dahn's decision to be monitored after possible exposure to the disease to prohibit further spread. In the JOA thus far, 375 health care workers have been infected and 211 have died. Sheik Umar Khan, the lead doctor against Ebola in Sierra Leone died from EVD in July.<sup>5</sup> *With public figures taking proactive measures to combat the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), positive attention is being directed toward the outbreak of the disease and the proper response to exposure, potentially altering negative outlooks associated with the epidemic.*

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<sup>5</sup> (U) *Voices of America*, 27 SEP 14, (U) *Top Liberian Doctor Quarantines Self*, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

UNCLASSIFIED

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

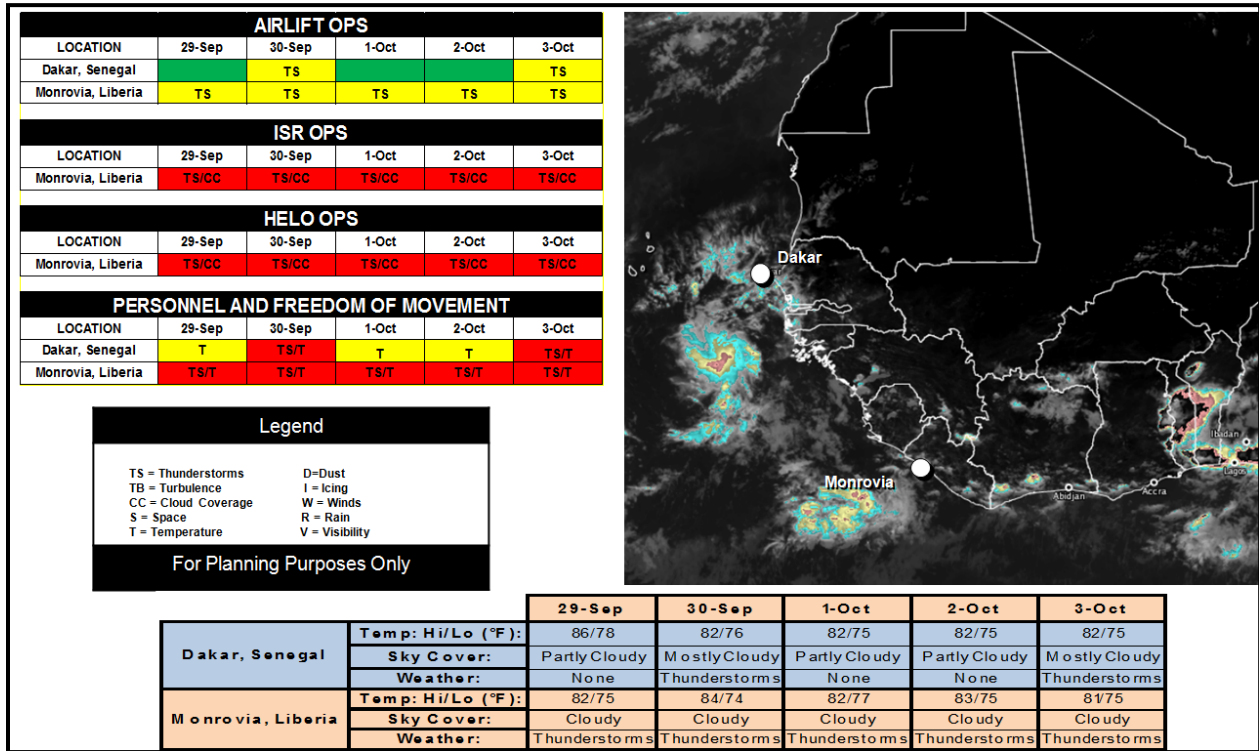
(U) **Village Unrest After Red Cross Arrives:** On 23 September, in the village of Forecariah, Kindia District, southwest Guinea, a group of Red Cross workers were attacked by villagers. The Red Cross workers were accused of mistreating EVD-infected corpses, resulting in altercations between the villagers and paramilitary police just outside of the town. Security services, coupled with poor weather, dispersed the protest quickly.<sup>6</sup> *Although the Red Cross workers were not doing anything ethically wrong by Western norms; they were accused of violating the region's distinct customs for preparing and handling a body for burial. The villagers likely felt offended by witnessing a family member being placed in a body bag and sprayed with disinfectant. It is their custom to wash the body and continue physical contact until burial. Continued communication and education from the government and local leaders, in combination with cultural sensitivity from humanitarian workers, will help ease tensions and decrease unrest. Liberia has teams of local counselors available to teach families why the bodies are handled in a sanitizing manner and to provide grief counseling. Liberian Red Cross counselors have expressed the high levels of grief of family members to not be able to touch their relatives as they are dying.*<sup>7</sup>



<sup>6</sup> (U) Afrinews, 26 SEP 14, (U) Southwest Guinea Town Residents Harass Red Cross Workers, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

<sup>7</sup> (U) United States Agency for International Development, 18 AUG 14, (U) On the Frontlines of the Ebola Response: an Inside Look at a Program to Help the Grieving, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

(U) Weather:



(U) Dakar will have an extended period of fair weather on the 29th as unfavorable weather is pushed south of the area. Isolated thunderstorms will return on the 30<sup>th</sup> before being pushed south again for the next 2 days. Isolated thunderstorms will pop up along the coast of Senegal on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. ***Inclement weather in Liberia will remain persistent with rain and thunderstorms throughout the country. Rainfall amounts for the country today will be 1.5 inches for the coast and interior, with mountain regions of the country receiving up to 3 inches of rain.***