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NOTICE TO THE PRESS
U.S. Response to the Ebola Epidemic in West Africa

FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE – On Tuesday, September 16, President Obama took a decisive step to strengthen the response of the United States in the fight against Ebola in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia. Mr. Obama announced that a U.S. Military Joint Force Command will be set up in Monrovia, Liberia, supported by an estimated 3,000 U.S. forces, to provide regional coordination for national and international relief efforts.

The U.S. Military Joint Force Command will expedite the transportation of equipment, supplies and personnel to the affected areas. The Command will establish a site to train up to 500 health care providers per week in addition to the more than 100 specialists already working in the region from U.S. departments and agencies including the Departments of State, Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and Department of Defense. The United States has committed more than \$175 million since March to join together with national governments and international partners to contain the Ebola outbreak.

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