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**FROM**

(b)(3):10 USC 424

**CONTROLS**

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**SERIAL:**

(b)(3):10 USC 424

/\*\*\*\*\* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE \*\*\*\*\*/

**BODY**

COUNTRY: (U) LIBERIA (LI).

SUBJ: (b)(3):10 USC 424 FIGHTING UNDERWAY NEAR RIA (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 900605.

(b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

SUMMARY: (C) FIGHTING BROKE OUT NEAR ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WITH REBEL FORCES LOCATED NEAR HARBEL AND AFL FORCES IN THE VICINITY OF THE FISH CREEK CHECKPOINT.

TEXT: 1. (C) REBEL FORCES ARRIVED ON THE FAR BANK OF THE FARMINGTON RIVER, ACROSS FROM THE FIRESTONE TOWN OF HARBEL, DURING THE NIGHT OF 900604-900605. THE REBELS REPORTEDLY MADE THEIR PRESENSE KNOWN AND REASSURED FIRESTONE EMPLOYEES THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE BOTHERED. 2. (C) ON 900605 AT APPROXIMATELY 0900 HOURS AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF FIRESTONE EMPLOYEES CROSSED THE FARMINGTON RIVER TO JOIN THE INSURGENTS AS NEW RECRUITS. 20-30 MINUTES OF CELEBRATORY WEAPONS FIRING GREETED THEIR

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ARRIVAL. THE ONLY AFL FORCE KNOWN TO BE ON THE  
**FIRESTONE PLANTATION** WAS A TEN MAN OUTPOST (WITH THREE  
MACHINE GUNS) LOCATED AT THE NEARBY GATE/CHECKPOINT OF  
FISH CREEK (b)(3):10 USC 424

AT AROUND 0930 HOURS THE INSURGENTS FIRED SEVERAL  
MORTARS TOWARD THE FISH CREEK CHECKPOINT. THE AFL  
RESPONDED BY ATTEMPTING TO DEPLOY TO A POSITION BETWEEN  
THE CHECKPOINT AND THE LATEX PLANT IN HARBEL. AFTER  
FIVE TO TEN MINUTES, THE INSURGENTS STOPPED THEIR MORTAR  
FIRE. (b)(1),1.4 (c) THE SMALL AFL  
FORCE WAS DRIVEN BACK TOWARD FISH CREEK.

3. (C) AT APPROXIMATELY 1000 HOURS, SMALL ARMS FIRE WAS  
HEARD IN THE VICINITY OF FISH CREEK. THE INSURGENTS  
RECOMMENCED THEIR MORTAR FIRES, WITH IMPACTS HEARD  
BEYOND THE FISH CREEK CHECKPOINT IN THE DIRECTION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. THE MORTAR AND SMALL ARMS FIRE  
STOPPED ONCE AGAIN AT 1030 HOURS.

4. (b)(1),1.4 (c) AS OF 1100  
HOURS THE REBELS HAD CROSSED THE FARMINGTON AND  
ESTABLISHED A FORCE ON THE PLANTATION IN THE VICINITY OF  
HARBEL. PLANTATION OFFICIALS ARE REPORTEDLY CONCERNED  
THAT A BLOODBATH MAY OCCUR SHOULD THE AFL MANAGE TO  
RECAPTURE THE AREA NOW HELD BY THE INSURGENTS.

5. (C) COL ((WRIGHT)), THE COMMANDER OF THE AFL 1ST BN,  
COULD BE HEARD AT AROUND 1015 HOURS ON THE AFL COMMAND  
RADIO NET ORDERING TWO (2) PLATOONS FROM CAMP SCHIEFFLIN  
TO GO TO THE SUPPORT OF THE AIRPORT DETACHMENT. HE ALSO  
CAUTIONED THE SOLDIERS TO BE WARY OF POSSIBLE REBEL  
AMBUSHES ALONG THE AIRPORT HIGHWAY. AT APPROXIMATELY  
1130 HOURS, WRIGHT WAS ONCE AGAIN ON THE RADIO, ORDERING  
HIS UNITS TO DEPLOY FROM THE VICINITY OF UNIFICATION  
TOWN TOWARD HARBEL. AT 1155 HOURS, THE 1ST BN ELEMENTS  
AT THE AIRPORT REPORTED THAT THEY WERE IN COMPLETE  
CONTROL OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL AND THAT NO INSURGENTS  
WERE ON THEIR SIDE OF THE FARMINGTON RIVER IN THE  
VICINITY OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL OR HOTEL COMPLEX.

(b)(1),(b)(3):10 USC 424,1.4 (c)

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