

🕞 TRUTH

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The Official Newsletter of the 166th Airlift Wing | Delaware Air National Guard

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2023 UPCOMING EVENTS

17-23 Aug	UEI Capstone NCCA
18-21 Aug	NGAUS Conference
28 Sept	Retiree Breakfast

DEVELOPMENTAL EVENTS:

10 Sept	FSS 0800-1000 at DFAC POC: SMSgt Fernandez
4 Nov	MXG 0900-1030 at Main Hangar POC: CMSgt Heuyard

166TH MAINTENANCE GROUP Opportunities for Success

by Lt Col Andrew Zook, 166th Aircraft Maintenance Group Deputy Commander

ooking towards the future, the 166th Maintenance Group (MXG) sees endless opportunities for success. Comprised of individuals from diverse backgrounds and expertise, the talents and dedication of the MXG has continuously been on display. United by a common purpose, the group finds strength and camaraderie in the daily challenges of keeping aircraft fully mission capable.



Airmen from the 166th Maintenance Group (MXG) propulsion section prepare a C-130 Hercules propeller for installation on 4-May-2022. MXG technicians are the backbone of the 166th Airlift Wing's flight operations, keeping the birds in the air and mission-ready. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Mr. Mitch Topal)

This year the MXG has faced numerous complex challenges and maintainers have been working tirelessly behind the scenes successfully managing maintenance resources to provide safe and reliable aircraft in support of our state and federal customers.

As many of you know, the entire fleet of C-130 aircraft with 54H60 propellers were grounded last fall when cracks were discovered in the propeller barrel. With no timeline or get-well date in sight, the recovery plan started off with little answers to our numerous questions. Mission capability rates and flying hours plummeted as units waited for a recovery plan to be developed. The fight was on with units to replace damaged 54H60 barrel assemblies with green ones.

Social Media Links:

Facebook:166th Airlift Wing 🧿 Instagram:@166thAirliftWing 👥 Flickr: delawareairnationalguard

See "Opportunities" continued on page 2

...And that's the DANG Truth!



"Opportunities" continued from page 1



Technicians from the 166th Maintenance Group (MXG) prepare to install a new propeller on a C-130H2.5 aircraft, 4-May-2022. Many USAF C-130s were grounded by a Time Compliance Technical Order (TCTO) issued after cracks were found in the propeller hubs. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Mr. Mitch Topal)

Commanders lobbied for their respective units to be at the top of the priority list, only to be disappointed when higher priority assets jumped the line. As spring transitioned into summer, the MXG was making progress but still digging out from the aircraft grounding. As more assets became available, more aircraft were repaired and a sense of normalcy in the operational tempo began to take shape. Overall, aircraft availability was still low and maintainers worked feverishly to keep the aircraft we had available fully mission capable.

Fast forward to today, we have a much clearer and predictable hub and blade delivery schedule that allows us to clearly plan a path forward, returning all our aircraft to an airworthy status. However, the path to a fully mission capable aircraft was not without obstacles. The MXG encountered numerous challenges along the way. They faced tight deadlines, unexpected equipment failures, and logistical complexities. There is still work to be done as maintainers prepare the final set of hub and blades, pushing towards the next functional check flight. This is a true testament to the hard work and dedication of the men and women of the MXG. Specifically, the propulsion section who have spent over an estimated 4,700 hours building up, tearing down, removing, installing, and rigging of 32 hub and blade assemblies. By the end of summer, all eight aircraft affected by the 54H60 propeller grounding will have been fixed allowing flight crews to fly unrestricted.

If the propeller barrel cracks weren't enough, in the middle of it all the MXG was notified by NGB that we were in the running to receive C-130H3 aircraft from the Savannah Air National Guard. The planning and scheduling efforts that followed became a bit more complicated as the Group would play a pivotal role in the recapitalization of our current C-130H2.5 to C-130H3 aircraft. Pickup, transfer, inspection calendars, and flex plans were formulated and reviewed. After months of changes, what-if scenarios, and back and forth between units, Delaware received its first C-130H3 aircraft. Sections within the Group expeditiously completed acceptance inspections, operational checks, and documentation reviews associated with aircraft transfer as they eagerly awaiting integration of the C-130H3 into the flying schedule.

The H3 aircraft have been outfitted with new NP2000 propellers and a digital electronic propeller control system (EPCS). But the C-130H3 isn't new and is going on almost 30 years old, but to the Airmen of the MXG it feels like a new airplane. Visibly the aircraft has a different ramp presence comprised of eight modular composite blades compared to legacy four bladed aluminum propellers. The good news for maintenance is that the new propellers increase the performance and thrust capabilities of the C-130, and account for reduced maintenance action time. Other differences include a Radar Warning Receiver, known as ALR 69. The system integrates with C-130s and fighters to detect, identify, and locate threat electronic signals. The modification installs a line replaceable radar receiver, modular countermeasures signal processor, control indicator, and azimuth indicator. The system integrates with transport and fighter aircraft.

Moreover, the C-130H3 symbolizes positive change and is a promising sign for the future of the MXG. Having just participated in Air Defender '23, maintainers were involved in the detailed planning and integration of the multi-nation flying exercises designed to provide taskable air combat power. The execution for the Air National Guard was remarkable, teaming up with 24 partner nations to execute the largest air exercise since the inception of NATO. Their efforts helped generate over 338 flying hours supporting 328 missions that delivered 1,214 passengers, 1.2 million pounds of cargo, and air dropped 524 paratroopers and 13,000 pounds of cargo.

In the coming months and years, the MXG will face new challenges, deployments, and exercises, that will require a team of diverse backgrounds, expertise, and skill level to come together to succeed. United by a common purpose, no matter the challenge, the MXG will continue to find strength and camaraderie in the daily challenges of keeping aircraft fully mission capable. Our success is exemplified by our unwavering dedication, our challenges symbolize our resilience, and our focus is on the future. The Maintenance Group story continues as maintainers stand ready to embrace new triumphs, overcome challenges, and shape a brighter future for the Group and the Delaware Air National Guard.

THE 166TH AIRLIFT WING RECEIVES THE FIRST OF SEVEN C-130H3 AIRCRAFT

s part of a major fleet upgrade, the 166th Airlift Wing received the first of seven C-130H3 Hercules model aircraft 28 June 2023. This aircraft, formerly of the Georgia Air National Guard is the start of a major upgrade to the Delaware Air National Guard's Fleet of 1991 vintage H2.5 models. There to witness the aircraft's landing were students from the Delaware AeroSpace Education Foundation, a summer program for middle school students focused on learning the basics of aerospace technology.

"The C-130H 3.0 aircraft represents the cutting edge of technology innovation for the H-model fleet, and it will play a vital role in furthering our mission. This state-of-the-art addition will not only enhance our capabilities but also provide us with increased readiness and training opportunities," said Col Lynn K. Robinson, Commander, 166th Airlift Wing. Significant differences between the two models can be found in the eight-bladed carbon fiber propellers and in the avionics packages. Avionics package improvements in the H3 include ring laser gyroscopes for the inertial navigation system, GPS receivers, night vision device compatible instrument lighting, and an integrated radar and missile warning system.

"The flight from Savannah was great," said Lt Col Andrew Sides, Commander, 166th Operations Group.

"The H3 is quieter, smoother, and more responsive. A real dream to fly."

Over the next several weeks, the 166th Airlift Wing will rotate in the rest of the H3 fleet.



NEW CASTLE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Del. -- During the all-call, two promotion ceremonies were conducted in the cargo bay of the 166th Airlift Wing's first C-130H3, 29-June-2023. Major Andrew Zook, 166th Maintenance Group CD was promoted to Lt Colonel. Captain Allen Thompson, 166th Maintenance Operation Flight CC (during RSD) and 166th Maintenance Squadron DO was promoted to Major. Wing Commander Col Lynn K. Robinson performed the swearing in. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by TSgt Erin Cramer)



NEW CASTLE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Del. -- Members of the 166th Airlift Wing answer the commander's call to commemorate the arrival of the first C-130H3 aircraft, 29-June-2023. The Delaware Air National Guard will be receiving six additional H3 models to replace its fleet of H2.5 models. Significant differences between the two models can be found in the eight-bladed carbon fiber propellers and in the avionics packages. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Mr. Mitch Topal)

BUILDING 2600 PROGRESS PHOTOS

The project is currently on schedule.



The Loeffel Room gets a make-over.



The command suite takes shape.



The first floor hallway is ready for drywall.



The IG Offices.



Financial offices.



Downstairs looking toward the FSS.

AIR FORCE ACADEMY CADETS VISIT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AVIATION FACILITY

THE **DANG** TRUTH



On 15 June the Delaware National Guard Army Aviation Support Facility hosted Air Force Academy Cadets as part of Operation Air Force, a three-week training program that affords Air Force Academy Cadets the opportunity to experience Air Force operations at different bases. After a tour of the Army Aviation Support Facility, the twelve Cadets learned about the integration between Army and Air Guard operations culminating with an orientation flight aboard a UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter.



NEW CASTLE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Del. -- (Left and center) SSG Brian Casson, Flight Paramedic with the 126th MEDEVAC unit briefs the cadets about the various capabilities of the UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter. (Right) USAF Air Force Academy cadets assemble for a group photo in front of a DE ANG Blackhawk. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Mr. Mitch Topal)



NEW CASTLE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Del. --- (Left) USAF Cadets meet Dewey, a golden retriever in training to become a service dog, while waiting for orders to board a Blackhawk for their orientation flight. (Center) USAF Cadets, accompanied by the 166th Airlift Wing's Air Executive Officer, Capt Jenifer Mutter, board a Blackhawk for their orientation flight. (Right) The UH-60 Blackhawk taxies out for the orientation flight. (U.S. Air National Guard photos by Mr. Mitch Topal)

AIRMAN SPOTLIGHT

Technical Sergeant Jeffrey Ruocco Fusion Analyst with the 166th Cyberspace Operations Squadron

My name is Technical Sergeant Jeffrey Ruocco, a Fusion Analyst with the 166th Cyberspace Operations Squadron. been shared with me.

After taking every opportunity to learn, I have also been able to utilize these experiences through two mobilizations in support of the Cyber National Mission Force (CNMF), along with support to the state and making sure Delaware's networks are secure from foreign adversaries.

> For the future I plan to keep learning and to not only support more mobilizations to CNMF, but to find new ways and opportunities in which the COS can support national and state missions against the evergrowing threat to information technology networks.

Work is not everything however, even though I do enjoy learning about the continuing advancement of technology on my own time, I prefer spending quality time with my wonderful wife and our two-year-old son.

As a closing note I would leave these two messages. To the leadership I would say that there is a need to ensure our ability to meet current mission requirements, however there is another need to be able to adapt and identify emerging missions that we may be able to support as well. For the Junior Enlisted force, it is important to never give up and to learn from those around you. You may have to switch paths at times, but through perseverance and flexibility, you will always find new opportunities and a way forward.

I had known that I wanted to join the Air Force in some shape or form since middle school, though I had envisioned joining active duty at the time. Instead of joining right after high school, I took a few college courses and in 2013, I decided to join the Air National Guard following in the footsteps of my father and sister. After talking to the recruiting office on base about the available openings, it was an easy choice to choose the career path I am on as a cyber intelligence analyst.

Though the decision was easy for me, the path was full of challenges that no one could foresee. Cyberspace is an everchanging environment through ongoing attacks against our country, and the slower pace of policy and administrative change created a few roadblocks.

My attendance to technical training was delayed due external circumstances; this led to a halt on all security clearances, which was a requirement of the schoolhouse. After a nearly yearlong delay, I was finally able to attend training. While delayed from attending pipeline training, I was able to learn directly from my fellow Airmen in the squadron who all brought their industry experience with them, and although the Air Force's training was useful, it paled in comparison to the breadth of knowledge that had







Promotions & Retirements

August 2023

Promotions

Brittany Heck to TSgt Joseph Johnson to TSgt Robert Sinning to TSgt Jiyren Broomer to SSgt Thomas Mcginnis to SSgt Cashia Corey to SrA John De Luna to SrA Mccloud Duncan to SrA Mccloud Duncan to SrA Alcocer Nunez Alexa to SrA Michael Palet to SrA Manuel Rose to A1C

Retirements

MSgt Ferrermarrero Herminio 166th LRS MSgt Christopher Panico 166th CES TSgt Latasha Falkey 166th MDG TSgt Kenneth Parsons 166th SFS

Conflict Management

By Senior Master Sergeant Faith C. Fleischman 166 AW Human Resource Advisor



SMSgt Faith C. Fleischman Human Resource Advisor Phone: (254) 702-7260 Email: faith.fleischman@us.af.mil Office – Located in the LRS Command Staff area

onflict can occur in any organization when employees with different backgrounds, interests, and priorities work together. Conflicts are inevitable in a person's day-to-day life. And when they happen, the idea is not to try to prevent them but rather to resolve and management them in an effective manner. Conflict management is the practice of being able to identify and handle conflicts sensibly, fairly, and efficiently. Since conflicts in an organization are a natural part of the workplace, it is important that there are people who understand conflicts and know how to resolve them.

Personality and upbringing influence the way we handle conflict. In some households, it's completely normal to walk away from conflict and never bring it up again. In other families, problems are discussed rationally until a compromise is reached, while some families resolve their problems with dramatic flair. - Imagine having three team members who were each raised in a different one of these environments. One is going to walk away, another is going to attempt to have a conversation and the third might raise their voice and become emotional. Each one thinks they're handling conflict in a normal way and views the behavior of the other two co-workers as odd. Different people use different methods to resolve conflict, and most people have one or more natural, preferred conflict resolution strategies that they use regularly.

Although we can't always control our exposure to conflict in our professional and personal lives, we can approach conflict management in a way that makes the difference between a positive and a negative outcome. By understanding how to skillfully manage conflict, you can negate its negative effects and even have it work to your advantage.

If you'd like to learn more about the topic of conflict management, upcoming events, how the HRA can assist you, or would like to schedule training for your Section, Squadron, or Group please swing by my office or send me an email. Also, don't forget the HRA Diversity & Inclusion series courses are offered to the Wing every Saturday or Sunday of RSD. Check the RSD Plan and monthly email for locations. See you there!

Human Resource Advisor: Diversity & Inclusion Wing-wide Courses Times TBD **Times TBD FY23** Saturday Sunday July NO RSD August Managing Stress in the Workplace & Resiliency (NEW) Coaching/Mentoring Methods 101 (NEW) September POC: Human Resource Advisor (HRA) SMSgt Faith C. Fleischman Email/Phone faith.fleischman@us.af.mil 254-702-7260



A historical perspective by BG (Ret.) Kennard Wiggins, Curator of the Delaware Military Museum

Delaware Air Guard Makes a Clean Sweep

From the October 1965 DANG Truth:

THE DANCE TRUTH

The Delaware Air National Guard came out on top last month in what surely must represent a record in itself of Air Guard achievement. The Delaware Air National Guard was the recipient of four major awards at a ceremony in Miami: The Spaatz Trophy, the McCallister Trophy, The National Guard Bureau Flying Safety Award [awarded by the Military Air Transport Service (MATS)], and the Air Force Association's Outstanding Unit trophy!

The much-coveted Spaatz Trophy named for General Carl Spaatz, former Chief of Staff of the Air Force is awarded each calendar year to the most outstanding Air National Guard tactical flying unit. DE ANG was in competition with approximately 75 other flying units to take the top honors.

The McCallister Trophy is close to the hearts of Delaware Air Guardsmen. It is named for the former commander of the 142nd Tactical Fighter Squadron who was killed in a tragic T-33 jet trainer mishap at Scott AFB several years ago. The McCallister Trophy has the same criteria as the Spaatz Trophy but the competition is only open to Air Transport units.

The National Guard Bureau Flying Safety Award is presented to a unit who demonstrates a record free of major aircraft accidents while maintaining a high level of operational readiness. DE ANG logged more than 4500 flying hours in 1964 without incident.

Just before press time, Colonel Atkinson informed the DANG Truth that DE ANG would receive the Air



Colonel Clarence Atkinson and Lt Col Albert Poppiti admire the AFA Outstanding Unit Award.

Force Association's Outstanding Unit Award at the AFA Conference in March. The trophy is in the form of an engraved Silver Bowl.

Delaware Governor Charles Terry had this to say: "Delaware is the first state and we hope to continue to remain in the forefront of National Guard activities as well as in all fields. From my own observation in flying in an Air National Guard plane, it is hard for me to conceive of any state having a finer, more qualified group of pilots and aircrews. To them, and the men who maintain them, belongs the glory."





Airman & Family Readiness Program 302-323-3327

HOLISTIC WELLNESS CHALLENGE





CHALLENGE your Service members to adopt at least one of the recommended resources to safely store firearms and medications

FACTS & FIGURES: DID YOU KNOW?

- 72% of National Guard suicide deaths involved firearms
- 69% of National Guard suicides by firearm involved personally owned weapons
- 63% of National Guard suicide attempts involved poisoning
- 60% of military spouse suicide deaths involved firearms
- 55% of military dependent suicide deaths involved firearms

QUICK ACTION SAVES LIVES

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, call 911. Confidential crisis support is available 24/7 by dialing:



CONTACT US

For more information on lethal means safety or other wellness topics, email us at: ng.ncr.ngb.mbx.integrated-prevention-branch@army.mil

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT



There are many misconceptions about suicide, suicide risk, and the potential impact of easily accessible firearms. Knowing the truth and taking the appropriate action can save lives.

MYTH: If you remove access to one lethal method, a person at risk for suicide will find an alternative method.

FACT: 90% of people who survive an attempt do not die by suicide at a later point. That is because those in acute distress do not typically have a back-up plan.

MYTH: Suicide is always the result of long-term planning.

FACT: It can take less than 5-10 minutes between thinking about suicide and acting. Putting time and distance between a person in distress and a means for suicide gives them a moment to change their mind.

MYTH: An unlocked firearm in the home makes it safer and does not increase the risk of suicide.

FACT: Violent home break-ins are rare. Access to a firearm in the home increases suicide risk by 4 to 6 times for everyone in the family.



ENCOURAGE SAFE STORAGE

What does it mean?

 Lethal means safety involves securing firearms, medications, and other methods of self-harm.

Why does it matter?

- The time between thinking about suicide and acting is often short; extending that time could save a life by allowing for intervention and reconsideration.
- More die by suicide via firearm than by combat, accident, homicide, and other means combined.
- Suicide attempts involving medications are the most common method of non-fatal suicide attempts.

GUN LOCKS FOR GUARD MEMBERS

NGB is expanding its partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs to make free gun locks more easily accessible. Since February 2023, 2,400 gun locks have been sent to Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Iowa, Montana, New York, Ohio, Virginia, and Wyoming with the intent to distribute to ARNG and ANG units. NGB's plan is to expand across all 54 States, Territories and District of Columbia.

What can you do?

- · Remind Service members that quick action saves lives and crisis support is available 24/7.
- Foster a culture that encourages safe storage of firearms and medications and promotes support seeking behaviors.
- Encourage Service members to contact their VA Suicide Prevention Coordinator (link below) for a free gun lock.
- Reach out to Resilience, Risk Reduction, and Suicide Prevention Coordinators (ARNG) or Directors of Psychological Health (ANG) if assistance is needed with obtaining gun locks.
- · Recommend using medication lock boxes, which are available online and in many pharmacies.
- · Urge Service members to safely dispose of unwanted, unused, or expired medications.
- · Correct common misconceptions regarding lethal means safety.
- Talk about how Service members can protect themselves and their families from harm.

RESOURCES TO RECOMMEND



Watch a one-minute video on lethal means safety https://www.dspo.mil/Portals/113/In%20Our%20 Nature%201%20min%20%20C0LORGRADE%20NOVEMBER%20EDIT.mp4



Review lethal means safety resources for tips and conversation starters https://www.dspo.mil/Tools/Download-Library/LethalMeansSafety



Take the free Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) Training https://sprc.org/online-courses



Locate the nearest Veterans Affairs (VA) Suicide Prevention Coordinator and request a free gun lock https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/find-resources/local-resources



Search for year round medication disposal locations near you https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal

SPOTLIGHT: PROJECT SAFEGUARD (PSG)

- Peer-to-peer intervention program that provides safe storage training, counseling, and gun locks for National Guard members to protect themselves, fellow Service members, and their families.
- Since January 2023, nearly 200 Service members have been trained in Arizona, Georgia, Iowa, and Nevada.
- · Initial evaluation suggests that participants are 40% more likely to securely store personally owned firearms.
- · For more information, email: ng.ncr.ngb-arng.mbx.ngb-j1-partnerships@army.mil



166 Airlift Wing SAPR

(302) 250-1802



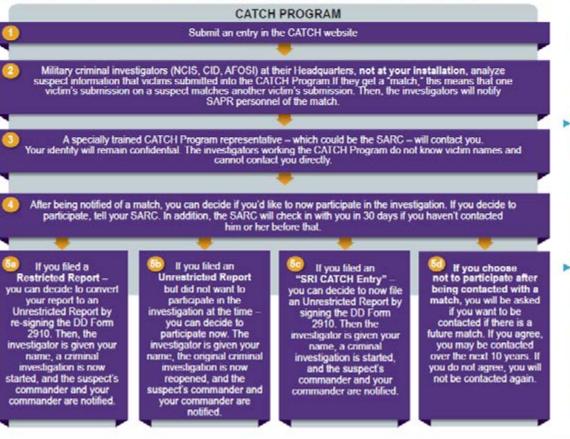


DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OFFICE

Catch a Serial Offender (CATCH) Program Victim Info Sheet

The CATCH Program gives adult sexual assault victims who filed <u>Restricted Reports</u>, <u>certain</u> <u>Unrestricted Reports</u> (where the name of the suspect is not reported to law enforcement or uncovered by law enforcement), or <u>no report</u> an opportunity to anonymously submit suspect information to help the DoD identify serial offenders.

To make a CATCH entry, contact the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) or Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Victim Advocate (VA). They will explain the program and provide you a username and password to gain access to the CATCH website. You are eligible if you filed a sexual assault report with a DD Form 2910 and the name of the suspect is not known by law enforcement. However, if you do not want to file a sexual assault report, you can still participate in CATCH by submitting a "SAPR-related Inquiry (SRI) CATCH Entry." Your entry is anonymous. If your entry "matches" another entry or an investigation, you will be contacted by SAPR personnel, not an investigator, and you will then decide whether to participate in the investigation. Your participation in the CATCH Program is voluntary. If there is a match, your name will not be automatically provided to law enforcement without your permission. You may decline to participate in the process at any point, even after being notified that there was a potential match. There shall be no adverse consequences if you do not agree to participate.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I have to provide my name? No, you cannot share your

no, you cannot snare you name; the process is anonymous.

What information do you need about the suspect?

The top 5 things that we would like you to provide, but only if you know them, are the suspect name, suspect phone number or social media usemame(s), suspect rank, date of offense, and location of the sexual assault. You can provide as much information as you can remember and feel comfortable sharing. You only need to complete one field to be able to submit an entry.

How long do you keep my entry in the CATCH system?

Each entry is kept for 10 years. This means that you could be contacted at any time over the next 10 years if there is a potential match, as long as you don't opt out and your contact information doesn't change.

I have more questions. Who can I speak with before deciding?

If you are eligible, your SARC or SAPR VA can offer you a referral to a Special Victims' Counsel or Victims' Legal Counsel, who is your personal attorney (not a prosecutor or a defense attorney). They can help answer your legal questions about the CATCH Program.

For more information on the CATCH Program, visit the Sexual Assault Prevent and Response Office CATCH webpage at www.sapr.mil/CATCH For confidential 24/7 crisis intervention, call or visit the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247 or www.safehelpline.org



EARN CASH INCENTIVES FOR EACH REFERRAL THAT JOINS THE DELAWARE NATIONAL GUARD:

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5 EASY STEPS!

Army

National

Guard

Air National Guard



1. FIND AN APPLICANT & SCAN THE QR CODE 2. They enter their contact information 3. You enter your unique id code 4. Recruiters contact and process the lead 5. You earn if they join!

CONTACT A RECRUITER FOR MORE INFORMATION