



# Ohio Adjutant General's Department

Mike DeWine, Governor

Major General John C. Harris Jr., Adjutant General

Nov. 21, 2020  
Log# 20-30

For Immediate Release

## Ohio Air National Guard base on short list for new cyber mission

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Ohio Air National Guard's 179th Airlift Wing at Mansfield-Lahm Airport in Mansfield, Ohio, is one of two sites selected as possible locations for a new mission.

The U.S. Department of Defense notified Gov. Mike DeWine on Nov. 20, 2020, that the U.S. Air Force had selected Mansfield as a candidate location to host an Air National Guard Information Warfare (Cyber) Wing (IWW).

"This is exciting news," said Maj. Gen. John C. Harris Jr., Ohio adjutant general and commander of the Ohio National Guard. "This potential new mission for the men and women of the Ohio Air National Guard would bring in-demand cybersecurity positions to the area. It would position us in the middle of the military's cutting edge cyber capability and the fight against emerging cyber threats."

The Mansfield site is one of two being considered for the IWW, with the other being Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport in Minnesota. The Air Force is expected to conduct site surveys at each of the two locations. The mission is planned to begin transitioning in 2022.

The 179th currently flies the C-130 Hercules transport aircraft on missions across the United States and around the world. In addition, the unit participates in disaster relief efforts and other domestic emergencies as required. There are approximately 900 members at the wing.

-30-

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Stephanie Beougher, public information officer, at 614-506-3490 or [stephanie.k.beougher.nfg@mail.mil](mailto:stephanie.k.beougher.nfg@mail.mil).

For current information and stories on the Ohio National Guard:

[Buckeye Guard online publication and newscast](#)

[Ohio National Guard website](#)

[Defense Visual Information Distribution Service \(DVIDS\)](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Flickr](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Instagram](#)