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**Alaska National Guard**  
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## **Air National Guardsmen conduct search for missing plane**

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska** — The Air National Guard, along with the Civil Air Patrol, are currently searching for an overdue airplane that was scheduled to arrive at Merrill Field in Anchorage around noon, yesterday.

The Alaska Rescue Coordination Center received a report that a Piper PA-28-180 aircraft that was scheduled to depart out of Port Alsworth at approximately 10:00 a.m., bound for Anchorage, had not arrived as scheduled.

The plane was reported as having planned to fly to Anchorage by way of Lake Clark Pass.

The 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard accepted the mission and launched two C-130 aircraft. As well, a Guardian Angel team from the 212th Rescue Squadron, was onboard one of the C-130's.

An HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter from the 210th Rescue Squadron flew from Eielson Air Force Base to JBER, where they switched crews and joined in the search effort.

According to the RCC, limited visibility due to fog hindered search efforts in the pass. The search efforts over the night focused on the Lake Clark Pass area.

The crews flew through the night and returned in the early hours of the morning to refuel and swap crews.

The 176th Wing is continuing the search today with multiple aircraft. The RCC also reported that the Civil Air Patrol is joining in the search effort.

This is an ongoing search effort, and all media inquiries pertaining to the search effort should be directed to the 176th Wing Public Affairs Office at 907-552-3959.

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