

## Building Bridges of Hope: TNI's 501 Task Force Distributes Food Packages to Sorry Village Residents in Papua

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Aifat Selatan, Maybrat - MediaHabema- In a heartwarming effort to strengthen bonds and provide essential support to the local community, the 501 Para Raider Infantry Battalion of Kostrad (TNI) conducted a food distribution initiative in Sorry Village, Aifat Selatan District, Maybrat, Papua Barat Daya. On Tuesday, October 29, 2024, soldiers from the 501 Task Force, under the HABEMA Command,

reached out to residents with packages of basic necessities.

The initiative, led by Second Lieutenant Irfan and his team stationed at the Sorry Post, was not just about handing out food it became a meaningful platform for interaction. Soldiers welcomed villagers warmly, exchanging conversations and smiles that resonated far beyond the material aid.

Commander of the 501 Task Force, Lieutenant Colonel Yakhya Wisnu Arianto, emphasized the importance of these social engagements. He noted that while their primary mission is security along the border with Papua New Guinea, the Task Force strives to make every assignment meaningful by contributing to the community's well-being. "The presence of our troops must be a source of positive impact," he remarked.

The food distribution event was particularly well-received, with Mama Maria Uamang, a local resident, expressing deep gratitude. "Thank you, Commander 501. God bless you," she said with a smile, reflecting the joy that the small yet impactful act brought to the people.

The outreach initiative also gained praise from Brigadier General Lucky Avianto, Commanding General of HABEMA. He lauded the 501 Task Force for their dedication, highlighting that such efforts are essential not only to meet the people's immediate needs but also to support long-term development goals in Papua.

"The initiative of the 501 Task Force exemplifies TNI's commitment to fostering both security and prosperity in the region. It reflects our responsibility to be present for the community, empowering them and instilling optimism for a better future," said Brigadier General Avianto.

The food distribution is part of the broader mission of TNI's Territorial Operations to integrate humanitarian activities into military assignments, particularly in remote and border regions. The focus is not only on protecting national borders but also on building trust, relationships, and goodwill with the local community.

Through these initiatives, the TNI embodies the values of professionalism, responsiveness, and adaptability, ensuring that their presence contributes to both security and social welfare. It is efforts like these that sow seeds of hope and optimism for the future of the region.

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