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From Patrol to Play: 509 Task Forces Unite Hearts in Wandoga Village

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INTAN JAYA- The Raider Infantry Battalion 509/Balawara Yudha Kostrad, part of the Indonesian Armed Forces Operational Command HABEMA, has once again demonstrated the power of compassion and connection. On Monday, 25 November 2024, in Wandoga Village, Intan Jaya Regency, Papua Tengah Province, Soldiers turned a routine mission into a heartwarming display of unity through their Social Communication (*Komsos*) program.

Led by First Lieutenant Wanianto of the Holomama Post, the Task Forces conducted their community engagement activities while ensuring security in the area. With a focus on fostering trust and strengthening bonds, the initiative provided the perfect platform to support local residents and uplift their spirits.

The Soldiers welcomed a group of children from Wandoga Village to their Post, where smiles and laughter filled the air. Soccer games broke out, meals were shared, and meaningful conversations took place, highlighting the Soldiers' genuine care for the community. Residents also shared updates on their village, emphasizing the prevailing peace—a testament to the diligent efforts of the 509 Task Forces.

Lieutenant Colonel Dian Dessiawan Setyadi, Commander of the 509 Task Forces, underscored the importance of community involvement in every aspect of their mission:

"Our role is not just to provide security but also to be a source of support and trust for the communities we serve. Every interaction helps us build stronger connections and a brighter future for Papua."

This sentiment resonated deeply with the children, including Rio Tabuni, who voiced his gratitude with heartfelt words: *"Thank you, Commander 509. God bless you."*

The HABEMA Commanding General, Brigadier General Lucky Avianto, praised the efforts of the 509 Task Forces, recognizing the profound impact of their inclusive approach:

"The 509 Task Forces have shown that meaningful progress comes from building bridges with the community. These efforts embody TNI's commitment to fostering unity and accelerating development in Papua."

This simple yet powerful initiative serves as a reminder that security goes beyond physical safety it involves nurturing relationships and empowering communities. Through the *Komsos* program, the 509 Task Forces have given hope and reinforced the belief that progress and peace are achievable through collaboration and compassion.

With every soccer ball kicked and every smile exchanged, the Soldiers in Wandoga Village left an indelible mark on the hearts of those they serve. It's not just about protection; it's about partnership and paving the way for a brighter tomorrow.

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