

BIG ISSUE

Spreading Christmas Joy: Satgas Yonif 503 Kostrad Delivers Aid Packages to Kenyam Residents

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NDUGA- Bringing the spirit of Christmas to life, the Infantry Battalion Task Force Para Raider 503/Mayangkara Kostrad, under the HABEMA Operational Command, distributed **aid packages** to the residents of **Kenyam**, Nduga Regency, Papua Highlands Province, on **Tuesday, December 17, 2024**.

The initiative, led by **Lieutenant Colonel Gurbasa Samosir**, was part of Satgas Yonif 503 Kostrad's commitment to combining their primary duty of securing the RI-PNG border with supporting the local community's needs—especially during meaningful celebrations like Christmas.

Lieutenant Colonel Gurbasa Samosir, along with **24 dedicated soldiers**, visited **Kolam Betesda Church**, where a religious event was underway. With a focus on both security and humanity, the soldiers distributed aid packages to residents, sharing in the joy and spirit of the season. The harmonious interaction between the soldiers and the community created a warm and uplifting atmosphere, reinforcing the bonds of trust and togetherness.

“This is not just about security; it's about sharing happiness, helping where we can, and celebrating together with the community we serve. Christmas is a time for joy and giving,” Lt. Col. Gurbasa Samosir remarked during the activity.

The residents' happiness was clear from the smiles and gratitude they expressed upon receiving the aid. **One resident**, beaming with joy, shared, “We are very grateful for what Satgas 503 has done. Their kindness means so much and makes this Christmas celebration even more special.”

The activity was a reflection of the TNI's deep commitment to **supporting local welfare** while ensuring peace and stability. Brigadier General **Lucky Avianto**, Commander of HABEMA, praised the initiative, stating: “The distribution of aid packages by Satgas Yonif 503 Kostrad symbolizes the TNI's care and support for the people of Papua. This effort not only meets basic needs but strengthens the bonds of harmony and accelerates development in the region.”

The soldiers' gesture went beyond material aid; it delivered a message of hope, compassion, and unity—values that lie at the heart of Christmas. As smiles lit up the faces of Kenyam's residents, the spirit of the season truly came alive, showcasing that the TNI's presence in Papua is not just about security but about building **peaceful and joyful communities**.

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