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TNI Feeds Hope: 503 Task Force Shares Lunch with Rimba Elementary Students in Papua

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[Nduga](#)- In a powerful display of solidarity and care, soldiers from the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI) 503 Para Raider Infantry Battalion, under the operational command of HABEMA, have made a remarkable contribution to the community of Papua. On Friday, October 18, 2024, the 503 Task Force, led by First Lieutenant Galih Widiharyo, brought smiles to the students of Rimba Elementary School in Mumugu Village, Krepkuri District, by providing a generous free lunch during their patrol in the region.

This heartwarming gesture is part of TNI's broader commitment to engage with local communities and address their most basic needs. Lieutenant Colonel Gurbasa Samosir, Commander of the 503 Task Force, highlighted the importance of the mission: "Our job is not only to ensure security in the region but also to support the communities we serve. Every action we take is aimed at improving the welfare of the people living around us." The Batas Batu Post, where the soldiers are stationed, has consistently incorporated social programs like this into their daily routines, ensuring that their presence benefits the people of Papua in tangible ways.

As lunchtime arrived, the soldiers interacted with the teachers and students in the schoolyard, offering the free meals with a warm smile. The children, thrilled by the unexpected kindness, expressed their gratitude. "Thank you, Commander 503. We are full. God bless you," said Dani Menjeh, a student, echoing the heartfelt thanks of his peers.

The initiative was met with high praise from the HABEMA Commanding General, Brigadier General Lucky Avianto, who acknowledged the significance of the soldiers' actions. "The 503 Task Force's effort to provide food to the students is a testament to TNI's unwavering commitment to meeting the basic needs of the community and supporting the development of Papua. It demonstrates the power of the military to inspire hope and contribute to the region's progress," he remarked.

This initiative not only nourished the students but also reinforced the deep connection between the military and the local population, fostering trust and goodwill. It is a reminder that TNI's role extends far beyond security; it is about building a brighter, more optimistic future for the people of Papua through everyday acts of kindness and support.

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