

## TNI's Mission: Accelerating Welfare and Ensuring Security in Papua

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PAPUA- As part of Indonesia's commitment to advancing development in Papua, the Presidential Instruction No. 9 of 2020 serves as the cornerstone for the Indonesian Armed Forces' (TNI) duties in the region. This directive mandates the TNI to undertake three primary responsibilities: providing security support, assisting regional governments in delivering essential services, and fostering inclusive social communication with all stakeholders in Papua.

In alignment with these objectives, TNI has deployed its military task forces to Papua to spearhead welfare development efforts. Ensuring a stable and secure environment is the foremost priority, enabling stakeholders and Papuan residents to participate effectively in development initiatives. However, these efforts face significant challenges, including ongoing security disruptions posed by the Free Papua Movement (OPM).

### **Overcoming Security Challenges for Development**

OPM's activities, ranging from intimidation to acts of violence against civilians and security personnel, have hindered development progress in Papua. One such incident involved the tragic murder of Glen Malcolm Conning, a New Zealand pilot for PT Intan Angkasa Air Service, on August 5, 2024. This heinous act exemplifies the security threats that impede the region's development.

Despite these challenges, TNI has proven its unwavering commitment to safeguarding the region. On August 6, 2024, TNI successfully secured the Alama area and conducted a humanitarian mission to evacuate the victims, including health workers, teachers, and infants. This operation was carried out as an act of humanity, without any prior request from the victims' families or the New Zealand Government.

Similarly, the release of Susi Air pilot Captain Phillip Mark Mehrtens, who was held hostage by OPM, marked another successful humanitarian mission on September 21, 2024. These operations underscore TNI's dedication to fostering peace and stability in Papua, ensuring the safety of all residents and stakeholders.

### **A Vision for Peace and Progress**

"TNI and Polri security forces remain steadfast in their mission to maintain safety and stability in Papua," said Colonel Yogi Nugroho, Commander of the HABEMA Media Task Forces. He emphasized the significance of their role in supporting the Indonesian Government's program to accelerate welfare development.

Through these efforts, TNI reaffirms its commitment to creating a conducive environment for progress in Papua, addressing challenges head-on to pave the way for a brighter and more prosperous future for the region.

**Authenticated by:**

**Commander of HABEMA Media Task Forces, Colonel Arh Yogi Nugroho**