

Warm Smiles and Gratitude as Kelanungin Residents Embrace Habema's Free Clothing Initiative

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PUNCAK- The Raider Infantry Battalion 323/Buaya Putih Kostrad Task Forces, under the Indonesian Armed Forces Operational Command HABEMA, delivered not just security but heartfelt care to the residents of Kelanungin Village, Gome District, Puncak Regency, Papua Tengah Province, on Saturday, November 30, 2024. During a routine patrol, the Soldiers went above and beyond by distributing free clothes to the delighted community members, especially children.

The initiative, spearheaded by the Gome Post team led by First Lieutenant Galang and supported by Commander Lieutenant Colonel Tri Wiratno, was driven by a message of positivity. *“Every assignment should be more than a task; it should be an opportunity to make a difference,”* said Lieutenant Colonel Tri. This philosophy inspired the Soldiers to enhance their patrol with meaningful social interaction.

As the Soldiers walked through Kelanungin Village, they handed out clothing to children, fostering an atmosphere of joy and connection. The children’s laughter and the villagers’ warm smiles illuminated the success of the initiative. Marta Otimuka, a local mother, shared her heartfelt gratitude: *“Thank you for the free clothes for our children, Commander 323. God bless.”*

The gesture aligns with the broader mission of TNI in Papua: fostering trust, unity, and development in the region. HABEMA Commanding General Brigadier General Lucky Avianto lauded the 323 Task Forces’ initiative, stating, *“This is a powerful example of how inclusive Social Communication can strengthen bonds between the TNI and the community, supporting Papua’s development journey.”*

This act of compassion by the 323 Task Forces demonstrates how small but meaningful actions can create lasting bonds. By addressing the residents’ immediate needs and building bridges of trust, the initiative reaffirms the TNI’s dedication to securing and uplifting Papua.

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