

## Task Force 501's Solar Lamp Project Brightens Ainod Village: Lighting the Future of Papua

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PAPUA- The 501 Task Forces of the Para Raider Infantry Battalion 501/Bajra Yudha Kostrad, deployed under the Indonesian Armed Forces Operational Command HABEMA, have brought new light literally and symbolically to the residents of Ainod Village. As part of a community outreach program titled "Bright Papua," the task force installed solar-powered lamps throughout residential areas

and public roads on Sunday, October 27, 2024. This initiative not only addresses a fundamental need for public lighting but also strengthens ties between the Indonesian military and local communities.

Lieutenant Colonel Yakhya Wisnu Arianto, Commander of Task Force 501, emphasized the unit's dual role in ensuring security while also catering to the community's essential needs. He explained, "Providing adequate lighting for public spaces and residential areas is critical to the daily lives of the Ainod residents, especially to support their night-time activities safely." Through continuous observation and engagement with the local community, the task force identified public lighting as a top priority for the village.

Before the installation began, the soldiers consulted with Ainod's village leaders and community figures to determine the most suitable locations. In true collaborative spirit, the residents actively participated in the installation process, ensuring a seamless and efficient execution that exceeded expectations. By Sunday afternoon, Ainod's honais (traditional houses) and public roads were illuminated for the first time, marking the successful completion of the project.

Expressing his gratitude, community figure Mr. Waipan Murib shared, "Praise God, thank you Commander 501. We are overjoyed that our homes and roads are no longer in darkness. God bless the TNI."\*

Brigadier General Lucky Avianto, Commander of HABEMA, lauded the initiative and congratulated Task Force 501 for their dedication and impact. "This program exemplifies the Indonesian Armed Forces' commitment to improving the quality of life in remote regions. It reflects our mission to not only maintain security but also accelerate development and build trust with local communities in Papua," he remarked. The success of the project, according to Avianto, is a testament to the TNI's professionalism and adaptability in addressing real-world challenges.

The installation of solar-powered lamps in Ainod Village goes beyond mere infrastructure development; it symbolizes progress, safety, and unity. The project has provided a brighter environment for the residents, fostering a sense of hope for a better future. More importantly, it reinforces the idea that the military is not just a protector but also a partner in community development.

Authenticated by:

Colonel Yogi Nugroho, Media Officer, HABEMA Command