

Discussion to Improved Understanding: The TNI Role in Helping Villages for Community Empowerment in the Border Area of Nusa Tenggara Timur

Posma Sariguna Johnson Kennedy^{1*}, Suzanna Josephine L.Tobing²,
Rutman L.Toruan³, Anton Nomleni⁴, Toni Hendrik⁵

¹Universitas Pertahanan/Universitas Kristen Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia

^{2,3}Universitas Kristen Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia

⁴Universitas Matana, Serpong, Indonesia

⁵Universitas Kristen Artha Wacana, Kupang, Indonesia

Author E-mail: posmahutasoit@gmail.com

ABSTRAK

“Musuh” yang paling sulit dihadapi pada perbatasan Indonesia di Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) dengan Negara Timor Leste adalah kemiskinan. Kemiskinan hanya dapat dilawan dengan pemberdayaan masyarakat. Pemberdayaan masyarakat di perbatasan negara, adalah salah satu agenda khusus dari pembinaan territorial dari Tentara Nasional Indonesia (TNI). Metode pelaksanaan kegiatan ini adalah dengan melakukan diskusi yang bertujuan meningkatkan pemahaman mengenai tugas TNI membantu pemerintah daerah dalam program pemberdayaan masyarakat di daretah perbatasan NTT. Metode penulisan paper ini adalah menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan mengkaji berbagai literatur dan diskusi-diskusi yang dilakukan dengan Korem 161/Wirasakti Kupang and Kodim 1605 Belu NTT. Di perbatasan NTT, Satuan Tugas Pengamanan Perbatasan (Satgas Pamtas) 742/SWY TNI, tidak hanya melakukan tugas pokok Pengamanan Perbatasan, tetapi juga menggali potensi masyarakat dan memberdayakan potensi tersebut. Ada banyak kreasi satuan ini dalam “memerangi kemiskinan”, yaitu melalui lima Program Rumah Wira Yudha. Rumah Wira Yudha memiliki program dalam bidang Pendidikan, Kesehatan, Cinta Pancasila, Kewirausahaan, dan Wira Yudha Berbagi untuk menjawab kebutuhan dan keterbatasan yang ada di desa perbatasan. Semua kegiatan tersebut sarat dengan kegiatan berlandaskan nilai-nilai Pancasila.

Kata Kunci: Border Area, Community Empowerment, Nusa Tenggara Timur, Peran TNI.

ABSTRACT

The most difficult 'enemy' to face on the Indonesian border in the Province of Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) and the State of Timor Leste is poverty. We can only fight poverty with community empowerment. Community empowerment at national borders is one of the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI).

The method of implementing this activity is to conduct discussions to increase understanding of the TNI's duties to assist local governments in community empowerment programs in the border areas of NTT. The method of writing this paper is to use a qualitative approach by reviewing various literature and discussions conducted with Korem 161/Wirasakti Kupang and Kodim 1605 Belu NTT. At the NTT border, the Border Security Task Force (Satgas Pamantas) 742/SWY TNI performs the main task of Border Security and explores the community's potential, and empowers this potential. There are many creations of this unit in "fighting poverty," namely through the five programs of the Wira Yudha House. Rumah Wira Yudha has programs in Education, Health, Love Pancasila, Entrepreneurship, and Wira Yudha Sharing to answer the needs and limitations in border villages. All these activities are full of activities based on Pancasila values.

Keywords: *Border Area, Community Empowerment, Nusa Tenggara Timur, TNI Role.*



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INTRODUCTION

In activities other than the war, the Indonesian National Army (TNI) had a duty to assist the region's Government. Together with the local Government, the TNI has cooperated in developing various fields. The TNI also has a program called the Bhakti TNI. It can interpret as involving the TNI as a tool for the state to support the development and implementation of Government without ignoring national security and vigilance. One form of TNI service is TNI Manunggal of Villages Development (TMMD). This service is a form of concern and the role of the TNI in carrying out development that is carried out in an integrated manner with relevant agencies and involving the community as the subject of development by prioritizing the most basic needs of the community. In addition to TMMD service, the TNI is also in Social Welfare Manunggal, Manunggal of Reforestation, Manunggal of Food Forest, Manunggal of Food Basic, Manunggal of Agricultural, Manunggal of Literacy, Manunggal of Transmigration, and Manunggal of KB Health. (Sembiring. 2011)

By-Law No. 34 of 2004 Article 7 paragraph (2) concerning the TNI Basic Tasks states that one of the main tasks of the TNI besides war is to assist the functions of the Regional Government. The purpose of helping the services of the

Government in the regions is to support the implementation of government functions in conditions and situations. It requires facilities, tools, and the ability of the TNI to solve the problems being faced, including helping to overcome the effects of natural disasters, rehabilitating infrastructure, and overcoming obstacles caused by strikes and communal conflict. (UU-RI, 2004)

The facilities are everything that is used to achieve goals. One of the facilities owned by the TNI is the existence of a TNI hospital that is intended for members of the TNI but can also be used by other communities. If a disaster occurs in an area, the hospital can be used as a place to help victims of natural disasters, and existing medical personnel will be ready to help. Also, other facilities owned by the TNI, in this case, can be seen from the existence of Koramil (Military Rayon Command) in each district or pos area built by the TNI. As for the usefulness of these facilities in the event of a natural disaster or conflict, the place can be used as a location to store assistance in the form of food, clothing, medicines, or other necessary support. (Dalini, 2011)

A tool is an object that is used to do something. In terms of assisting local governments, the TNI

has much equipment that local governments can use if needed. These include trucks, planes, helicopters, ambulances, ships, etc. If a disaster occurs in an area, then the equipment owned by the TNI is essential. For example, they can use TNI trucks to evacuate residents, planes, helicopters, or ships to send aid and leave victims in areas difficult to reach. Likewise, the TNI ambulance can be used to evacuate victims. (Dalini, 2011)

Ability is a capability or strength possessed by the TNI in assisting local governments. This ability demands the professionalism of a TNI member. A TNI member not only can operate weapons or in the defense field, but he also has other skills that can use for operations other than war. If there is a conflict or separatist in the area, then with all their capabilities, the TNI will try to stop the conflict. The ability of the TNI, which it also has, is in terms of health. Within the TNI itself, there are health workers available who are not only intended for members of the TNI itself but also for the whole community. Not infrequently, the health team is deployed in conflict and disaster areas. One Battalion, even owned by the TNI, the Zeni Tempur Battalion, has a unique ability in which its members can construct the road, bridges, housing, and others. Regional governments can utilize the strength of the TNI in accelerating the process of local development. (Dalini, 2011)

With the various capabilities of the TNI, the role of the TNI is very large in border areas that are in contact with the community. Thus, this paper on community service activities aims to meet TNI elements at the border to exchange ideas. So, we can understand more deeply the

non-military role of the TNI in empowering communities in border areas, especially at the land border of Nusa Tenggara Timur Province (NTT) with the State of Timor Leste.

METHODS

In addition to maintaining national defense / security, the TNI is also tasked with assisting local governments. In economic defense, the main objective is the community's welfare, including those in the border area. The method used is a qualitative methodology by conducting interviews and focus group discussions. We also look at various literature that supports this activity. The study sites were Nusa Tenggara Timur Province, in the Border Regency of the Napan and Wini Border (Timor Tengah Utara Regency), the Motaain Border (Belu Regency), and the Motamasin Border (Malaka District). Interviews were conducted with Korem 161 Wirasakti. The implementation can be done directly at the location because carried it out right before the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The output target of this activity is to increase understanding of a topic or problem, namely to explore the role of the TNI in increasing community empowerment in border areas. This activity is based on research in border areas that we are currently doing regarding the role of defense and security in improving the welfare of people in border areas (Kennedy, 2019).

Implementation begins with planning, preparation, implementation, and evaluation meetings at the end. Activities are carried out in 2 (two) main activities. The first activity was a discussion and exchange of ideas, which was carried out together with the 161 Wirasakti



Figure 1. Meeting Key Resource Persons from Korem 161/Wirasakti, Kupang City, NTT

Military Command. The main resource person we met was Mr. Fransiscus A. Susetio, who has experience leading the Border Security Task Force (Satgas Pamtas) 742/SWY TNI in the border areas of NTT. He also wrote a book about his experiences in empowering communities on the land border of NTT, which we used as a secondary source in writing this paper. The second activity is to go directly (observe) to the field and discuss with the TNI at the Napan and Wini Borders, the Motaain Border, and the Motamasin Border.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Pattern of Managing TNI Manunggal Building Villages (TMMD) is carried out by the Military District Command (Kodim). Each year each Kodim gets a rationale to carry out TMMD activities to assist development in the region. Each Koramil was instructed to propose which village would be the place of implementation until they chose one community. Furthermore, this TMMD plan was discussed with the local Government to be included in the development planning. The pattern of organizing TMMD is the integration of cross-sectoral programs between the TNI, Government Departments, Non-Departmental Government Institutions, and local governments, along with all other components of society. The process of planning, selecting, and determining physical targets using a bottom-up pattern followed by a top-down model, is carried out in a coordinated and integrated manner from all related elements starting from the village, sub-district level, to the local government level.

Furthermore, the Kodim, as a regional command under the Korem / Kodam, acted as the implementing element. All types of activities are planned according to the needs of the area. Such as physical and non-physical development needed. In this program, the Kodim involved the local Battalion in assisting the implementation by preparing personnel who helped in the construction, plus the relevant government agencies. (Dalini, 2011)

The physical development carried out by the TNI

is one of the efforts to improve the welfare of the people in the region by building supporting facilities and infrastructure to increase the level of the people's economy in the area. Physical development is carried out through TNI Manunggal Building Village activities, including economic and socio-cultural fields. Growth in the economic sector includes agriculture, services, and transportation. Development in the agricultural industry to improve the quality of agricultural products is aimed at empowering/increasing yields from existing land. Increasing agricultural yields by increasing the amount is done by opening up unused land. Improved services and transportation are needed because they are the primary means of enhancing the community's economy and the backbone of the regional economy of the community. It increases economic activity, and several new road opening programs have been conducted. Physical development in the socio-cultural field is an increase in the community's welfare in the region through the socio-cultural area, including health and education. In health, the construction of Puskesmas and Polindes are the main targets of TNI activities for the community in the regions so that the level of public health improves. In implementing the TNI Manunggal Building Village, one of the main priorities is the education sector. With adequate education, the community will be able to explore the potential of their territory. (Sembiring, 2011)

Besides physical development, non-physical development is also carried out. The non-physical event focuses on human development as the subject of evolution. Equipping people with skills and forming a community mentality is very important. Non-physical development targets include the defense of the country and skills. All Indonesian people must possess the security of the state. The young generation must have patriotism. Therefore, one of the targets for non-physical development is to foster awareness of defending the country. Non-physical development through skills upgrading includes equipping people in the economic, socio-cultural, and legal fields. Coaching and training

activities in economics, including agriculture and entrepreneurship. Events in the socio-cultural area include education, such as eradicating illiteracy, and health in counseling activities to prevent disease. Besides that, promoting a culture of legal literacy is an important activity to do. Having a just literate society is expected to create security and order. By knowing the law, people will feel afraid to break the law. (Sembiring, 2011)

In its implementation to date (2019) for 39 years since 1980, the TNI Manunggal Build Village has built roads along 24,391,653 meters. Besides making trenches, irrigation, siring along 3,572,223 meters, and 7,418 bridges. Thirty-five thousand one hundred sixty-six houses have been constructed or rehabilitated. One million two hundred nine thousand two clean water pipes have been installed, 8,162 religious facilities have been built, 7,786 school buildings have been built, and electrical networks have been installed in 15,484 locations (Tjahjanto, 2019).

The results of development that have been carried out by the TNI, from physical activities, among others, road construction, road rehabilitation, asphaltting, road hardening, bridge construction, drainage/drainage making, repair of siring/trenching), installation of culverts, installation of gabions, construction/house rehabilitation, construction of schools/madrassas centers, construction/rehabilitation of religious facilities, construction/rehabilitation of community security posts, manufacture/rehabilitation of bathing, washing latrines/toilets, installation of water pumps, making stops, making sports facilities, opening sleeping land, planting trees/greening. Non-physical activities

include, among others, counseling/lectures covering materials: agriculture, animal husbandry, poultry and bird flu vaccinations, fisheries and maritime affairs, plantations, cooperatives, employment and transmigration, health/family planning, education/compulsory education for nine years and 12 years, forestry/reforestation, land/agrarian law/taxpayer, population/birth certificate. And other activities such as film screening/public entertainment, free mass treatment, free birth certificates, provision of fish seedlings to the public, provision of capital reinforcement loan assistance, holding low-cost markets, holding sports with the community, socializing smart cars and libraries, greening and division of greening seeds. By doing so, it is hoped that it will improve the wheels of the regional economy due to the opening of isolation between villages or remote areas and improve community skills (Dalini, 2011).

In health, collaboration with the TNI is in line with the Presidential Instruction on the Healthy Living Community Movement. A national movement in strengthening the health development paradigm that promotes promotive and preventive efforts without overriding rehabilitative curative efforts. It involves all components of the nation in developing a healthy standard. In addition, activities in collaboration with the TNI are expected to be leveraged and help the Government empower the region. As well as synergies in increasing development acceleration and improving community welfare, especially to enhance the degree of public health in the village, to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates in remote areas and health problems. (Moeloek, 2017)



Figure 2. Discussion with Resource Person

The Role of the TNI in Empowering Village Communities in the RI-RDTL Border, NTT (Susetio, 2014)

The TNI is aware that the current biggest enemy is not a war between nations but the weakness of Indonesia's human resources. With the strength of Indonesia's human resources, automatically, all threats from both foreign and domestic can be easily deterred. Case examples in this study are TNI programs and activities in the Indonesia-Timor Leste border area (RI-RDTL) of the Udayana Military Regional Command through the Border Security Task Force (Satgas Pamtas). The Pamtas Task Force of the Indonesian Army consists of Battalion-level units occupying posts set up in places considered vulnerable along with the border areas. The RI-RDTL border region is 267.8 km in length. As many as 40 pamtas posts are needed (Disjarahad, 2012). Because Indonesia's border region has now been regarded as the country's forefront defense line, the approach used in managing borders, the security approach, and using the welfare approach sustainable environment approach are side by side in developing border regions.

It entrusted the handling of security from the RI-RDTL border area to the Battalion Pamtas 742/Satya Wira Yudha Task Force with the operation command "Shield of Sandalwood," consisting of 650 personnel. This Battalion saw the "Enemies of the State" that had long been entrenched along the RI-RDTL state border: poverty, ignorance, limitations, and underdevelopment. It formed the Rumah Wira Yudha House program to defeat the enemy. Rumah Wira Yudha is a comprehensive program

created by the Battalion Pamtas 742/SWY Task Force based on their research on the Indonesia-Timor Leste border community. The task of the Pamtas Task Force is to carry out land defense area empowerment and limited territorial development. On the shoulders of Battalion 742/SWY, the main tasks are embedded: preventing border violations, smuggling, and black markets, shifting or losing boundaries, to coordinating border security with the UPF (Timor Leste Police). However, not all citizens of the Indonesia-Timor Leste border understand the meaning and laws related to the national boundary markers. The Task Force also promoted agreed-upon national boundary stakes to the Indonesian people at the RI-RDTL border while also monitoring areas that were still problematic. This Task Force also coordinates with relevant agencies (National Police, Customs, Immigration, and Quarantine). Of course, to prevent and oversee the border region so that it is not used as a base of resistance against neighboring countries.

The most critical and challenging task is to carry out the empowerment of the RI-RDTL land border defense area. The most puzzling "enemy" on the RI-RDTL border, among the many other "enemies," is poverty. Poverty can only be countered by empowerment, not by being fed with funds. Community Empowerment on national borders is one of the specific agendas of territorial development. Following the instructions of the TNI Commander, who warned, "The TNI must be professional, militant, solid, and with the people, make the strong TNI." The task of the Pamtas Task Force on national borders is not easy. Aside from that, Pamtas

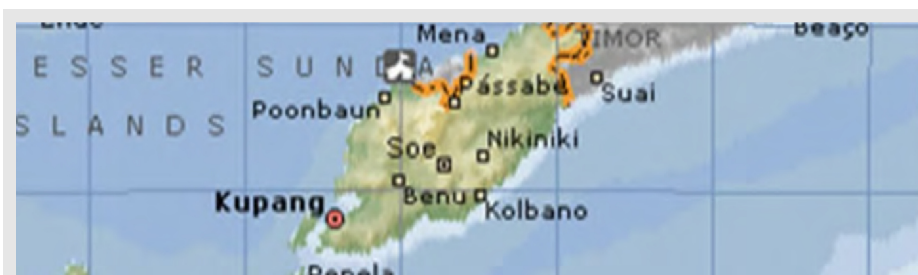


Figure 3. Map of Indonesia's Border with Timor Leste in the Nusa Tenggara Timur Province (Disjarahad, 2012)



Figure 4. Discussion at the Napan Border, Timor Tengah Utara Regency, NTT

74/SWY Task Force personnel must secure the RI-RDTL border, they also have to deal with a variety of community characters, and many problems may arise. It starts from smuggling various illegal goods to the "classic" problem of poverty and ignorance. Pamtas 742/SWY Task Force has proven to empower all the potential that exists in the region. They not only carry out the main task of Border Security but also explore the potential of the community and empower that potential.

Apart from the TMMD program, this unit has many creations in "fighting the enemy," namely through the Five Wira Yudha Houses Program. The biggest "enemy" on the border of the RI-RDTL country is the low level of education, poverty, and disease. There is no "driving motor" as an inspiration that can motivate them to move forward. The Pamtas 742/SWY Task Force, doing so through the Five Wira Yudha House Programs, has tried to fight these enemies with a measured and directed program. Rumah Wira Yudha has a program container consisting of five (5) types of major activities, namely *Education, Health, Love of Pancasila, Entrepreneurship, and Wira Yudha Shares*. Each area is divided into several small sections to answer the needs and limitations that exist in the field. All these

activities must be laden with events based on Pancasila values.

Education (Susetio, 2014)

In education programs, the first thing is to see the condition of a school in an area or region near the post. What are the limitations? What are the teaching resources, or are there books available? Satgas Pamtas, from the beginning, has prepared selected soldiers to be trained as teaching staff in collaboration with the Mataram City Education Office and 19 Gebang Mataram Elementary School. At the RI-RDTL border, the first focus in the field of education is "Accelerating Student Learning Reading" at border schools.

Based on the data, the high national illiteracy rate is dominated in the NTT region. For example, students in fifth grade in the Mahen area and sixth-grade students in Sunsea Elementary School in the Pos Nelu region cannot read. Preliminary data from students who cannot read are included in the "Reading Acceleration Program." Achievement of a new first-grade child can memorize the alphabet, and second-grade students can arrange syllables. First-grade students can compose syllables in the following month, and second-grade students are already fluent in reading. which contained textbooks



Figure 5. Discussion at Makodim 1605, Belu Regency, NTT Border

and school supplies from the Korem 162/WB extended family, book donations from elementary school students in NTB, and 19 library books from the Kupang Gramedia Bookstore. The reading garden is also made in the outpost.

Another education program is to carry out "Soldiers Enter School" activities. The TNI who are trained in learning to become teachers at the school. The school has set the schedule and teaching material. Besides, TNI members also trained teachers in computer skills, such as in the villages of Asumanu and Baen. "Course" is free, two times a week, at the Principal's home. The result was that 4 out of 18 teachers at Asumanu and Baen Elementary Schools were already operating computers smoothly. Besides, six thousand gift books were also prepared for outstanding students to be motivated. The mineral water company PT donated the books. JeTe Junior Atambua and other donors. (Susetio, 2014)

Health Sector (Susetio, 2014)

The Pamtas Task Force holds free medical treatment twice a month in the health sector. Constraints faced are drug limitations. But there was a lot of help from various parties, including Jakarta friends, and support from other parties. In free mass treatment activities for the community, the Pamtas Task Force has worked well together with medical personnel (general practitioners and dentists) from the Health Service, HIV Prevention Commission, and PMI in the Belu, Malacca, and North Central Timor regencies. Every mass treatment is also arranged with mass toothbrush activities for school children, health education from KPA, and Indonesian Red Cross activities. (Susetio, 2014)

Pancasila Love Program (Susetio, 2014)

The love of Pancasila Program intends to build the love of the community, especially the younger generation, for the ideology of Pancasila. For example, we watched national films that took turns at the outpost. Prepared 7 LCDs to support the activity. There is also counseling about Pancasila in Pos of Satgas targets schools equipped with

interactive Pancasila games. For the planting of Pancasila values, scouting activities. It was held at several posts, including the Front Group, which formed the Pamtas Task Force at SMP St. Daniel in Oepoli, Kupang Regency. Its members consist of 68 students and 88 students. It is no less essential to instill the fundamental values of the teachings of character, such as teaching ethics and manners. We are the Indonesian people who must always remember that August 17, 1945, was a milestone for the sovereignty of the Unitary Republic of Indonesia, which was achieved through a struggle of hundreds of years. Our independence is not a gift from a foreign nation! Then all of us must give thanks for independence by commemorating the Proclamation of the Republic of Indonesia. The program included, for example, a 157 km walk with the community, students, school students, and post members throughout the company. It's a kind of hike in a relay. This activity was also interspersed with little medical service work, contests, distribution of suitable clothing, and watching a film together. There is also an interactive Pancasila game with prizes for milk. (Susetio, 2014)

Field of Entrepreneurship (Susetio, 2014)

The community was also thriving as a farmer under the guidance of the Pamtas Battalion 742/SWY Task Force. In Entrepreneurship, a team of trained soldiers has been prepared on how to plant various plants of economic value. The seedlings are from the assistance of the community and related agencies. The assignment also received collards, spinach, kale, long beans, tomatoes, coffee, and candlenut seeds from the NTT Provincial Agricultural Research and Development Agency. After that, the possible locations are suitable for planting the seeds. They were assisted by the District Agriculture Office in borrowing tractors and hand tractors to clear community land, more than 59.5 Ha. For example, two farmer groups and newly formed fisheries groups in Motaain, namely Fatubesi and Manusasi. The hope is to achieve food security on the edge of national borders while at the same time fostering economic independence in the border

communities. It is even a pride if the crops in the border area can be a mainstay of vegetable supplies in the Atambua market. There are other programs in the field of entrepreneurship. Namely fostering "tempe food craftsmen" in Inbate and Salore, making Martabak Terang Bulan in Fatuha and Silawan, and craftsmen in Silawan, Haslot, Nino, Delomil, and Mako Satgas themselves. (Susetio, 2014)

Wira Yudha Shares (Susetio, 2014)

Wira Yudha Shares have two meanings of sharing: sharing objects or materials and sharing energy and thoughts and sharing in the context of the material, for example, giving seeds, textbooks, and clothes suitable for use. At the same time, we are sharing in the context of energy and thoughts, among others in the form of visits and social services to the orphanage and the elderly with the church and local sisters, pipe connection in Haumeniana, to the construction of Souvenir Corner in Motaain. Achievement of programs is targeted under the capabilities possessed by not measuring the size and magnitude of the results because big things start from small things. To support this, the Wira Yudha Rumah Program has been directed, measured, sustainable, and created synergy. Directed means a program that is in line with the main task of the Pamtas Task Force, as I explained above. Measured means can measure the results in terms of quality and quantity. These results can be seen from the reports and written evidence that we compile periodically and facts in the field. At the same time, continuity means that the next Task Force also carries out the programs. There are limitations to the Standard Synergy formula, so must run the application in synergy with other parties, for example, by encouraging the issuance of the SK of the Silawan

Village Farmer Group also the SK of the Scouting Front Clusters of the results of the formation of Junior High School St. Daniel di Oepoli. Pamtas Infantry Task Force 742/SWY deserves appreciation. It recorded their achievements recorded, among others, through the community satisfaction questionnaire on various activities of the Wira Yudha House. (Susetio, 2014)

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

UU no. 34 of 2004 concerning the TNI Basic Tasks states that one of the main tasks of the TNI besides war is to assist the functions of the Regional Government. Together with the local Government, the TNI has cooperated in developing various fields. The TNI also has a TNI Service program, which can interpret as involving the TNI as a tool for the state to support the development and implementation of Government without ignoring national security and vigilance. One of the Bhakti Programs is the TNI Manunggal Building Village is an integrated program between the TNI and the Government which aims to accelerate the implementation of development in the region in the hope that it can improve the welfare of the people in the area.

Satgas Pamtas Battalion 742/SWY, who served on the Indonesia-Timor Leste border, saw "the Enemy of the State" primarily as poverty, ignorance, limitations, and underdevelopment. To defeat the enemy, formed the Rumah Wira Yudha House program. Rumah Wira Yudha has a program container consisting of five major activities, namely Education, Health, Love Pancasila, Entrepreneurship, and Wira Yudha Shares. The Pamtas Infantry Battalion 742 / SWY Task Force became a "driving force" as an inspirator who motivated them to go forward to



Figure 6. Photos at Post Border (PLBN), NTT Border



Figure 7. The Role of the TNI in Community Empowerment Activities at the Border (Susetio, 2014)

fight the enemy with a measured and directed program.

It can carry out this community service properly. The author and the team received a friendly welcome from partners, Korem 161/Wirasakti Kupang and Makodim 1605 Belu, NTT. Discussions and exchange of ideas regarding the role of the TNI in helping to increase the productivity of the people in the NTT Border Area took place in a friendly manner by exchanging information.

The recommendations from this activity for stakeholders, both the community and the Government, are that we must still maintain local wisdom in empowering communities at the border.

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