

# The Role of Yonzipur 9/LLB/1 Kostrad in the Earthquake Emergency Response Phase

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## ABSTRACT

*Indonesia is a country that has a very high level of vulnerability disasters it can occur anytime and anywhere. Based on this situation, Yonzipur 9/LLB as a unit of the Indonesian Army which is part of the Rapid Response Team for Disaster Management (PRCPB) has a very important role in providing assistance to the government and the community in dealing with natural disasters, especially during the emergency response phase. Preparedness and maintenance of Yonzipur 9/LLB capabilities play a key role in ensuring the success of emergency response operations. In this journal, the author examines the role of Yonzipur 9/LLB in the emergency response period for the earthquake that occurred in Cianjur on November 21, 2022 using a quantitative method. Data collection was obtained through observation, interviews and literature study. The role of the TNI in handling the earthquake disaster in Cianjur cannot be separated from the duties and functions of the TNI which have been mandated in Law Number 34 of 2004. Yonzipur 9/LLB has taken strategic and responsive steps in the framework of the earthquake disaster emergency response operation accompanied by coordination and good cooperation with local government and other agencies.*

## INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a country forced to coexist with disasters. This country is an archipelagic country with a geographical location at the meeting of three plates of the earth, namely Eurasia, the Pacific, and Indo-Australia causing the position of the country to be unstable, easily shifted and prone to earthquakes, tsunamis, and landslides. In addition, geographically Indonesia is in the position of the Ring of Fire traversed by the Pacific and Mediterranean Circum where 187 volcanoes stretch from Sabang to Merauke.

Indonesia's geographical position flanked by two continents and two oceans in the equatorial region causes Indonesia to have dynamic weather and climate change, thus making Indonesia prone to natural disasters such as storms, typhoons, tropical cyclones and floods (Husein, 2014). According to the World Risk Report 2022 released by Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft and IFHV of the Ruhr-University Bochum, Indonesia is the third most disaster-prone country in the world.

Indonesia's World Risk Index (WRI) score was 41.46 points in 2021. The magnitude of the global risk index score can be seen from the large number of natural disasters that hit Indonesia in the past year. As most recently, the eruption of Mount Semeru which occurred in December 2022 and the earthquake in Cianjur which occurred last November 2022.

Natural disasters that occur in Indonesia often occur just like that and are unpredictable when they will occur and are always sudden. Especially for earthquake disasters, until now, there is no technology that is able to predict specifically when an earthquake will occur. Current knowledge can only map which areas have a level of vulnerability to earthquakes. So that many people become korban, either dead, injured or materially lost.

One of the areas that are vulnerable to earthquakes is Cianjur Regency, West Java. Head of Earthquake and Tsunami Mitigation BMKG, Daryono, through his social media explained that the earthquake that occurred in Cianjur on November 21, 2022 yesterday was not the first time it happened. He said that the

Cianjur, Lembang, Purwakarta and Bandung regions are tectonically active and complex cystic areas. According to historical records of BMKG, there have been 14 medium-large earthquakes damaging the Cianjur-Sukabumi area.

As an anticipatory step against this phenomenon, the TNI as the main component of state defense always maintains the preparedness of its troops in order to deal with various kinds of threats, both coming from within and outside the country in the form of armed and non-armed threats. One of the tasks of the TNI in tackling the danger of non-armed threats from within the country is through assistance in disaster management. Because in fact, the institution that is always ready to be mobilized in emergency conditions and becomes the main focus is the TNI.

The 9th Combat Zeni Battalion / Lang Lang Bhuwana (Yonzipur 9 / LLB) located in Ujung Berung, Bandung is a combat support unit under the control of the Commander of Division 1 Kostrad. As the main combat command under the auspices of the 1st Infantry Division Kostrad, Yonzipur 9/LLB has several zen capabilities including construction, destruction, zen investigation, samara, obstacles, crossings, water and electricity supplies, explosive disposal, and passive nubika. The main functions of Yonzipur 9/LLB are for mobility, counter mobility and survivability.

As a unit incorporated in the PRCPB (Disaster Management Rapid Response Force), Yonzipur 9/LLB is equipped with several heavy equipment and other equipment useful for the implementation of emergency response operations. In addition, this unit always maintains unit preparedness in order to deal with the development of the situation throughout Indonesia. For example, Yonzipur 9/LLB was involved in emergency response operations for the 2004 Aceh tsunami, the 2006 Padang earthquake, the 2017 Poso, the 2018 Lombok Tsunami, the 2018 Pangandaran tsunami, and the last one was the 2022 Cianjur earthquake.

The involvement of the TNI in the process of natural disaster management is in line with article 7 of Law of the Republic of Indonesia No. 34 of 2004 concerning the Main Duties of the TNI, namely Military Operations Other than War (OMSP), including assisting in natural disaster management both at the emergency response, rehabilitation and reconstruction stages. The involvement of the TNI aims to prevent the development of losses, both people's lives and property and help overcome people's difficulties so as not to cause consequences that threaten state sovereignty and national safety which is implemented through territorial development capabilities and support (Widodo, 2014). In addition, the TNI is the most solid institution that can perform first aid, especially in the rescue of victims (Adril, 2011).

Therefore, the role of the TNI, especially Yonzipur 9 / LLB in overcoming earthquakes in Cianjur is very important, because Yonzipur 9 / LLB has the capacity and ability to carry out emergency tasks and is equipped with equipment that is needed in disaster emergency response operations. For this reason, this study will describe how the role of the TNI, especially Yonzipur 9 / LLB in helping to overcome the earthquake disaster that has occurred in Cianjur Regency, West Java.

## **METHODS**

The research method used in this study is qualitative research with a literature study approach. Qualitative research is a method to explore and understand the considered meaning of social and/or humanitarian problems of an individual or group of individuals (Cresswell, 2009). The qualitative research method is a way used to answer research problems related to data in the form of narratives sourced from interviews, observations, and document excavation. To be able to describe well about the approach and type of research, the presence of researchers, research locations, data sources, data collection techniques, data analysis, and checking the validity of findings in a research proposal and/or report, a good understanding of each of these concepts is needed (Wahidmurni, 2017). Data collection and analysis methods in qualitative research methods based on observations at the research site. Field data collection was carried out from November 22 to December 21, 2022 in Cianjur Regency, West Java. Data collection was conducted by conducting in-depth interviews with Yonzipur 9/LLB officials, several officials directly involved as well as through field observation, and documentation.

The first stage is to identify the role of the TNI, in this case Yonzipur 9/LLB in natural disaster management that has been carried out so far, then analyze these various roles by collecting data using participatory investigation methods and in-depth interviews as primary data. The selection of speakers used purposive sampling techniques, namely Danyonzipur 9 / LLB, Pasiops Yonzipur 9 / LLB and Dansektor. Secondary data are taken from various literature such as reports on Yonzipur 9/LLB Natural Disaster Management activities, journals, books, the internet, and various literary sources from the institutions studied to support data information obtained from interviews.

## RESULTS

### 1. The Role of the TNI in General in Disaster Management

TNI or Indonesian National Army is part of the people who are specially prepared to carry out state and nation duties and are tasked with maintaining national defense and security (Chalim & Farhan, 2015). The role and position of the TNI are listed in Law Number 34 of 2004. In the Law, it is explained that the TNI acts as a state tool in the field of defense that carries out its duties in accordance with state policies and political decisions.

The function of the TNI is as a deterrent to every form of military threat and armed threat both from outside and from within the country that threatens the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and safety of the nation. Then it also serves as a crackdown on every form of threat and restorer to the state security conditions that are disturbed due to security chaos. In carrying out the function of the TNI as a means of state defense, the TNI is the main component of the state defense system.

The main task of the TNI is to uphold state sovereignty, maintain the territorial integrity of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, and protect the entire nation and all Indonesian bloodshed from threats and disturbances to the integrity of the nation and state. In accordance with article 7 paragraph 2 of Law No. 34 of 2004, the main duties of the TNI are divided into War Military Operations (OMP) and Military Operations Other than War (OMSP). One of the points of OMSP is to help overcome the effects of natural disasters, displacement, and the provision of humanitarian assistance.

Disasters according to UNISDR (2002) are serious disturbances to the functioning of communities, causing widespread losses to human life in terms of material, economic, or environmental, and that disruption exceeds the ability of communities to cope using their own resources. Meanwhile, according to Law No. 24 of 2007 concerning Disaster Management, disasters are events or series of events that threaten and disrupt people's lives and knowledge caused by both natural, non-natural and human factors, causing casualties, environmental damage, property losses and psychological impacts. If not handled properly, disasters can threaten national security and the sovereignty of the Republic of Indonesia. Therefore, the TNI can be grouped into stakeholders who are responsible for the disaster management process.

### 2. The Role of the TNI (Yonzipur 9/LLB) in Cianjur Earthquake Disaster Management

On November 21, 2022, an earthquake with a magnitude of 5.6 shook Cianjur Regency and its surroundings. The earthquake can be felt up to the capital city of Jakarta and the Pelabuhan Ratu area. The earthquake, which is actually included in the medium magnitude category, has such a devastating destructive power. The trigger is the epicenter located at a depth of about 10 km below the earth's surface.

Knowing the natural disaster, the Head of BPBD West Java Province coordinated with the Commander of the 9th / LLB Combat Zeni Battalion (Danyon Zipur 9 / LLB) so that he could send his members and equipment needed in emergency response operations to the disaster area. With the permission of the Commander of Kostrad and the Commander of the 1st Infantry Division of Kostrad, at around 17.00 that day also 1 SSK (Company-level Unit) with a strength of 100 people left for Cianjur along with some necessary heavy equipment.

Yonzipur 9/LLB/1 Kostrad isn't only deployed manpower in disaster areas, they also deployed several heavy equipment, vehicles, and engineering materials to support the implementation of the task. Such as Dump Trucks, Personal Trucks, Ambulances, Backhoe Loader, Crane, Tactical Engineering Vehicle, Generator set, Water Purification, etc to support their task. It proved very effective to help their task easier and support their basic necessity life (for supporting pure water and electrical needs).

In accordance with Law No. 24 of 2007, Disaster Management adheres to the principles of fast and precise, priority, coordination and integration, effective and effective, transparency and accountability, partnership, empowerment, non-discrimination, and nonproletarianism. In emergency response conditions, the speed and accuracy factors in acting play a very important role in the process of minimizing casualties. This is what Yonzipur 9/LLB has implemented in conducting emergency response operations.

Search for victims and evacuation are the first actions taken after arriving at the location. With the help of heavy equipment brought, all members together with volunteers and the surrounding community conducted a search for victims who were crushed under the rubble of the building rubble and then evacuated the injured to get immediate treatment. Members were also involved in the establishment of refugee facilities. Such as building emergency toilets, field kitchens, evacuation tents, and making emergency electrical installations using generators.

After the emergency response phase ended, TNI members still played a role in the post-disaster phase. In the process of disaster management, post-disaster rehabilitation and reconstruction activities become one of the heavy responsibilities for the parties involved. This is inseparable from efforts to restore the physical condition and psychological condition of the community affected by the disaster. Therefore, the recovery

process, both physical and psychological conditions, as well as rehabilitation-reconstruction become very important in the disaster emergency response phase (Fauzi, 2014).

In the post-disaster phase, Yonzipur 9/LLB members played a role in providing medical personnel and collecting and distributing aid from the community around the Battalion. Help restore children's mental and psychological well-being by providing children's play and entertainment facilities. Cleaning up the rubble of former building ruins that interfere with residents' activities. As well as taking an active role in rebuilding vital facilities and infrastructure that are often used by the community such as public roads, schools, mosques, etc.

In carrying out the duties of Yonzipur 9 / LLB always coordinate and cooperate both with fellow TNI and related government / civilian agencies to facilitate and launch the tasks carried out during the disaster management process. So that the results obtained will be more optimal and maintain good relations between agencies participating in disaster management activities in Cianjur.

## CONCLUSION

The role of the TNI in earthquake disaster management in Cianjur, West Java cannot be separated from the duties and functions of the TNI which have been mandated in Law Number 34 of 2004. Yonzipur 9/LLB has taken strategic rapid steps, especially in the disaster emergency response phase, followed by the post-disaster phase. TNI involvement in the disaster management process does not stand alone, but collaborates and synergizes with local governments and other related agencies. Suggestions that need to be followed up in the future are to establish formulate operational standards for disaster management that synergize between related stakeholders, both civilian and military. So that if a disaster occurs in an area, all parties involved automatically understand what each must do.

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