

The Role of the V/Brawijaya Regional Military Command in Overcoming the Spread of Covid-19 in East Java in the Context of Maintaining National Defense and Security

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Abstract

This research discusses the role of the TNI under the Regional Military Command V/Brawijaya in preventing and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19 in East Java. The condition of the Covid-19 pandemic which has increased involves many actors and many elements in handling it, including the military. Military involvement is carried out in the context of Military Operations Other Than War (OMSP) as stipulated in Law Number 34 of 2004 concerning the TNI. The research design uses a qualitative approach, where the approach in this study produces descriptive data in the form of literature or writing and behavior that can be observed from the subject itself. The literature reviewed is used to answer questions about the research problems being carried out. In addition, it uses a literature study approach, namely research that uses library materials without conducting field research, so that its activities are related to methods of collecting library data, reading, recording and processing research materials into a formulation of the research results expected by the research objectives. carried out by Kodam V/Brawijaya as an effort to prevent and break the chain of Covid-19 in the people of East Java. Kodam V/Brawijaya and its staff as a defense component in East Java Province optimally handle Covid-19 with cooperation, collaboration and synergy of all elements in East Java to maintain national defense and security.

Keywords: Covid 19, Role of TNI, Defense Strategy



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INTRODUCTION

The Covid-19 outbreak has affected various sectors of life. In 2020 the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the Corona virus or Covid-19 a pandemic. The massive rate of spread of the virus along with the increasing number of deaths has created a crisis situation in various sectors of life. The dynamics of the Covid-19 pandemic show that current threats to the state are not only physical (military threats) that can attack a country's sovereignty but are non-physical, such as disease outbreaks. Currently the Covid-19 pandemic not only threatens human security and safety but has also threatened the national security of a country. The Covid-19 pandemic has brought many significant changes to people's lives and has had an impact on political, economic, social, cultural, defense and security aspects, as well as people's welfare in Indonesia (Hasrul, 2020).

The Indonesian national defense system is Universal in nature which involves all citizens, territories and other national resources, and is prepared early by the government and implemented in a total, integrated, directed and continuous manner to uphold state sovereignty, territorial integrity and the safety of the entire nation from any threats. As developments occur, the nature of a country's threats is not only military threats, but non-military threats as well as hybrid threats. The Covid-19 pandemic is a non-military threat that has a multidimensional impact, thus changing the nature of the handling of non-military threats that occur. The complexity of the non-military threat of Covid-19 cannot be faced or responded

to with a normal approach. The Covid-19 pandemic has had an impact on all sectors of life, not only health and social and cultural economy, but has also touched the defense and security side of the country.

Handling non-military threats in the form of a Covid pandemic is not only the responsibility of agencies in the health sector, but is the responsibility of all parties or what is known as the pentahelix system, namely the government, the public, the business world, academia and the media. The government here includes the involvement of the military such as the Indonesian Army, Navy and Indonesian Air Force with the entire command network spread throughout the territory of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. The TNI's involvement in carrying out non-military disaster/threat management tasks is an implementation of Article 7 of the Republic of Indonesia Law No. 34 of 2004 concerning the Main Duties of the TNI, namely Military Operations Other Than War (OMSP). The involvement of the TNI is aimed at preventing the development of losses and helping to overcome people's difficulties so that they do not cause things that threaten state sovereignty and the safety of the nation which is carried out through territorial development capabilities and support (Widodo, 2014). Therefore the role of the TNI, in this case the Kodam V Brawijaya in the East Java region, is very important, because the Kodam V Brawijaya has the capacity and capability to carry out tasks in emergency conditions with its command network down to the regional level. For this reason, this research will describe the role of the Kodam V Brawijaya in helping to prevent and break the chain of the spread of Covid-19 in East Java Province.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research design uses a qualitative approach, where the approach in this study produces descriptive data in the form of literature or writing and behavior that can be observed from the subject itself. The literature reviewed is used to answer questions about the research problems being carried out. In addition to using a literature study approach, namely research that uses library materials without conducting field research, so that its activities are related to methods of collecting library data, reading, recording and processing research materials into a formulation of research results expected by the research objectives (Bungin, 2001).

Qualitative research is a type of research whose findings are not obtained through statistical procedures or other forms of calculation. Qualitative research is a method for exploring and understanding the considered meaning of social and/or humanitarian problems from individuals or groups of individuals (Creswell, 2016). According to Lexy J. Moleong (2005), a qualitative research method is a research that intends to understand the phenomena experienced by research subjects. For example behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions, etc., holistically, and by means of descriptions in the form of words and language, in a special natural context and by utilizing various methods (Moleong, 2015).

This research approach was chosen because it is in accordance with the researchers' objectives, where qualitative research is used to describe and analyze phenomena, events, social activities, attitudes, beliefs, perceptions of people individually and in groups. This type of research is descriptive, namely research that describes information data based on facts (facts) obtained in the field. In this study the methods used were interviews, recording, and documentation.

RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Synergy of Kodam V/Brawijaya with the Regional Government of East Java in Preventing and Breaking the Chain of Spread of Covid-19

The Kodam is a strategic compartment that has the main task of organizing operational readiness development for all of its commands and active defense operations on land according

to the policy of the TNI Commander. Regional Military Command V Brawijaya or abbreviated as Kodam V Brawijaya is a Regional Defense Command which covers East Java Province. The Covid-19 pandemic has had an impact on all sectors of life, not only health and the economy, but has also touched the defense and security side of the country. In the midst of Indonesia's limited resources, handling in preventing and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19 also involves elements of state defense with the main actor being the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI). In Article 5 of Law Number 34 of 2004 concerning the Indonesian National Armed Forces, it is stated that the TNI plays a role as a tool of the state in the field of defense which in carrying out its duties is based on state policies and political decisions. Furthermore, according to Article 6, the TNI is the main component of the national defense apparatus.

The role of local governments is very central in efforts to control the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in relation to regional authorities. Based on the legal norms used as the basis for regional authority, namely the region can exercise the maximum authority, apart from matters relating to an executive task which is determined by regulation as the responsibility of the center. In other words, government administration at the local level must still rely on regulations formed by the center (Andiraharja, 2020). In carrying out the main tasks referring to Law number 34 of 2004 concerning the TNI, Kodam V/Brawijaya carries out Military Operations Other Than War (OMSP), namely:

1. Overcoming armed separatist movements;
2. Overcome armed rebellion;
3. Overcoming acts of terrorism;
4. Securing the border area;
5. Securing strategic national vital objects;
6. Carry out world peace tasks in accordance with foreign policy policies;
7. Securing the President and Vice President and their families;
8. Early empowering of defense areas and supporting forces according to the universal defense system;
9. Helping government tasks in the region;
10. Assisting the Indonesian National Police in the context of security and public order duties as stipulated in the law;
11. Help secure state guests at the level of heads of state and representatives of foreign governments currently in Indonesia;
12. Assisting in coping with the consequences of natural disasters, displacement, and providing humanitarian assistance;
13. Helping search and rescue in accidents (search and rescue); as well as
14. Assisting the government in securing shipping and aviation against piracy, piracy and smuggling.

Of the 14 points, there are three main points related to handling in preventing and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19, namely point 9 related to assisting government tasks in the regions; point 10 is related to assisting the National Police in the framework of the task of security and public order regulated in the Law; also point 12 related to helping overcome the consequences of natural disasters, displacement, and providing humanitarian assistance. Of the 14 points, there are three main points related to handling in preventing and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19, namely point 9 related to assisting government tasks in the regions; point 10 is related to assisting the National Police in the framework of the task of security and public order regulated in the Law; also point 12 related to helping overcome the consequences of natural disasters, displacement, and providing humanitarian assistance. In addition to Law No. 34 of 2004, regulations regarding the involvement and role of the TNI are

also strengthened by Presidential Decree No. 12 of 2020 concerning the Stipulation of Non-Natural Disasters, Law No. 23 of 2019 concerning Management of National Resources for National Defense and Presidential Instruction No. 4 of 2019 concerning Increasing Capability in Preventing, Detect and Respond to Disease Outbreaks, Global Pandemics, Nuclear Emergencies, Biological and Chemical. In this regulation, the TNI as an element of national defense can play a role in handling crisis situations due to outbreaks or pandemics (Koransindo, 2021).

Handling in preventing and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19, the TNI is involved in three fields, namely first, the security sector, the health sector and the socio-economic sector. By looking at the situation that occurred in East Java, the active role of the TNI in the Brawijaya Military Command in handling and preventing and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19 in East Java Province is a form of concern and support for the government. Military involvement is needed based on crisis conditions referring to conditions when the civilian agencies responsible for these non-military issues are no longer able to resolve them; on the basis of the spill over uses logical framework – there is capacity/capability of the military that can be used to overcome the crisis situation; as well as being a last resort or last resort if there are no other civil agencies that are able to handle it (Diandra Megaputri Mengko, 2020).

Regarding the Covid-19 pandemic in East Java, from a zoning aspect the whole area is in the yellow zone. This yellow zone means areas with low-risk transmission or areas with several cases of local transmission, but without community transmission groups (Afifiyah, 2020). This zoning is determined based on the identification of the number of infected people in an area. Efforts made to minimize the spread of the Covid-19 chain include contact tracing, test, monitor and or self-isolate, urging residents to avoid non-essential gatherings, especially in closed spaces.

In terms of monitoring related to community gathering activities, members of the Kodam V/Brawijaya team are involved in it to always remind the public about disciplining health protocols. With the increase in the number of Covid-19 cases in East Java, the level of implementation of community activity restrictions (PPKM) has resulted in different levels in a number of regions based on the Bed Occupancy Rate indicator, the number of confirmed cases and the mortality rate. At the beginning of February 2022 there were 15 districts/cities in East Java that were included in PPKM level 1, 21 districts/cities in PPKM level 2 and 2 districts in PPKM level 3 (Septiana, 2022). This PPKM rule is in accordance with the Instruction of the Minister of Home Affairs (Inmendagri) Number 9 of 2022 which regulates the latest PPKM levels and rules on the islands of Java and Bali. As well as SKB 4 Ministers December 21, 2021 for learning in education units. In view of the significant cases of the spread of covid in East Java, the involvement of the TNI under the command of the Kodam V / Brawijaya continues, among others, by deploying 760 vaccinators which are distributed throughout the East Java region to carry out the vaccination program as the main capital to prevent and break the chain of the spread of covid 19. In addition, infrastructure facilities under the auspices of the V/Brawijaya Military Command such as health facilities, vehicles, field hospitals, centralized isolation places in each district/city and other infrastructure facilities used to support the handling of Covid-19 in East Java are organized for the handling of covid 19.

Various activities were carried out by Kodam V/Brawijaya in handling Covid-19. East Java, as one of the regions with a large number of Indonesian Migrant Workers (PMI), is of particular concern. Every day there are PMIs who return to Indonesia via Juanda airport for various reasons, including problems or because their work contracts have expired. The return of Indonesian Migrant Workers is vulnerable to bringing in new virus variants, so the Brawijaya Military Command V escorts the return of these PMIs with quite strict inspections. They must

first quarantine before returning to their place of origin. Besides that, in the border areas between regions, strict guarding is also carried out with coordination between agencies/institutions involved in all elements of society. This is intended to minimize the spread of the virus so as to facilitate testing tracing and treatment.

During PPKM, TNI members under the command of Kodam V / Brawijaya participated in overseeing the provision of assistance to communities affected by Covid-19 with basic food packages assistance programs, free medicines and assistance for street vendors and stalls. The distribution is coordinated by the TNI through the Kodam, including the Kodim, Koramil, and the village superintendent (babinsa) will coordinate with the regional government, the health service, and the police. The provision of this assistance was carried out based on data owned by the puskesmas or village midwife (Wisnubroto, 2021). In addition, in each military resort command area, Micro PPKM posts are provided for handling Covid-19 to facilitate coordination and supervision in handling prevention and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19 in every region in East Java.

Steps and strategies taken In handling prevention and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19 in East Java various strategic steps are needed so that the process runs effectively and efficiently. Synergy between elements in society is the key to the success of handling Covid in East Java. The involvement of community leaders and religious leaders is always carried out as an effort to approach the community in preventing the spread of Covid. Provision of facilities and infrastructure for prevention such as PPE, oxygen and other things needed are prepared. Oversight of the community regarding health protocols and monitoring of isoman residents has also been tightened. Kodam V/Brawijaya also contributed to the success of the vaccination program by sending and placing 760 personnel. Supervision and inspection of infrastructure for the handling of Covid-19 are also carried out in an integrated manner.

Formation of the Hunter Vaccine Task Force

Several steps have been planned by the Military Commander V/Brawijaya, one of which is the implementation of vaccination at night. In fact, several areas were targeted for the second phase of efforts to increase vaccination, including Mojokerto, Gresik, Lamongan and Sidoarjo Regencies. This activity was carried out jointly with the police and the Regional Secretary. Several strategies have been developed in an effort to increase vaccination in various areas in East Java, one of which is door to door vaccination at night which is humanely carried out by Kodam V/Brawijaya soldiers. In addition to vaccinations at night, the Regional Military Command will form a vaccine hunter together with TNI, Polri and Health Offices in each region. The implementation of patrols to catch and educate people who have not been vaccinated.

Other activities carried out by Kodam V/Brawijaya include PPKM, 3T (Testing, Tracing, Treatment), Socialization and disciplinary implementation of health protocols, assistance in distributing basic food items and social services, Monitor and record PMI (Indonesian migrant workers) who are in and out of the East Java region as well as the implementation of vaccinations as a whole for the people of East Java. Implementation of disciplining the health protocol by carrying out joint patrols, TNI, Polri, Satpol PP and related elements to ensure the implementation of the health protocol is carried out by all levels of society, Implementing massive appeals to the public about the dangers of the covid-19 virus and the importance of 3M to prevent the spread of the covid virus- 19. Admonish and ensure restaurants, restaurants and public facilities implement health protocols, carry out supervision of tourist and entertainment attractions as well as city parks, carry out control of border areas and cross-regional transportation, carry out tracing of close contacts with Babinkamtibmas and village midwives, carry out covalent plasma donors for patients Covid-19, preparing isolation/quarantine places and reserve referral hospitals as an anticipatory measure if there is a surge in Covid-19 cases,

carrying out evaluations of handling Covid-19 from the provincial level to the village/kel level involving all relevant stakeholders.

CONCLUSION

The role of Kodam V/Brawijaya soldiers in handling prevention and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19 in East Java Province is inseparable from the duties and functions of the TNI which have been mandated in Law Number 34 of 2004. Kodam V Brawijaya has taken strategic steps in efforts to prevent the spread of covid 19. The TNI's involvement in the process of preventing and breaking the chain of the spread of Covid-19 does not stand alone, but works together and synergizes with all elements of society. The involvement of Kodam V/Brawijaya in efforts to prevent and break the chain of distribution of Covid-19 in East Java province includes supervising the provision of basic food assistance to affected communities, escorting vaccination programs, providing outreach regarding health protocols to the community and deploying infrastructure facilities for handling covid -19, monitoring of entry and exit points during PPKM and various activities intended for Covid-19 handling services.

Kodam V/Brawijaya as a defense component in the East Java region has been optimal in handling Covid-19. Success in handling Covid-19 was achieved through cooperation, communication and collaboration of all elements in East Java Province. The problems encountered can be eliminated by carrying out various efforts in the field of 3M, 3T and vaccination activities. The current handling of Covid-19 is still ongoing to break the chain of transmission of the Covid-19 virus, dealing with the impact of the spread and increasing adherence to health protocols in order to change people's behavior in the framework of creating a productive and safe life for covid-19. Ready to live side by side with Covid-19 by implementing a new culture of life (new normal) and understanding preventive and curative measures when exposed to Covid-19.

Suggestions that need to be followed up in the future are establishing strategies that are more effective in handling and preventing the spread of Covid-19 together with all relevant stakeholders and approaching community leaders and religious leaders in order to educate the public about handling and preventing the spread of Covid-19 intensively.

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