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NATIONAL DEFENSE

TNI AU'S HUMANITARIAN MISSION TO TURKEY: BEYOND DELIVERING DISASTER RELIEF

TECHNOLOGY

HERCULES, THE IRREPLACEABLE "HERO" OF THE INDONESIAN AIR FORCE



INTERVIEW WITH BAMBANG SOESATYO, SPEAKER OF THE PEOPLE'S CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

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KOSTRAD

"Yudha Nirbaya Bhakti"

6 MARET 1961 - 6 MARET 2023



Dok. Dispenad

Dear readers,

We present you with the release of yet another issue of our three-year-old publication. This is the Twentieth Issue of Indonesia Defense Magazine (IDM), and we have gone to great efforts to assemble a number of articles of vital interest to our readers, be they soldiers, government officials, media counterparts or others with an interest in following defense matters, particularly in Indonesia.

Modern Türkiye and Syria are resting on the conjunction of three tectonic plates, and there were earth tremors of great force, with a magnitude of 7.8, that devastated settlements in the two countries, on February 6, 2023. Tens of thousands of buildings were destroyed or severely damaged, and vital infrastructure was interrupted. The death toll has soared past 43,000. The Republic of Indonesia was among the many countries that assembled a military-style relief operation to alleviate the suffering of inhabitants in Turkey and Syria. We cover the aftermath of the earthquake, and efforts to aid survivors. After the first wave of assistance took off from Indonesia for the Middle East, Indonesian Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto, anticipating a possible aftershock, instructed the Hercules aircraft and crew to be on standby status, in the country as long as needed, to be made available at any time to back up Türkiye's disaster management efforts.

The accelerating march of technological development has forced governments and militaries to become skillful in planning and operations. The development of cheap and effective drones, often carrying considerable firepower, has forced the two combatants in Ukraine to compensate and respond to this drastic new weapons system. It has become clear that the Indonesian military (TNI) must be able to adopt and apply such novel defense technology as drones, not only as a support tool, but also as combat weaponry, at home and abroad.

Up-to-date technology inevitably costs money, and in a period of global economic recession defense budgets everywhere are being squeezed and carved down. Indonesia's strong and capable defense posture draws on the national budget, particularly in terms of main weapons systems (*alutsista*). In this issue we discuss issues of what an adequate defense budget will mean – as the Republic of Indonesia, compared to other ASEAN countries, is constrained with a relatively small defense budget.

Development of an effective national defense posture implies ongoing modernization of all defense systems, and the political will to do it. The "pros and cons" of an expanded budget are discussed here.



Some remote areas in Indonesia lacks paved roads and other such infrastructure; hilly terrain and remote settles make it difficult for village supervisory non-commissioned officers, known as "Babinsa", to assist locals whose houses are damaged or who might need urgent medical treatment. In this issue we report how Minister of Defense Prabowo Subianto has overseen the distribution of rugged off-road motorbikes to remote areas, making it easier for medical and other authorities to reach remote villages.

Capt. Esther Gayatri Saleh is widely known and respected as a seasoned test pilot, conducting often unpredictable or even dangerous maiden flights in new aircraft. We interview Capt. Esther, and present an overview of her long career in military and civil aviation.

Please let us know what you think of these and other articles in the current issue. We strive to upgrade the reportage in each and every issue, and welcome your feedback.

Have an enjoyable and educational read.

Sincerely,

Irawan Ronodipuro

Editor-in-Chief

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Crew of TNI AU's C-130 Hercules conducts pre-flight briefing in the mission to transport logistical aid from Ankara Etimesgut AFB to Kahranmanmaras Airport. Photo: Air Squadron 32

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The water salute procession during TNI AU's C-130J-30 Super Hercules inaugural landing at Halim Perdanakusuma AFB, Jakarta. Photo by: IDM/Septo Kun Wijaya





AGUNG WAHYUDI/IO

ANGGARAN PERTAHANAN NEGARA

MASIH JAUH PANGGANG DARI API?

Indonesia seyogyanya memiliki postur pertahanan yang kuat dan mumpuni, baik dari sisi personel TNI maupun alat utama sistem persenjataan (alutsista). Pertahanan negara harus mampu menjadi pilar utama bagi penangkalan (*deterrence*) maupun jaminan (*assurance*) atas kedaulatan itu. Kekuatan pertahanan harus ditempatkan dalam konteks (*Kusnanto Anggoro: Ketahanan dan Strategi Pertahanan Indonesia Menuju Negara Berwibawa 2045*). Maka agar hal itu dapat terwujud tentunya harus didukung dengan anggaran pertahanan yang juga memadai. Anggaran pertahanan merupakan anggaran publik yang dialokasikan untuk segala macam keperluan dalam bidang pertahanan negara. Besarannya tergantung pada kemampuan negara itu sendiri dan skala prioritas dalam pembangunan.

Oleh: Nurhidayat Nasution & Yuli Ari

Dibandingkan dengan negara ASEAN, Indonesia memiliki anggaran pertahanan yang relatif kecil. Angkanya masih berada di bawah 1 persen dari produk domestik bruto (PDB) yakni sebesar 0,86 persen. Sementara itu, berdasarkan data yang dirilis Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI, 2020) menunjukkan bahwa negara-negara ASEAN lainnya sudah memiliki anggaran pertahanan di atas 1 persen PDB, seperti Filipina (1,01 persen), Malaysia (1,14 persen), Thailand (1,47 persen), Singapura (3,2 persen) dan Brunei Darussalam (4,1 persen) dari PDB.

Dari anggaran sebesar 0,86 persen itu, Kementerian Pertahanan (Kemhan) masih harus membaginya ke dalam sejumlah program/sektor. Sebagai contoh, pada tahun 2021 Kemhan mendapat jatah sebesar Rp137,3 triliun. Angka tersebut didistribusikan untuk sejumlah program, meliputi dukungan manajemen (Rp76,3 triliun); modernisasi pertahanan (Rp43,1 triliun); kesejahteraan prajurit (Rp11,2 triliun); penggunaan kekuatan (Rp4,4 triliun); pembinaan sumber daya pertahanan (Rp1,6 triliun); riset-industri-pendidikan (Rp663,5 miliar).

Dengan porsi anggaran boleh dibilang minim, pemerintah akan sulit menyokong pembangunan postur pertahanan negara, di mana salah satunya dilakukan melalui modernisasi alutsista. Modernisasi alutsista merupakan investasi pertahanan jangka panjang dalam upaya menjaga kedaulatan negara. Oleh karena itu dibutuhkan *political will*, baik dari pemerintah maupun pembuat kebijakan lainnya untuk menambah jumlah anggaran pertahanan.

Kendati demikian, sebagai pelaksana kebijakan pertahanan di Indonesia, Kemhan terus berupaya untuk mengefektifkan anggaran yang ada. Bahkan, Menteri Pertahanan (Menhan) Prabowo Subianto menegaskan jika pihaknya akan terus berupaya dengan maksimal. Di sela-sela penyerahan alat peralatan pertahanan (alpalhan) untuk Korps Marinir di Lanmar Surabaya, Jawa Timur, Selasa (14/2) Prabowo



Prajurit TNI Angkatan Darat.