



## Implementation of the Role of Ankum and Papera in the Process of Resolving Military Cases in the Jurisdiction

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### Abstract

*This study aims to analyze the implementation of the role of Ankum (Superiors Who Have the Right to Sentence) and Papera (Case Submission Officers) in the process of resolving military crime cases in the jurisdiction of the Medan High Military Court I. The approach used is qualitative with descriptive-analytical methods through in-depth interviews, document studies, and observations. The focus of the research includes three main aspects, namely the case administration process in the military judicial environment, the application of fast, precise, and simple judicial principles after the integration of the one-stop system under the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia, and the role of the unit commander in case resolution. The results of the study show that the case administration process still faces obstacles, especially in terms of the completeness of documents and the accuracy of procedures by Ankum and Papera. Although the one-stop system provides an opportunity to speed up the case process, technological limitations and internal resistance are challenges in the application of the principle of fast, precise, and simple justice. In addition, the role of the unit commander as the initial decision-maker greatly affects the smooth process of resolving cases, even though there is a disparity in the understanding of military law among Ankum. This study recommends increasing legal training for Ankum and Papera, stricter supervision of the implementation of legal procedures, and accelerating the digitalization of the military judicial administration system. Thus, these findings make an important contribution to efforts to improve the military justice system to realize efficiency, transparency, and justice.*

## Introduction

In the military justice system in Indonesia, the handling of military crimes has different characteristics from the general justice system (Budi Pramono, 2020). The system is specifically designed to regulate the behavior of soldiers who are subject to strict military rules. One of the important components in the military justice process is the role of Ankum (Superiors Who Have the Right to Punish) and Papera (Case Submission Officers) (Tambunan, 2019; Ardi, 2021; Sawi, 2022; Nasution, 2024). Both have crucial duties and responsibilities in ensuring that the process of resolving military cases runs in accordance with applicable law.

The jurisdiction of the Medan High Military Court I includes various military units that have a diversity of military crime cases. In this region, Ankum and Papera serve as the main liaison between military units and the military justice system. The implementation of their role is essential to ensure that any violations committed by soldiers are dealt with with professionalism and fairness (Smith, 2020).

Ankum has the authority to take initial action in dealing with disciplinary violations or misdemeanors (Mirozul et al., 2024). In some cases, Ankum is authorized to impose

administrative or disciplinary sanctions without involving the courts. However, for more serious cases, such as criminal acts involving violations of military criminal law, Ankum is obliged to submit the case to Papera for further processing.

On the other hand, Papera has the responsibility to prepare a case file that will be submitted to a military court (Octavianus, 2018). Papera's role is very crucial because the case file that is compiled is the basis for the judge's decision-making. Papera's suboptimal performance can have an impact on the slow legal process or even legal defects in the settlement of cases.

The implementation of the roles of Ankum and Papera is inseparable from various challenges, especially in terms of understanding military law, coordination between units, and human resource capacity. In the area of the Medan High Military Court I, the complexity of the case often requires close collaboration between Ankum, Papera, and other institutions related to the military justice system.

Another challenge is the issue of transparency and accountability in the case settlement process. Although the military justice system has clear rules, its implementation often faces bureaucratic constraints or a lack of supporting facilities (Dawes et al., 2009). This can reduce the effectiveness of Ankum and Papera's role in carrying out their duties.

In addition, the development of information technology also opens up opportunities to improve the efficiency of the military legal process (Hutahaean & Main, 2024; Ahmed, 2022; O'Hanlon, 2018; Firestone, 2013). With the digitization of documents and the use of an electronic-based case management system, Ankum and Papera can speed up the case resolution process and increase transparency.

This research focuses on how to implement the role of Ankum and Papera in resolving military cases in the jurisdiction of the High Military Court I Medan. The study will identify the obstacles faced and offer solutions to improve the effectiveness of both roles in the military justice system.

One interesting aspect to analyze is the extent to which Ankum and Papera adhere to the standard procedures set out in military law. This process includes collecting evidence, preparing case files, and coordinating with military courts. Compliance with legal procedures is the main indicator in assessing their professionalism and credibility (Aulakh & Kirkpatrick, 2018).

This study will also explore how the training and education system affects the performance of Ankum and Papera. With adequate training, it is hoped that they will be able to understand and carry out their duties better, especially in dealing with complex cases.

Furthermore, this study will discuss the impact of the role of Ankum and Papera on the trust of the military community in the legal system. Their success in resolving cases fairly will strengthen the legitimacy of the military justice system in the eyes of soldiers and military institutions.

Through this study, it is hoped that strategic steps can be found to improve the implementation of the role of Ankum and Papera. The resulting recommendations will make a real contribution to the development of the military justice system in Indonesia, especially in the area of the High Military Court I Medan.

By understanding the importance of the role of Ankum and Papera, this research is expected to be the foundation for the improvement of a better military legal system. Transparency, accountability, and professionalism are the key words in creating a fair and reliable military justice system.

Finally, this research contributes to the academic literature in the field of military law and provides practical benefits for military institutions in managing legal processes involving soldiers. Thus, the military justice system in Indonesia can become more effective and adaptive to the dynamics of the times.

## **Methods**

This research is included in the type of qualitative descriptive research, which aims to describe the phenomenon and provide an in-depth explanation of the implementation of the role of Ankum and Papera (Sugiyono, 2016). This research also seeks to identify factors that affect the success or obstacles in the implementation of their duties.

The research was conducted in the jurisdiction of the High Military Court I Medan. This location was chosen because it includes various military units that have various cases of military crimes, thus providing space for researchers to understand the dynamics of the implementation of the role of Ankum and Papera.

The subjects of the study are the parties directly involved in the process of resolving military cases, including: a) Ankum in various military units within the jurisdiction of the High Military Court I Medan; b) Papera is in charge of handling the case file before it is submitted to the court; c) Military judges and related personnel at the Medan High Military Court I; d) Military jurists or relevant legal practitioners.

## **Data Collection Techniques**

Researchers use several data collection techniques to obtain in-depth and comprehensive information (Miles & Huberman, 1992): Interviews were conducted directly with Ankum, Papera, military judges, and military jurists. Questions are designed to explore experiences, understandings, and challenges faced in carrying out tasks. Observations were made to directly observe the work process of Ankum and Papera, starting from collecting evidence, preparing case files, to submitting cases to military courts. The researcher also observed the dynamics of communication and coordination between related parties. Relevant documents, such as laws, military regulations, case files, and case reports, are analyzed to understand the legal framework and procedures that apply in the process of resolving military cases.

## **Research Instruments**

The main instrument in this qualitative research is the researcher himself. The researcher acts as the primary data collector by using interview guides, observation sheets, and field notes. Data analysis is carried out thematically with the following stages (Saleh, 2017): 1) Data Reduction: Data obtained from interviews, observations, and documentation are selected, simplified, and focused on aspects relevant to the research objectives; 2) Data Presentation: Data is presented in the form of narratives, matrices, or diagrams to facilitate further understanding and analysis; 3) Drawing Conclusions: Researchers draw conclusions based on patterns, themes, or relationships found in the data. This conclusion is constantly verified with additional data to ensure its validity.

## **Data Validity**

To ensure the validity and reliability of the data, this study uses triangulation techniques, namely: a) Source Triangulation: Comparing data obtained from interviews with documents and observation results; b) Triangulation Methods: Using more than one data collection method to ensure consistency of information.

Member Checking: Confirming the results of interviews with respondents to ensure the accuracy of the researcher's interpretation.

## Results and Discussion

### Case Administration Process in the Military Court Environment

The administrative process of cases in the military court environment begins with the submission of reports of alleged criminal acts by soldiers to Ankum. Based on the results of the interviews and the study of the documents, it was found that Ankum was responsible for conducting a preliminary investigation to determine whether the case could be resolved at the internal level or should be referred to a military tribunal.

The case administration process involves several important stages, namely: a) Reporting and Initial Investigation by Ankum; b) Submission of Case Files to Papera; c) Preparation and Verification of Case Files; d) Submission of Files to Military Courts.

The observation results show that the main obstacle in the administrative process is the lack of understanding of part of Ankum to the applicable legal procedures. This often leads to administrative errors, such as inadequate file completeness or delays in submitting cases to court.

Table 1. Case Administration Process in the Military Court Environment

Administrative Stages	Person in Charge	Main Obstacles	Proposed Solutions
Initial Research	Ankum	Lack of understanding of legal procedures	Legal training for Ankum
Submission of Files to Papera	Ankum	File inconsistencies	Administrative guide to Ankum
Preparation of Case Files	Papera	Lack of evidence and supporting documents	Routine supervision by the court
Submission to the Court	Papera and the Court	Slow bureaucratic process	Digitization of the administrative system

The results of the study show that the case administration process in the military court environment involves several structured stages, starting from the initial investigation by *Ankum*, the preparation of files by *Papera*, to the submission of the case to the military court. However, the obstacles that arise include the lack of understanding of some *Ankum* of military legal procedures, which causes administrative errors and delays in handling cases.

This finding is in line with the theory of legal administration by (Gemilang & Agustanti, 2023), which emphasizes the importance of understanding legal rules and procedures to maintain efficiency and fairness in the legal process. In addition, research (Tambunan, 2019) shows that one of the causes of inefficiency in military justice is the lack of specialized training for *Ankum* and *Papera*.

As a solution, training and legal briefing for *Ankum* need to be improved to minimize administrative errors. This is in accordance with the view (Judge & Robbins, 2013), which states that the development of human resource competencies is the key to improving organizational performance, including in the military legal system.

### The Principle of Fast, Precise, and Simple Justice Manifested in Speeding Up the Case Process in Military Courts

This study finds that the principle of fast, precise, and simple justice has not been fully realized within the Medan High Military Court I, even though it has been under the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia. Interviews with military judges revealed several factors that slowed down the proceedings, including: a) Lack of competent personnel in the field of military law;

b) Limited technology and supporting facilities for case administration; c) Bureaucratic procedures are still conventional and time-consuming.

However, there are several efforts to speed up the judicial process, such as the introduction of electronic-based information systems and technical training for military court personnel. The results of the interview show that digitalization is starting to have a positive impact, although its implementation still needs time to be optimized.

Table 2. The Impact of the One-Stop System in Military Courts

Aspects	Before One-Stop System	After One-Stop System	Key Challenges
Speed of Case Process	Slow	Faster, but not yet optimal	Technology limitations
Transparency	Less	Starting to increase	Internal socialization and education
Administrative Efficiency	Complicated	In the simplification stage	Resistance to system change

After being under the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia through a one-stop system, the principle of fast, precise, and simple justice is expected to be realized in the military judicial environment. However, the results of this study show that the implementation of these principles still faces various obstacles, such as lack of supporting technology, slow bureaucratic process, and lack of competent personnel in the field of military law.

These findings support research conducted by (Anggita & Sembiring, 2024), which found that justice system reform is often hampered by internal resistance to change and infrastructure limitations. In this context, Weberian's modernization theory that emphasizes bureaucratic efficiency is relevant to be applied. (Weber, 1947) stated that modern bureaucracy must prioritize the use of standardized technology and systems to speed up the work process.

Digitalization in the military justice system, such as the introduction of electronic-based information systems, is beginning to show a positive impact on the acceleration of legal processes. This supports Hammer and Champy's view in (Puspita & Unisri, n.d.) in the concept *Business Process Reengineering*, which emphasizes the importance of transforming work systems through technology to achieve efficiency. However, the implementation of digitalization still requires socialization and training to ensure that all parties involved are able to use it optimally.

### **The Role of the Unit Commander in the Case Process in the Military Justice Environment**

The unit commander, who acts as Ankom, has a central role in the case settlement process in the military judicial environment. Interviews with Ankom and Papera show that the initial decision of the unit commander greatly influenced the direction of the handling of the case.

However, this study found that there was a disparity in the understanding and implementation of roles by unit commanders. Some Ankom carried out its duties well according to procedures, while others still faced difficulties in identifying cases that should be forwarded to court.

Factors that affect the role of a unit commander include: 1) The level of understanding of military law by the commander; b) Availability of facilities to support investigations; c) Internal pressure to resolve cases informally in order to maintain the reputation of the unit.

Table 3. The Role of the Union Commander in the Case Process

<b>Ankum's Main Role</b>	<b>Success Indicators</b>	<b>Constraints</b>	<b>Proposed Solutions</b>
Initial Research	Accuracy of evidence collection	Lack of legal training	Periodic legal workshops and training
Early Decision Making	Accuracy in case classification	Pressure to resolve cases internally	Increased oversight by the courts
Submission of Files to Papera	Document completeness	Incomplete documentation	Operational standards guide

The unit commander, who acts as *Ankum*, has a strategic role in determining the direction of handling military cases. The study found that the initial decisions made by unit commanders are often influenced by their level of understanding of military law, the availability of support facilities, and internal pressure to resolve cases informally in order to maintain the unit's reputation.

This finding is in line with Hersey and Blanchard's situational leadership theory in (Raza & Sikandar, 2018), which states that the effectiveness of a leader is highly dependent on his ability to adapt his leadership style to the situation at hand. In the context of military justice, unit commanders who understand military law and have access to support facilities will be better able to carry out their roles well.

Previous research by Linorangatau (2020) It was also found that the unit commander had a great influence on the smooth process of resolving cases. Their inability to carry out their duties according to legal procedures can hinder the legal process in military courts. Therefore, more intensive supervision and coaching of unit commanders is needed to ensure that they understand and comply with applicable legal procedures.

## **Conclusion**

Based on the results of the research and discussions that have been carried out, it can be concluded that the implementation of the role of Ankum (Superior who has the right to punish) and Papera (Case Surrendering Officer) in the process of resolving military cases in the jurisdiction of the High Military Court I Medan still faces various challenges, both in terms of administration, the application of judicial principles, and the role of the unit commander in the legal process. First, in the aspect of case administration, the initial investigation process and the preparation of case files show that there are obstacles in the completeness of legal documents and procedures. This is mainly due to Ankum's lack of understanding of military legal rules and the lack of an optimal administrative system at the military unit level. Ongoing legal training and the preparation of clear procedural guidelines are the main solutions to this problem. Second, the application of the principle of fast, precise, and simple justice after the one-stop system under the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia has not been fully realized. Although the introduction of digital technology is starting to have a positive impact on the efficiency of legal processes, its implementation still requires time and further development. In addition, internal resistance to changes and infrastructure limitations are still a significant obstacle. Technology-based bureaucratic reform and technical training for military court personnel are important steps in overcoming these obstacles. Third, the role of the unit commander in the case settlement process is very crucial, especially in the initial investigation and early decision-making stages. However, the results of the study show that the ability of unit commanders to carry out these tasks varies widely, depending on their level of understanding of military law and the supporting facilities available. To ensure that the role of

the unit commander runs optimally, stricter supervision from the military courts and regular guidance on applicable legal procedures are needed. Overall, the study shows that despite advances in the military justice system, such as integration into the Supreme Court and digitalization efforts, there are still a number of aspects that need improvement. Collaboration between military institutions and courts, improving the competence of human resources, and modernizing the administrative system are key elements in realizing an effective, efficient, and fair military justice system. Thus, the results of this study make an important contribution to understanding the dynamics of military justice in Indonesia, especially in the area of the High Military Court I Medan, as well as offering strategic recommendations to improve the quality of the military justice system in the future.

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