

## Bridging Borders and Hearts: TNI Marines Build Lasting Connections with Sokamu Village in Papua

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Nov 13, 2024 - 18:57



PAPUA- In a powerful show of community spirit and commitment to regional well-being, the Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI) Marines of Infantry Battalion 6, under HABEMA Command, reached out to the residents of Sokamu Village, Yahukimo Regency, Papua Pegunungan Province, on Wednesday, November 13, 2024. Led by First Lieutenant Nico, the Marines at the Logpon Post turned their routine

security patrol into an opportunity to engage in Social Communication (Komsos) with local families. This initiative exemplifies the TNI's dedication to fostering unity and trust within the communities they serve.

This visit is part of a broader strategy to strengthen the bonds between the TNI and the local population, with the ultimate goal of supporting the Indonesian Government's efforts to accelerate development in the Papua region.

Commander of the Marines Task Forces, Lieutenant Colonel Rismanto Manurung, highlighted to his team the importance of maintaining a meaningful presence within the community, demonstrating care for the basic needs of the residents while ensuring a secure environment.

During their patrol, the Marines stopped to interact with Sokamu's children, providing them with sports equipment and sparking joy and excitement among the young villagers. This exchange also offered an opportunity to discuss the security situation in the village, with residents noting the area's peaceful and safe condition. The residents' gratitude was palpable, with one local, Yosef Tabuni, expressing heartfelt thanks by saying, "Thank you, Commander Marines. God bless." His words reflect the profound impact of the Task Force's efforts in fostering mutual respect and appreciation.

The initiative did not go unnoticed by HABEMA Commanding General Brigadier General Lucky Avianto, who applauded the Marines' commitment to community outreach. "This social engagement initiative by the Marines Task Forces embodies the TNI's spirit of inclusive communication, building trust and cooperation that are essential for accelerating Papua's development," Brigadier General Avianto stated. His commendation underscores the transformative power of these efforts in Papua's progress, instilling hope and a renewed sense of optimism for a bright future.

Through actions that extend beyond defense, the TNI Marines continue to bridge communities and serve as a trusted ally to the people of Papua. This mission of unity and shared vision shines as a model of TNI's dedication to creating lasting, positive change in the lives of border communities.

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