

## Warm Smiles and Strong Bonds: Muara Children Welcome HABEMA Marines with Open Arms

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YAHUKIMO- In the serene Muara Village of Dekai District, Yahukimo Regency, the task forces of the Infantry Battalion 6 Marines under the Indonesian Armed Forces Operational Command HABEMA carried out a heartwarming initiative on Wednesday, January 15, 2025. While conducting a routine security patrol along the Indonesian-Papua New Guinea border, the Marines took time to engage in

meaningful social communication (Komsos) with the village children, fostering trust and strengthening community ties.

The Bravo Post team, led by Second Lieutenant Alter, used this opportunity to connect with the local community, a vital part of the Indonesian Government's mission to accelerate development in Papua. The initiative is a testament to the HABEMA Marines' commitment to safeguarding both security and harmony in the region.

### **A Gesture of Connection Beyond Duty**

The Commander of the Marines Task Forces, Lieutenant Colonel Rismanto Manurung, emphasized the importance of addressing the basic needs and concerns of the communities surrounding the posts. This philosophy inspired the Marines' friendly interaction with the children of Muara Village during their patrol.

Amid their security-focused mission, the Soldiers engaged with the children and listened to updates from their parents regarding the village's safety, which remains stable and conducive. The residents' gratitude was evident, with Simon Tabuni, a local community member, expressing his heartfelt thanks: "Thank you, Commander Marines. God bless." Such genuine words highlight the deep bond forming between the TNI and the local populace.

### **Acknowledgment from the Top Command**

Major General Lucky Avianto, the Commanding General of HABEMA, praised the Marines Task Forces for their dedication to fostering social harmony. "The Marines' initiative demonstrates TNI's unwavering commitment to conducting inclusive communication with all stakeholders, supporting Papua's accelerated development," he stated.

The positive reception from the local community underscores the broader impact of these efforts, not just in terms of security but also in laying the foundation for a unified and optimistic future in Papua.

The Marines' efforts in Muara Village highlight the power of small yet impactful acts of humanity within military operations. Through gestures like this, the Task Forces continue to prove that their mission transcends mere security—it is about building trust, fostering hope, and supporting the vibrant communities they serve.

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