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## Marines Bring Smiles to Massi Village: A Heartwarming Social Communication Initiative

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YAHUKIMO- A touching moment of unity and joy unfolded on Sunday, January

12, 2025, as the Indonesian Armed Forces' Infantry Battalion 6 Marines, under the HABEMA Operational Command, visited Massi Village in the Dekai District of Yahukimo Regency, Papua Pegunungan Province. During a routine security patrol, the Bravo Post team led by Second Lieutenant Alter took time to engage in Social Communication (Komsos) with local children, creating a heartwarming atmosphere of trust and cooperation.

This initiative, part of the Indonesian Government's broader efforts to accelerate development in Papua, reflects the Marines Task Forces' commitment to fostering a harmonious relationship with the local community while maintaining security at the Indonesia-Papua New Guinea border.

### **A Mission of Compassion and Connection**

Lieutenant Colonel Rismanto Manurung, Commander of the Marines Task Forces, emphasized the importance of prioritizing community engagement alongside operational duties. "The needs and well-being of the people around our posts are as crucial as our primary mission," he said.

The Marines demonstrated this principle during their patrol in Massi Village by pausing to interact with the children. The Soldiers' warm approach and genuine care left a lasting impression on the young residents and their families. While engaging with the children, the Soldiers also gathered valuable updates from the locals, who reported a safe and peaceful situation in the village.

### **Community's Gratitude and Connection**

The heartfelt gratitude from the community was evident. Markus Tabuni, a local resident, expressed his appreciation, saying, "Thank you, Commander Marines. God bless." This simple yet profound acknowledgment underscores the meaningful bond between the Task Forces and the residents.

The Marines' effort to connect with the children and their families not only brought smiles to their faces but also reinforced the trust and unity essential for the region's progress.

### **Leadership Commendation and Broader Impact**

Upon receiving the report of the activity, Brigadier General Lucky Avianto, the HABEMA Commanding General, lauded the initiative, stating, "The Marines Task Forces' social communication with the children of Massi Village is a shining example of TNI's dedication to inclusive engagement, fostering trust, and accelerating Papua's development."

This recognition underscores the transformative power of such initiatives in building bridges between the armed forces and the community. It demonstrates that the TNI's mission extends beyond security, contributing to the holistic development of the region.

### **A Beacon of Hope for Papua's Future**

Through simple yet impactful actions, the Marines Task Forces showcased how compassion and service can inspire optimism and hope. Their presence in Massi Village exemplifies the spirit of unity, professionalism, and dedication that drives the Indonesian Armed Forces to serve not only as protectors but also as partners in progress.

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