

# *Marine Defense Strategy With Military Base Development On The Outside Island As A Leading Defense And Defense Mobility*

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**Abstract** – The construction of military bases on small islands is useful to provide access to mobility for patrol ships to get fuel or logistics supplies. It can also provide assistance in the pursuit of foreign ships that enter the Indonesian sea without permission, where the base already has a fleet ready with fast warships. The military base will greatly assist the Navy's mobility in maintaining the sovereignty of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Evidence of Indonesia's lack of maritime defence has led countries bordering Indonesia to make their own claims to maritime boundaries, especially in the North Natuna Sea. Two surveillance ships belonging to the Vietnamese government reportedly rammed the hull of the Indonesian Navy ship KRI Tjiptadi-381 in the North Natuna Sea. Apart from claims and theft of natural resources in the Indonesian sea, there are currently also hot issues between China and Australia, due to the US-UK-Australia cooperation called AUKUS. The Main Task of the Base said that the main task of Lantamal is to organise combat support, logistical support, administrative support and special support for elements of the Navy (Ships, Pesud and Marines), carry out operations and carry out empowerment of facilities and infrastructure owned by the base itself and related agencies in the region. This support capability is commonly known as the '5R' function, namely Rebase, Replenishment, Repair, Rest and Recreation. The construction of bases on the outer islands is a form of defence and proof to countries bordering Indonesia, that the Republic of Indonesia has the strength to face forces that want to threaten or claim the sovereign territory of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Base development is one of the supports in defence development, base development on small islands located in the outermost parts can be used as a military base that is useful as a frontline defence and also access to defence mobility, as well as carrying out the main tasks and functions of the base.

**Keywords** – Military, Base, Construction, Defence, Island

## I. INTRODUCTION

Sea defence is a very important component in an archipelagic country like Indonesia, moreover Indonesia has four choke points and a very strategic geographic location, namely the Malacca Strait, Sunda Strait, Lombok Strait and Makassar Strait. In maintaining Indonesia's sea territory, which covers 6,400,000 km<sup>2</sup> of the Republic of Indonesia's 8,300,000 km<sup>2</sup>, in other words, 77% of the total area of the Republic of Indonesia, therefore Indonesia must have a strong sea defence. Indonesia also has sea and land borders with other countries, namely Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines, Timor Leste, the Republic of Palau, Australia and Papua New Guinea. With these facts, Indonesia must have a Sea Defence Strategy that supports the Development of State Defence, one of which is the Base.

The creation of TNI AL bases is done to be able to support the development of the organisation. The construction is carried out to make improvements to Port Facilities, Supply Facilities, Maintenance and Repair Facilities, Maintenance and Personnel Facilities, and Base Development Facilities. Repair Facilities, Maintenance and Personnel Facilities, and Base Development Facilities (Kementerian Pertahanan Republik Indonesia, 2015).

The construction of military bases on small islands is useful to provide access to mobility to patrol ships to get fuel

supplies or logistics. It can also provide assistance in the pursuit of foreign ships that enter the Indonesian sea without permission, where the base already has a fleet ready with fast warships. The military base will greatly assist the Navy's mobility in maintaining the sovereignty of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

Military bases are also useful as a first base of defence in the event of a sudden invasion of Indonesia, and are equipped with runways, useful for the take-off and landing of combat aircraft. Because of these military bases, there is little time for preparations to be made by large military bases, which have large warships and warplanes. large military bases, which have large warships and state-of-the-art fighter aircraft to carry out attacks.

In the construction of military bases on small islands, Indonesia does not have to build with sophisticated facilities and technology, because its function is only as a fortress in providing mobility. For example, this military base can be built on small islands that become choke points in Indonesia. The British system of base access in Europe and overseas developed slowly from the early seventeenth century, during the period of Dutch (and still Spanish) rule, to its peak at the time of World War I and even a little further. In the seventeenth century, the initial main focus of expansion was in the Caribbean, North America and India, as well as in Europe in the context of ongoing military and political rivalries (Harkavy, 2007). Britain had already implemented base access in Europe and Asia in the seventeenth century, culminating in the first world war.

Evidence of Indonesia's lack of maritime defence has led countries bordering Indonesia to make their own claims to maritime boundaries, particularly in the North Natuna Sea. sea boundaries especially in the North Natuna Sea, two government-owned surveillance vessels (Harkavy, 2007). Vietnam reportedly rammed the hull of Indonesian Navy ship KRI Tjiptadi-381 in the North Natuna Sea (29/04), Indonesia's sovereign sea area as Indonesia's EEZ. According to the Indonesian Navy, the Indonesian ship was hit when it wanted to intercept a Vietnamese-flagged fishing vessel suspected of stealing fish in those waters. (Wijaya, 2019) These claims are not only with Vietnam, but also with Malaysia. In addition, there are also many fishing boats that enter the sovereign sea territory of the Republic of Indonesia, such as Chinese, Japanese, Dutch, Malaysian, and Philippine fishing boats. Given the abundance of natural resources in Indonesia's seas, this is a problem that needs to be addressed immediately.

Apart from claims and theft of natural resources in the Indonesian sea, there is currently also a hot issue between China and Australia, because of the US-UK-Australia cooperation called AUKUS. China has expressed its anger at the military cooperation carried out by Australia with the United States (US) and the UK. In fact, the country led by President Xi Jinping said that the cooperation had disrupted the stability of the Asia-Pacific region. Quoting Reuters, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Zhao Lijian argued that the three countries were very damaging to peace by intensifying the presence of weapons hegemony and undermining international nuclear non-proliferation efforts. Where previously the US and UK would help nuclear development (Sorongan, 2021).

## **II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Researchers use empirical juridical methods in conducting research, empirical juridical methods look for facts that exist in Indonesia's maritime sovereignty, so that they become material in the discussion of Base Development on the outer islands as the forefront of defence and defensive mobility. Using the Template

## **III. DISCUSSION**

### **Military Bases as a Sea Defence Strategy**

Sea Defence Strategy is one of the branches of Defence Science, in Sea Defence Strategy discusses Maritime Power, Sea Power and Naval Power. Naval power discusses SSAT (Latest Force Weapon System), namely KRI, Base, Aircraft and Marines. This article focuses on the discussion of Base Construction. In national defence development, bases support defence development and combat. One area of potential application of international relations theory to the study of base access is the role of system structure, specifically the role of different types of polarity, namely, unipolarity, bipolarity, multipolarity. This is an important but difficult area of analysis, especially as it involves close tautologies. The extent of base access is, or can be, a key measure of national power, therefore incorporated into the characterisation of polarity, especially given the role of bases in enabling long-range power projection. However, of course, it is great power status that correlates with, or enables, the acquisition and retention of an extensive base network (Harkavy, 2007).

In the First World War, bases were already an important part of the battle, and some countries even negotiated to get bases

in areas closest to their battles, especially the role of bases as access to long-range battles.

a. Main Duties and Functions of the Base

Danlantamal VIII said that the main task of Lantamal VIII is to organise combat support, logistical support, administrative support and special support for elements of the Navy (Ships, Soldiers and Marines), carry out operations and carry out empowerment of facilities and infrastructure owned by the base or related agencies in the region. This supporting capability is often known with the '5R' function, namely Rebase, Replenishment, Repair, Rest and Recreation, said Danlantamal VIII (Admin, 2021). The function of the base can be a place where the fleet gets logistics and fuel back, can also send logistics and fuel supplies from the base, become a place for ship repair, become a place of rest and recreation for personnel.

b. Construction of Military Bases Construction of Military Bases

Military bases on small islands that are located at the sea border or outermost location of the State of Indonesia, can be the first bastion of defence as well as access to the mobility of every fleet that patrols in an effort to maintain the sovereign territory of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. The construction of the base is carried out by selecting an island with a strategic geographical location, the depth of the sea around the island, the tides on the island. So that the base can still perform the function of the base. The number of cases of theft of fish and wealth in the Indonesian sea, cases of crossing sea borders, border claim issues and Indonesia's geographical location between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean, the Asian and Australian continents and also Indonesia which is surrounded by many countries in the sea and land borders. These things can encourage the Government in the development of bases on the outer islands as a form of defence and proof to the countries bordering Indonesia, that the Republic of Indonesia has the strength to face the forces that want to threaten or claim the sovereign territory of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Indonesia is an archipelago and its geographical location between the Indian and Pacific Oceans and the continents of Asia and Australia makes it very strategic. Indonesia also has several choke points that keep Indonesia's sea lanes busy with commercial ships, but also make many cases of fish theft, sea border claims and crossing borders. Base development is one of the supporting factors in defence development. The development of bases on small islands in the outermost parts can be used as military bases that are useful as frontline defence and also access to defence mobility, as well as carrying out the main tasks and functions of the base.

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