

The Role of The Air Force to Manifest The World's Maritime Axis From An Air Defense Perspective

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Abstract

The Indonesian Air Force is one of the core defense forces of the State of the Republic of Indonesia to carry out the country's defense. Air force plays a role in realizing Indonesia as the World Maritime Axis. This research method is carried out by descriptive phenomenology method through study library. The realization of the world's maritime axis still faces various threats like transnational crime and the illegal use of the Indonesian sea passage line. Efforts that can be implemented are the utilization of air defense equipment detecting threats and synergy of the apparatus *matra sea* and *air matra*.

Keyword: Airforce, Air Defense, World Maritime Axis, Synergy, Detection

Introduction

Enforce the law and maintain security in the airspace of national jurisdictions by the provisions of federal law and international law that have been ratified. (Air Force, 2019) The implementation of the task is outlined in the form of the role of the TNI, in accordance with the form of threats faced in accordance with the development of the strategic environment. The role in the implementation of air defense is played by the National Air Defense Command (Kohanudnas).

Faced with efforts to manifest the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia as the world's maritime axis that President Jokowi has proclaimed, the role has not been seen in real terms, in supporting the programs that have been announced. With the power of the title of the main tool of the weapons system, Kohanudnas is able to carry out the inspection, identification, and suppression of every target at sea level and in all airspace of the unitary state of Republik Indonesia.

The history of the development of sea conception and maritime conflict can be used as a reason that from ancient Greece until today, the sea is still a sexy problem that resulted in disputes and even armed conflicts between countries. This is reinforced by the history of the kingdom or country that ruled civilization in its time, never separated from its ability to rule the sea. As shown by Greece, Rome, Daulah Islam, Srivijaya, Majapahit, China, and Europe in its history of glory. (Susilowati et al., 2019)

Conflicts over the sea are always based on their potential, both from marine and underwater natural resources, as well as strategic areas in trade and shipping. As is the current conflict in the South China Sea, it is also inseparable from the natural wealth of the sea as well as the strategic area that the region has. It is undeniable that maritime sovereignty is a vital element, especially for maritime countries, including Indonesia. (Susilowati et al., 2019)

Research Method. This study uses qualitative descriptive methods of phenomenology. Researchers describe in detail the problems that are being faced related to existing phenomena in detail and efforts to solve them. In an effort to complete this study, researchers tried to discuss efforts made from the perspective of air defense in the hope of realizing the World Maritime Axis better. In this case, the collection of data is done through library studies, coupled with empirical experience while serving as an Air Force soldier.

Theoretical Framework

Law No. 17 of 1985. Indonesia has ratified the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* (UNCLOS) through Law No. 17 of 1985, but there has been no significant progress to be able to win the competition with countries in the world. The concept of *Sea Gate International* (SGI) has not been able to manifest Indonesia's maritime independence. By carrying out development and improvement both in quantity and mainly the quality of the port, adjusting international standards should be a realistic and optimistic step to continue to be improved. (Kumalasari, 2017)

Air Defense. Air defenses are defined as actions designed to undo or reduce the effectiveness of enemy air actions". Air defenses include surface-based, subsurface (submarine-launched), and air-based weapon systems, related sensor systems, command and control settings, and passive measures (e.g., barrage balloons). Air defense can be used to protect the Navy, land, and air in any location. However, for most countries, the main effort tends to be the 'defense of the homeland'. Air defense is basically known as air-based air defense as air defense and naval air defense as anti-aircraft warfare. Missile defense is an extension of air defense, as is an initiative to adapt air defenses to the task of intercepting every flying projectile. (Wikipedia, 2020)

Enforcement Mechanism. Enforcement of legal sovereignty in the national airspace, in daily activities, carried out by Kohanudnas, through *detection activities*, namely carrying out air observations with air or civilian defense radars that have been held in various regions. The second *Identification* is to carry out the introduction of air targets captured by radar, and the third is *Penindakan* which is activities carried out against unknown air targets by shadowing, expelling, forcing landing, or destroying. In this case, the Operational conducted by the Air Force in protecting the safety of the nation include operations to overcome armed insurgencies; overcome acts of terrorism; assist the duties of the government in the region; assist the Police in the framework of security and public order tasks stipulated in the law; help cope with the aftermath of natural disasters, refugees, and the provision of humanitarian assistance; assist search and rescue; and assist the government in securing shipping and aviation against piracy, piracy, and smuggling. (Air Force, 2019)

Water Power Theory from Giulio Douhet. Giulio Douhet said that the air defense force had become a battlefield that is no less important than land and sea warfare. (Britannica, 2021) This will allow any threat through the air, which is seen to have superior capabilities in terms of speed, breadth of coverage area, and high shock

power. Demikan also, there is an opportunity to become air power as a superior defense force supports the realization of Indonesia as the world's maritime axis.

Five Pillars. Furthermore, the concept of The World Maritime Axis is set forth in Presidential Regulation No. 2 of 2015 concerning The National Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMN) 2015-2019. Indonesia, as the world's maritime axis, is supported by five main pillars, namely: first, the rebuilding of Indonesia's maritime culture; second, the commitment to maintain and manage marine resources with a focus on building marine food sovereignty through the development of the fishing industry by placing fishermen as the main pillars; third, the commitment to encourage the development of maritime infrastructure and connectivity by building sea tolls, seaports, logistics, and shipping industries, as well as maritime tourism; fourth, maritime diplomacy that invites all Indonesian partners to cooperate in the field of marine; and fifth, build a maritime defense force. (Sosiawan, 2019)

Jokowi's vision and mission in building Indonesia from the 3T region and making Indonesia the world's maritime axis is a step to improve the economy. With Indonesia's strategic position, it is an advantage in international businesses that require Indonesian sea access. However, despite its potential, Indonesia faces many challenges, including challenges from pirates at sea, security at sea, the flow of migrants using sea access. (Ardiyanti, 2018b)

Types of Maritime Shafts are Classic maritime shafts, Modern maritime shafts, intermediate maritime shafts, and central maritime shafts. The maritime axis of the Eastern and Western Mediterranean, as well as the Archipelago, is a type of intermediate maritime axis because of its role only as a bridge for trade routes between countries. The characteristic of this maritime axis is to be in two or three exotic regions.

NKRI (Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia), based on its location, is part of the intermediary axis. Even so, this situation is actually a new situation. In the past, the NKRI was a dual-axis: an intermediary as well as a center. The intermediate axis was in Malacca while the central axis was in Maluku; this was related to the control of the kingdom there that controlled the spices and played the role of the actor on the maritime axis at the time. (Sosiawan, 2019)

The Government of Indonesia has applied for its existence and status as an archipelagic state, which has been accepted by the United Nations. There are 19 conditions that must be adhered to by foreign countries of ALKI users, both for ships and aircraft that escort them, including provisions, among others: (1) will not interfere with or threaten the sovereignty of Indonesia's territorial integrity; (2) for aircraft not allowed to fly outside Alki, exception regime ICAO, by notifying the Government of Indonesia; (3) Foreign warships and foreign military aircraft passing through the Navy are not allowed to carry out war exercises. (Nainggolan, 2015)

Results and Discussion

The most dangerous threat is the problem of trans organized crime such as smuggling, slavery, drugs, mining commodities in the Archipelago's sea area is still very high. These trans threats often carry out direct contact with maritime security forces. Of the barrage of threats, the most common is illegal fishing, as occurs in the waters of North Natuna and is carried out by foreign Vietnamese-flagged vessels. (Andriansyah, 2020)

In fact, the world's maritime axis is a motto that states that the Indonesian nation is a maritime nation that is respected throughout the world. The Maritime Nation is a nation that uses the oceans a lot to carry out its vital activities. Such activities can be in the form of trade, establishing diplomatic relations, to expanding with war. Then to be respected by other nations in the world, then through the five pillars that have been triggered, one of which is maritime defense. This gives us an understanding that the fleet that supports maritime defense be it land, sea, and air, is a strong and respected resilient force.

But the reality that is in sight, we still see foreign efforts or opening forces from within the country, even from within the country, to commit illegal acts against this nation. Whether it is the theft of natural wealth, smuggling of illegal goods, or even violations of state sovereignty, there is no denying that there is still a case. At least there are 12 (twelve) agencies acting as law enforcement and regulations at sea. These institutions work together, and each has a legal basis whose contents are almost intersecting. However, it still leaves unfinished work in carrying out its function as a law enforcement officer in the Indonesian sea area. Each relevant agency/ministry has different policies, facilities and infrastructure, and human resources, based on the main tasks and functions that have been determined. (Content, 2015)

The real problem is not in the agency that manages the existence of this large marine resource. With so many bodies managing, it looks like sugar is being covered with ants because there are values that can be taken by each so that all of them scramble to participate even though the results are not significant, let alone effective. Therefore, it is necessary to carefully consider the efforts that can be made by the Air Force through Kohanudnas, namely by detecting all existing areas, to then map the vulnerable situation and then continue to carry crackdown.

Broadly speaking, the constraints of fulfillment infrastructure inadequate in maritime affairs become the main obstacles that must be resolved by the government. Because the existence of infrastructure will enable better service thus, the issue of improving the law enforcement system through strengthening and coordinating between authorized institutions can be united institutionally. Considering the current economic conditions are very difficult to be able to hold financing for infrastructure development, the coordination efforts with side agencies to minimize financing can be used as an alternative to solving infrastructure problems (Content, 2015)

Indonesia is an archipelago with two-thirds of its territory consisting of oceans and rich in marine natural resources. Indonesia is the largest island nation in the world, consisting of 17,499 islands from Sabang to Merauke. The total area of Indonesia is 7.81 million km² consisting of 2.01 million km² of land, 3.25 million km² of oceans, and 2.55 million km² of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The coastline is 95,181 km² long and is located in a very strategic position between the Asian continent and the Australian continent, as well as the Indian and Pacific Oceans. As an island nation that has a wide sea and a long coastline, the maritime and maritime sectors become very strategic for Indonesia in terms of ideology, politics, economy, socio-cultural, legal, environmental, defense, and security. With the ability of the Air Force is very large to be able to supervise every span nusantara island from the air, quickly and precisely then the efforts to use air power becomes very appropriate to monitor the vast and very (Sosiawan, 2019) panjang ocean.

Minister of Defense Ryamizard Ryacudu, in his ministry's study, has revealed, international terrorism, theft of SDA, and border conflicts are 3 out of 5 real threats that have enormous implications for Indonesia today and the next few years.¹⁵ The threat of terrorism is global, as it threatens other countries around it in the Southeast Asian region. The security of ALKI is important because the use of the Indonesian Archipelago Sea

Flow (ALKI) is a means that anyone can use, in addition to Indonesia's geopolitical and geostrategic position (Nainggolan, 2015)

The Air Force needs to focus on its core task of maintaining national air defense, resulting in real implications for the country's security and defense sectors. It is necessary to affirm understanding and understanding; maritime security function is a function of law enforcement in national territorial waters implemented by civil law enforcement agencies. The world's maritime axis is a strategic idea that is manifested to ensure inter-island connectivity, development of shipping and fishery industries, improvement of sea transportation, and focus on maritime security. (Sosiawan, 2019)

As an island nation supported by a very strategic geographical factor, the world's maritime axis policy becomes very precise. The realization of the vision of the world's maritime axis is certainly inseparable from the development of a very dynamic strategic environment. Emerging issues at home and abroad related to maritime security have the potential to affect Indonesia's interests. Therefore, concrete efforts are needed (Ardiyanti, 2018a) from Kohanudnas in synergizing with law enforcement forces at sea as a form of role to support Indonesia as the world's maritime axis.

The Government of Indonesia must have other geopolitical dimensions, such as land, air, and space dimensions. Nevertheless, building the World Maritime Axis is a major project that needs the support of all elements of the nation, so it needs more operational geopolitical (Yani & Montratama, 2018) derivatives in the implementing units of the government. Sovereignty and power in managing and utilizing resources by strengthening the national ability to conduct law enforcement at sea and air on (Cominfo & Muhammad, 2014) it together with the national air defense forces, synergistically. Thus, conventional threats due to maritime issues due to the opening of Indonesian territorial waters can be resolved jointly, especially assuming the potential maritime boundary disputes have not been fully resolved by Indonesia and its neighboring countries. If we look back at the conception of Nusantara insight, which is the way the Indonesian nation views itself and its environment has implications on the realization of the Archipelago as a political, economic, socio-cultural, and security defense unit (Hidayat & Ridwan, 2017) then the efforts made synergistically by the sea matra and air matra officials are very appropriate to be able to produce maximum efforts.

Conclusion

Indonesia is a very large country, located in a strategic position with abundant natural resources, which can be the potential to improve welfare, manifest the ideals of the Indonesian nation through the World Maritime Axis, supported by air defense forces.

Utilization of air force power, inseparable in realizing the concept of the World Maritime Axis that has been proclaimed. Air superiority is an umbrella to maintain the security and sovereignty of all activities of the people and the nation of Indonesia under it.

Recommendations

TNI AU, in this case, Kohanudnas, can be more proactive to report and inform the capabilities that can be utilized in an effort to Bakamla or potential maritime bodies to be used and utilized detection results and operational data throughout the day.

To optimize the achievement of the world maritime axis concept that has been proclaimed by president Jokowi Widodo, a review of the involvement of body bodies engaged in the field of maritime affairs. The optimization of the concept that has been proclaimed can be manifested effectively.

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