

PATROL

Australian's Assail Three and crew from Indonesian's KRI Kakap conduct a combined boarding of KRI Kakap.

AUSINDO Joint Ops

An Indonesian CASA NC-212 aircraft conducts a fly-past of KRI Tongkol during a AUSINDO CORPAT 2012 patrol.

Ensign Fuad and Ensign Aldino Putra speak with Lieutenant Lachlan McEllister, executive officer of Assail Three on the bridge of HMAS Pirie.

Lieutenant Jeremy Egan, boarding officer of Assail Three, gives the boarding officer of KRI Kakap a tour of the bridge on HMAS Pirie after conducting boarding drills.

HMAS Pirie deploys her rigid-hulled inflatable boat (RHIB) to conduct a passenger transfer during an Australian-Indonesian coordinated patrol.

The boarding parties from HMAS Pirie (Assail Three crew) and Indonesian naval vessel KRI Kakap prepare to conduct a combined boarding of KRI Kakap.

FISH

PHOTO: ADP/REAR ADMIRAL ANDREW HARTLEY AND LIEUTENANT ANDREW HARTLEY

Crew members of Indonesian naval vessel KRI Kakap conduct a boarding of HMAS Pirie.

Illegal fishing in the waters between Australia and Indonesia was the focus of a joint operation between the Australian Defence Force and Indonesia's armed forces, Tentara Nasional Indonesia (TNI), in April.

The third Australian-Indonesian coordinated maritime security patrol, AUSINDO CORPAT 2012, was conducted from 16 to 27 April, starting in Kupang, West Timor and concluding in Darwin.

The combined operation was conducted to improve coordinated maritime security along the Australian and Indonesian shared maritime boundaries in the vicinity of Ashmore Island, the Provisional Fisheries Surveillance Enforcement Line and the Australian Indonesian Seabed Line.

The operation included aircraft, ships and headquarters staff from both nations in a synchronised task group. The ADF contributed an Armadale-class patrol boat, HMAS Pirie, and an AP-3C Orion aircraft, while the TNI provided two naval vessels – KRI Kakap and KRI Tongkol – and a CASA NC-212 aircraft.

Air Commodore Ken Watson, Commander of the ADF task group, said the patrol had strengthened both Australia's and

Indonesia's ability to detect and deter illegal fishing activity in the region.

"Combining the skills of our personnel at sea, on land and in the air helps to strengthen our ties and build the relationship which is vital to providing security at our maritime boundaries," Air Commodore Watson said.

"The patrol provided an excellent opportunity for the exchange of ideas and skills development between the two nations.

"Our defence forces have once again made progress in improving our maritime security procedures through developing our communications and information sharing techniques.

"We look forward to undertaking this coordinated approach again."

This was the third coordinated maritime security patrol conducted by the two nations and was designed to mutually enhance maritime security in the Timor Sea and target the exploitation of natural resources, in particular illegal fishing.

Units from both countries communicated directly and shared surveillance and tactical information, as well as conducted joint exercises such as cross-platform boardings, during the 10-day operation.