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# Three Boats Searched in Wanam, 43 Foreign Fishermen to be Deported

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The Head of Resort Police, AKBP Sri Satyatama

*Merauke, Jubi- Three boats that belong to PT Avon Mina, which are Manokwari Abadi I, II and III, which were docked at the Wanam Port, Ilwayab District, Merauke District, were searched by a combined team from the district consisting of the Merauke Resort Police, Merauke Immigration Office, Manpower and Transmigration Office and also the port authority. The search was conducted on Tuesday, 9 December 2014.*

The Head of Merauke Resort Police, the Police Grand Commissioner Adjutant, Sri Satyatama, in his media statement press release to a number of reporters in his office on Wednesday (10/12) said that on 7 December 2014, his office received information that there were three boats under the suspicion of committing illegal fishing with 43 foreign national boat crew members.

With this information, continued the Head of the Resort Police, his office instructed its officers who are on duty in Wanam Post to conduct a check, and the information turned out to be correct. Three boats were found docking at a port that belongs to PT Dwi Karya.

He explained that after a check was conducted, there were indeed 43 Philippine nationals brought by the company to work in the boats. They arrived in Wanam Port on 21 October 2014. "It is correct that the boat crews come from the Philippines, and they came through Merauke using the KM Tatamailau ship," he explained.

“We have heard the statement from the immigration that the 43 foreign nationals possessed work permits for a limited Stay Visa in Indonesian waters. However, a letter from the Manpower and Transmigration Office in Merauke District has not been issued since it is still in process. The same goes for the three boats. They can still operate as normal,” he said.

The Head of Ilwayab District, Patris Maturbongs, who was contacted via his cell phone, validated the information that there were few boats coming which will conduct fishing activities. However, he did not know whether the boats belong to foreign nationals or not. (*Frans L Kobun*)