Information War in Papua in Order to Support Nirmilitary Defense

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Abstract— The development of information and communication technology in the form of the internet has brought major changes to human life, including in communicating and disseminating information. Internet technology has been used by Papuan armed criminal groups as a means of information warfare by framing the Papuan issue and spreading it through online media and social media to discredit the Indonesian government. The spread of propaganda on the Papua issue through the internet is a non-military threat to national defense that can disrupt national stability and the integrity of the Indonesian state. This study aims to analyze the framing of information on the issue of Papuan independence in social media and online media and the role of the government in dealing with it. The method used in this research is qualitative which focuses on the analysis of the framing of the Papua issue on Twitter social media. The results of the study show that the Papua issue is used as propaganda with an agenda setting, namely Papuan independence.

Keywords— Framing, Media, Non-Military, Papua, Threat.

I. INTRODUCTION

The development of information and communication technology in the form of the internet has brought major changes to human life, including in communicating and disseminating information. Barry M. Leiner, et al said that "The Internet has revolutionized the computer and communications world like nothing before". With the ability to disseminate information, the internet doubles as a means of interaction and dissemination of knowledge and a means of spreading fake news or propaganda that can cause social unrest and threaten national security and sovereignty.

The Indonesian Telematics Society in 2019 released the results of a national hoax outbreak survey which stated that social media was the highest distribution channel, but at the same time social media became a channel for clarification/correction/warping of hoaxes. Socio-politics and sara are the most widely accepted hoax issues by respondents. The data shows that social media has been used as a propaganda tool to undermine or lead public opinion and become a separate threat to national interests.

Papua is one of the provinces in Indonesia which is still in turmoil because there are groups that do not recognize the integration of Papua into Indonesia according to the results of the People's Opinion Determination (PEPERA) in 1969. Advances in information and communication technology have provided a means for the terrorist group KKB (Group Group). Armed Criminals) Papua in carrying out its actions not only through armed physical action, but also through non-physical means in the form of information warfare using online media and social media to spread hoax news or other negative news to discredit the Indonesian government. Issues of human rights violations, discrimination, poverty and development failures were spread by groups opposed to integration through social media, including freewestpapua.org, ulmwp.org, humanrightspapua.org, ipwp.org and bennywenda.org.

Dissemination of incorrect information and discredit the Indonesian government will affect the views and support of other countries to Indonesia. For example, as reported by jpnn.com on June 2, 2021, there has been a demonstration in support of Papua at the military equipment exhibition in Brisbane, Australia. The demonstration was aimed at urging Australia to stop selling weapons to Indonesia, so as to suppress Indonesian military activities in Papua. The actions of "Global Solidarity for West Papua" and "raising the flag" on social media so far seem to have the support of social media activists from various countries. This shows that the issue of Papua is still receiving attention from foreign countries so that anticipation is needed in order to form positive sentiments towards the Indonesian government in development in Papua.

From the perspective of National Defense, it is clear that the Papua issue is a threat to the integrity of the Republic of Indonesia and disrupts national stability and is a form of non-military threat. The above background has inspired researchers to conduct research with the title: "Information War in Papua in the Context of Supporting Non-Military Defense". In this study, researchers limit the problem to framing news on Papuan issues that are spread on social media in 2021. Research on the framing and dissemination of Papuan issues on social media is very necessary in order to build the right strategy in dealing with information wars in Papua which is a non-military threat to sovereignty of

the Indonesian State. The results of this study are expected to be useful for the development of information warfare science which is the object of research as well as for policy making related to the resolution of the Papuan conflict.

II. METHOD
This research was conducted using qualitative research methods, using research instruments in the form of interviews, observations and documentation.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
a. Framing the Papuan issue
The Papua region which is divided into Papua Province and West Papua Province still leaves a problem with the existence of groups that do not recognize the integration of Papua into the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Resistance activities that were previously only carried out by acts of terror using traditional weapons or firearms have increased by using the internet to spread negative issues in the form of propaganda that can lead to national integration. Through the Twitter social media crawling system in the 2021 period, the framing of the Papua issue during that period increased in December. The increasing discussion of the Papua issue in December was due to the assumption that December 1 was Papua's independence day since 1961, on that date the Morning Star flag was raised.

By using a crawling engine on Papua issues on social media and online media, data was obtained for 51,044 conversations from April to April. December 2021 with most of the conversation sourced from social media. This shows that social media is the main means of spreading the Papua issue because of its ease and flexibility in use. The government has limitations in controlling the dissemination of information through social media because it is easy to create accounts and the social media technology is owned by foreign companies.

Goffman in Grundmann and R. Krishnamurthy (2010, pp. 113–133) states that frames are 'interpretation schemes' that people commonly use to search for, understand, identify, and label. Framing on the Papua issue is carried out by framing events that occur in security issues in the form of violence perpetrated by the TNI-Polri apparatus, violations of human rights and welfare. The framing is part of the agenda setting of the support group for the Papuan movement to create a bad image for the government in managing Papua.

Several tweets spread information about the TNI-Polri attack on the OPM group with narratives that led to excessive acts of violence against the Papuan people. One of the accounts that is active in spreading the issue

of Papua is @VeronikaKoman where in each of his tweets he always spreads a narrative that hints at support for Papuan independence. One form of framing carried out is the arrest of Papuan students who carried out the raising of the Morning Star flag. The raising of the flag is a violation of the sovereignty of the Indonesian state, where in the arrest of students a banner that reads "Self Determination For West Papua Stom Militarism In Wes Papua" was also found (medcom.id).

"1/12/21 Jayapura, West Papua Six Students DT, EM, LS, MY, AM, MY were arrested for racing the banned Morning Star flag. Thes could face treason which carries life imprisonment. @VeronicaKoman"

Events in Papua, especially those involving the TNI and Polri apparatus, are always framing that there have been acts of violence against civil society and violations of human rights. Of course, all the framing that was carried out was part of the setting agenda which was directed at supporting Papuan independence. As introduced by McCombs and DL Shaw (1972), which states that the mass media has the ability to move the media news agenda that is considered important to the public agenda.

Rany Purnama Hadi (2018) in his research writes that organizations supporting Papuan independence such as Free West Papua, ULMWP (United Liberation Movement for West Papua) and other organizations are connected to each other to coordinate in fighting for Papuan independence. The existence of the internet makes it easy for all Papuan diaspora abroad to support Papuan independence.

At the UN session on September 25, 2021, Vanuatu's Prime Minister Bob Loughman Webur mentioned human rights violations in Papua. This accusation was denied by Indonesian diplomat, Sindy Nur Fitri by stating strongly that Indonesia rejects the false, baseless and misinterpreted accusations (industri.co.id, 2021). This shows that the issue of Papua is still receiving international attention and is not only a topic of discussion within the country.

b. Government role
The problem of Papua that has not been resolved until now, with the continuing efforts to disintegrate Papua from Indonesia, is not only seen in the resistance movement that has emerged but needs to be examined at the root of the problem. Sri Yanuarti. 1999 in his research on poverty and conflict in Papua, he wrote that the wealth of natural resources (SDA) of Papua has not been a blessing for its citizens. The extraction of natural resources carried out will be a trigger for conflict as long as the distribution of the exploitation of natural

resources is obtained fairly and clearly and involves the local community.

The government must pay close attention to the framing of information on the Papua issue so that it does not affect the people in Papua as well as the emergence of negative sentiments and support from the international community. The government has made various efforts in dealing with the framing of the Papua issue to maintain the integrity of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia and prevent the disintegration of the nation. The Ministry of Defense has prepared a non-military defense strategy contained in the General Policy of National Defense to deal with threats in the technology sector in the form of spreading propaganda and hoaxes that cause the disintegration of the nation. Under the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, the government has cut off access to websites and accounts that spread hoax and propaganda information in Papua.

The counter-opinion narrative is disseminated by the government through social media and the official website to ward off hoaxes and propaganda on the Papua issue. In addition to using the internet, the government also uses television and radio media as a means of counter-opinion in order to reach the entire Papua region because most areas have not been touched by advanced technology. The use of radio for information dissemination is seen as more effective in reaching mountainous and remote areas in Papua.

Diplomacy on Papuan issues continues to be carried out by Indonesian diplomats, especially in the UN session to provide real information on Papua and the development that has been carried out. This is done to prevent misinformation and gain support for the territorial integrity of Indonesia.

IV. CONCLUSION

Social media and online media have become a means of spreading Papuan issues by Papuan independence groups. The framing of information is carried out by individuals or groups or organizations supporting Papuan independence such as Free West Papua and ULMWP. Hoax news and propaganda on the Papua issue on social media and online media are non-military threats to national defense that can lead to national disintegration.

In addition to countering opinions and severing access to accounts supporting Papuan independence, the government needs to address the root causes of Papua's problems in the form of low levels of welfare and public education. Improving people's welfare will increase the community's resistance to invitations to support or follow the Papuan independence movement. Increasing public intelligence and literacy in the use of social media can lead people to be wise in using social media so as not to spread hoax news.

The government needs to increase its presence in the midst of the community and empower the community by involving it in every activity to remote areas of the district. Community empowerment in development and other activities will be able to move the regional economy and improve community welfare.

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