

The Threat of Terrorism to Mining Activities in Indonesia: A Case Study at the Grasberg Gold Mine, Papua

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Abstract – Mining activities in Indonesia are vulnerable to the threat of terrorism from armed separatist groups. One such case was an attack on PT Freeport Indonesia's Grasberg gold mining facility in Papua by the KKB group. This incident shows that mining terrorism can threaten the operations and investment of this vital sector. This study aims to analyze the impact of terrorism threats on mining activities, evaluate security strategies implemented in dealing with terrorism threats, and provide recommendations to improve security in mining activities in areas that are vulnerable to terrorism threats and assess the threat of terrorism at the Grasberg mine impact on gold mining operations and investment in Indonesia. Case studies are conducted with a qualitative approach. Data is collected through literature review. Data analysis using content analysis techniques. The study found that security incidents by the KKB in Grasberg negatively impacted gold mining operations and investment in Indonesia. Recommendations for handling the threat of terrorism through strengthening the mine security system and stakeholder cooperation. Mining activities, particularly the Grasberg Gold Mine, are vulnerable to the threat of terrorism due to the complexity of the conflict in the area. The security strategy implemented tends to be not optimal in dealing with the threat of terrorism. Therefore, improvements in the security system and better cooperation between relevant parties are needed to reduce the vulnerability of the mining sector to the threat of terrorism.

Keywords – Terrorism, Mining, Gold Mine, Grasberg, Papua.

I. INTRODUCTION

Mining activities in Indonesia, especially at the Grasberg gold mine in Papua, are vulnerable to the threat of terrorism. This study aims to analyze the impact of the threat of terrorism on mining activities and evaluate the security strategies implemented in dealing with the threat of terrorism. In addition, the study also aims to provide a better understanding of the vulnerability of the mining sector to the threat of terrorism and produce recommendations to improve security in mining activities in areas vulnerable to the threat of terrorism.

The impact of the threat of terrorism on mining activities in Indonesia is a concern due to the complexity of conflicts in the area and the negative impact on the environment. The rule of law regarding the eradication of terrorism in Indonesia is regulated in Law No. 5 of 2018 concerning Amendments to Law No. 15 of 2003 concerning the Stipulation of Perpu No. 1 of 2002 concerning the Eradication of Criminal Acts of Terrorism. However, the rule of law against combating terrorism on vital

objects in the North Sumatra Regional Police shows that the invitation factor and the lack of public awareness of terrorism are very obstacles in law enforcement against combating terrorism on vital objects.

In the global context, the phenomenon of terrorism threatens national security in various countries, including Indonesia, because acts of terrorism affect the ideology of Pancasila, politics, economy, socio-cultural life, as well as defense and security. Therefore, it is important for Indonesia to address the threat of terrorism to mining activities, especially at the Grasberg Gold Mine, Papua, and improve security in the mining sector.

In this study, we will discuss the impact of the threat of terrorism on mining activities, evaluate the security strategies implemented, and provide recommendations to improve security in mining activities in areas that are vulnerable to terrorism threats. This research also aims to increase understanding of the vulnerability of the mining sector to the threat of terrorism and find effective solutions to deal with the threat of terrorism in Indonesia.

II. RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a case study method with a qualitative approach. The case study was chosen because it focuses on the case of terrorism threats at the Grasberg Gold Mine in Papua. A qualitative approach is used because this study places more emphasis on an in-depth understanding of the impact of the threat of terrorism on mining activities and the security strategies applied in dealing with the threat of terrorism.

The analysis was conducted using content analysis methods to evaluate the security strategies implemented and the impact of terrorism threats on mining activities. Content analysis methods are used to identify themes and patterns in documents related to security and terrorism threats around the Grasberg Gold Mine. This research also uses references from reliable sources such as journals, books, and articles related to the threat of terrorism and mining activities in Indonesia. This reference is used to strengthen the analysis and conclusions in this study.

Using case study methods and qualitative approaches, this research can provide a deeper understanding of the impact of terrorism threats on mining activities and security strategies applied in dealing with terrorism threats at the Grasberg Gold Mine, Papua.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Terrorism is an act of violence committed by an individual or group with political, ideological, or religious goals. Acts of terrorism are usually directed against non-military targets such as civilians with the intention of causing fear, terror, and damage to the wider community (Schmid, 2011). According to Alex P. Schmid, an expert on terrorism, terrorism is defined as "an act of violence committed by a sub-national (group) or covert actor, usually directed against a non-combat target, with the intention of creating fear among the target population that is broader than the direct victim, with the aim of influencing the target audience" (Schmid, 2011).

Terrorism has common characteristics such as being physical and psychological violent, perpetrated by non-state actors, targeting civilians and non-military facilities, aimed at creating widespread fear and terror, having ideological, political, or religious motives, being symbolic and spectacular. Terrorism differs from ordinary crime because it is motivated by political motivations and the goal of creating mass fear.

Terrorism has become a threat to international peace and security. Various international terrorist organizations such as Al Qaeda and ISIS have carried out attacks in different parts of the world. They exploit security loopholes and carry out tactics such as suicide bombings, plane hijackings, hostage taking, and others. The victims of terrorism are mostly innocent civilians.

From the perspective of international law, terrorism is considered a war crime and a violation of human rights. UN Security Council Resolution No. 1373 of 2001 states that acts of terrorism constitute a threat to international peace and security. States are required to prevent and eradicate terrorism on its territory. Indonesia has also been the target and victim of acts of terrorism, such as the 2002 Bali bombing, the 2003 JW Marriott bombing, and the 2009 Kuningan bombing. The Indonesian government has made various policies to eradicate terrorism such as establishing BNPT (National Counterterrorism Agency), passing the Terrorism Law, and cooperating with other countries.

According to Law No. 5 of 2018, terrorism is defined as "acts that use violence or threats of violence that create an atmosphere of widespread terror or fear, which can cause mass casualties, and/or cause damage or destruction to strategic vital objects, the environment, public facilities, or international facilities with ideological, political, or security disturbance motives."

Acts of terrorism are very detrimental because they cause casualties, injuries, psychological trauma, and property damage. Terrorism also adversely affects the economy and social life of the people. Therefore, terrorism must be prevented and dealt with seriously by all parties in order to establish peace. Governments and the international community need to work together to build tolerance, social inclusion, and combat extremist ideologies that are at the root of terrorism.

Thus, terrorism is a threat to peace and security that violates human values. Efforts to eradicate terrorism must be carried out thoroughly by upholding the law and human rights. International cooperation is needed to prevent the spread of acts of terrorism everywhere. Some of the factors that cause terrorism include that most people know that terrorism is an act that violates the law. Therefore, offenders who commit terrorism can expect criminal punishment if there is an opportunity such as an opportunity to kill a powerful or influential person (Yannisa Rakhmani Sugiarta, 2024).

The impact of terrorism on mining activities in Indonesia is a concern due to the complexity of conflicts in the area and the negative impact on the environment. Therefore, it is important for Indonesia to address the threat of terrorism to mining activities, especially at the Grasberg Gold Mine, Papua, and improve security in the mining sector.

Impact of Terrorism on Mining Activities in Indonesia

Mining activities in Indonesia are vulnerable to being targeted by acts of terrorism. This is due to the remote location of the mine and vital mining infrastructure that is prone to sabotage. Several cases of terrorism have occurred around mining sites in Indonesia. In 2018, the ISIS-affiliated East Indonesia Mujahidin Group (MIT) carried out a bombing at the Puncakjaya Gold Mine in Papua. The bombing killed one miner and wounded two others. MIT also took Freeport gold mine workers hostage in Papua in 2003.

In addition, in September 2021, there was a shooting by the MIT group at a limestone mining facility owned by PT Istaka Karya in Puncak Regency, Papua. This incident killed a company security guard. These MIT attacks were motivated by hostility towards mining companies and the Indonesian government. Acts of terrorism like this are very detrimental to the mining industry. In addition to causing casualties, terrorism also has an impact on economic, social and security aspects around the mine site.

Economically, acts of terrorism can hamper the production and distribution of mining products. Mining operations had to be stopped in order to maintain the safety of workers and company assets. This production disruption certainly resulted in financial losses that were not small. From a social perspective, terrorism causes psychological trauma and insecurity for mine workers and local residents. This uncondusive situation can trigger horizontal conflicts and disrupt community harmony.

Meanwhile, from the security aspect, terrorism increases the threat of crime around the mine site. Companies are forced to incur additional costs to improve security and protect workers and their assets. To counter this threat, the government has established a Mining Alert Task Force tasked with guarding around concession areas and mining infrastructure. Cooperation with local security forces and the community is also needed to create a conducive situation.

Thus, the threat of terrorism must be handled seriously so as not to disrupt the sustainability of mining activities in Indonesia. Safety stability is key to maintaining an optimal investment climate and mining operations. The cooperation of all parties is needed to prevent and deter acts of terrorism in the mining sector.

The impact of terrorism on mining activities in Indonesia can occur in several aspects, including:

1. Environmental damage

Mining activities carried out without taking into account the negative impact on the environment can cause significant environmental damage. Terrorism that occurs in mining activities can exacerbate environmental damage that has occurred due to mining activities that are not environmentally friendly.

2. Disruption to production

The threat of terrorism to mining activities can disrupt production and result in significant financial losses for mining companies. This can affect the company's performance and have an impact on the Indonesian economy.

3. Impact on the surrounding community

Conflicts between mining companies and surrounding communities often occur due to differences in interests and negative impacts of mining activities on surrounding communities. The threat of terrorism in mining activities can aggravate the conflict and have an impact on the lives of surrounding communities.

4. Impact on security

The threat of terrorism in mining activities can threaten the security and safety of mine workers and surrounding communities. This can worsen the conflict situation and affect security stability in the area.

Therefore, it is important for Indonesia to address the threat of terrorism to mining activities, especially at the Grasberg Gold Mine, Papua, and improve security in the mining sector. In addition, efforts need to be made to reduce the negative impact of mining activities on the environment and surrounding communities.

Case Study: Grasberg Gold Mine, Papua

Case study Grasberg Gold Mine, Papua, is one of the largest gold mines in the world located in Mimika Regency, Papua Province. Mining operations in the Grasberg area are carried out by PT Freeport which produces a variety of mining goods, including copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum. The mine has provided significant economic benefits to companies and governments, but has also had a major environmental and social impact.

From an economic point of view, this mine has contributed significantly to the Indonesian economy. PT Freeport has become one of Indonesia's largest earning companies, with gold prices reaching their highest value in 25 years. However, there have been criticisms of the economic contribution made by mining companies to the government and local communities. This is related to the uneven distribution of profits between companies, governments, and local communities.

The environmental impact of mining activities in Grasberg is also a major concern. The exploitation of the area's abundant natural resources has caused significant environmental damage, including protected forest lands and conservation areas. In addition, there are concerns that the contract of work between PT Freeport and the Indonesian government has led to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, with estimates that the gold content in this area will be depleted in the near future.

From a social perspective, there are conflicts between mining companies and local communities related to indigenous peoples' land rights and the negative impact of mining activities on their livelihoods. This has led to significant social tensions in the area.

The case study of the Grasberg Gold Mine, Papua, provides a clear picture of the complexity of mining activities in Indonesia, including the resulting economic, environmental, and social impacts. It also shows the importance of conducting mining activities responsibly and sustainably, as well as the need for a balance between economic, environmental, and social interests in mining activities.

The impact of terrorism on mining activities can include environmental damage, disruption to production, impact on surrounding communities, and security. Terrorism can cause significant environmental damage, especially in the event of an attack that results in damage to mining facilities and the surrounding environment. In addition, terrorism can also disrupt production by threatening the safety of mine workers and mining infrastructure. This can result in reduced production and significant financial losses for mining companies. Conflicts between mining companies and surrounding communities often occur due to differences in interests and negative impacts of mining activities on surrounding communities. The threat of terrorism in mining activities can also threaten the security and safety of mine workers and surrounding communities. This can worsen the conflict situation and affect security stability in the area.

Security strategies implemented in dealing with the threat of terrorism in mining activities include the use of advanced technology, increased surveillance, security training, and cooperation with relevant security parties. Mining companies typically

use advanced technology such as surveillance cameras, security sensors, and integrated security systems to monitor and protect mining areas. In addition, mining companies also conduct regular security training to increase awareness and response to terrorism threats. Cooperation with relevant security forces such as the police and military is also an important part of the security strategy to deal with the threat of terrorism (Beny Abukhaer Tatara, 2023).

Community participation in decision-making related to mining activities is important to reduce conflict and increase acceptance of mining activities. Mining companies need to involve surrounding communities in decision-making processes related to mining activities, such as environmental planning, environmental impact monitoring, and benefit sharing. By involving surrounding communities, mining companies can obtain more accurate information about the impact of mining activities and reduce social tensions that can be exploited by parties who want to disrupt mining activities.

Mining activities can have negative impacts on the environment and surrounding communities, such as environmental damage, social conflicts, and threats to security. Environmental damage due to mining activities can include deforestation, water and air pollution, and loss of wildlife habitat. Social conflicts between mining companies and surrounding communities often occur due to differences in interests and the negative impact of mining activities on the surrounding community. The threat of terrorism in mining activities can also exacerbate the conflict and have an impact on the lives of surrounding communities.

The effectiveness of security strategies in dealing with terrorism threats in mining activities can be measured by the ability to prevent terrorist attacks, protect infrastructure and resources, and respond quickly and effectively to terrorism threats. An effective security strategy must be able to identify and mitigate terrorism threats before they occur, protect infrastructure and resources from terrorist attacks, and respond quickly and effectively to terrorism threats.

Some of the factors that influence the impact of terrorism on mining activities include the complexity of the conflict, the presence of terrorist groups, the vulnerability of infrastructure, and the availability of resources. The complexity of conflicts in mining areas can exacerbate the impact of terrorism, as social and political conflicts can be exploited by terrorist groups to launch attacks. The presence of terrorist groups in mining areas can also increase the risk of terrorism, as terrorist groups can use mining activities as targets for attacks. The vulnerability of infrastructure and the availability of resources can also affect the impact of terrorism, as vulnerable infrastructure and easily accessible resources can be targeted by terrorist attacks.

Efforts to prevent terrorism in mining activities include the use of advanced security technology, security training, cooperation with relevant security forces, and community participation in decision making. The use of advanced security technologies such as surveillance cameras, security sensors, and integrated security systems can help prevent terrorist attacks. Regular security training is also important to increase awareness and response to terrorism threats. Cooperation with relevant security forces such as the police and military is also an important part of efforts to prevent terrorism. In addition, community participation in decision-making related to mining activities can also help prevent terrorism, because surrounding communities can provide important information about the threat of terrorism and help identify terrorist groups hiding in mining areas.

IV. CONCLUSION

Terrorism poses a serious threat to security and stability in Indonesia, including in the mining sector. The impact of terrorism on mining activities can include environmental damage, disruption to production, impact on surrounding communities, and security. Therefore, an effective security strategy is needed to deal with the threat of terrorism in mining activities, such as the use of advanced security technology, security training, cooperation with relevant security parties, and community participation in decision making.

In addition, community participation in decision-making related to mining activities can also help reduce conflict and increase acceptance of mining activities. The impact of mining activities on the environment and surrounding communities also needs to be considered, by carrying out mining activities responsibly and sustainably and maintaining a balance between economic, environmental, and social interests in mining activities.

Recommendations for enhanced security and cooperation include increased monitoring and use of advanced security technologies, regular security training, cooperation with relevant security forces, community participation in decision-making, and improved balance between economic, environmental, and social interests in mining activities. In addition, it is necessary to prevent terrorism by identifying and tackling terrorism threats before they occur, protecting infrastructure and resources from terrorist attacks, and responding quickly and effectively to terrorism threats.

In facing the threat of terrorism in mining activities, it is necessary to pay attention to factors that affect the impact of terrorism, such as the complexity of conflict, the existence of terrorist groups, infrastructure vulnerabilities, and the availability of resources. Therefore, it is necessary to prevent terrorism by identifying and overcoming these factors.

In order to improve security and cooperation, it is necessary to collaborate between mining companies, governments, and local communities to overcome the threat of terrorism in mining activities. This can be done by increasing community participation in decision-making, strengthening cooperation with relevant security forces, and conducting mining activities responsibly and sustainably.

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