

STRATEGY TO ERADICATE ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING THROUGH INTELLIGENCE-BASED INVESTIGATION IMPLEMENTED BY THE PESAWARAN POLICE NARCOTICS TASK FORCE

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Abstract

Illicit narcotics trafficking is an organized crime that is complex, closed, and continues to adapt to technological developments, so it demands a law enforcement strategy that is no longer purely repressive, but based on information and intelligence analysis. This article aims to analyze the strategy to eradicate illicit narcotics trafficking through intelligence-led investigations implemented by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force, as well as identify factors that are obstacles in its implementation. This study uses normative legal research methods supported by empirical data, with a statutory approach, a case approach, a philosophical approach, and a conceptual/theoretical approach. The results of the study show that intelligence-based investigation strategies are carried out through the intelligence cycle which includes planning and directing, information collection, processing, analysis, network mapping, determination of operation targets, prosecution, and case development. This strategy has proven effective in expanding the reach of disclosure of narcotics networks, not only to actors in the field but also to controlling actors. However, its implementation is still faced with internal obstacles in the form of limited human resources, technological facilities, and information security, as well as external obstacles in the form of the complexity of closed narcotics crime networks and challenges of proof at trial. This study recommends strengthening institutional capacity, modernizing intelligence technology, and synergy between law enforcement as strategic solutions in optimizing intelligence-based investigations.

Keywords: Terminal Revitalization, Transportation Service, Policy Implementation

A. INTRODUCTION

Illicit narcotics trafficking is a form of organized crime that develops massively, systematically, and¹ transnationally. This crime can no longer be seen as a stand-alone legal issue, but has developed into a multidimensional threat that touches on health, social, economic, and national security aspects. Today's narcotics syndicate networks utilize encrypted communication technology, cashless transaction systems, and layered distribution patterns, making them increasingly difficult to detect through conventional law enforcement² approaches. Juridically, Indonesia places the illicit circulation of narcotics as an extraordinary crime as affirmed in Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, which limits the use of narcotics only for the sake of health services and scientific development, and threatens every form of illicit trafficking, unauthorized production, and abuse with severe³ criminal sanctions. This provision is strengthened by the national policy on the Prevention and Eradication of Narcotics Abuse and Illicit Circulation (P4GN) which emphasizes synergy between the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, the National Narcotics Agency, the Prosecutor's Office, and other related institutions⁴, as well as by the internal regulations of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia that regulate the functions of security intelligence and investigation management as an operational basis for the apparatus in uncovering narcotics crimes systematically.

¹Amalia Rizki Suryandari and Benny Sasmita Soerachmat. 2019. Indonesia Drug Emergency (The Role of Law in Overcoming Illicit Drug Trafficking). Law, Development and Justice Review, Semarang, Vol. 2 No. 2, p. 250.

²Ai Nurlatifah, Andi Mulyadi, and Dine Meigawati. 2022. The Effectiveness of the Prevention, Eradication, Abuse, and Illicit Drug Trafficking (P4GN) Program among Students. Journal of Research Innovation, Sukabumi, Vol. 2 No. 10, p. 3380.

³Andi Hamzah. 2008. Principles of Criminal Law. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, p. 120.

⁴Ahmad Gazali. 2024. Policies and Strategies of the National Narcotics Agency of the Republic of Indonesia in Facing Non-Military Threats of Transnational Organized Crime Illicit Narcotics Trafficking in Indonesia. Journal of Syntax Literate, Jakarta, Vol. 9 No. 4, p. 140.

As a result of this phenomenon, the pattern of narcotics crimes at the regional level shows an increasingly closed and adaptive tendency. Pesawaran Regency, as one of the jurisdictions of the Resort Police in Lampung Province, has a strategic geographical position on land and sea crossings that connect coastal and inland areas, so it is prone to being used as a transit route for narcotics distribution ⁵. This condition causes the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force to be faced with an increasingly complex *modus operandi* of perpetrators, ranging from the use of layered couriers, encrypted digital communications, to transaction systems that are difficult to track conventionally. Empirically, official data released by the Pesawaran Resort Police shows an increasing trend in the disclosure of narcotics cases. In 2023, 65 cases of narcotics were recorded, while in 2024 it increased to 75 cases, or an increase of 15.38%. ⁶ The increase in case disclosure was also accompanied by claims of successful rescue of more than 17,156 people from the dangers of narcotics abuse ⁷. The data can be visualized as shown in the following diagram.

Diagram 1. Number of Narcotics Case Disclosures by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force in 2023-2024



Source: Pesawaran Police Year-End Press Release, processed by the author (2024).

⁵Arnela Nurmalita and Suci Megawati. 2022. Implementation of the Prevention Policy for the Eradication of Drug Abuse and Illicit Circulation (P4GN) in Eradicating Drug Abuse in the City of Surabaya. Publika, Surabaya, p. 1115.

⁶Tribunlampung.co.id. 2024. Pesawaran Police Succeeds in Increasing Disclosure of Drug Cases in 2024. Retrieved from <https://lampung.tribunnews.com>, 28 December 2024.

⁷Saibetik.com. 2024. Pesawaran Police Records a 23.16% Increase in Case Disclosure in 2024. Retrieved from <https://saibetik.com>, 30 December 2024.

The increase in the number of case disclosures, on the one hand, reflects the intensity of the performance of the apparatus, but on the other hand also illustrates that the circulation of narcotics in the jurisdiction of the Pesawaran Police shows a growing trend. This phenomenon gives birth to consequences in the form of increasing complexity of networks that must be disclosed, while disclosure is generally still dominated by enforcement of field actors such as couriers and users, rather than on controlling actors or major bookmakers⁸. This condition emphasizes the need for an investigative approach that is not only reactive to reports, but proactive through crime pattern analysis, namely an intelligence-led policing approach that places intelligence quality as the main determinant of the quality of law enforcement operational decisions⁹.

Based on these phenomena and empirical data, a number of fundamental problems were identified in the implementation of intelligence-based investigations at the regional level. First, the limitation of the quantity and quality of human resources who have adequate intelligence analysis competence¹⁰. Second, the limitations of information technology facilities and infrastructure and the lack of optimal data exchange systems between law enforcement units. Third, the risk of operational information leakage that can thwart network disclosure. Fourth, the characteristics of narcotics networks that apply a disconnected cell system so that field actors do not always know the actors on it, which has implications for the difficulty

⁸Joice Soraya and Galih Setyo Refangga. 2024. The Role of the Police in Preventing the Illicit Circulation of Narcotics in a Criminology Perspective. *Indonesia Berdaya*, Yogyakarta, Vol. 5 No. 3, p. 870.

⁹Ratna Puspitasari. 2021. The Application of Intelligence-Led Policing in Countering Narcotics Crimes in Indonesia. *Journal of Law and Justice*, Vol. 10 No. 2, p. 145.

¹⁰Habib Ramadhan Harlis. 2024. Legal Protection of Whistleblowers of Narcotics Illicit Trafficking Cases in the Perspective of Islamic Law. *Legalite: Journal of Islamic Legislation and Criminal Law*, Banda Aceh, Vol. 9 No. 1, p. 55.

of proving the position and role of the defendant in the trial¹¹. These problems show that there is a gap between the ideal concept of intelligence-based investigation and the reality of its implementation in the field.

Departing from this description, the hypothesis proposed in this study is that the effectiveness of eradicating illicit narcotics trafficking is highly determined by the optimization of all stages of the intelligence cycle, starting from planning, collection, processing, analysis, to information dissemination¹². As a turning point or solution offer, this study emphasizes the importance of strengthening three main pillars, namely increasing the capacity of human resources for intelligence analysts, modernizing technology to support data collection and processing, and strengthening institutional synergy between the Police, the Prosecutor's Office, and the Court so that intelligence products can be optimally converted into legitimate evidence in the criminal justice system. On that basis, this research is important to analyze in depth the strategy to eradicate illicit narcotics trafficking through intelligence-based investigations implemented by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force, as well as identify factors that are obstacles in its implementation.

Based on the above background description, the problems studied in this study are formulated as follows: what is the strategy to eradicate illicit narcotics trafficking through intelligence-based investigations implemented by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force? and what are the factors that are obstacles in the implementation of intelligence-based investigations at the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force?

¹¹Rudi Hartono and Bakharuddin. 2023. Maritime Security to Combat Illicit Trafficking of Narcotics Across Countries by Sea in Indonesia. *Indonesian Journal of Impressions*, Vol. 2 No. 8, p. 812.

¹²Kunarto. 2001. *Security Intelligence*. Jakarta: Cipta Manunggal, p. 44.

B. RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses normative legal research methods combined with empirical data to support the analysis, with the aim of examining the applicable legal norms and their relevance to law enforcement practices in the field¹³. In order to obtain a comprehensive analysis, this study uses six approaches at once. First, the statute approach is used to examine Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, the Criminal Procedure Code, and the internal regulations of the National Police regarding the function of intelligence and investigation management. Second, the case approach is used to analyze the practice of concrete investigations carried out by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force as a research analysis unit. Third, the philosophical approach is used to explore the values and legal objectives that underlie the policy of narcotics eradication, especially the principle of social protection as stated by Marc Ancel¹⁴. Fourth, the conceptual/theoretical approach is used to build an analytical framework based on Sherman Kent's intelligence theory and Barda Nawawi Arief's criminal policy theory.

The legal materials used consist of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials, which are analyzed qualitatively and presented in a descriptive-argumentative manner. Empirical data was obtained through the results of previous interviews with investigators from the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force, the Public Prosecutor of the Pesawaran District Attorney's Office, and the Judge of the Gedong Tataan District Court, as well as secondary data in the form of official police publications, in order to strengthen the validity of the legal arguments constructed¹⁵. Data analysis is carried out inductively, that is, drawing general conclusions from specific legal

¹³Peter Mahmud Marzuki. 2017. Legal Research. Jakarta: Kencana, p. 35.

¹⁴Barda Nawawi Arief. 2010. Bunga Pourai Criminal Law Policy. Jakarta: Kencana Prenada Media Group, p. 22.

¹⁵Zainuddin Ali. 2016. Legal Research Methods. Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, p. 105.

facts, so that comprehensive answers to research problems are obtained.

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Strategy to Eradicate Illicit Narcotics Trafficking Through Intelligence-Based Investigation Implemented by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force

Law enforcement against narcotics crimes in essence cannot be separated from the characteristics of the crime itself which are organized, closed, and layered. This kind of crime demands a different investigative model than the conventional approach that is reactive to incident reporting. It is in this context that the concept of intelligence-led investigation becomes relevant to be applied. Sherman Kent, dubbed the Father of Modern Strategic Intelligence, formulated intelligence as a process that includes the collection, processing, analysis, and presentation of information to support precise and effective decision-making ¹⁶. The concept was later developed by Jerry H. Ratcliffe through the Intelligence-Led Policing model, which is a law enforcement paradigm that places intelligence analysis as the primary basis for formulating police policies and operational actions ¹⁷. When compared to the traditional law enforcement model that tends to be problem-oriented and reactive, the intelligence-led model places analysts and intelligence products as the main drivers of operations, not just administrative supporters, so that enforcement can be more focused, precise, and oriented towards the complete disconnection of the crime network.

Based on the results of the research, the strategy implemented by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force in eradicating illicit narcotics trafficking is basically a concrete implementation of the intelligence cycle which includes the stages of planning and

¹⁶Kunarto. 2001. *Security Intelligence*. Jakarta: Cipta Manunggal, p. 51.

¹⁷Ratna Puspitasari. 2021. *The Application of Intelligence-Led Policing in Countering Narcotics Crimes in Indonesia*. *Journal of Law and Justice*, Vol. 10 No. 2, p. 148.

direction, collection, processing, analysis, and dissemination¹⁸. The five stages were then translated operationally by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force into six strategic steps, namely: intelligence information collection, intelligence analysis and network mapping, determination of operation targets, implementation of enforcement operations, case development, and dissemination of intelligence results into the criminal justice process.

a. Planning and Direction as the Basis for Operational Legality

The planning and briefing stages are the initial foundation that determines the direction of the operational policy of the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force. At this stage, the unit leadership determines the region, type of crime, and information needs that are priorities based on the analysis of the vulnerability of the jurisdiction. Based on the results of interviews with investigators, the identification of areas prone to narcotics trafficking in Pesawaran Regency was carried out by taking into account community reports, previous case data, and geographical characteristics of areas that have access to land and sea, so that they are vulnerable to being used as a cross-regional narcotics distribution channel¹⁹. Careful planning at this stage is important because, juridically, all investigative actions carried out by the police must remain based on the principles of legality (*nullum delictum nulla poena sine lege*) and due process of law as stipulated in the Criminal Procedure Code²⁰, so that the use of the intelligence approach is not intended to override the principle of legality, but to strengthen the accuracy and efficiency of legal actions that will be taken implemented.

¹⁸Kunarto. 2001. Security Intelligence. Jakarta: Cipta Manunggal, p. 60.

¹⁹Arnela Nurmalita and Suci Megawati. 2022. Implementation of the Prevention Policy for the Eradication of Drug Abuse and Illicit Circulation (P4GN) in Eradicating Drug Abuse in the City of Surabaya. Publika, Surabaya, p. 1117.

²⁰M. Yahya Harahap. 2016. Discussion of Problems and Implementation of the Criminal Code: Investigation and Prosecution. Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, p. 41.

b. Intelligence Collection

The second stage is the collection of information from various sources, both open source intelligence (OSINT) and closed (human intelligence / HUMINT). These sources of information include community reports, results of field observations, developments from previous narcotics cases, and coordination with security intelligence functions within the police environment. The information collected includes the identity of the target, the location of the transaction, the distribution pattern, the distribution route, and the parties suspected of being involved in the network. Based on the information of investigator Ipda Roben Arisandi, S.I.P., M.H., community reports are one of the main sources of information that are very helpful in the disclosure of narcotics crimes in the Pesawaran area, but this information is always verified first through observation and field deepening so that its validity can be legally accounted for.

The significance of this collection stage is in line with the view that the quality of law enforcement decisions is largely determined by the quality of the intelligence produced; the more accurate, relevant, and verified the information gathered, the more accurate the operational decisions that can be made by investigators²¹. In practice, information verification is crucial considering the nature of narcotics crimes that easily create misleading information (disinformation) as part of the network's defense mechanism against the detection of the apparatus.

c. Intelligence Processing and Analysis and Network Mapping (Processing and Analysis)

After the information is collected, processing and analysis are carried out to see the connection between one information and another. This analysis resulted in a crime network mapping that describes the relationship between perpetrators, the flow of narcotics distribution, and the role of each party in the network. According to

²¹Ahmad Rifai. 2022. Police Strategy in Eradicating Illicit Narcotics Trafficking through an Intelligence Approach. *Journal of Police Science*, Vol. 16 No. 1, p. 55.

the information of the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force investigator, the main purpose of the analysis is not just to arrest the perpetrators in the field, but to trace the connection of the perpetrators with the dealer or supplier on them, so that law enforcement is directed to uncover the network as a whole, not stopping at users or couriers alone. From a theoretical perspective, this step is a tangible manifestation of social network analysis in criminology, which views organized crime as a relational system with nodes and edges that can be mapped to find network choke points²². By mapping these choke points, the authorities can determine the momentum and targets of enforcement that have the maximum impact on network paralysis, compared to random actions that only target lower-level perpetrators without breaking the distribution chain.

d. Determination of Operation Targets

The results of intelligence analysis are then used to determine the target of the operation based on the priority scale, namely the level of threat, the degree of involvement in the network, and the potential impact on narcotics trafficking in the jurisdiction of the Pesawaran Police. This selective targeting makes the investigation process more efficient in the use of limited police resources, while allowing the authorities to take preventive action before the network expands. This approach is consistent with the principle of problem-oriented policing which emphasizes the allocation of resources based on the level of risk and impact, rather than solely on the chronological order of incoming reports.

e. Implementation of Enforcement Operations

The enforcement stage is carried out through the arrest, search, and confiscation of evidence in accordance with the provisions of the applicable criminal procedure law, especially Article 1 numbers 1, 2, and 16 of the Criminal Procedure Code which regulates the authority

²²Mardjono Reksodiputro. 2007. *Criminology and the Criminal Justice System*. Jakarta: Center for Justice and Legal Service, University of Indonesia, p. 88.

of investigators to carry out coercive measures. Based on the results of the interviews, the time for the implementation of enforcement is generally determined after the authorities have sufficient confidence that the target is really involved in narcotics transactions, with consideration so that the operation does not fail and the evidence can be secured to the maximum. The accuracy of this enforcement momentum is an indicator of the success of converting intelligence products into legitimate and effective legal actions, while minimizing the risk of procedural violations that can weaken the evidentiary process at trial.

f. Case Development

The Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force strategy does not stop at the stage of arresting suspects, but continues with case development through examining suspects, analyzing evidence, and tracing related networks to reveal other parties involved, including suppliers or main dealers. Investigators emphasized that case development is the most important part of intelligence-based investigations, because the success of narcotics eradication is not measured by the number of arrests alone, but the extent to which the authorities are able to break the narcotics distribution chain structurally. This follow the network approach is in line with the disruption of criminal network strategy which is the main goal of the intelligence-led policing approach in various ²³jurisdictions.

g. Dissemination of Intelligence Results in Support of the Criminal Justice Process

The final stage of the intelligence cycle is dissemination, which is the submission of the results of intelligence analysis to parties in need to support decision-making, including in this context the preparation of case files by investigators and public prosecutors.

²³Ahmad Gazali. 2024. Policies and Strategies of the National Narcotics Agency of the Republic of Indonesia in Facing Non-Military Threats of Transnational Organized Crime Illicit Narcotics Trafficking in Indonesia. *Journal of Syntax Literate*, Jakarta, Vol. 9 No. 4, p. 810.

Based on the results of an interview with the Public Prosecutor at the Pesawaran District Attorney's Office, narcotics cases that begin through the intelligence process generally have a better quality of case files, reflected in a clearer construction of criminal events, more structured relationships between perpetrators, and a more detailed description of the role of each defendant, thus facilitating the process of proving elements of criminal acts at trial. This was strengthened by the testimony of Judge Pratama Yuda Richa Septiawan, S.H. at the Gedong Tataan District Court, who stated that cases resulting from intelligence development usually show a more systematic chronological description and interrelated evidence, so that it is very helpful for the panel of judges in assessing the involvement of the defendant, especially in cases involving more than one perpetrator or distribution network. These findings confirm that intelligence-based investigations not only have an impact on the pre-adjudication stage, but also make a significant contribution to the effectiveness of the adjudication process in court, as affirmed in evidentiary theory that evidentiary strength is strongly influenced by the quality of the construction of legal facts compiled from the investigation stage ²⁴.

h. Comparative Analysis and Strategy Effectiveness

When compared to the practice of narcotics law enforcement in other regional units in Indonesia, the intelligence-based investigation model applied by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force has a similar pattern to the strategy developed by the National Narcotics Agency in dealing with the threat of transnational organized crime, namely the emphasis on network analysis before taking action ²⁵. However, there are significant differences in terms of the scale of resources, where regional units such as the Pesawaran Police have

²⁴Squirrelly Wallough. 2008. *Crime and Criminality*. Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, p. 73.

²⁵Ahmad Gazali. 2024. Policies and Strategies of the National Narcotics Agency of the Republic of Indonesia in Facing Non-Military Threats of Transnational Organized Crime Illicit Narcotics Trafficking in Indonesia. *Journal of Syntax Literate*, Jakarta, Vol. 9 No. 4, p. 132.

limited personnel and technology when compared to joint task forces at the national level. This comparison shows that the success of the intelligence-led investigation model is highly dependent on the scale of institutional support, so the replication of the model at the Police level needs to be adjusted to the capacity of available resources, without reducing its methodological essence.

Quantitatively, the effectiveness of the strategy is reflected in the data that has been previously presented, where the increase in the disclosure of narcotics cases by 15.38% from 2023 to 2024 not only reflects an increase in the number of crimes, but also an increase in the capacity of the detection and disclosure of the authorities through an information-based approach. In other words, the intelligence-based investigation strategy at the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force is considered effective because it is able to support the disclosure of narcotics trafficking networks more broadly, not only focusing on perpetrators in the field, in line with the main goal of criminal policy to realize community protection (social defence) as stated by Marc Ancel ²⁶.

2. Factors that Become Obstacles in the Implementation of Intelligence-Based Investigations at the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force

Although conceptually and practically intelligence-based investigation strategies have proven to make a positive contribution to the effectiveness of eradicating illicit narcotics trafficking, their implementation in the field is inseparable from various obstacles. Based on the results of the research, these obstacles can be classified into two main categories, namely internal factors sourced from the institutional capacity of the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force, and external factors derived from the characteristics of narcotics crimes themselves and the criminal justice system.

²⁶Barda Nawawi Arief. 2014. Law Enforcement Issues and Criminal Law Policy in Crime Management. Jakarta: Kencana, p. 29.

a. Internal Factors

1) Limited Quality and Quantity of Human Resources.

Intelligence-based investigations require much more in-depth analytical skills than conventional investigations. Investigators are not only required to find evidence to prove the occurrence of criminal acts, but must also be able to process raw information into intelligence products that can be used to predict network movements, identify key actors, and determine the right investigation strategy. Based on intelligence theory, weaknesses in the analysis stage will reduce the quality of intelligence products so that the resulting operational decisions are less than optimal²⁷. This condition is one of the reasons why case development has not always been able to reach the main perpetrators or dealers in the narcotics illicit trafficking network in the jurisdiction of the Pesawaran Police.

2) Limitations of Supporting Facilities and Infrastructure.

The success of the collection and processing stages in the intelligence cycle is highly dependent on the support of adequate technology, information systems, and intelligence devices. Intelligence-based investigations are ideally supported by communication devices, data processing systems, access to digital databases, field monitoring devices, and secure and integrated information storage systems. However, the results of the study show that some intelligence activities in the field are still carried out manually through direct observation and conventional recording, thus hindering the speed of the verification and information processing process. In fact, the dynamic characteristics of narcotics crime require fast, accurate, and immediately analyzable information to support timely operational decision-making.

3) Risk of Leakage and Information Security.

Information confidentiality is a key factor in the success of law enforcement operations against narcotics networks. In the event of an information leak, the perpetrator's network can quickly evade, change communication patterns, or even escape, resulting in a failure to disclose the case. The effectiveness of intelligence work in law

²⁷Kunarto. 2001. Security Intelligence. Jakarta: Cipta Manunggal, p. 92.

enforcement is highly determined by the organization's ability to manage information in a safe, structured, and coordinated manner²⁸, so that strengthening the information security system is an urgent need for the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force.

b. External Factors

1) Complexity and Characteristics of Closed Narcotics Networks.

Illicit trafficking of narcotics is a crime committed in a closed, organized, and adaptive manner to the development of law enforcement methods. These characteristics cause the collection process to be more complex because perpetrators often use different identities, move locations, use layered intermediaries, and implement communication systems that are difficult to detect. Narcotics trafficking networks generally implement a system of disconnected relationships (cell systems), so that couriers, dealers, and dealers do not always know each other directly²⁹. Based on the results of interviews with investigators, this condition is the main obstacle in the development of the case, because it is not uncommon for investigators to only succeed in arresting field actors, while parties who play the role of controllers or main bookmakers are difficult to reach due to the lack of information that is able to connect all actors in the network.

2) Challenges of Proof at Trial.

Based on the results of an interview with the Head of the Pesawaran District Attorney's Development Subdivision, Rengga Puspa Negara, S.H., M.H., another obstacle lies in the evidentiary aspect at the trial. Intelligence products are basically the results of information analysis that function as a basis for decision-making and determination of the direction of the investigation, not as evidence that directly has the power of proof in court. In the Indonesian criminal evidence system, proof must be based on valid evidence as

²⁸Siregar, Bismar. 1983. *Law Enforcement Issues in Indonesia*. Jakarta: Akademika Pressindo, p. 85.

²⁹Romli Atmasasmitha. 2010. *Transnational Narcotics Crime in the Indonesian Criminal Law System*. Jakarta: Kencana, p. 64.

stipulated in Article 184 of the Criminal Procedure Code, namely witness statements, expert testimony, letters, instructions, and defendant³⁰ statements. Thus, the results of intelligence analysis only function as lead information that must be followed up through investigative actions to obtain legal evidence. If the process does not run optimally, the public prosecutor will have difficulty in proving the defendant's involvement in the illicit narcotics trafficking network.

In line with this, the Judge of the Gedong Tataan District Court emphasized that the most common obstacle found in narcotics cases is the proof of the position and role of the defendant in the network structure, especially when the arrested defendant only acts as a courier or intermediary, while the dealer or main controller has not been successfully disclosed. In such conditions, proving the involvement of the main actors requires a longer time, stronger evidence, and more in-depth case development, thus confirming that the effectiveness of intelligence-based investigations is highly determined by the success of each stage in the intelligence cycle on a continuous basis.

c. Efforts to Overcome Obstacles as a Strategic Turning Point

When analyzed through the perspective of criminal policy theory, these obstacles show that the eradication of narcotics crimes cannot be carried out only through a penal approach alone, but requires preventive and institutional non-penal policy support³¹. Based on the results of the research, the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force has taken a number of strategic steps to overcome these obstacles, which can also be used as a solution model (turning point) for other regional units, namely: **(1)** increasing the capacity of human resources through technical education, intelligence training, and strengthening the analytical skills of investigators; **(2)** strengthening

³⁰P.A.F. Lamintang. 2011. *The Basics of Indonesian Criminal Law*. Bandung: Citra Aditya Bakti, p. 401.

³¹Barda Nawawi Arief. 2010. *Bunga Pourai Criminal Law Policy*. Jakarta: Kencana Prenada Media Group, p. 48.

coordination between law enforcement agencies, especially with the Pesawaran District Attorney's Office and the Gedong Tataan District Court, so that the investigation, prosecution, and proof processes can run more synergistically; (3) optimizing the use of information technology in data collection, information processing, network mapping, and documentation of intelligence results; and (4) developing investigative methods that are adaptive to the development of narcotics trafficking patterns that are increasingly dynamic and based on modern communication technology.

These four steps, when studied through Sherman Kent's intelligence theory, are basically an effort to strengthen all stages of the intelligence cycle simultaneously, from planning and direction to dissemination, so that the resulting intelligence products have better quality and can be optimally converted into legitimate evidence in the criminal justice process. Thus, institutional capacity building is not just an administrative solution, but an absolute condition (*conditio sine qua non*) for the long-term success of the intelligence-based investigation model.

D. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research and discussion that has been described, the following conclusions can be drawn. First, the strategy to eradicate illicit narcotics trafficking through intelligence-based investigations implemented by the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force is carried out through the implementation of the intelligence cycle which is translated into the stages of planning and direction, intelligence information collection, processing and analysis as well as mapping of perpetrator networks, determination of operation targets, implementation of prosecution, case development, and dissemination of intelligence results for support the criminal justice process. This strategy has proven effective because it is able to expand the reach of disclosure of narcotics networks, not only focusing on field actors such as couriers and users, but also directed at controlling actors in the network, as reflected in the increase in case disclosure by 15.38% from 2023 to 2024.

Second, the factors that are obstacles in the implementation of intelligence-based investigations at the Pesawaran Police Narcotics Task Force consist of internal factors and external factors. Internal factors include the limited quality and quantity of human resources who have adequate intelligence analysis competence, limited facilities and infrastructure of supporting technology, as well as the risk of leakage and weak security of operational information. External factors include the complexity and closed characteristics of narcotics networks that implement a disconnected cell system, as well as evidentiary challenges at trial considering that intelligence products only function as lead information that must be converted into valid evidence according to Article 184 of the Criminal Procedure Code. These obstacles can be minimized through strengthening the capacity of human resources, modernizing intelligence technology, strengthening information security systems, and increasing institutional synergy between the Police, Prosecutor's Office, and Courts, as a strategic turning point to optimize the effectiveness of eradicating illicit narcotics trafficking in a sustainable manner in the jurisdiction of the Pesawaran Police.

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