



**អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា**  
 Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia  
 Chambres Extraordinaires au sein des Tribunaux Cambodgiens

**ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា**  
**ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ**

Kingdom of Cambodia  
 Nation Religion King  
 Royaume du Cambodge  
 Nation Religion Roi

**អង្គជំនុំជម្រះសាលាដំបូង**

Trial Chamber  
 Chambre de première instance

**TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS**

**PUBLIC**

Case File N° 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC

4 June 2015  
 Trial Day 291

<b>ឯកសារដើម</b>
<b>ORIGINAL/ORIGINAL</b>
ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date): 27-Mar-2017, 13:51
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I N D E X

Ms. SOU Soeurn (2-TCW-887)

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**List of Speakers:**

Language used unless specified otherwise in the transcript

Speaker	Language
Ms. CHET Vanly	Khmer
Judge FENZ	English
Ms. GUIRAUD	French
Mr. KOPPE	English
Mr. LYSAK	English
Judge LAVERGNE	French
The President (NIL Nonn)	Khmer
Mr. SENG Leang	Khmer
Ms. SOU Soeurn (2-TCW-887)	Khmer

1

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 (Court opens at 0901H)

3 MR. PRESIDENT:

4 Please be seated. The Court is now in session.

5 Today the Chamber hears the testimony of a witness, 2-TCW-887. We  
6 also wish to inform the Parties that this witness requires the  
7 support of a TPO staff during the testimony, and the Chamber  
8 agrees to the request. And WESU is responsible for coordinating  
9 the TPO staff.

10 Ms. Chea Sivhoang, please report the attendance of the Parties  
11 and other individuals at today's proceedings.

12 [09.03.01]

13 THE GREFFIER:

14 Mr. President, for today's proceedings, all Parties to this case  
15 are present.

16 Nuon Chea is present in the holding cell -- in the waiting room  
17 downstairs as he waives to -- waives his direct presence in the  
18 courtroom. His waiver has been delivered to the greffier.

19 The witness who is to testify today -- that is, 2-TCW-887,  
20 confirms that to <her> knowledge <she> has no relationship by  
21 blood or by law to any of the two Accused, that is Nuon Chea and  
22 Khieu Samphan, or to any of the civil parties admitted in this  
23 case. The witness took an oath before the Iron-Club statue this  
24 morning, and there is no reserve witness today.

25 [09.04.02]

1 MR. PRESIDENT:

2 Thank you. And the Chamber now decides on the request by Nuon  
3 Chea.

4 The Chamber has received a waiver from Nuon Chea, dated 4 June  
5 2015, which states that due to his health -- that is headache,  
6 back pain, he cannot sit or concentrate for long, and in order to  
7 effectively participate in future hearings, he requests to waive  
8 his rights to participate in and be present at the 4 June 2015  
9 hearing. Having seen the medical report of Nuon Chea by the duty  
10 doctor for the Accused at the ECCC, dated 4 June 2015, who notes  
11 that Nuon Chea has a chronic back pain when he sits for long and  
12 dizziness when he moves, and recommends that the Chamber so grant  
13 him his request so that he can follow the proceedings remotely  
14 from the holding cell downstairs.

15 Based on the above information and pursuant to Rule 81.5 of the  
16 ECCC Internal Rules, the Chamber grants Nuon Chea his request to  
17 follow the proceedings remotely from the holding cell downstairs  
18 via an audio-visual means.

19 The AV unit personnel are instructed to link the proceedings to  
20 the room downstairs so that Nuon Chea can follow the proceedings  
21 remotely. That applies for the whole day.

22 Court officer, please usher the witness as well as the TPO staff  
23 into the courtroom.

24 (Witness enters courtroom)

25 [09.07.54]

1 QUESTIONING BY THE PRESIDENT:

2 Good morning, Madam Witness. What is your name?

3 MS. SOU SOEURN:

4 A. My name is Sou Soeurn.

5 Q. Thank you, Madam Sou Soeurn. When were you born?

6 A. I cannot recall it.

7 Q. How old are you this year?

8 A. I am 79 years old.

9 Q. <Where> were you born?

10 [09.08.50]

11 A. I was born in Chhuk Khsach village, Chhuk Khsach commune,

12 Baray district, Kampong Thom province.

13 Q. <What> is your current address?

14 A. Currently, I live in Anlong Veang commune, Anlong Veang

15 district.

16 Q. What is your current occupation?

17 A. I don't have any job at the moment.

18 [09.09.33]

19 Q. What are the names of your parents?

20 A. My father is Lim Seb and my mother is Duch Thou.

21 Q. What is your husband's name and how many children do you have?

22 A. My husband is Ke Pauk. We have six children.

23 Q. Thank you, Madam Sou Soeurn. The greffier made an oral report

24 that to your best knowledge, you are not related by blood or by

25 law to any of the two Accused -- that is, Nuon Chea and Khieu

4

1 Samphan, or any of the civil parties admitted in this case; is  
2 the information accurate?

3 A. I am not related to any of them.

4 Q. The greffier also said that you already took an oath before  
5 your appearance this morning; is that true?

6 A. Yes.

7 [09.11.02]

8 Q. The Chamber now would like to inform you of your rights and  
9 obligations as a witness. Madam Sou Soeur, as a witness in the  
10 proceedings before the Chamber, you may refuse to respond to any  
11 question or to make any comment which may incriminate you. And  
12 that is your right against self-incrimination. And this means  
13 that you may refuse to provide your response or make any comments  
14 that could lead you to being prosecuted. And Madam Sou Soeur,  
15 now on your obligations. As a witness in the proceedings before  
16 the Chamber, you may respond to any questions by the Bench or  
17 relevant Parties except where your response or comments to those  
18 questions may incriminate you as the Chamber has just informed  
19 you of your rights as a witness. Also as a witness, you must tell  
20 the truth that you have known, heard, seen, remembered,  
21 experienced or observed directly in relation to any event or  
22 circumstance relevant to the question that the Bench or Parties  
23 pose to you. And Madam Sou Soeur, have you been interviewed by  
24 investigators of the Office of the Co-Investigating Judges? If  
25 so, how many times, when and where?

1 [09.12.41]

2 A. I was interviewed once <in> Anlong Veang.

3 Q. And before you entered the courtroom, have you reviewed your  
4 written records of your statement or you have it read out aloud  
5 to you in order to refresh your memory?

6 A. I asked my younger sibling to read it aloud to me.

7 Q. And to your best knowledge, does the written record of your  
8 interview reflect the statements you made before the OCIJ  
9 investigators <in> Anlong Veang?

10 A. Now I tend to forget a lot. And in the past I can recall a lot  
11 of things. <I may not be able to answer all the questions.>

12 Q. This is not what I meant. After you have your written record  
13 of interview read aloud to you by your younger sibling -- that  
14 is, regarding your interview <in> Anlong Veang, does that  
15 written record reflect what you spoke to the investigators at the  
16 time?

17 A. Yes, it reflects what I said, but now I tend to forget a lot.  
18 <I also tend to forget what I have spoken myself.>

19 [09.14.48]

20 MR. PRESIDENT:

21 Pursuant to Rule 91bis of the ECCC Internal Rules, the Chamber  
22 gives the floor to the Co-Prosecutors first to put question to  
23 this witness. And the combined time for the Co-Prosecutors and  
24 the Lead Co-Lawyers for civil party is three sessions. And the  
25 Co-Prosecutor, you have the floor.



1 QUESTIONING BY MR. LYSAK:

2 Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, Your Honours, Counsel,  
3 Madam Witness. I'll be putting questions to you this morning. My  
4 name is Dale Lysak. I'm one of the prosecutors at the Court. I  
5 want to start with some questions about your and your husband's  
6 background. You stated in your OCIJ interview, document E3/5294,  
7 that you were married to your husband, Ke Pauk, when you were 22  
8 years old. By my calculation, if you are 79 today, you were born  
9 around 1936, which would mean that you were married to your  
10 husband around 1958; is that correct? Do you remember the year  
11 when you and Ke Pauk were married?

12 [09.16.36]

13 MS. SOU SOEURN:

14 A. Allow me to respond. I had a child in 1962, and that was three  
15 years after our marriage.

16 Q. Thank you. Can you tell us where you and Ke Pauk lived after  
17 you were married? And also, can you tell us whether he was  
18 already part of the revolution at the time you were married?

19 A. No, he did not <get involved in anything yet> at the time as  
20 he was still engaged in rice farming.

21 Q. And where was it that you and your husband lived after you  
22 were married in 1959?

23 A. I <lived> in Chhuk Khsach that <was> in Baray district,  
24 Kampong Thom province.

25 [09.18.15]

7

1 Q. Madam Witness, your husband gave an interview before his death  
2 which I'm going to read to you from time to time today to see if  
3 that helps refresh your recollection on some matters. That  
4 interview is document E3/2782, also E3/2783, just so the Parties  
5 are aware that the same interview is in two different documents  
6 and the French translation is only in the second document. That's  
7 why I'll be referring to both E3 numbers.

8 The ERN reference I would like to read to you is at English,  
9 00089708; Khmer, 00095547; and French, 00596203. In this  
10 interview, Ke Pauk your husband starts by describing his  
11 background as follows: "I joined the struggle since 1949 in the  
12 Khmer Issarak period. After the Geneva Convention, I abandoned  
13 the struggle and returned home. In 1957, Sieu Heng, the secretary  
14 of the Party, contacted me and told me to rejoin the struggle. I  
15 did so and enlisted into the Party in Svay Teab sub-district,  
16 Chamkar Leu district." Continuing in the next paragraph: "In  
17 1958, after I became a member of the Party, they assigned me to  
18 conduct some activities in Chamkar Leu district, my birth place."  
19 Let me ask you just a couple of things here. First of all, is it  
20 correct that your husband came from Chamkar Leu district?

21 [09.20.36]

22 A. I am not sure on this point and I did not know when he <had>  
23 joined the Revolution.

24 Q. Do you remember whether you moved to Chamkar Leu district at  
25 some point after you and Ke Pauk were married?

1 A. After our marriage, we went to <earn a living> in Praeus Meas  
2 village, Chamkar Leu, Chamkar Andoung district.

3 [09.21.28]

4 Q. The next page of your husband's interview, he describes some  
5 events from the 1960s relating to the Communist Party of  
6 Kampuchea. And he states: "In mid-1967, the Zone Committee was  
7 composed of Koy Thuon as secretary and I the deputy secretary,  
8 and Doeun, Sreng, Bra, Thaong, and (sic) Sam-At as members. At  
9 that time, Brother Nuon was away to Prey Chhor to assign horses.  
10 In 1968, I began working in the jungle."

11 First question; did you go with your husband to the jungle in  
12 1968 or did you and your children live somewhere else at that  
13 time?

14 A. At that time, I did not stay with him. We lived separately  
15 since 1967.

16 Q. The statement from your husband that I just read refers to  
17 Brother Nuon organising or assigning horses in Prey Chhor  
18 district. Did you know Nuon Chea during this time period? And do  
19 you remember the first time that you met Nuon Chea?

20 [09.23.22]

21 A. At that time, I did not know him yet. And I got to know him  
22 only when I was in Phnom Penh.

23 Q. And when was it that you lived in Phnom Penh? And could you  
24 tell us about how you got to know Nuon Chea when you were living  
25 in Phnom Penh?

1 A. That was the time that I came to earn a living in Phnom Penh.  
2 And I was called to be a cook. And I apologise if I cannot recall  
3 the details of the event.

4 Q. You stated in the first answer of your OCIJ interview,  
5 E3/5294, that you joined the Revolution in 1969, while you were  
6 living in Phnom Penh. Can you tell us whether it was in  
7 connection with joining the Revolution in Phnom Penh that you  
8 first met Nuon Chea?

9 [09.25.03]

10 A. At that time, I was called to be a cook and that was the time  
11 I got to know him. I met him and of course, they discussed about  
12 the work. But I did not understand about the nature of the work,  
13 so I <was assigned to>cook for them. <After I had cooked for them  
14 for a while, I left him again.>

15 Q. And could you tell us, you were cooking for Nuon Chea and  
16 other people -- can you tell us who it was that you were cooking  
17 for at that time?

18 A. I did not see him. I cooked in the kitchen, and it was someone  
19 else who took the food to him. <I did not know the number of  
20 people or who they were, for I did not see them.>

21 Q. In the same answer, your first answer of your OCIJ interview,  
22 you describe how you left Phnom Penh with your daughter to join  
23 the marquis in October 1970, and how you were taken to a location  
24 in the deep forest near the Stueng Chinit River, where you met  
25 your husband. The location where you met your husband near the

10

1 Chinit River, was this a location where a number of Party leaders  
2 were located? Was this a headquarters or base of the Party?

3 A. It was a military <headquarter>, and I did not see any senior  
4 leaders there. I only saw military <commanders>.

5 [09.27.28]

6 Q. Who were the military commanders who were at that location?

7 A. It related to the work of my husband.

8 Q. Can you tell us a little bit about what your role -- what the  
9 role or work of your husband was at the time you joined him in  
10 the marquis?

11 A. At that time, his position was simply a cadre.

12 Q. When you went to live in the forest in 1970, did your son Ke  
13 Pich Vannak, did he live in the same location as you?

14 A. <No>. Initially, my son lived in Kampong Cham, and I went to  
15 that location along with my daughter.

16 Q. I want to read to you an excerpt from the interview of your  
17 son. It's document E3/35, at Khmer, 00340560 - 61; English,  
18 00346147; French, 00367718 - 719. And this is part of his first  
19 answer in his OCIJ interview. He testified that between 1970 and  
20 1973, he lived at a site in Stueng Trang district, Kampong Cham,  
21 that was the Party centre headquarters; that during the day, he  
22 was taught by Pol Pot's wife Khieu Ponnary, who he called  
23 grandaunt Ry; and that at night, he would give massages to Pol  
24 Pot, who he referred to as granduncle Sar alias granduncle Pol.  
25 My question for you, Madam Witness, did you have regular contact

11

1 with Pol Pot and his wife, like your son, during the 1970 - '73  
2 time periods?

3 [09.31.04]

4 A. Personally, I was not close to them. Although I -- we stayed  
5 in the forest together, I was not close to him. And I did not  
6 know how close my son was to them.

7 Q. Did you see Pol Pot and his wife from time to time during  
8 those years?

9 A. I met them when I was living in the forest. I met them  
10 sometimes, and they were referred to as "bong". When I was  
11 allowed to go and meet them, I could go to see them, although we  
12 lived in the same forest. <We did not live together.>

13 Q. In his OCIJ interview, again at Khmer, 00340561; English,  
14 00346148; French, 00367719; your son testified that he also saw  
15 Khieu Samphan at the Party headquarters in the forest when he  
16 lived there between 1970 and 1973. He referred to Khieu Samphan  
17 as granduncle Hem. My question for you; did you also see Khieu  
18 Samphan at that location during those years?

19 [09.33.17]

20 A. I -- it <was more likely> that I did not meet him. As I  
21 stated, my son was living in a separate place. <My son and I were  
22 living in separate places. So if he met, I did not know about  
23 that. I <could> have met him or those people once in a while.

24 Q. Do you remember, Madam Witness, the first time that you met  
25 Khieu Samphan?

1 A. I do not recall it. I do not recall when I met him and where I  
2 met him.

3 Q. I want to move now to the period beginning in 17 April 1975.

4 And I first want to ask you about what your husband's -- read you  
5 an excerpt from your husband's interview. And this is again  
6 E3/2782 and 2783, ERN references, Khmer, 00095550 - 51; English,  
7 00089711 - 712; and French, 00596208. And in this document, your  
8 husband states that after 17 April 1975, he became the secretary  
9 of what was then the North Zone and what would later become the  
10 Central Zone. And he also states that Koy Thuon who had been the  
11 secretary of the zone was transferred to Phnom Penh, to the  
12 Ministry of Commerce. My question for you; did your husband ever  
13 tell you why he was promoted to zone secretary, and Koy Thuon was  
14 sent to the Ministry of Commerce after the 17th of April 1975?

15 [09.36.35]

16 A. <>I <only> knew <> that my husband became the zone secretary,  
17 <but> I did not know about the arrangement of his position. As I  
18 stated, as a <woman>, I was not allowed to know the affairs in  
19 detail.

20 Q. Do you remember how you first learned that your husband had  
21 been appointed the North Zone secretary?

22 A. I do not know. From that time onwards, I heard people address  
23 him as such. I asked him about that, and my husband told me that  
24 I had to mind my own business. And others, they cared their own  
25 business already. <And he asked me not question about other

1 people's business.>

2 [09.37.51]

3 Q. I now want to go through the positions that you held in the  
4 Party through the Democratic Kampuchea regime. In your OCIJ  
5 interview, E3/5294, at Khmer, 00348827; English, 00360111;  
6 French, 00367803; you state that you were initially a village  
7 chief during the 1970 - 75 period, and that at the start of the  
8 Khmer Rouge regime; "When Phnom Penh was liberated, I stayed at  
9 Preaek Prasab district of Kampong Cham. At that time, they made  
10 me a member of the Preaek Prasab district committee. And I was  
11 put in charge of receiving evacuees from Phnom Penh."

12 Madam Witness, during that time period, was Preaek Prasab  
13 district part of a Sector 42 of the North Zone?

14 A. I do not -- I could not have the grasp of the information. <It  
15 could have been the assignment, but I have forgotten the  
16 details>.

17 MR. PRESIDENT:

18 Deputy <National> Co-Prosecutor<>, please verify the name. I  
19 heard that the name was <pronounced> as Preaek <Prasat  
20 (phonetic)>, but actually there was no Preaek <Prasat  
21 (phonetic)>, there was only Preaek Prasab.

22 [09.40.20]

23 BY MR. LYSAK:

24 Thank you, Mr. President. Let me clarify. Perhaps, I mispronounce  
25 it. Was the name of the district that you were appointed to in --



14

1 after April 1975 Preaek Prasab?

2 MS. SOU SOEURN:

3 A. Yes, it was <in the district of> Preaek Prasab.

4 Q. Let me see if I can refresh your recollection on this. This is  
5 another excerpt from your husband's interview E3/2782 and 2783 at  
6 Khmer, 0095551; English, 0089713; French, 00596210. Your husband  
7 gave a description here of the structure of the Central or old  
8 North Zone. He stated it was divided into three regions; Regions  
9 41, 42, and 43. And in regards to Region 42, he said it consisted  
10 of Tang Kok (phonetic), Baray, Stueng Trang, Chamkar Leu and  
11 Preaek Prasab districts. Does that refresh your recollection,  
12 Madam Witness, that there were five districts that formed Sector  
13 42 including both Preaek Prasab and Chamkar Leu?

14 [09.42.27]

15 A. I do not recall it. I <only> remember <the districts of>  
16 Preaek Prasab and Chamkar Leu<; the rest I cannot recall>. I  
17 <>remembered <them before,> but I do not recall <them> now.

18 Q. Fair enough. Going back to the history of your positions, in  
19 your interview -- OCIJ interview E3/5294, you say that you lived  
20 in Preaek Prasab district for approximately half a year, at which  
21 time you were sent to Chamkar Leu district and nominated on the  
22 Chamkar Leu district committee in charge of women. Do I  
23 understand correctly that it would have been in the latter part  
24 of 1975, half a year after 17 April 1975, that you moved to  
25 Chamkar Leu district and became a member of that district

1 committee?

2 A. It is correct. I stayed in Preaek Prasab district for half a  
3 year and I was transferred to Chamkar Leu district after that  
4 time. I worked <on the> Chamkar Leu <district committee> for one  
5 year. <>. There <were five people on the committee, and I> was  
6 <the> only <woman on the committee. The workload of the committee  
7 was split among its members. I only remember that; and as for the  
8 rest I cannot recall them at all.>

9 [09.44.34]

10 Q. And in regards to your assignment to Chamkar Leu district, you  
11 stated, "I was appointed by the sector secretary. Tol was the  
12 sector secretary." My question, Madam Witness, the person you  
13 identify as the sector secretary, Tol, was he a cousin of your  
14 husband?

15 A. No. He was not related to my husband. <Although, he came from>  
16 the same province of my husband's<, he was actually from a  
17 totally different district>. He and my husband were not related.

18 Q. How long had you known the sector secretary Tol? How long had  
19 you and your husband known him?

20 A. I only came to know him when he became the <sector> chief<>.  
21 And as for my husband, I did not know <from> when my husband <had  
22 known> this individual.

23 [09.46.23]

24 Q. Thank you. You identify in your interview another person who  
25 was also on the Chamkar Leu district committee, by the name of

16

1 Ban. Can you tell us who Ban was?

2 A. Ban was a villager <who lived along the> river<>. And <I  
3 started to get to know this man by the time I was being assigned  
4 by the sector to be a member of> the committee. <>.

5 Q. There is a person named Ban who has testified that he was on  
6 the Chamkar Leu District Committee and that he was an in-law of  
7 yours, the husband of one of your cousins. Was this the same Ban  
8 who you were referring to; the person who is an in-law of yours  
9 and who married one of your cousins?

10 A. No. He was a <local person,> and he <made his> living <along  
11 the> river<. He> was not related <to me or husband either> by  
12 blood or by law<>.

13 MR. LYSAK:

14 And Mr. President, with your leave, at this time, I'd like to  
15 provide the witness statement of the individual I'm referring to.  
16 It's document, E319/19.3.86. Let me repeat E319/19.3.86. I will  
17 not say the full name of this person because he is a proposed  
18 trial witness, 2-TCW-950. He's someone who indicates in his  
19 statement that he is an in-law of the witness and that who served  
20 on the Chamkar Leu district committee. I'd like to show the  
21 statement to the witness.

22 [09.49.34]

23 MR. PRESIDENT:

24 I have been informed that the witness is illiterate. She <cannot>  
25 read <or> write.

1 MR. LYSAK:

2 May I ask whether if she's unable to read the names that the --  
3 perhaps, the TPO person could assist her in order to see if she  
4 can identify this person.

5 MR. PRESIDENT:

6 Yes, you may do so. Court officer, please work on that matter.  
7 You could whisper to the witness, Court officer.

8 [09.50.49]

9 BY MR. LYSAK:

10 Madam Witness, I don't want you to read the name of this person  
11 -- the full name of this person out loud. I can tell you that  
12 this person also used a number of aliases, revolutionary aliases,  
13 one of which was Phos and another Ho. Do you remember a person  
14 named Phos or Ho who served with you on the Chamkar Leu district  
15 committee and who was an in-law of yours, someone who married one  
16 of your cousins?

17 MS. SOU SOEURN:

18 A. First I heard the question about Ta Ban, but now <another man  
19 by> the name <of Ta> Phos was mentioned to me. I knew this  
20 individual's name and we were related. <The man is actually my  
21 cousin, not a cousin of my late husband.>

22 Q. And is Phos someone who at some point served with you on the  
23 Chamkar Leu district committee?

24 A. I do not remember it. I <remember that Ban worked> with me.  
25 And for the remainder of my colleagues, I do not recall them.

1 [09.52.54]

2 Q. Let me ask you a general question about Chamkar Leu district.  
3 Do you remember approximately how many people lived in that  
4 district during the Democratic Kampuchea period?

5 A. You mean the population <of the district> or you mean members  
6 of the committee?

7 Q. I mean the population. What was the population of Chamkar Leu  
8 district?

9 A. I could not have the full grasp of the information because I  
10 <did not know how to take any notes> <>. Everything <was taken  
11 care by> the district secretary. I did not take note of the  
12 population of that district.

13 Q. Well, let's talk about your position. You've testified that in  
14 late 1975, you became a member of the Chamkar Leu district  
15 committee. Did you later become the secretary of that district,  
16 Chamkar Leu?

17 A. I remained a member of that committee <throughout the period>.  
18 As I stated earlier, I was <a> member of <the Chamkar Leu  
19 district> committee for <only> one year. Later on, I delivered a  
20 baby and I was sick <so I could not go to work anymore. However,  
21 I still remained as a member of the committee,> in charge of  
22 female workers who worked at <> dam<and canal worksites>, but I  
23 was not with <those female> workers <on a regular basis>.

24 [09.55.18]

25 Q. Madam Witness, I must tell you that a number of cadres close

1 to you have testified that in late 1977, you became the secretary  
2 of Chamkar Leu district. Let me read to you one of those  
3 references and it comes from the document I just provided you,  
4 the testimony of your in-law, Ban or Phos. In answer 10 of his  
5 OCIJ interview, E319/19.3.86, he testified as follows: "Sou  
6 Soeurn was appointed Chamkar Leu district secretary later,  
7 perhaps in late 1977. At that time, Oeun removed me from my  
8 position as the Sector 42 commerce chairman and appointed me as  
9 deputy to Sou Soeurn." He has said the same thing in a number of  
10 interviews. Madam Witness, does this refresh your memory that you  
11 became the secretary of Chamkar Leu district in late 1977, and  
12 that Phos served as your deputy at that time?

13 A. I do not recall it well because I <did not usually go to the  
14 office and work> with them. I may have forgotten it because it  
15 has been long time ago<,> and <I have become very forgetful.>.  
16 [09.57.32]

17 Q. In the quote I just read, your in-law Ban or Phos referred to  
18 Oeun -- a person named Oeun, who was the Sector 42 secretary  
19 after Tol. Was Oeun your biological brother? And is it correct  
20 that he became sector secretary in 1977 after Tol?

21 A. Oeun was my younger sibling. He was my biological brother. <It  
22 was in that year that he could have been> appointed <as the>  
23 secretary of that sector. <I must have forgotten it. It was> a  
24 brief period of time<,> and we did not work closely with others>.  
25 <>I <cannot> recall it all.

1 Q. Madam Witness, do you remember a cadre named Chim (phonetic)  
2 who came from Takeo in the Southwest Zone and who was brought to  
3 the North Zone in 1977 and appointed chairman of the Chamkar  
4 Andoung rubber plantation that was located in your district  
5 Chamkar Leu? Do you remember Chim (phonetic), this person who was  
6 brought in to be the head of the rubber plantation that was  
7 located in your district?

8 [09.59.37]

9 A. I do not recall it. I do not remember all, even my relatives  
10 and cousin. And how could I remember other people<?> And I did  
11 not know <the person, and of> the arrangement of the position for  
12 that particular individual.

13 Q. Let me turn to some questions relating to the 1st January Dam,  
14 Madam Witness. And I'm going to start with your son, Ke Pich  
15 Vannak's OCIJ interview, E3/35, at Khmer, 00340563; English,  
16 00346149; French, 00367721. He describes how in 1976, he was sent  
17 to study in Phnom Penh with a person named Pich Sokha and another  
18 person he called Uncle Chhy alias Chham. Did you know these two  
19 people that your son studied with in Phnom Penh named Chham and  
20 Pich Sokha?

21 A. I <knew> the two individuals but they all deceased.

22 Q. Who was Chham?

23 A. Chham was the guy who worked with my husband.

24 Q. Is Chham someone who worked for your husband during the entire  
25 Democratic Kampuchea regime?

1 A. He is deceased.

2 [10.02.27]

3 Q. I understand that he is deceased. My question to you is; is he  
4 someone who was close to your husband and worked with him  
5 throughout the entire Khmer Rouge regime?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And did Chham have a role in supervising the construction of  
8 the 1st January Dam?

9 A. For this matter, I do not know. Chham was working <closely  
10 with> my husband; he was with my husband all the time. So I did  
11 not know about their business. <Moreover, he and I were living  
12 separately. I was not aware of his business.> I am stating the  
13 truth. I will not tell anything that I do not know.

14 [10.03.36]

15 Q. Continuing in your son's OCIJ interview on the same pages of  
16 E3/35, this is what he testified that he did after he returned  
17 from his studies in Phnom Penh.

18 Question: "After you finished your study, what did they have you  
19 do?"

20 Answer: "I returned to Kampong Cham and accompanied my father to  
21 prepare a plan to build the 1st January Dam."

22 Question: "In what year did they begin building the 1st January  
23 Dam?"

24 Answer: "The plan was developed since mid-1976."

25 My question for you, Madam Witness, do you know whether your



1 husband had communications with and needed to obtain the approval  
2 of the Party leaders in Phnom Penh in regards to the plan to  
3 build the 1st January Dam?

4 A. I <did> not know <as to> when the construction of the dam  
5 started and how long the construction lasted. <Women were usually  
6 not engaged in this kind of business. More likely I engaged  
7 cooperative members to build dams and canals.> I <did> not know  
8 <of their business>.

9 Q. Let me ask you a general question about your husband. How  
10 often would he go to Phnom Penh for meetings?

11 A. I sometimes knew about his trips. And as I said, <my house  
12 was> in Chamkar Leu and he <was living> in Kampong Cham. When I  
13 went to see him, I would know <of> his business. <However,> I  
14 <seldom knew as to> when he went to <attend a> meeting <>. And as  
15 I told the Court already, I sometimes did not meet him for a  
16 period of three months.

17 [10.06.40]

18 Q. Did you ever accompany your husband on any of his trips to  
19 Phnom Penh?

20 A. I never accompanied him to Phnom Penh. <In case I had to go to  
21 Phnom Penh,> I went with other female cadres and as I stated, I  
22 never went with him to Phnom Penh.

23 Q. I just want to clarify that last response. I'm not sure  
24 whether this was translation. Are you saying that you went to  
25 Phnom Penh once with a group of female cadres? Did I understand

1 you correctly?

2 A. I went with <other> female cadres <to work in Phnom Penh,> and  
3 we <> met <with> Nuon Chea. <Otherwise, I would never have chance  
4 to meet him>.

5 Q. Could you please tell us about this time that you went to  
6 Phnom Penh with female cadres to meet with Nuon Chea? Tell us  
7 what you remember about that.

8 [10.08.31]

9 A. I do not recall it<, for>it happened between 1970 and 1975. I  
10 do not remember the month <and> year exactly. <I can only recall  
11 going to meet with him>.

12 Q. What was the reason that you went with this group of female  
13 cadres to meet Nuon Chea?

14 A. We went with a large group of cadres, hundreds of us <to meet  
15 him>. We <went> there to attend <> political study sessions<, and  
16 be taught of ways to lead cooperative people to increase rice  
17 production to a certain quota per year, and work smoothly with  
18 the cooperative people in order to increase rice production per  
19 hectare and increase the number of harvest per year. That was  
20 what he had instructed us, women>

21 Q. Thank you, Madam Witness. I may come back to this later. I was  
22 going to turn to another subject now, Mr. President. Do you wish  
23 me to continue or this is the time for our morning break?

24 MR. PRESIDENT:

25 Thank you. It is now the convenient time for a short break. And

24

1 the Chamber will take short break from now until <10.30 a.m.>  
2 Court officers, please assist the witness during the break time  
3 and please invite this witness and the TPO staff back to the  
4 courtroom at <10.30 a.m.>

5 The Court is now in recess.

6 (Court recesses from 1011H to 1031H)

7 MR. PRESIDENT:

8 Please be seated. The Court is back in session.

9 And the floor is given to the International Deputy Co-Prosecutor  
10 to resume his line of questioning to this witness.

11 [10.31.53]

12 BY MR. LYSAK:

13 Thank you, Mr. President. Madam Witness, I'd like to turn now to  
14 a few questions about the assignment of workers to the 1st  
15 January Dam. In your OCIJ statement, E3/5294, at Khmer, 00348834;  
16 English, 00360117; French, 00367810; you gave the following  
17 testimony.

18 Question: "Were people from your district sent to participate in  
19 the construction of the 1st January Dam?"

20 Answer: "Yes, they were. Every district was requested to send its  
21 people there."

22 Madam Witness, can you tell us in total how many workers from  
23 Chamkar Leu district were sent to work at the 1st January Dam?

24 [10.33.07]

25 MS. SOU SOEURN:

1 A. I do not know about <certain number of> workers <to be> sent  
2 to the 1st January Dam worksite, <due to the fact that workers  
3 were sent to work there continuously and consecutively.> I <did>  
4 not know either how many people were selected from those various  
5 cooperatives and sent to the dam site <as> I was not <in charge  
6 of> the <lists. It was the> secretary of the district <who> held  
7 <the lists>.

8 Q. You have stated in your OCIJ interview though, that one of  
9 your responsibilities in Chamkar Leu district was overseeing  
10 workers who were constructing the dams; is that correct, Madam  
11 Witness?

12 A. <I do not know what else to respond to your question as>I have  
13 already given my response.

14 MR. PRESIDENT:

15 International Deputy Co-Prosecutor, please rephrase your question  
16 because I heard Witness say that she already gave the statement  
17 to you.

18 [10.35.01]

19 BY MR. LYSAK:

20 Let me refer you specifically to what you said. Again, this is  
21 your OCIJ interview, E3/5294, the reference is at Khmer,  
22 00348830; English, 00360113; and French, 00367806. You were  
23 discussing your responsibilities and you said: "As for me, I only  
24 led the cooperative to build dams and canals." So let me ask you  
25 again. Is it not true that part of your responsibilities in

1 Chamkar Leu was leading people in relation to building dams and  
2 canals?

3 MS. SOU SOEURN:

4 A. I already told the Court that I did not know about the numbers  
5 of people <sent to work at> the dam site. I <only> selected  
6 <>people from cooperatives and <sent them there. The District  
7 Secretary was the one who had the list. For this reason,> I did  
8 not know <the total number of> people <sent there>.

9 [10.36.45]

10 Q. Madam Witness, do you know who it was who supervised the  
11 workers from Chamkar Leu district who were sent to work at the  
12 1st January Dam?

13 A. <I knew that each> "sangkat" had its own chief, and the chief  
14 would bring <his or her> people to the dam site. <However, I did>  
15 not know the names of those sangkat chiefs. Some of them passed  
16 away and some may have survived the period, but they perhaps are  
17 living <far away. So, I did not know or remember their names.>

18 Q. Thank you. Also in your interview E3/5294 at Khmer, 00348835;  
19 English, 00360117; French, 00367811; you gave the following  
20 testimony about the people who were sent from your district to  
21 the 1st January Dam.

22 Question: "Did any of your people sent to construct the dam  
23 disappear?"

24 Answer: "Yes, they did. And not only the 17 April People  
25 disappeared but also the Base People." How did you become aware,

1 Madam Witness, that people from your district Chamkar Leu who had  
2 been sent to work at the 1st January Dam had disappeared? How did  
3 you become aware of that?

4 A. <Concerning> disappearance <of people> at the 1st January Dam  
5 site, <I only knew that> people were <being> taken away for study  
6 sessions. That is what I knew at that time.

7 [10.39.35]

8 Q. How is it that you knew that people were taken away for study  
9 sessions?

10 A. Each sangkat chief told me certain people <had been> taken  
11 away for study <sessions>. But I did not know <as to> where they  
12 were sent <for those study sessions>.

13 Q. And how did you know -- you said in your interview that it was  
14 both 17 April People and Base People who disappeared. How did you  
15 know that both 17 April and Base People from your district had  
16 disappeared?

17 A. <I learnt it from those sangkat> chiefs<. They said> that  
18 <those> people <had been removed and sent for> study <sessions.  
19 That's what I learnt from them.>

20 Q. Were there any people whose relatives had gone to work at the  
21 1st January Dam who came to tell you that their relatives had not  
22 returned from the worksite, and to try to find out what had  
23 happened to you -- what had happened to them? Excuse me.

24 [10.41.55]

25 A. I <did> not know <of this> because no one came to ask me about

1 <any> disappearance. And if <someone> came to ask me about their  
2 relatives, I would <just> tell them <> the <same thing I was told  
3 by their respective chiefs that those people had been sent> for  
4 study <sessions>.

5 Q. I want to now ask you some questions about your visits to the  
6 1st January Dam worksite. First of all, can you tell us how many  
7 times you went to visit the 1st January Dam?

8 A. I went to the 1st January Dam site many times, but I <do> not  
9 <recall how many time exactly>.

10 Q. What was the reason that you went to the 1st January Dam site  
11 many times?

12 A. The <reasons> I went to the worksite many times, <first, I  
13 visited> my husband, <who> was <working> there <>. <Second, I  
14 accompanied>my<fellow> cadres <who went to visit their people  
15 working at the site. Lastly, I visited my own people who were  
16 working at the worksite in order to have a glimpse of their  
17 livelihood and resolve their problems accordingly.>

18 Q. When you would visit the 1st January Dam site, how long would  
19 you normally stay when you went there?

20 [10.44.39]

21 A. <>Sometimes, I would stay there for <two> days and sometimes  
22 <I returned> to my place right away. <It varied.> I do not  
23 remember when I was there.

24 Q. When you would stay there for a couple of nights or days,  
25 where would you stay at night time, where did you sleep?

1 A. <There were camps on the worksite. Women could choose to sleep  
2 either in the cooperative or at the> sleeping <quarters> with  
3 workers. <Since we ate collectively, I could stay wherever  
4 workers would stay. I did not mind at all>.

5 Q. Could you describe for us what the sleeping quarters were like  
6 that you stayed at on the occasions where you stayed there  
7 overnight?

8 A. <Frankly speaking, the> sleeping quarters <and living  
9 condition> for workers at the site were proper. And they had  
10 proper living condition. Their sleeping <quarters and> their  
11 eating conditions were <adequate>.

12 [10.46.57]

13 Q. Can you be a little more specific what do you mean by proper?  
14 What did you sleep on at the quarters that you stayed in?

15 A. I wanted to say that I could live <in the same condition  
16 those> workers <were experiencing>. And workers had decent food  
17 <to support their living. At that time, their food supply was  
18 being provided by the Angkar. There was sufficient supply of food  
19 and rice for workers. I just want to make sure of that point>.

20 Q. Let me ask you again. When you slept overnight in these  
21 quarters, did you have a blanket or something to sleep on, or did  
22 you sleep on the ground?

23 A. There were halls for workers who were working at the worksite.  
24 Workers <did not> sleep on the ground. <They also had proper  
25 communal eating halls.>



1 Q. If they didn't sleep on the ground, Madam Witness, what did  
2 they sleep on?

3 A. Labourers <> slept in <the> long <halls that had been> built  
4 for them. <Since there> were many workers, <sometimes they> had  
5 to squeeze <among themselves> while sleeping. Some workers had  
6 <blankets> and <mosquito nets. Through my observation, they could  
7 have had those things as everything including sleeping quarters,  
8 blankets and food was sufficiently provided by the Angkar to  
9 those workers on the dam worksite. They would never allow our  
10 people to sleep directly on the ground.>

11 [10.49.45]

12 Q. Were there beds in these halls or did the workers sleep on the  
13 ground?

14 A. I gave my response already. <Long halls had been built with>  
15 bamboo <floors> for workers to sleep on. <Workers slept together  
16 in those halls. There were hundreds of those long halls> covered  
17 with <available materials, including> tent <canvas>, or <coconut>  
18 leaves<to give shade to workers> . There were no beds <for them>  
19 at that time. There were only <floors made of bamboo, planks of  
20 wood, and small trees>. And as I stated earlier, workers did not  
21 sleep on the ground but they slept on the bamboo <floor, and the  
22 halls had either canvas or coconut leave roof>. During the day  
23 time, workers could come <and rest in those halls>. I stated many  
24 times already <with this regard>.

25 Q. You said -- you also said that the workers received decent

1 food. Can you tell us how many meals the workers received each  
2 day and what rations of food were given to them in each meal?

3 A. As for food ration, workers had <> two<> meals per day.  
4 Sometimes, they had gruel and on other occasions, they had  
5 <steamed> rice. It depended on the situation or on the reality.

6 [10.52.01]

7 Q. And where did people get water to drink at the 1st January Dam  
8 site?

9 A. When they needed water, they could drink from the <stream> or  
10 the canals. <At> that time, there was only water from the  
11 streams, <canals> or <> wells. <The same source of water was for  
12 bathing, drinking and cooking rice>.

13 Q. Where did workers at the site go to the bathroom when they had  
14 to relieve themselves?

15 A. There were no toilets. We had to relieve ourselves in the  
16 <bushes. There were no> toilets <> built.

17 Q. Were there a lot of flies at the worksite?

18 A. Yes, there were flies but not many of them. When <good>  
19 hygiene <was enforced>, there were <no> flies. <However, when  
20 they did not attend to the hygiene issue, of course, they were  
21 flies.>

22 [10.54.10]

23 Q. Madam Witness, I'd like to read to you an excerpt from your  
24 son's OCIJ interview, E3/35, at Khmer, 00340563 - 564; English,  
25 00346150; French, 00367721 - 722. This is what your son testified

1 in regards to his visit to the 1st January Dam worksite.  
2 "I visited the long halls in which the mobile unit was staying.  
3 And I never saw or heard any people had been arrested and killed.  
4 But there were complaints about food shortages. There was an  
5 order from the committee to organise one group for cooking and  
6 another group for gathering food. Obviously, there were food  
7 shortages. I saw sick persons in each shelter and asked about  
8 their condition. They said that they did not have any medicines  
9 to take. I told those facts to my father who then ordered the  
10 sectors to assign medics to help with the treatment of patients  
11 in each shelter. But the sectors said they did not have  
12 medicines. During the dam construction, I knew that there were  
13 patients dying because of the lack of medicines."

14 Is it correct, Madam Witness, as a result of your visits to the  
15 1st January Dam and the visits of your husband and son that you  
16 were aware of food and medicine shortages at the worksite?

17 [10.56.39]

18 A. Sometimes I was aware of that. I was at the worksite once in a  
19 while, so I <could> not have <observed> all the <aspects>.  
20 Sometimes, I <went there by the time supply of food and medicine  
21 was being provided to workers by the Angkar; thus, I noticed that  
22 they were doing just fine. Again, since I only went there once in  
23 a while, I was not fully aware of certain shortages>.

24 Q. Do you know whether anyone from the Party, either from the  
25 zone, sectors, or the centre in Phnom Penh, was ever able to

1 supply medicine to that worksite other than a traditional  
2 medicine that people have referred to as black pills or rabbit  
3 drop medicine? Do you know whether sufficient medicine was ever  
4 supplied to that worksite?

5 A. I do not remember it on this point. Sometimes, I did not know  
6 <as when and how> medicines were <distributed> to the worksite. I  
7 have no idea.

8 Q. I want to ask you now about another person who worked for your  
9 husband. Again, I'm not going to identify him by his name as he  
10 is a potential trial witness. Your Honours, this is pseudonym,  
11 2-TCW-896. This is an individual who states that he was your  
12 husband's nephew and driver, and that Ke Pauk was his father's  
13 younger brother. With your leave, Mr. President, I'd like to do  
14 the same as with the prior statement, which is provide it to the  
15 witness so that -- and with the assistance of the TPO, to see if  
16 she can identify and knows this person. The document is, E3/5264.  
17 E3/5264.

18 [10.59.41]

19 MR. PRESIDENT:

20 You can do so.

21 BY MR. LYSAK:

22 Madam Witness, if you could either look at the name or it will be  
23 read to you, please make sure to not state the name of this  
24 person out loud. Do you know this person who indicates that he  
25 was your and your husband's nephew and someone who worked as a

1 driver for your husband?

2 MS. SOU SOEURN:

3 A. I do not recall <the name that well.> I <only> knew that <the>  
4 individual <had worked for my husband as a driver; moreover, he  
5 was made his driver because he was a relative. That's all I know  
6 about the man>.

7 [11.01.13]

8 Q. Let me read to you one excerpt from this interview, E3/5264,  
9 the ERN reference is Khmer 00271382 - 383; English, 00283343; and  
10 French, 00333976 - 977. This witness indicates that he drove your  
11 husband to the 1st January Dam worksite, in his words, "regularly  
12 almost every day". And this is the description that he provided  
13 of what he observed at the worksite.

14 "At that time, there were tens of thousands of people working  
15 there. They were working hard in harsh conditions. Especially the  
16 women, when they were having a menstrual period, they didn't have  
17 any water to clean up themselves. So their buttocks were followed  
18 and surrounded by flies. At the worksite, there were too many  
19 flies which looked like bees."

20 Madam Witness, does this refresh your memories about this  
21 worksite? Did you observe difficult conditions faced by the  
22 female workers at the site? And did you ever talk to your husband  
23 about those conditions?

24 [11.03.15]

25 A. There were many workers. And of course, I couldn't go

1 everywhere to see the workers. In some locations, <good hygiene  
2 was enforced>; and of course, there was plenty of water. <It was  
3 not correct to say that there was no water as there were big  
4 streams full of water. Of course, if sanitation was poor, there  
5 could have been flies. It was not an issue in most places when  
6 good hygiene was enforced. Again, it was not a single spot. As> I  
7 said <there were tens of thousands of people.> <Therefore,> I  
8 <was not able to> visit <all> locations. <I could only see  
9 certain locations. I could not know everything at> the dam  
10 construction site.

11 MR. PRESIDENT:

12 And Mr. Deputy Co-Prosecutor, please hold. Judge Lavergne, you  
13 have the floor.

14 JUDGE LAVERGNE:

15 I would like the prosecutor to clarify something. It appears that  
16 you are referring to the testimony of someone and you say that  
17 person will perhaps be heard as a witness. <Yet, it is my  
18 understanding - and <this> perhaps needs to be ascertained> -- <>  
19 that this person may be <deceased; <which is> the reason <why>>  
20 the name of the person may <not> be on the list of <witnesses>  
21 who are scheduled to appear before this Chamber. <Could you  
22 perhaps verify whether> that is the case<,> <since> that could  
23 <slightly> change the situation<?> Let me specify that <I  
24 believe> this information is in document E303/3/2. Or rather,  
25 E307/3/2.

1 MR. LYSAK:

2 Judge Lavergne, I'm not sure whether there is a translation  
3 issue, are you saying that there is information that this person  
4 may be deceased?

5 JUDGE LAVERGNE:

6 That is what I have noted. <I noticed that> there is information  
7 to the effect that, that person is deceased for which reason that  
8 person wouldn't be proposed to appear before this Chamber as a  
9 witness. So this <also perhaps> raises questions as to the  
10 conditions under which <that person's> <statements> can be used.

11 [11.06.23]

12 MR. LYSAK:

13 I haven't seen. We did a research to see if there is any  
14 information like that on the case file, we didn't see that, for  
15 that reason I have been using his pseudonym out of caution. Until  
16 it's confirmed whether this person is deceased, may I proceed  
17 continuing not using by his name?

18 Q. Madam Witness, a second part of this person's interview,  
19 E3/5264, that I would like to ask you about and this is at Khmer,  
20 00271381; English, 00283342; French, 00333975-976. In describing  
21 the period in which he was driving your husband to the 1st  
22 January Dam worksite almost every day, he says that your husband  
23 was staying at a personal work place called Office 71, which was  
24 located in your district, which he described as follows, Office  
25 71 was in Ta Prok sub-district, Chamkar Leu district, Kampong

1 Cham province. There were two or three persons only working there  
2 to prepare meals for Ke Pauk and his guests. Sometimes there were  
3 foreigners such as Japanese, Europeans and Africans, visiting  
4 that place." End of quote.

5 He also testified that it was only a short drive, about six to  
6 seven kilometres, from that office, office 71, to the 1st January  
7 Dam. Madam Witness, do you remember this work place of your  
8 husband that was located in Ta Prok commune, Chamkar Leu?

9 [11.08.57]

10 MS. SOU SOEURN:

11 A. <I never went to a> place <so-called> 71<. I just knew that it  
12 was> a working office<. Although> I was <his> wife<,> I was not  
13 entitled to go there.

14 Q. While we were talking about the offices in Chamkar Leu  
15 district, can you tell us where the district office was located,  
16 where you worked?

17 A. The Chamkar Leu district office was <located> at Thnal Baek in  
18 an area called Tuol <Lov> (phonetic) <where there was> a pagoda.

19 Q. And where was the sector office located, was it close to the  
20 district office?

21 A. The sector office <was> located near the national road<,  
22 while> the district office was <located along> the way to -- <>  
23 Chamkar Leu <or to> Stueng Trang<. In> my estimation<, they were  
24 located about> between <one and two kilometres away from each  
25 other>.



1 [11.11.03]

2 Q. I want to read on the same subject, a statement from the  
3 person whom you identified earlier who was an in-law of yours,  
4 Ban also used the alias Phos, and in his interview, E319/19.3.73  
5 again E319/19.3.73, ERN Khmer, 00800955; English, 00841966;  
6 French, 00841971 - 72. This is what he said about the district  
7 office.

8 "Soeurn's office was approximately 500 metres northeast of Oeun's  
9 office. She lived with her five-year-old daughter named Neat,  
10 security guards and about 10 servants. Soeurn was in charge of  
11 the districts political affairs, and I, as her deputy, was in  
12 charge of the military and another member in charge of the  
13 economy. Those in charge of the district's security were Hap and  
14 Chuon. The district office was situated in Bos Khnaor. Soeurn  
15 always held a meeting at her house with commune chiefs to give  
16 them orders and instructions for implementation." Question: "Did  
17 Ke Pauk live there with Soeurn?"

18 Answer: "No, he came here only occasionally, he only spent the  
19 night when he came." End of quote.

20 Madam Witness, this testimony from your in-law, is this is an  
21 accurate description of the sector office and the organisation  
22 set up in Chamkar Leu district?

23 [11.13.45]

24 A. The description from the statement you read out is partially  
25 incorrect. For instances, I did not have any meeting with the

1 chief of the security. <Although> I <knew> where the security  
2 office was <located,> I did not <have> any meeting <or talk> with  
3 the <security> chief. There are also other parts which <were  
4 overstated; anyways, some parts are correct. Again, most parts  
5 were overstated; for> instance<, it was stated that I had been>  
6 in charge of political affairs <and a> district <chief, while in  
7 fact, they were just shadow positions>. As I said, after I  
8 delivered my baby I did not attend the <security> office  
9 regularly or went to worksite that often anymore. <This is what I  
10 want to tell you, Your Honour.>

11 Q. There may have been a translation issue, the statement I read  
12 did not state that you met with the security chief. It only  
13 indicated that you participated in meetings with the commune  
14 chiefs. Is it correct, that you did participate in meeting with  
15 the commune chiefs in Chamkar Leu district?

16 A. Yes, <I did have meetings> with the commune chiefs <who came  
17 along with reports> on <the progress within their respective  
18 cooperatives, and important issues regarding> the building of <>  
19 dams, or canals or rice production<. At the meetings> with those  
20 chiefs of<> communes <or sangkat, the district chief would raise  
21 the issues regarding rice> production <> and on agriculture and  
22 on the work plan of three <harvests> per <year> and <certain>  
23 tonnes <of> rice yield per hectare.

24 [11.16.06]

25 Q. I want to ask you now some questions about another event you

1 mentioned in your OCIJ interview, this is at E3/5294, Khmer,  
2 00348833 - 34; English, 00360116; French, 00367809 - 810. You  
3 were asked about a visit of a female delegation from Laos and  
4 this is what you said.

5 "A delegation of Laotian women -- Laotian ladies came to Chamkar  
6 Leu district. At that time Mrs. Ieng Thirith and I, took the  
7 delegation on a tour." End of quote. My first question, did the  
8 tour on which you and Ieng Thirith took the female delegation  
9 from Laos, did that tour include a visit to the 1st January Dam?  
10 [11.17.15]

11 A. They came to visit Chamkar Leu and their tour was limited to  
12 the visit to the dams and the canals to see how people <in the  
13 cooperatives> worked <> and how <many tonnes> of rice produce  
14 that we achieved per <year> and <how canals and dams were built.  
15 However, their> visit was <limited to only> Chamkar Leu. As for  
16 the visit to the 1st January Dam worksite, it was organised by  
17 the other individuals and I did not know how far they went <on  
18 their> tour <, for I did not accompany them>.

19 Q. Just so I am clear, do I understand that you were only with  
20 the delegation and Ieng Thirith when they were visiting places  
21 within Chamkar Leu and you did not go with them to the 1st  
22 January Dam, do I understand you correctly?

23 A. Yes, <it> is correct <that their visit> was limited to Chamkar  
24 Leu <district; however, she and> I did not accompany them to the  
25 <1st January> dam worksite.

1 MR. LYSAK:

2 Mr. President, I would like to provide to the witness a -- two  
3 photographs E3/3282 and E3/3283, these are photos that were  
4 identified as photographs of the visit of Laotian delegation.  
5 With your leave I would like to show them to the witness to see  
6 if she can identify either the location or any of the people in  
7 the photograph.

8 MR. PRESIDENT:

9 Yes, you may do so.

10 [11.19.57]

11 BY MR. LYSAK:

12 Q. Madam Witness, I have given you -- I have presented to you two  
13 photographs, E3/3282, and E3/3283. Can you look at those  
14 photographs and tell me whether you recognise the location of the  
15 photographs and whether you recognise any of the people in the  
16 photos?

17 MS. SOU SOEURN:

18 A. The location in the photo is <so-called> Tuol <Lov> (phonetic)  
19 <through which a canal from> Svay Teab <village to> Boeng <L'vea>  
20 (phonetic) <in> Lvea Leu (phonetic) <village ran>. I do not  
21 recognise the people in the photo and the photo is not that clear  
22 to me. I even find it difficult to identify myself.

23 [11.21.12]

24 Q. The location you just described, can tell us what district  
25 that was in?

1 A. It was in Chamkar Leu district and the <>site <where the dam  
2 was being built> was <called> Tuol <Lov> (phonetic) <located>  
3 along the way to Spueu<; and the> canal <ran> straight from Tuol  
4 <Lov> (phonetic) to Spueu, and <the canal> on the left<> was  
5 running to Lvea Leu village, that's all I know.

6 Q. Can you take a close look at the photo; particularly the  
7 second photo and tell us whether you see yourself anywhere in  
8 this photograph.

9 A. No, it is not clear to me and I do not recognise anyone in  
10 this photo. I refer to the second photo and the same thing I can  
11 say for the first photo in terms of people in that photo.

12 Q. In your OCIJ interview, E3/5294, at Khmer, 00348834; English,  
13 00360117; French, 00367810; you were asked whether you remembered  
14 other senior leaders coming to visit in addition to Ieng Thirith  
15 and this is what you stated. "I remember Nuon Chea came to visit  
16 the 1st January Dam." End of quote. Can you tell us what you  
17 remember about Nuon Chea's visit to the 1st January Dam?

18 A. I cannot remember the details.

19 [11.24.00]

20 Q. Do you remember whether Nuon Chea came by himself or whether  
21 he came as part of a group of people?

22 A. I didn't know at that time that he visited the location or how  
23 many people actually went along with him.

24 Q. Were you present when Nuon Chea visited the 1st January Dam or  
25 did you just hear about the visit from someone?

1 A. I didn't go to the actual location where he visited as I was  
2 busy with my young baby and that is from my recollection of the  
3 event.

4 [11.25.14]

5 Q. And who was it told you, or how did you know that Nuon Chea  
6 had gone to the 1st January Dam worksite?

7 A. From what I know, <> commune <chiefs> took some people to the  
8 worksite and later on when <they> returned I was told that Nuon  
9 Chea <had> visited the <1st January Dam> worksite on that day.

10 Q. Do you know whether, when Nuon Chea came to Kampong Cham on  
11 the 1st January Dam, do you know whether he met with your  
12 husband?

13 A. I <did> not know <with this regard> as I was <living in>  
14 Chamkar Leu<. Thus, I was not aware of his visit to> Kampong Cham  
15 and <to the 1st January Dam. That> is the truth.

16 Q. What about Pol Pot, Madam Witness, did Pol Pot come to visit  
17 the 1st January Dam?

18 A. I didn't know at all whether Pol Pot <had> made <any> visit to  
19 the worksite. Usually I heard of those visits through the commune  
20 chiefs <due to the fact that> they <were the ones who would  
21 accompany people to see the worksite. I would not have learnt of  
22 any visit if those commune chiefs had not told me as such.>

23 Q. In your OCIJ interview, Madam Witness, you state that you were  
24 invited whenever a celebration event was held at the 1st January  
25 Dam and you also make reference to a Chinese delegation that was

1 led by Chen Yonggui, who visited the dam during one of those  
2 inauguration ceremonies. Were you present at the inauguration  
3 ceremony that was attended by Chen Yonggui and the Chinese  
4 delegation?

5 A. Yes, I attended that big ceremony. I was together with some  
6 female cadres. We also went to greet the Chinese delegation.

7 [11.28.27]

8 Q. I would like to read to you a report that was broadcast on the  
9 Democratic Kampuchea radio on 7th December 1977. This report is  
10 in document E3/1339, E3/1339, at English, 00168335 - 36; and it  
11 is only available in English at this time. The report, Madam  
12 Witness, is titled "Chen Yonggui visits central region 6  
13 December", and it is dated the next day in 1977. I quote: "On the  
14 morning of 6th December, comrade Chen Yonggui, member of the  
15 political bureau of the Chinese political party central committee  
16 and other Chinese guests visited cotton and rice fields in Veal  
17 Spoe in the company of comrades Pol Pot, Vorn Vet, Thiounn  
18 Thioeunn, minister of public health, Pauk, secretary of the CPK  
19 central committee and An, deputy secretary." Continuing below,  
20 "In the afternoon our fraternal Chinese guests visited rice  
21 fields in the Baray area and Muoy Makara dam. Thousands of cadres  
22 and people filled with profound revolutionary brotherhood were  
23 also on hand to warmly welcome the visitors." End of quote.  
24 Does this refresh your recollection, Madam Witness, that at the  
25 1st January Dam inauguration event attended by Chen Yonggui,

1 which you were at, that Pol Pot, Vorn Vet, your husband and his  
2 deputy Ta An, accompanied Chen Yonggui.

3 [11.31.04]

4 A. I cannot remember that. I attended the opening inauguration  
5 ceremony but I did not attend the closing ceremony of the  
6 worksite <as I was sick on the day. Thus,> I did not know how  
7 many senior people <were> attending the <ceremony>. And <as> I  
8 said earlier usually I was informed by <my children or> the  
9 commune chiefs <who attended> such <an> event <on my behalf. I  
10 myself did not attend the event as I was severely sick at that  
11 time.>

12 Q. I just want to make sure that I understand you correctly. Your  
13 testimony then is that the inauguration ceremony that you  
14 attended was the opening inauguration and not the closing  
15 inauguration that would have occurred at the end of 1977, do I  
16 understand you correctly?

17 A. Yes, I like to clarify that I attended the opening  
18 inauguration ceremony but from my recollection I did not attend  
19 the closing ceremony when the Chinese delegation attended that  
20 ceremony. At that time I was sick<, and could make it to the  
21 event>.

22 MR. LYSAK:

23 Mr. President, I'm about to change to a different subject, if  
24 this is a convenient breaking time.

25 MR. PRESIDENT:



1 Thank you. It is now time to have a break. We'll take a break now  
2 and resume at 1.30.

3 Court officer please arrange the waiting room for the witness and  
4 invite her, as well as the TPO staff, back into the courtroom at  
5 1.30 this afternoon.

6 Security personnel you are instructed to take Khieu Samphan to  
7 the waiting room downstairs and have him return to attend the  
8 proceedings this afternoon before 1.30.

9 The Court is now in recess.

10 (Court recesses from 1133H to 1331H)

11 MR. PRESIDENT:

12 Please be seated.

13 The Court is back in session and the floor is given to the Deputy  
14 Co-Prosecutor to put questions to this witness.

15 Please wait, Co-Prosecutor; you may now proceed, Mr. Koppe.

16 MR. KOPPE:

17 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Your Honours. We have a  
18 request; we would like to make some oral submissions either at  
19 the end of this afternoon or tomorrow morning before we continue  
20 with this witness or at the end of her testimony in relation to  
21 the very recent disclosure of new statements that was notified to  
22 us two or three hours ago, and also in relation to the upcoming  
23 hearings at Supreme Court Chamber. I leave it to your wisdom as  
24 to what would be the appropriate moment, but I just would like to  
25 inform you that we have that request.

1 JUDGE FENZ:

2 Can I just ask you a question for clarification; this has nothing  
3 to do with this witness? No.

4 (Judges deliberate)

5 [13.33.25]

6 MR. PRESIDENT:

7 The Chamber grants your request and you can make oral submission  
8 at the end of today's -- before the end of the day.

9 You may now proceed, <International> Deputy Co-Prosecutor.

10 BY MR. LYSAK:

11 Thank you, Mr. President. Let me just update you on where we are.

12 I'll finish -- we will finish our questioning at 2 o'clock today.

13 The civil parties -- I hope to finish in 40 minutes -- if it's

14 possible, they tell me that they may need an additional 15

15 minutes. I hope that that won't be a problem since we have today

16 and tomorrow to finish the witness. I'd rather that we just

17 proceed until -- see if we finish by the break rather than

18 deliberate on this now but I wanted to alert you on that.

19 [13.34.20]

20 Q. Madam Witness, I have one follow up regarding what you told us

21 this morning about the 1st January Dam, you told us that there

22 were some occasions where you would spend the night and sleep at

23 the 1st January Dam worksite. My question to you is: On those

24 occasions, did your husband sleep at the same place as you and if

25 not where was it that your husband would stay on those nights?

1 MS. SOU SOEURN:

2 A. At that time my husband did not come to stay with me<. He was  
3 staying in a separate house, and I was staying in a separate  
4 house in a different cooperative>.

5 Q. The last subject that I want to cover with you today concerns  
6 the purge of the Central or North Zone. We talked earlier today  
7 about one of the Party cadres who served with your husband on the  
8 North Zone committee, Tol, the secretary of Sector 42, who was  
9 the one who appointed you to Chamkar Leu -- to the Chamkar Leu  
10 district Committee. Can you please tell the Court what happened  
11 to Tol during the Khmer Rouge regime?

12 A. <Frankly speaking,> I did not know <as to> what happened to  
13 him at that time.

14 [13.36.25]

15 Q. Did Tol -- was Tol arrested or did he disappear at some point  
16 in 1977?

17 A. <Yes, he disappeared after he got arrested>. I did not  
18 <really> know <this. I have forgotten as to what year> he was  
19 arrested <> and what happened to him.

20 Q. For the record, Your Honours, document E3/2956 is a prisoner  
21 list from S-21, titled: "List of Persons from the North Zone";  
22 Number 42 on that list is Chan Mol alias Tol, sector 42 chairman,  
23 who entered S-21 on 19th February 1977.

24 Madam Witness, were there other cadres from the old North Zone  
25 who also disappeared in 1977?

1 A. It seems that I do not recall it. I do not recall <as to  
2 which> cadres <came> from <which> Zones. <I completely forget  
3 it.>

4 [13.38.23]

5 Q. Let me see if I can refresh your recollection, Madam Witness.  
6 I realise that you are unable to read so I will just describe to  
7 you that there are documents from S-21 that record the arrest and  
8 execution of hundreds of cadres from your zone in 1977 -- E3/2956  
9 -- and the list I just mentioned that includes Tol, identifies a  
10 total of 94 North Zone cadres, mostly people from the zone,  
11 district and sector level who were arrested and sent to S-21  
12 between mid-February and end of March 1977, and document E3/3861  
13 is an S-21 execution list, titled: "List of Prisoners Smashed on  
14 8th July 1977, North Zone." It identifies 173 prisoners from your  
15 zone who were killed at S-21 on a single day, the 8th of July  
16 1977.

17 Madam Witness, did you not notice in 1977 that virtually every  
18 North Zone cadre at the zone and sector and district level  
19 disappeared and was replaced by people from the Southwest Zone?

20 MR. PRESIDENT:

21 Please hold on Witness. You may now proceed, Mr. Koppe.

22 [13.40.18]

23 MR. KOPPE:

24 Thank you, Mr. President. I object to the word "disappeared";  
25 that word is being used all the time, sometimes appropriately,

50

1 sometimes inappropriately. The Prosecution has just read out a  
2 list of arrests and alleged list of executions, hence these  
3 people didn't disappear, so I would like the Prosecution to  
4 rephrase the question and not use the word "disappear".

5 BY MR. LYSAK:

6 I'm happy to rephrase, Mr. President.

7 Madam Witness, were you not aware in 1977 that virtually every  
8 single cadre at the zone, sector and district level was taken  
9 away, killed, and replaced by people from the Southwest Zone?

10 MS. SOU SOEURN:

11 A. I may not have known <of this>; <however, with this regard>, I  
12 noticed <that> people <had disappeared>, but I did not know <as  
13 to> where they <had been taken>. I knew only <some of them>, and  
14 for the rest, I <had> no idea. <I knew Mr. Tol clearly.>

15 [13.41.42]

16 Q. Let me read to you what a couple of people close to you had to  
17 say about this. In OCIJ interview E3/375, English, ERN 00360752;  
18 Khmer, 00348791; French, 00369914; the in-law that we talked  
19 about of yours -- Ban or Phos -- who served with you on the  
20 Chamkar Leu district Committee, testified as follows - quote:  
21 "After purges were conducted at the Central Zone, only four main  
22 people survived: Ke Pauk, Ieng Chham, Oeun and me; all others  
23 were smashed. Sou Soeurn, my older sibling in-law and Ke Pauk's  
24 wife, was the committee of Chamkar Leu district." End of quote.  
25 And this is what your husband had to say in his interview --

1 E3/2782 and 2783 -- ERN English, 00089713 through 714; Khmer,  
2 00095552; French, 00596211; I quote your husband: "In June 1977,  
3 the first stage of capturing was over. By that time only me  
4 remained and the Central Zone had no cadres left. The upper  
5 brothers decided to transfer cadres from the Southwest Zone to  
6 fill the unoccupied positions. They sent about 200 cadres from  
7 that zone." End of quote.

8 Madam Witness, do you remember the arrival of cadres of Southwest  
9 Zone who came to take over and replace the old North Zone cadres?

10 A. I <could> not recall it.

11 [13.44.30]

12 Q. Do you know how your husband felt about the old North Zone  
13 cadres being purged and replaced by cadres from the Southwest?

14 A. I <did> not really understand <>that <as well>; as I said, he  
15 had <his own> business to <care> and I <also> had <to care mine.  
16 I had no idea of what decisions he had to make in relation to his  
17 business.>

18 Q. Well, let's talk about someone that was in your district,  
19 Madam Witness, Number 6803 on the OCP revised S-21 prisoner list.  
20 This is document E3/342 at 00329891, Number 6803 on that list is  
21 a person named Nuon Roeun alias Tieng, who was identified as the  
22 Chamkar Leu district secretary and Sector 42 deputy secretary who  
23 entered S-21 on the 1st October 1977. Do you remember a cadre,  
24 Tieng, who served as Chamkar Leu district secretary?

25 A. I heard of the name <of> Tieng, but I <> never met him

1 <>personally.

2 Q. Was this person not the secretary of Chamkar Leu district?

3 A. <By the time> I was a member <on> that district committee, I  
4 never noticed that <individual; or I could have forgotten all  
5 about the person>. <However,> I <can only remember> Ban <and  
6 myself; however, I have forgotten the names of the> three other  
7 members of the committee>.

8 [13.47.31]

9 Q. Let me try few other names from Chamkar Leu district, Madam  
10 Witness. The S-21 list I mentioned earlier -- E3/2956, Number 70,  
11 71, and 72 on E3/2956 -- are all cadres from Chamkar Leu district  
12 who were sent to S-21 in March 1977. The three names I will read  
13 for you: Mak Heang, Eng Ho alias Sin, and Sok Phal alias Saem.  
14 Did you know any of those people, Madam Witness?

15 A. I only knew the individual by the name <of> Saem; <but I do  
16 not know> the rest.

17 Q. What happened to Saem in--

18 MR. PRESIDENT:

19 Please wait, Co-Prosecutor; you may now proceed, Mr. Koppe.

20 MR. KOPPE:

21 A remark in regard to previous question about Tieng; I cannot  
22 reproduce it right now but we have information that he might have  
23 been a cadre in Tang Kok (phonetic) district rather than Chamkar  
24 Leu district.

25 [13.49.15]

1 BY MR. LYSAK:

2 Mr. President, I'm not going to respond to that, there are other  
3 sources we can have this discussion and debate it another time.

4 Q. Saem, you mentioned that you knew Saem; can you tell us what  
5 happened to Saem in March 1977?

6 MS. SOU SOEURN:

7 A. I did not know the reason <of his departure; however, after he  
8 had left me, we did not hear a single piece of news about him. I  
9 did not know as to where he had gone>.

10 Q. Madam Witness, do you know whether it was your husband, zone  
11 secretary, who decided to arrest the North Zone cadres or whether  
12 it was the Party leaders in Phnom Penh who made that decision?  
13 Are you able to tell us that, who is responsible for making  
14 decisions about the arrests of cadres?

15 A. Allow me to inform the Court that I <did> not have the full  
16 grasp of the <situation>. My husband had different <tasks> to  
17 perform and I had my own <tasks> to do. I <had> no idea <of> his  
18 business and <tasks>. What he was doing at that time <> was <>his  
19 <own> responsibility<>, <although> I was his wife, I did not know  
20 <or get> involved in <any of the arrests> or <purges. I was not  
21 aware of those things.>

22 [13.51.35]

23 Q. Let me read to you what your husband had to say on this  
24 subject. Again this is from E3/2782 and 2783; ERN references  
25 Khmer, 00095552; English, 00089713; and French, 00596211; this is



1 what your husband said in his interview - quote:

2 "When I was conducting an assembly in Region 41, a messenger from  
3 Phnom Penh arrived telling me to get prepared for inspection  
4 mission in various locations. However, as I arrived in Phnom  
5 Penh, I met Pol Pot and Brother Nuon Chea, they showed me  
6 documents of all regions and ministries. Furthermore, the answer  
7 was too clear to correct." Continuing below: "I said, it is  
8 difficult to say because all comrades are life and death friends.  
9 However, if Angkar has decided already, I do not have any  
10 complaints. Some soldiers served me since 1968, but they were  
11 accused of being CIAs. I did not know what to do except telling  
12 them, I just put them forward for the higher level upper  
13 brothers." End of quote.

14 [13.53.24]

15 Madam Witness, I realise this is a difficult subject to discuss,  
16 however you were a member of the district committee, your husband  
17 was the zone secretary, your brother was the sector chairman. Did  
18 your husband ever talk to you about his meeting with Pol Pot and  
19 Nuon Chea and the instructions he received about the arrest and  
20 purge of cadres in the North Zone?

21 A. I repeatedly told the Court that my husband <minded> his <own>  
22 business and I minded <mine; thus,> I did not know <as to how he  
23 had communicated to the Angkar or the upper echelon>.

24 MR. LYSAK:

25 Thank you, Madam Witness. My national colleague just has a few

1 questions for you to follow up.

2 [13.55.09]

3 QUESTIONING BY MR. SENG LEANG:

4 Good afternoon, Mr. President, Parties, everyone in and around  
5 the courtroom. My name is Seng Leang, I am <a National> Deputy  
6 Co-Prosecutor<>.

7 Q. Due to the time <constraint>, I have <only> several questions  
8 to put to you, Madam Witness. This morning you stated that you  
9 selected and chose people from cooperatives in order to send them  
10 to work at the 1st January Dam site. You stated this at around  
11 <10.36 a.m>. I would like to seek your clarification on this  
12 matter. Could you elaborate on the selection of people to work at  
13 the 1st January Dam site<? How> did you select people?

14 MS. SOU SOEURN:

15 A. <Regarding the selection of> people from cooperatives to work  
16 at the 1st January Dam site<, > I was not -- I did not personally  
17 <select those> people<. The> "sangkat" chiefs were the ones who  
18 selected the people <based on their capability and health> from  
19 their <respective> "sangkat". <Those "sangkat" chiefs had the  
20 authority to select workers. Again, I had no idea of the number  
21 of people selected.>

22 [13.57.02]

23 Q. Could you clarify for the Court whether <the term you were  
24 referring to as> "sangkat" was the same as <a> commune?

25 A. <During> the <regime, the current term "commune" was then

1 being referred to as "sangkat". That was the term used during my  
2 time. It was the sangkat who was in charge of people in each  
3 cooperative.>

4 Q. Could you tell the Court how many "sangkats" were there in  
5 Chamkar Leu district?

6 A. I do not remember how many "sangkats" <and people> there  
7 <were> in Chamkar Leu district <as> it has been a long time  
8 <now>. I was about 40 or 50 years old at that time<and now I am  
9 79 years old; thus,> I could not recall it.

10 Q. Thank you<, Madam Witness. Regarding the selection of> people,  
11 <did you know as to> how many people were selected from each  
12 "sangkat"?

13 A. People were selected first <by the "sangkat"> from <various  
14 cooperatives. And as to how many people were to be selected from  
15 each cooperative, it varied;> and the list was held by the  
16 district <chief>. For example, <20 or 30 people were selected  
17 from> one "sangkat"<; and the list of those people had to be  
18 submitted to the district office. As> I stated I was illiterate<;  
19 thus,> I was not <in charge of the lists>.

20 [13.59.34]

21 Q. You stated also this morning that you were in charge of  
22 leading<> and bringing <people> to work <at> the 1st January Dam  
23 site. Could you clarify for the Court <whether> you <were  
24 constantly with the workers> at the 1st January Dam site<>?

25 A. I was not there constantly with the people but I went there

1 once in a while to visit my workers. I was not there constantly  
2 or always with the workers. Sometimes I would go to visit my  
3 workers <once a month or once every other month and for only> one  
4 or two days <before> I would return <> to my place.

5 Q. <Thank you, Madam. Since> you didn't go to the worksite  
6 frequently, did you assign any of your immediate subordinate to  
7 regularly stay with the workers at the 1st January Dam worksite?

8 A. <As for> the forces from the <cooperatives, a chief from each  
9 commune or Sangkat was in charge of his or her workers from the  
10 cooperative at the worksite. The management of workers on site  
11 was done accordingly by those respective Sangkat chiefs.

12 Personally>, I didn't go there to <supervise their work directly>  
13 at the worksite<; I only paid a visit to the worksite once in a  
14 while.>

15 [14.01.33]

16 Q. <Since> you did not go there regularly, <to whom did those>  
17 commune <chiefs> report<? Or> did they <still have to> report  
18 <to> you<>?

19 A. <They had to report> to the district chief <due to the fact  
20 that it was the district chief who held the list and knew the  
21 number of workers sent to work on the worksite>.

22 Q. Did you ever receive any report <regarding the work  
23 performance and> the working condition at the 1st January Dam  
24 worksite from any of your subordinates?

25 A. They had their own respective chiefs <in place. And in case of

1 food shortage or hard tasks, the issues were dealt with  
2 accordingly by those respective> commune chiefs <on site.  
3 Usually, I received verbal reports on what those workers were in  
4 need of; and I told those relevant> commune <chiefs to get the  
5 supply from their respective cooperatives to be delivered workers  
6 at the worksite>. However, <it was likely that they were not  
7 short of anything as> there was sufficient <supply from the>  
8 Angkar<>.

9 Q. <When> you received a report on <a case of> difficulty -- or  
10 the difficult situation at the worksite, what did you do <in  
11 order to communicate that> to the upper level?

12 A. Once I received such a report, I discussed the matter with the  
13 district committee and the district <secretary> then reported to  
14 the sector. <That was how I understood.>

15 [14.04.15]

16 Q. And when you received a work plan from the upper level, <>how  
17 <did> you <communicate> such <a work plan to those> cooperative  
18 workforces at the 1st January Dam worksite?

19 A. <Having received a> work plan from the upper level, the  
20 district committee held a meeting <before assigning> workforces  
21 to the 1st January Dam worksite. And frankly speaking, the  
22 district itself or myself did not remain directly to supervise or  
23 to lead <> workers <to work> at the 1st January Dam worksite  
24 <because at the district, I> also had to lead people to work at  
25 various other work -- other dams and canals <>worksites<; on the

1 other hand, people had already been assigned to supervise work  
2 and work at the 1st January Dam worksite. I had my own  
3 responsibility in Chamkar Leu district where I had to lead people  
4 to build dams and canals. I was in charge of the workforce here,  
5 not there. Thus, I had no idea of how a work plan was  
6 communicated among workers> at the 1st January Dam worksite. <I  
7 went there as a guest and just for a visit. I am telling the  
8 court the truth.>

9 [14.05.48]

10 Q. In the interest of time, I <would like to put> my last  
11 question to you. <Since you> were <> responsible for sending  
12 workers to the 1st January Dam worksite, what kind of tools and  
13 equipment <did> you provide to <workers at the 1st January Dam  
14 worksite>?

15 A. I didn't send any tools or equipment as there were sufficient  
16 tools and equipment, including hoes, axes and earth carrying  
17 baskets at the worksite. <Tools and equipment were made available  
18 for distribution when the workforces arrived>.

19 Q. So from what you said, those workers only utilised hoes and  
20 <baskets and with no other tools> for the construction of the  
21 dam, am I correct in saying so and they didn't have any access to  
22 other equipment or tools?

23 A. <At my time,> workers <at> the 1st January Dam worksite only  
24 <used their pure labour and baskets, and hoes to work> and knives  
25 <for clearing bushes. Whenever> they had sufficient food, <> they

60

1 <would have the energy> to carry the dirt.

2 MR. SENG LEANG:

3 Thank you, Mr. President, I don't have any more questions, I  
4 would like to hand the floor to the Lead Co-Lawyer for civil  
5 parties.

6 MR. PRESIDENT:

7 Thank you. The Chamber now hands the floor to the Lead Co-Lawyers  
8 for civil parties to put questions to this witness. You may  
9 proceed, Counsel.

10 [14.07.54]

11 MS. GUIRAUD:

12 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon everyone. Before giving  
13 the floor to my colleague Chet Vanly, may I inform you, Mr.  
14 President, that we would like to be given 20 additional minutes  
15 in order for us to be able to put all the questions we would like  
16 to put to the witness. It's already 2.10 now and that is the  
17 motion we're now making and I now give the floor to my colleague.

18 MR. PRESIDENT:

19 Yes, the Chamber allows that and the assigned counsel, you have  
20 the floor.

21 [14.08.42]

22 QUESTIONING BY MS. CHET VANLY:

23 Good afternoon, Mr. President, Your Honours, and everyone in the  
24 courtroom and good afternoon Madam Sou Soeurn. My name is Chet  
25 Vanly, I'm <a> lawyer for civil parties.

1 Q. This morning you testified and clarified some points before  
2 this Court. However, I have some additional points that I seek  
3 your clarification. You are the wife of Ke Pauk who was a zone  
4 secretary, and besides his role as a zone secretary, did your  
5 husband hold any other positions?

6 MS. SOU SOEURN:

7 A. <Besides his> duties at the zone, his other main task was to  
8 lead workers to work at the 1st January Dam worksite and that's  
9 about all.

10 [14.10.12]

11 Q. This morning you testified that sometimes you came to Phnom  
12 Penh to visit your husband; did your husband have any specific  
13 role or function in Phnom Penh?

14 A. I did not say that I came to visit my husband in Phnom Penh<;>  
15 that is from my recollection<.> <>There was no requirement for my  
16 husband to stay <>in Phnom Penh as his work involved mainly at  
17 the Central Zone at the time. <If I had wanted to see him, I  
18 would have gone to meet him in Kampong Cham. That's about all.>

19 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> This morning you said that you came to  
20 Phnom Penh and you met Pol Pot. Did you meet him in a personal  
21 capacity or was it a formal meeting where you had to meet him to  
22 receive instructions?

23 A. I did not come to Phnom Penh for a personal reason, <and> only  
24 when I was called by Angkar to come <did I come>. It was all  
25 related to my work and it <was> not a personal affair.



1 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> You said that it was all related to work,  
2 what kind of work <was it>?

3 A. For instance, I was called by Angkar to attend the meeting to  
4 receive the work plan for various districts and communes and I  
5 did not go there alone<. There> were thousands of <people with>  
6 similar capacity <went> to attend the meeting to receive  
7 instructions regarding work plan and work distribution for each  
8 district, commune or cooperative respectively, and what we had to  
9 do to resolve the issues with the people. That was the kind of  
10 work I referred to.

11 [14.12.49]

12 Q. As a wife of Ke Pauk, <did> you <know as to> who were his  
13 superiors?

14 A. I only knew that Pol Pot, Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan; besides  
15 them, I <did> not know who else.

16 Q. Did you know how he communicated with the upper level, for  
17 example, via his personal messenger or via telegram?

18 A. At that time, telegram was not used<;> to my knowledge and the  
19 communication went through his messenger. The messenger would go  
20 between Kampong Cham and Phnom Penh to relay messages<. And> of  
21 course at that time<> there was no telephone or mobile phone  
22 <like these days. They could use> telegram <>and telephone<>only  
23 when there was such explicit instruction from the upper Angkar,  
24 otherwise <a> messenger <would go personally by either a car or a  
25 motorbike to fetch the message>.

1 Q. <Thank you, Madam>. Besides attending <> meetings, what other  
2 means of communication <did> your husband <use> in order to  
3 report to his upper echelon?

4 A. I did not know the details of his work or the process of any  
5 other communication.

6 [14.15.10]

7 Q. I'd like now to touch upon the 1st January Dam worksite. Does  
8 the name <of> Sao ring a bell to you?

9 A. No, <it> doesn't ring a bell.

10 Q. What about Chham and Sokha?

11 A. I know Chham as we used to stay <close to each other>; he was  
12 <actually my husband's> messenger, and I cannot recall the name  
13 of the other person.

14 Q. It's Sokha.

15 A. I cannot recall who Sokha <was>; I forgot about this name.

16 Q. Can you tell the Court who was responsible for the  
17 construction of the dam, was it Chham, was it Sokha, or was it  
18 another person?

19 A. For such detail, I did not have a full grasp. I only knew that  
20 the 1st January Dam was organised by Angkar.

21 [14.17.25]

22 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> Please tell us if you can, why the dam was  
23 so-called the 1st January Dam and what was the purpose of its  
24 construction?

25 A. To my understanding, the 1st January Dam was organised by

1 Angkar for the purpose of blocking the water for the irrigational  
2 purposes for the people living in the area, <and through> Baray  
3 <district>. That is all I understand about its purpose.

4 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> Can you also tell the Chamber whether you  
5 were present on the day of its <> inauguration ceremony?

6 A. I was there attending the inauguration ceremony.

7 Q. How was the ceremony organised? For instance, was a speech  
8 given and who were the dignitaries in that inauguration ceremony?

9 A. It has been a long time and I cannot recall the details, I  
10 cannot recall who made the speeches at the time.

11 [14.19.14]

12 Q. Could you please try to recall at least names of senior  
13 leaders who were present there on that day -- that is, attending  
14 the inauguration?

15 A. I only recall my husband and I cannot recall the rest since I  
16 have bad memory these days. Of course there were <many> senior  
17 leaders and there were also cadres at my level, but most of them  
18 have died.

19 Q. What was the process of the inauguration -- that is, from your  
20 personal observation?

21 A. I was there but I cannot give you any detailed description of  
22 the entire process.

23 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> This morning you testified that you went  
24 to the 1st January Dam worksite, and a while ago in response to  
25 the Co-Prosecutor question, you said that you also visited the

1 1st January Dam worksite. My question to you is the following:  
2 During your trip or your visit to the work site -- and allow me  
3 to say that <this morning you also mentioned that all the>  
4 workers there slept on a proper floor and the food was sufficient  
5 and you also made your comment on sanitation that there was no  
6 proper latrines and there were flies as people relieved  
7 themselves in the open. Can you tell the Chamber the total number  
8 of workers at the worksite?

9 [14.21.41]

10 A. As I stated this morning, at the 1st January Dam worksite,  
11 workers slept on a floor, it was not a kind of proper floor made  
12 from bamboo but the floor was made from small trees or branches  
13 of trees and <in> my estimation, there were between <20,000 and>  
14 30,000 workers working in total at the 1st January Dam worksite.  
15 And probably that is a very modest estimation, there could be up  
16 to 40,000 workers. And in terms of sanitation or people relieving  
17 themselves, you can make personal imagination, even in your  
18 family of three or four members, sometimes sanitation is an issue  
19 <let alone tens of thousands of> workers, so people resorted  
20 themselves to relieving themselves in the <bushes. However, at  
21 the 1st January Dam, there was plenty of water, so the sanitation  
22 issue would be based on those individuals themselves. That's what  
23 I can respond to your answer>.  
24 Q. Did you make any observation regarding number of workers who  
25 fell ill?

1 A. From my observation, there were some people who were ill due  
2 to the number -- the excessive number of workers at the worksite  
3 and due to the sanitary issues and large number of flies. The  
4 medicine at the time was merely enough as we only just came out  
5 of the struggle and we only liberated the country not for long;<  
6 thus, there was shortage of medicines. However, there were  
7 medical staff who took care of the sick>.

8 [14.24.05]

9 Q. <In cases where> workers who were seriously ill, were they  
10 treated on the spot or were they referred to <a> hospital?

11 A. For seriously ill workers, they were sent to <Kampong Cham>  
12 hospital for treatment<>. There was a state hospital in Kampong  
13 Cham.

14 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> This morning you also testified <before  
15 the Chamber> that in your capacity as a member of the Chamkar Leu  
16 district <committee>, you <had> sent people or workers to the 1st  
17 January Dam worksite. Were those workers composed of both male  
18 and female and can you also tell the Court the kind of people you  
19 sent, <what average age they were, and whether they were dynamic  
20 workforces or regular work forces>?

21 [14.25.23]

22 A. As for the forces <selected> to the worksite, I already said  
23 this morning it was the cooperative chief and the commune chiefs  
24 who recruited those workers. They were the regular force workers,  
25 meaning that they were at the range of age between 20 <and> 30

1 years old. However, sometimes there were also younger people <who  
2 were> around <18 years of> age<>. People older than that would  
3 remain at the <cooperatives>.

4 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> Regarding tools and equipment, and you  
5 said this morning that Angkar supplied the workers with those  
6 tools and equipment. What about food, did Angkar resolve the food  
7 issue or did you yourself at the district level made your own  
8 decision in terms of food distribution and what about clothing?  
9 <Were clothes distributed to workers by the Angkar? Or did  
10 workers have to bring along their own clothes?>

11 A. As for clothing, it was the state who distributed it and  
12 people had sufficient clothes to wear<. Although the clothing was  
13 available only in black, not any other colours, each worker had>  
14 at least had one set or two sets or sometimes three sets of  
15 clothes<. And> Angkar had a responsibility to assist with the  
16 food supply, but I cannot tell you the details of how it was  
17 organised. <I was not sure whether these things came through the  
18 zone.>

19 [14.27.18]

20 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> As for the workers who were sent to work  
21 at the worksite, was there a mechanism for rotation <of  
22 workforce>, for example 50 workers were sent there and later on  
23 another group of 50 workers would be sent to replace them? <Or  
24 those 50 workers remained working there throughout the  
25 construction period?>

1 A. Yes, there was a rotation process. For example, workers had to  
2 work there for a limited number of months <before> they were  
3 replaced <by another batch>. For instance, <a group of  
4 middle-aged> workers <were replaced by a teenage group who were  
5 between 17 and 18 years of> age <> after certain period of months  
6 working there<. On some occasions, workers from the 1st January  
7 Dam worksite were> transferred to work at another worksite  
8 dealing with dam or canal construction at the district level<.>

9 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> This morning you also testified <before  
10 the Chamber> that at that worksite, people <had> disappeared,  
11 including both the Base People and the 17 April People. <I would  
12 like to know whether any of> the workers <who had been sent> from  
13 your district, <disappeared> amongst those workers?

14 A. There were disappearances of both Base People and <New> People  
15 and when I asked about their disappearance, I was told that they  
16 <had been> sent for <study sessions>.

17 Q. And did <any of> those whom you were told that they <had been>  
18 sent for <study sessions> ever return?

19 A. <Some> of <those who had been sent for study sessions>  
20 returned<,> while <some> others were said to be sent to live in  
21 <other districts>.

22 [14.29.43]

23 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> While you were at the worksite, what was  
24 your observation <on> the general situation of the workers<? For>  
25 example, were the workers enthusiastic <about> doing their work,

1 <or> were they smiling while they were working<? And> what was  
2 their health condition?

3 A. They were neither skinny nor fat as they <were working hard.  
4 They had steamed rice and gruel along with plenty of fish  
5 supplied> from <the> Tonle Sap, but you cannot compare the food  
6 condition to the food we are eating these days. <Of course, they  
7 were not provided with any fruits.> They were also given some  
8 <sugar, which they could prepare whatever they wanted to, rice,>  
9 and <dried-fish. That> was my observation when I went to the  
10 worksite <once in a while>. Of course I cannot describe every  
11 aspect of the food condition at the worksite.

12 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> And <> again, <while> you were at the  
13 worksite, did you observe any use of heavy machinery to add in  
14 the <workforce>, <or was it done merely by human labour>?

15 A. As I said I did not stay regularly at the worksite<; I went  
16 there only once in a while>. However, there <was not any unit of>  
17 heavy <machinery including> tractor<; the work was merely done  
18 with the shoulders of those cooperative people with all their  
19 might to> carry the dirt<. And> only later on <did units of>  
20 heavy <machinery became available>.

21 [14.31.50]

22 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> Can you also tell the Court <of> the  
23 working hours<? What time> did <they> start <work,> and <what  
24 time> did <they finish work? And> were <they given anytime to  
25 take a break> in between?



1 A. In the morning, sometimes they ate some food; however,  
2 sometimes they had to start working early and since we did not  
3 have a watch, I could not say exactly what time they started  
4 working<. It could have been> around 7 o'clock in the morning  
5 <when they started work,> and they <finished work> at around 5  
6 o'clock in the afternoon.

7 Q. After <they had finished> work, <were> livelihood <meetings  
8 held among those> respective <working groups or> units?

9 A. <>I could not recall it <whether those meetings were held>.  
10 After they completed <their work,> they went back to their  
11 places<. Anyways,> I <did> not <really get hold of this;  
12 moreover,> it has been a long time <now>. As I stated, I have <a  
13 poor> memory<. I just noticed that> after the meetings, workers  
14 went back to their places. <I had no idea what happened next.>  
15 [14.33.43]

16 Q. Thank you, Madam Witness. I would like to seek your  
17 clarification <on> the plan of work, or work quota <for each  
18 worker>. What was the work quota <set by the Angkar>? How many --  
19 what <was> the work quota <in cubic metre; or> how <many cubic  
20 metres of earth was <a worker> required <>to <accomplish per  
21 day>?

22 A. I <did not get hold> of <such detail. I did> not know whether  
23 <a certain amount of earth in cubic metre> was assigned to <each>  
24 worker<; or a worker just did whatever he or she could finish. I  
25 did> not know how <many cubic metres> was <a worker> required

1 <>to <accomplish due to the fact that I did not go there on a  
2 regular basis>.

3 Q. Thank you, Madam Witness. I would like to move on to another  
4 topic. Before I do that I would like to read a statement <you  
5 have given to the Co-Investigating Judges. It is> --<Khmer,> ERN  
6 00348832; <in English, 00360115; and>in French, 00367808; <in  
7 which> you stated, "At that time I saw that pagoda was turned  
8 into a hospital and monks were disrobed and forced to leave the  
9 pagoda." <I would like you to clarify as to where the monks who  
10 had been defrocked were sent? And why> did Khmer Rouge <eradicate  
11 religions>?

12 A. I was <living> in the forest at that time<,> not <> in the  
13 district yet<.> I do not recall when it was. <That was the  
14 situation I got caught in.> When I arrived, I saw that <there  
15 were> no <> monks <in the pagoda, and I had no idea of as to  
16 where those defrocked> monks <>were sent<>. <I also had no  
17 knowledge of the monks who had been forced out of the pagoda.> As  
18 I stated, I was living in the forest at that time, <> not <> in  
19 the district yet.

20 [14.36.22]

21 MS. CHET VANLY:

22 Thank you very much, Madam Witness. <In> the interest of <> time,  
23 I would like now to cede the floor <to> the international  
24 colleague.

25 MR. PRESIDENT:

1 Thank you. You may now proceed, International Lead Co-Lawyer.

2 [14.36.41]

3 QUESTIONING BY MS. GUIRAUD:

4 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, <Madam> Witness. My  
5 name is Marie Guiraud and I am the lawyer representing the  
6 <consolidated group> of civil parties in this trial. I have a few  
7 <> brief follow-up questions to put to you with regard to the 1st  
8 January Dam and then I'll have a few questions with regard to  
9 marriages during the Democratic Kampuchea regime.

10 Q. With regard to the workers on the 1st January Dam worksite,  
11 you explained to my colleague a little earlier on the rotation  
12 system and you said that it was the commune chiefs who would  
13 choose the workers who would go to the worksite, then after a few  
14 months these workers would come back to be assigned to other  
15 tasks. So I wanted to know if at times workers could come back  
16 outside of these rotation cycles. Did you see back then workers  
17 coming back to the village outside of the rotation cycles that  
18 you described a little bit earlier on this afternoon?

19 MS. SOU SOEURN:

20 A. The <workforce was removed, replaced, and reserved. Before a  
21 replacement of a workforce was about to take place, they  
22 recruited and reserved new> workers to replace those who had been  
23 working at the 1st January Dam site<. And> those who <had been>  
24 removed from the 1st January Dam site were sent to build <dams  
25 in> Chamkar Leu district.

1 [14.38.32]

2 Q. So if I understood you well, the people who were taken off the  
3 1st January Dam site went to work on another work site, did I  
4 understand you clearly?

5 A. Yes, they were sent to Chamkar Leu to build <dams and> dig  
6 <twin> canals <in order to irrigate the area for people to  
7 cultivate paddy and crops>.

8 Q. Thank you. People who would become ill, would they go back to  
9 the village <to rest> or would they be sent to the hospital?

10 A. I <did> not know about it. <I just knew that> sick <people> in  
11 my district <> were sent to a hospital. I <did> not <get hold of  
12 as to where> the sick at the 1st January Dam site <> were sent<>.

13 Q. And back then, when you were at the district, did you  
14 sometimes see sick people who were at the worksite and who would  
15 return to the different villages or communes of your district; is  
16 this something that you remember?

17 A. <To my memory>, sick people at the 1st January Dam site were  
18 <returned their respective cooperatives after they had been  
19 hospitalised>.

20 [14.40.50]

21 Q. Thank you. The reason I am asking you this question is that we  
22 heard a little earlier on this week a civil party who had worked  
23 for three months on the 1st January Dam and who came from Preaek  
24 Prasab district, which is a district that is different from  
25 yours, and she explained that people who were ill would go back

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1 to their villages to rest. In any case, that's what was told to  
2 the workers. So if I understand what you're saying today, in your  
3 district, people would not go back to their villages to rest but  
4 were sent to the hospital; did I <correctly> understand your  
5 <testimony this afternoon>?

6 A. Yes, <it is correct. Those> seriously ill <people> were  
7 referred to Kampong Cham hospital; and after they <had>  
8 recovered, they <were sent> back <to> work in <their respective>  
9 cooperatives. This is my recollection.

10 MR. PRESIDENT:

11 Thank you. It is now convenient time for the break. But before we  
12 take the break I would like to ask Mr. Koppe <how much time you  
13 need for your oral submission concerning the disclosure of  
14 document request by the International Co-prosecutor this morning  
15 and the appeal against the judgement of 002/01.> We would like to  
16 be informed so that we could arrange <an> opportune time for your  
17 submission <in the last session of today's hearing>.

18 [14.42.55]

19 MR. KOPPE:

20 I suppose it's only, Mr. President, a few minutes. It's just  
21 expressing our concern in respect of the latest disclosures,  
22 specifically the upcoming segment -- the Kampong Chhnang Airport  
23 -- and I see this particular prosecutor is in the courtroom so  
24 I'm sure that he'll be able to answer all kinds of questions. But  
25 I think five minutes should be enough.

1 MR. PRESIDENT:

2 Thank you once again. It is now convenient time for a short break  
3 and the Chamber will take the break from now until 3.00 p.m.

4 Court officer, please facilitate a proper place for this witness  
5 and TPO during the break time and please invite them back to the  
6 courtroom at 3.00 p.m.

7 The Court is now in recess

8 (Court recesses from 1443H to 1501H)

9 MR. PRESIDENT:

10 Please be seated.

11 The Court is back in session, and again the floor is given to the  
12 Lead Co-Lawyer for civil parties to continue putting questions to  
13 this witness. You may proceed.

14 BY MS. GUIRAUD:

15 Thank you, Mr. President.

16 Q. Good afternoon again, Witness. When we broke up a while ago,  
17 we were talking of the problem of sick workers and hospitals, and  
18 you said workers who were sick on the worksite were not sent back  
19 to the village, as we heard earlier in the hearing, <but> they  
20 were sent to the hospital<>. I would like you to react to the  
21 testimony of someone we heard earlier. That person was a civil  
22 party, a woman from Baray, and who described a hospital. And I  
23 would like you to tell us whether that description tallies with  
24 what you knew of hospitals in your district. It is the transcript  
25 of 27 May 2015, and it is Ms. Hun Sethany, the civil party, and

1 it is <at> 09.59.44.

2 [15.03.02]

3 Ms. Hun Sethany describes a hospital in which her brother was  
4 hospitalized and <where> <he> died three days later. And this is  
5 what she states: "The hospital was a former school. That hospital  
6 was in a poor condition. It had not been built in bricks, and  
7 people who were sick were sent from Baray to that hospital. The  
8 sick who were sent to that hospital, as well as the patients and  
9 <nurses>, were very thin. They were in very poor health." And she  
10 says at 10.01.18: "At the time, it was a <school> built <of  
11 wooden> planks<>. The roof was thatched, as well as the walls. It  
12 was in very bad shape. There were only a few beds for several  
13 patients and those who did not have any beds had to sleep on the  
14 floor."

15 Madam Witness, having listened to my description, <does it>  
16 correspond to the situation of hospitals in <your> district at  
17 the time?

18 [15.04.16]

19 MS. SOU SOEURN:

20 A. <As for> the Baray area, I had no knowledge <of their  
21 situation>. However, for my area, people who were sick <while  
22 working at> the 1st January Dam worksite would be sent to a  
23 hospital in Kampong Cham, and the hospital was a two-storey or  
24 three-storey concrete <> building. <Our medical staff were doing  
25 their best, but because of the war, we were short of medicines.

1 This is what I know.>

2 Q. Thank you. Before the Co-Investigating Judge's investigators,  
3 you were more specific when you talked about hospitals in your  
4 district, and I am referring to document E3/5294. The ERN in  
5 Khmer is 00348834; ERN in English, 00360117; ERN in French,  
6 00367810; and you explained specifically that there was a  
7 hospital in the district, and hospitals in each of the communes.  
8 Did the communal hospitals differ from the district hospital you  
9 have just referred to?

10 A. The district hospital had some <medicines> for the treatment  
11 of patients. Although <medicines were> not abundant, <we could  
12 treat our people>. As for other hospitals at the communes or at  
13 the cooperatives, we had to assess the condition of the patients.  
14 If they could be treated at that level, they would be treated  
15 there. If their condition was serious, they would be sent to the  
16 district. And if <their condition had become more severe, they>  
17 would <be referred> to the hospital in Kampong Cham.

18 [15.06.55]

19 Q. Thank you. You mentioned a little earlier, in answer to a  
20 question put by my colleague, a hospital <housed> in a pagoda,  
21 and <I just> referred to <an example of> a hospital <housed in a>  
22 school. Regarding other communal district hospitals, were <they  
23 set up in the same manner, meaning:> <in other  
24 words><,><were><they> housed in buildings that had not been  
25 originally designed to be used as hospitals?



1 A. For the hospital in my district, it was not built in the  
2 pagoda. It was actually located in <one of communes> under the  
3 district, and not in the pagoda. And as I said, hospitals existed  
4 at the district and at the commune or "sangkat" level. And  
5 <usually the one at the district> level <was of better standard,  
6 while the one at the commune level was of less standard.  
7 However,> if the condition of <a patient> became <severe, he or  
8 she> would be referred from the <commune> hospital to the  
9 district hospital. And if it continued to <get worse and worse,  
10 the patient> would be referred to the provincial hospital <in  
11 Kampong Cham>.

12 [15.07.50]

13 Q. Thank you. How would you react to what I read out to you  
14 earlier, describing the hospital as that civil party had done?  
15 And that person said that both the patients and <nurses> were  
16 very thin, and in very poor health. Is that what you observed at  
17 the time in district or communal hospitals <that> you've just  
18 referred to?

19 A. At my district, I didn't experience such seriousness as we  
20 <had sufficient food> in Chamkar Leu area. <It was unlikely that  
21 the cooperatives were short of food. We had plenty of bananas.  
22 Again, I am only talking of the actual situation in my district,  
23 not other districts>. And here I can only testify about the  
24 conditions <of cooperatives> in my district<>.

25 Q. Thank you. When you were interviewed by the Co-Investigating

1 Judges, you referred to the visit by Ieng Thirith. You referred  
2 to that <earlier> this morning, and it's explained in the same  
3 document, E3/5294, same ERNs as those I read out earlier; you  
4 stated that you visited hospitals with Ieng Thirith. And the  
5 following question was put to you:

6 "Was Mrs. Ieng Thirith aware of the shortage of medicines in the  
7 hospitals?"

8 And you answered, saying: "Yes, she was aware of that. And upon  
9 her return, she sent us medicines and other materials."

10 Can you explain to the Chamber what kinds of medicines were in  
11 short supply in the hospitals? Can you please be more specific on  
12 this point?

13 [15.10.30]

14 A. Regarding the medicines, I do not know <many> of them. Mainly  
15 we stocked medicines for the treatment of fever and malaria <in  
16 the countryside. Besides, I did not know what they were, for I  
17 did not know the names of medicines>.

18 Q. Thank you. To the best of your recollection, did many people  
19 die in the district and communal hospitals? Was that a frequent  
20 phenomenon?

21 A. In certain cases we could not save the life of the patients.  
22 And in other situations, where we could save their lives, we  
23 would do our best at our hospital. And if we could not, then we  
24 would send them to the provincial hospital.

25 [15.11.52]

1 Q. Thank you. I'll stop <at> this question and move into another  
2 line of questioning. I would like to put questions to you  
3 regarding marriages celebrated during the Democratic Kampuchea  
4 regime in your district while you held positions in the district  
5 committee. Did you receive <> rules from the upper echelon  
6 regarding the organisation of marriages during that period?

7 A. At that time, marriages were organized, and the chief of the  
8 commune or "sangkat" would ask the opinion of the men and women,  
9 whether they consented to the proposed marriage. And if they  
10 agreed, then the ceremony would be organized. It was not a big  
11 ceremony, but it was a modest one <with little feast>. And then  
12 the chief of the <district> would give a speech, and then the  
13 individuals themselves who were the couples, would also make a  
14 speech regarding their commitment to one another.

15 [15.13.11]

16 Q. Was the district involved in that procedure?

17 A. In certain cases, people from the district made the  
18 arrangements and, however, if the ceremony was to be organized  
19 and held by the commune, then only the commune level would make  
20 such an arrangement. And in other cases, the district chief would  
21 attend such a ceremony.

22 Q. Thank you. I would like you to react to testimonies we heard  
23 earlier in this trial by persons who held similar positions in  
24 another district -- that is, Tram Kak district. And those persons  
25 were either secretaries or members of the district committee,

1 <and> they made a <certain> number of statements before the  
2 Chamber regarding the organization of marriages. I would like to  
3 quote what was stated, and have you react to what they said, and  
4 tell us whether that is how things happened in your own district.

5 MR. PRESIDENT:

6 Witness, please hold on. And Counsel Koppe, you have the floor.

7 [15.15.04]

8 MR. KOPPE:

9 Thank you, Mr. President. I object to this line of questioning.  
10 The Civil Party Lead Co-Lawyer is going to present testimony from  
11 a completely different zone. This witness can only testify to  
12 what happened in her district, possibly what happened in the  
13 zone. But she cannot give any relevant testimony as to what  
14 happened on the district or commune level in Tram Kak, in the  
15 Southwest Zone.

16 MS. GUIRAUD:

17 Mr. President, the idea is <of course> not to have the witness  
18 react to what happened elsewhere, but what happened in her own  
19 district. <You> are <seized> of the policy <of marriages and> of  
20 forced marriages at national level. It is <seems> essential <that  
21 at some point> <we should> ask the <question in order to>  
22 ascertain whether such <practice> was homogenous <or  
23 heterogeneous> <from one> district <to another><>. So the purpose  
24 of <line of questioning> is to have the witness tell us whether  
25 in her district, the district <in which she had duties and>

1 responsibilities, <the situation was similar to or> different  
2 <from that of> Tram Kak <district> <which we have> already  
3 <discussed in this trial>. <Therefore,> this line of questioning  
4 is --<in my opinion>-- very relevant and essential, as we  
5 consider facts relating to these matters today.

6 (Judges deliberate)

7 [15.17.38]

8 MR. PRESIDENT:

9 The Chamber noticed that the objection by the defence counsel for  
10 Nuon Chea to the question by the Lead Co-Lawyer for civil parties  
11 is rather too soon, as the Chamber has not heard the question  
12 yet. Let us hear the question first, and the Chamber will decide  
13 whether it is appropriate or it should be prohibited. Therefore,  
14 the Lead Co-Lawyer for civil parties, you may proceed with your  
15 question.

16 BY MS. GUIRAUD:

17 Q. This is a question, but I intend to quote a passage from the  
18 statement of a witness we heard a few months ago in this  
19 courtroom. And that person had responsibilities in Tram Kak  
20 district, and I quote the transcript, E1/291.1. It is the  
21 <transcript> of 23 April 2015. It is 09.08 in the morning, and  
22 Pech Chim is the witness I'm referring to, and he is talking of  
23 the regulation of marriages in his district. And this is what he  
24 stated:

25 <> "In fact we discussed at the level of districts, rules

1 regarding marriages, and directives from the zone were taken into  
2 account. According to what I was able to observe, there were  
3 weaknesses in the practices. People did not all agree to get  
4 married. I knew that. We were so occupied at the level of the  
5 district that we had to delegate some authority to the unit  
6 heads." <>

7 [15.19.34]

8 My question now, Mr. President: <Madam> Witness, I've read out to  
9 you the excerpt of a statement given by someone who had similar  
10 functions in another district. In Preaek Prasab district, did  
11 things happen in the same way as regards marriages?

12 MS. SOU SOEURN:

13 A. I was not at Preaek Prasab district. I only stayed there  
14 initially, <however, I didn't arrange any marriage. And> I moved  
15 to <live in> Chamkar Leu district <for one year during which  
16 marriages were discussed at district level, but the> marriage  
17 <ceremonies> were <organized> at <those respective communes.  
18 Actually, each> commune itself had the authority to organize <>  
19 marriage <ceremonies> within its own commune. And that is my  
20 understanding, and that's what happened in my district and  
21 <communes>. And I cannot say about what happened in other  
22 communes or districts. <Those were the instructions communicated  
23 to my district committee from the upper echelon. We just followed  
24 the instructions.>

25 [15.20.56]

1 Q. Thank you. And when you sat in the district committee, did you  
2 sometimes receive lists from communes, lists of persons who had  
3 to be married?

4 A. Lists of those who were proposed to get married, and as I  
5 said, I am illiterate. I cannot read or write, and it was up to  
6 the district chief who <would> decide whether to agree to the  
7 proposal of those on the list. And I was told about <those  
8 marriages> during <> meetings<. Concerning> the number of people  
9 who were proposed on that list <, for> instance, five couples or  
10 three couples, I was told about it, since I could not read, <and>  
11 I did not see the list itself.

12 Q. So, if I understand correctly, they talked about a list but  
13 you didn't read the list because you didn't know how to read at  
14 that time. Was it authorized at the time to organize marriages  
15 between New People and Base People?

16 A. I can say in some cases. And also, it happened in my district.  
17 If a commune made such a proposal to the district, and if the  
18 district considered that they were good people, then the district  
19 would approve the marriage. Although this kind of request or  
20 proposal <was> not many.

21 [15.22.58]

22 Q. Were you aware of instructions from the upper echelon not to  
23 favour or authorize marriages between New People and Base People?  
24 Did you receive any such instructions?

25 A. No, that's not the case. Regarding the Base People and the New

1 People in the <cooperatives>, if they worked together and they  
2 had a relationship, it was up to the chief, their chief, to see  
3 whether it was reasonable to organize their marriage. And of  
4 course the upper echelon did not <hand down any instruction on  
5 the prohibition of marriage between the Base People and the New  
6 People>. <We did not receive any of such instructions. We only  
7 received good instructions; for example, those who worked hard  
8 were eligible to have their marriage organized>.

9 [15.23.58]

10 Q. Thank you. I have one last question, Mr. President. And  
11 Witness, I will read out to you again an extract of the record of  
12 interview of Pech Chim, <who had similar duties to yours> as a  
13 member of <another> district committee. And he was asked whether  
14 there were rules from the upper echelon. And it is transcript  
15 E1/291.1, and it's still 23 April 2015, and it's still the  
16 morning, shortly before 09.08. And the question put to Pech Chim  
17 at the time was as follows:

18 "Did you know the rules regarding marriages?"

19 And the witness answered as follows: <> "Regarding marriages,  
20 yes. As a matter of fact, I knew that there were rules, and I was  
21 aware of them. However, these rules did not exist in the form of  
22 laws and articles. It was common practice applied from the upper  
23 echelon right down to the <> grassroots <level>."

24 At the time, Madam Witness, were you aware of these regulations,  
25 rules and practices regarding marriages, which were <passed> down



1 by the upper echelon?

2 A. Regarding instructions on marriages -- and I <am referring> to  
3 the zone as the upper level in this instance -- if we wanted to  
4 organize the weddings for our people, or the number of couples  
5 that we proposed to get married, <and how the ceremonies would be  
6 held. Of course, there were such instructions from the upper  
7 level to the sector level, and from the sector level to the  
8 district level, and eventually from the district level to the  
9 Sangkat level. The instructions were handed down from the upper  
10 level to the ground level. To my recollection, this is how it  
11 worked>.

12 [15.26.33]

13 MS. GUIRAUD:

14 Thank you. Mr. President, I believe I have run out of time. I  
15 will stop here.

16 Thank you, <Madam> Witness, for answering my questions.

17 MR. PRESIDENT:

18 My fellow Judges, do you have any questions you wish to put to  
19 the witness? Judge Fenz, you have the floor.

20 QUESTIONING BY JUDGE FENZ:

21 Q. Thank you. Madam Witness, you mentioned that workers at the  
22 dam were rotated every three months. Can you tell me why?

23 MS. SOU SOEURN:

24 A. <I would like to inform Your Honour> that the rotation <of  
25 workers> was <applied> because <workers> at the dam worksite

1 began to get tired, so they were <replaced by a new workforce>.  
2 Although they were rotated to return to the cooperative, they  
3 would not be sitting idle. They would be engaged in other  
4 <tasks>, including <rice paddy cultivation, growing vegetables  
5 within their respective cooperatives, while the new and fresh  
6 workforce was sent to work at the 1st January Dam.>

7 [15.28.18]

8 Q. So, the rotation was between difficult work or heavy work, and  
9 easier work?

10 A. Yes, the rotation was meant for those workers who were tired  
11 from <hard labour work including digging and carrying dirt> at  
12 the 1st January Dam worksite, and replaced by new <and fresh  
13 workforce>. Then the old <workforce> would be returned to the  
14 cooperative to engage in a kind of a lighter work <including>  
15 working in <> rice <fields, on farms>, or digging canals, but in  
16 a lighter form of labour. And due to the limited workforce in the  
17 cooperatives, the rotation was needed. <However, there seemed to  
18 be sufficient food in my area.>

19 [15.29.24]

20 Q. Thank you. My next question is to your presence at the dam.  
21 You mentioned that you were there -- at the worksite, I mean --  
22 you mentioned you were there frequently, sometimes a couple of  
23 days in a row. Now, in an average month, how many days did you go  
24 to the worksite? Can you give me an idea?

25 A. I didn't go that often to the 1st January Dam worksite. I only

1 went there once every two or three months, as my main duty was  
2 involved with the supervision of the <cooperative people> at the  
3 district<; moreover, I could not stay long>. And I usually would  
4 remain at the dam site for only one night or two, and return to  
5 my district.

6 Q. Okay. My next question is to the selection process. You said  
7 workers were selected -- workers for the dam were selected. Now,  
8 I want to know: Could those who were selected say, "No, I don't  
9 want to work there"?

10 A. No one actually refused the selection process. Once the  
11 district organized the workforce, the people in the district did  
12 not refuse, even if it was for the rotation force. And of course,  
13 <>those workers <were willing to go and> work <>at the dam  
14 site<,> and <when they> were replaced, <>they <were also happy  
15 to> return to the district <as they would be doing lighter work.  
16 Again, nobody ever refused>.

17 [15.31.43]

18 Q. Given that they were obviously not very happy to work at the  
19 dam site, why did nobody refuse to work there when they were  
20 selected?

21 A. The thing is that that was the organization by the district,  
22 so they did not refuse. If <> five or six of them <were selected>  
23 to go<,> they went, and after they had been rotated, they  
24 returned>, none of them refused, <for we, the district had  
25 instructed them to work> hard, <and> to adhere to work

1 <disciplines> and regulations <which were applicable both at dam  
2 worksite and at the district.>

3 Q. Were people ever told that they would be punished if they  
4 refused to work, or to accept the selection?

5 A. We <did> not <tell them so. We merely informed them> to  
6 respect the discipline<, such as> working times specifically for  
7 workers: the time that we had to start work, have meals and  
8 resume work in the afternoon. That's what <they> were instructed.

9 [15.33.50]

10 Q. Once workers were selected, and working at the worksite, were  
11 they free to say, "I don't want to work any longer. I'd rather go  
12 home now and not come back"?

13 A. No one dared to refuse. <When someone was assigned by the  
14 State> or "sangkat"<to do something, he or she had to get> that  
15 assignment <done>. No one dared to say, "I <want> to go back home  
16 <or I do> not want to go to work". No one dared to say like this.

17 Q. And why did nobody dare say this?

18 A. <We had instructed them> to work hard <in order to> solve  
19 people's problems<; and that we needed to work hard together to  
20 make sure that everyone had enough to eat,> and <>to build the  
21 country. <They understood the instructions well.> No one  
22 threatened <them>. Workers <went to work> voluntarily<>.

23 [15.35.28]

24 Q. Now, you have described the situation at the dam, and I think  
25 if I sum up your description, one could say these were very

1 difficult working conditions. We have heard even more extreme  
2 descriptions. Now my question is, given these very difficult  
3 circumstances, do you remember any incident where a worker  
4 actually tried to simply run away?

5 A. <I did not really get hold of this, but it was likely that no>  
6 one fled from <the worksite>. <I heard that> no one fled from  
7 their workplace.

8 Q. And why did nobody flee?

9 A. <>I <did> not know the matter in detail. <Through my personal  
10 observation>, no one evaded work. They <remained> at work,  
11 <although> they were exhausted and <hungry>.

12 Q. Now, you told us at one point you basically supervised the  
13 workforce at the dam. That's what I wrote down. So I am asking  
14 you, were there any orders or directives from your superiors on  
15 what to do if people didn't want to be recruited, or selected, or  
16 if people ran away? Was there any directive or any order?

17 A. <Concerning the supervision of the>workforces at the 1st  
18 January Dam site, as I stated repeatedly, I was not <the one who  
19 in charge> there<. My duty> was <limited to> the district<. I was  
20 working at my district. I did not supervise workers at the 1st  
21 January Dam. Since> I was a <woman with> small children at that  
22 time<,> I was not there constantly with workers. <It could have  
23 been my fellow district cadres or my subordinates who worked  
24 closely with people. However, I was informed what had been done,  
25 and what should be done and so on in my district. Of course, I

1 was aware of the on-going progress within the cooperatives, dam  
2 and canal construction; moreover, I was on the district committee  
3 for> only one year.

4 [15.39.27]

5 Q. My last question is to these instructions. You told us earlier  
6 that you went to Phnom Penh occasionally, among other things to  
7 get these instructions. Now, were these regular trips? I mean,  
8 once a month? Or were these random trips, meaning when you were  
9 summoned, you came? Or was it a fixed date? Every -- I don't know  
10 -- first Monday per month, we go to Phnom Penh and get our  
11 instructions?

12 A. I would like to inform the Chamber that <only> when Angkar  
13 invited me, asked me to come to Phnom Penh to join the study  
14 session <did> I <>come. As I stated, I came with many of my  
15 <fellow> cadres <by a truck or two>. And we came to receive the  
16 assignments to be implemented and enforced in our respective  
17 districts.<We were also instructed on how to distribute the  
18 assignments accordingly among the communes or Sangkats within our  
19 district. That's all I can tell you, Your Honour.>

20 [15.41.04]

21 Q. I didn't hear the translation of quite a long bit. I heard the  
22 witness talking and didn't get the translation. Okay.  
23 My question to you then is: In the year in which you were in  
24 charge, how often did you go to Phnom Penh on such trips? On  
25 trips where you got information and instructions on work?

1 <A.> Sometimes I <stayed>in Phnom Penh for two or three days  
2 <before I returned; it varied. It was not that long, as on some  
3 occasions, I stayed only> one or two nights to receive  
4 assignments.

5 Q. And how many trips did you make in this, I think you said,  
6 year?

7 A. <To the best of> my recollection, I <did come to Phnom Penh,  
8 but I did> not recall <as to> how <often> per year I <did that.>  
9 Again, I recall <coming> to Phnom Penh to receive  
10 <instruction>from the upper echelon.

11 [15.43.05]

12 Q. Let me try again. Are we talking two or three times, or are we  
13 talking 10 or 20 times? I don't expect an exact number, but I  
14 would like to have an idea of the frequency.

15 A. I do not <recall how often per month or year> I came to Phnom  
16 Penh<. Since I have a poor memory, I could not think through. I  
17 had a good memory> in the past, but <as for these days, I could  
18 not even remember what stated a moment ago. I assume that I could  
19 have come> to Phnom Penh once every two or three months, or once  
20 a month to receive the assignments and tasks <from the upper  
21 echelon. Anyways, the assumption could even go beyond the truth.>  
22 I, once again, would like to tell the Court that I do not recall  
23 it.

24 JUDGE FENZ:

25 Thank you. That concludes my questions.

1 MR. PRESIDENT:

2 You may proceed, Judge Lavergne.

3 [15.44.43]

4 QUESTIONING BY JUDGE LAVERGNE:

5 Yes, thank you, Mr. President.

6 Q. Madam Witness, I have a question to put to you <>. What were  
7 you told in Phnom Penh? What were you exactly told in Phnom Penh?

8 And whom would you meet? You said that you had met Nuon Chea<>.

9 Can you confirm that?

10 MS. SOU SOEURN:

11 A. Yes, I met him. He <went to organized> workforces <in the>  
12 district <in order to send them to worksites. He came to the  
13 district to> instruct <people on> how to dig canals, <work paddy,  
14 do farming, build dams, and organize workforces among>  
15 cooperatives<. I received> these <> instructions <from him when>  
16 I <met> him.

17 Q. Did he speak about the class struggle? Did he speak about <>  
18 enemies? Did he speak about the CIA and KGB agents?

19 A. <Regarding his teaching and instructions, no such things were  
20 mentioned. He made no mention of> the class struggle or <the CIA  
21 networks>. I did not receive any <of these instructions from  
22 him>.

23 [15.46.35]

24 Q. So, what did <his> instructions consist of with regard to the  
25 organization of the labour force? You said that you would go



1 <there> once every two or three months. So, each time you went  
2 there, would you meet Nuon Chea? Or would you meet other leaders?

3 A. I did not meet any other leaders<.> I <met with him the most  
4 as he> was in charge of <educating, instructing, and leading  
5 people on how to run> cooperatives<. However, in my capacity as a  
6 district member, my meeting with him was limited to only things  
7 regarding leading people in the cooperatives to work, in  
8 particular, to increase the number of rice harvests per year, and  
9 resolving livelihood-related issues of the people. That's all I  
10 know>.

11 Q. Would Nuon Chea <enquire about> the situation on the <ground>?  
12 Did he try to get to know if there was enough food, for example?  
13 If people were complaining regarding <the crop yields> that were  
14 <different from> what the Party might have expected?

15 A. He asked about it; <and> most of the time, he <asked> how  
16 <well> the cooperatives were <being run , whether> the livelihood  
17 of the people <had improved>, and what <> the health <condition>  
18 of people <was like. He did ask about these things>.

19 [15.49.05]

20 Q. Madam Witness, when you were <> at the district committee, did  
21 you ever receive any complaints from the cooperative leaders  
22 stating that the <harvests> <were> not plentiful enough, and that  
23 there were <food> problems? Did you receive any complaints of  
24 that kind?

25 A. In Chamkar Leu district, allow me to tell the Court <that,>

1 the yield was good, so the living condition <of the people> was  
2 better<; however, there were still several cases that> people  
3 <had produced a lot of rice, but they could not> have three  
4 <meals> per day. <I acknowledge the existence of such cases>.

5 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to read <out> your testimony before  
6 the Co-Investigating Judges. It's document E3/5294; French, ERN  
7 00367805 to 06; English, 00360113 to14; Khmer, <ERN, without  
8 prejudice,> 00348831:

9 Question: "Did you receive any complaints or <> requests from  
10 your subordinates?"

11 Answer: "Yes, I did. The head of the cooperative and the team  
12 leader challenged the fact that the rice yield was high, whereas  
13 the people did not have enough food. I also forwarded this  
14 complaint to the district committee and the district committee  
15 forwarded <it> to their superiors, who never responded <to the  
16 complaint>. The paddy was also exported abroad." <>

17 So, can you confirm what I <have> just <read>?

18 [15.51.52]

19 A. The statement is correct. I <actually> made a request to the  
20 upper echelon <after> people in <the> "sangkats" <reported to me>  
21 that there <had been> a high yield <but their> people <still had>  
22 not <had> enough food to eat<. Such requests came> from  
23 "sangkats" <to the district>, and the requests were also  
24 forwarded <from> the district <to the sector; however>, there  
25 were no replies.

1 Q. Madam Witness, when the cooperative leader complained of  
2 <>food <shortages>, in your opinion was he <telling> the truth,  
3 or was he lying?

4 A. Cooperative chiefs never told lies; they spoke the truth, and  
5 made requests to the upper echelons for resolution. But <>food  
6 <shortage> did not exist in all "sangkats"<. Only some>  
7 "sangkats" <were short of> food. <Through my observation, the  
8 upper echelon had the impression that> Chamkar Leu district <was  
9 producing abundant food; thus, I had no idea as to where rice  
10 produced in the district was sent>.

11 [15.53.55]

12 Q. Why did the higher echelon never respond to these reports that  
13 you would forward to it?

14 A. I <had> no idea<, to be honest>. There was <simply> no  
15 response, so <> I <have nothing to say with this regard>.

16 Q. Why was the paddy rice exported if the people did not have  
17 enough food to eat?

18 A. I <did> not really understand <this> either. <Since> I was not  
19 a senior cadre <myself>, <>to speak <it frankly>, I did not  
20 <dare> to question this. The <reports came from the  
21 cooperatives>, and <they were> forwarded to <the> sector, and  
22 upward, but there were no responses. I <did> not understand  
23 <either as to why there were no replies>.

24 Q. According to you, <madam>, who decided on the production  
25 quotas that had to be sent abroad? Was it the district? Was it

1 the sector? Or was it a higher echelon, even?

2 A. <Although,> I was not the one who held the list; "sangkat"  
3 <chiefs themselves told> me that some food, <and> rice <were> for  
4 <the> cooperatives, <while a certain amount of rice was for  
5 feeding> soldiers, not for abroad. That's what I was told at that  
6 time. <I did not really know as to how they actually dealt with  
7 the issue.>

8 [15.56.33]

9 Q. According to you, madam, was the food situation on the 1st  
10 January Dam <worksite,> better than in the cooperatives?

11 A. <Well, the worksite received sufficient supply of food from  
12 the State. Cooperatives in Chamkar Leu were not short of food  
13 either>. I am not mentioning other districts <as I did not visit  
14 any>. I am mentioning the situation in my district<only. Members  
15 of> district committee<, not me,> visited <all the> cooperatives  
16 <within the district. And those respective "sangkat" chiefs  
17 themselves also reported to us that they had abundant food  
18 supply. So> I do not really understand <either when I am asked of  
19 food shortage>.

20 Q. Madam, I don't understand either. You're telling me that the  
21 cooperative leaders would not lie when they said that there  
22 <were> <> food <shortages>. And now you're saying the contrary  
23 that you don't understand. So, what don't you understand? You  
24 don't understand if they're telling the truth or if they're  
25 lying?

1 A. <Your Honour,> I would like to <explain to you> that <> I  
2 <did> not really understand <the situation as well due to the  
3 fact that the yield of rice was high and a certain amount was  
4 taken to the sector, and the people themselves claimed to have  
5 plenty to eat, and it was confirmed by the Sangkat chiefs that  
6 they had plenty of food supply; but in the meantime, those  
7 workers at canal and dam worksites were complaining that they did  
8 not have enough to eat. Through my field observation, it was  
9 likely that there was still rice stock in each cooperative>.

10 [15.58.58]

11 Q. So, according to you, <madam,> the cooperative leaders were  
12 lying? If you are saying that you went on site, and you saw that  
13 there was rice <on site>, when you would receive therefore  
14 reports saying that there <were> <> food <shortages>, there's  
15 obviously someone there who's lying.

16 A. <That could not have been the case. In fact, there could have  
17 been cases where some cooperatives were trying to appear more  
18 superior or capable than the others. In> some cooperatives, <they  
19 did not have sufficient supply as> there were many people<, while  
20 there were fewer people in certain cooperatives, but their yield  
21 of rice was higher. And as a matter of fact, the rice yield in a  
22 cooperative was distributed to only people within the  
23 cooperative>. And as for the reports <on food shortage,> I <did>  
24 not <believe them as well>. I visited only a few cooperatives,  
25 and that is what I saw, and I told the Court already.

1 Q. According to you, who provided the rice needed for the feeding  
2 of workers on the 1st January Dam worksite? Was it the  
3 cooperatives, the upper echelon, the district, the sector, or the  
4 national level <that would> send rice <>?

5 [16.00.36]

6 A. I only had certain knowledge on this issue. I did not know  
7 <how it was communicated at the upper> levels<; however, it was>  
8 the zone <that> was <in charge of the workforce in terms of  
9 supervision and food supply. My knowledge on this is limited, in  
10 particular, the actual and daily operation at the> 1st January  
11 Dam worksite <as I was not part of the dam's management. I just  
12 knew that it was the zone that was in charge of the workforce at  
13 the dam> in terms of <supervision,> food <supply> and <welfare>  
14 of <> workers<. That's all I can tell you, Your Honour>.

15 Q. This is my last question, madam. From what you were able to  
16 see with your own eyes on the 1st January Dam worksite, did  
17 people eat to their fill or not?

18 [16.02.02]

19 A. As I said, there were tens of thousands of workers, and I only  
20 could say for <a> portion of those workers from my point of view,  
21 as I did not go everywhere to observe the living condition. And  
22 <as> for the groups of workers whom I observed, they had  
23 sufficient food to eat. <Since each group was observed to enjoy  
24 abundant food, it implied that workers, in general, in the whole  
25 worksite had plenty to eat as well.> There was an abundance of

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1 <dried> fish <> from Tonle Sap <sent> to those workers. <Thus,>  
2 there was no lack of food <among> the people whom I observed. And  
3 when I was there, <I saw them having steamed> rice, and I <also>  
4 joined them<; again,> I could not go everywhere to observe the  
5 living conditions of all the workers at the dam site.

6 JUDGE LAVERGNE:

7 I believe <that, given the time,> we'll have to stop here <>.

8 [16.03.19]

9 MR. PRESIDENT:

10 Thank you. Today's hearing comes to an adjournment now. We will  
11 adjourn for today and resume tomorrow -- that is, Friday, 5 June  
12 2015, starting from 9 o'clock in the morning. Tomorrow the  
13 Chamber continues to hear the testimony of this witness, Sou  
14 Soeurn. This information is for the Parties and the public.  
15 And Madam Sou Soeurn, the Chamber is grateful of your presence  
16 and testimony as a witness. However, it is not yet concluded, and  
17 you are therefore invited to return tomorrow. And Madam Chhay  
18 Marideth, the TPO staff, the Chamber is grateful <for> your  
19 support during the testimony of this witness so that she is able  
20 to focus on her testimony, and again, you are invited to continue  
21 your role here in this Court.  
22 And Court officer, in collaboration with WESU, please make the  
23 necessary transportation for Madam Sou Soeurn to return to her  
24 place of stay, and have her returned to attend the proceedings in  
25 this courtroom tomorrow at 9 o'clock.

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1 Security personnel, you are instructed to take the two Accused  
2 back to the ECCC detention facility, and have them returned to  
3 attend the proceedings tomorrow before 9 o'clock in the morning.

4 The Court is now adjourned.

5 (Court adjourns at 1604H)

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