

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

## ្រះរាស់ឈានឱ្យងង់ សង្ខ សាសនា ព្រះនសាងអូវិ

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

## **អ**ុខ្ពស់ខ្ពស់នេះសារបន្តជំន

Trial Chamber Chambre de première instance

# TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS PUBLIC

Case File Nº 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC

7 September 2015 Trial Day 323 ລສຄາເຊື່ອ

ORIGINAL/ORIGINAL

ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date): 31-Mar-2017, 15:15

MS/CEO. Sann Rada

**NUON Chea** 

KHIEU Samphan

Before the Judges:

NIL Nonn, Presiding

Claudia FENZ

Jean-Marc LAVERGNE

THOU Mony

YA Sokhan

Martin KAROPKIN (Reserve)

YOU Ottara (Absent)

Lawyers for the Accused:

The Accused:

Victor KOPPE LIV Sovanna

SON Arun Anta GUISSE KONG Sam Onn

Trial Chamber Greffiers/Legal Officers:

Niccolo PONS SE Kolvuthy

Lawyers for the Civil Parties:

Marie GUIRAUD PICH Ang

TY Srinna VEN Pov

For the Office of the Co-Prosecutors:

Vincent DE WILDE D'ESTMAEL

Dale LYSAK SENG Leang

For Court Management Section:

**UCH Arun** 

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## List of Speakers:

Language used unless specified otherwise in the transcript

Speaker	Language
Mr. DE WILDE D'ESTMAEL	French
The GREFFIER	Khmer
Ms. GUISSE	French
Mr. IT Sen (2-TCW-813)	Khmer
Mr. KONG Sam Onn	Khmer
Mr. KOPPE	English
Mr. LYSAK	English
The President (NIL Nonn)	Khmer
Mr. PICH Ang	Khmer
Mr. SENG Leang	Khmer
Ms. TY Srinna	Khmer

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- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 (Court opens at 0903H)
- 3 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 4 Please be seated. The Court is now in session.
- 5 Today the Chamber will hear the presentation of key documents and
- 6 <there> will be the responses from the defence team for Khieu
- 7 Samphan to those key documents presented by the Co-Prosecutors
- 8 and the Lead Co-Lawyers for civil parties last week, and that is
- 9 in relation to the three worksites. And after the conclusion of
- 10 such responses, the Chamber will hear the testimony of a witness
- 11 -- that is, in relation to the treatment -- targeted treatment of
- 12 Cham.
- 13 [09.05.35]
- 14 And before we proceed with today's schedule, the Chamber would
- 15 like to inform the Parties and the Public that for today and for
- 16 the following days, Judge You Ottara is absent due to his urgent
- 17 personal matters. And after the Bench held a deliberation, Judge
- 18 Thou Mony, a National Reserve Judge, is to sit in place of Judge
- 19 You Ottara until such time he is able to return to the Bench to
- 20 sit with the proceedings of the Trial Chamber, and that is
- 21 pursuant to Rule 99.4 of the ECCC Internal Rules.
- 22 Ms. Se Kolvuthy, please report the attendance to the Parties and
- 23 other individuals at today's proceedings.
- 24 [09.06.43]
- 25 THE GREFFIER:

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- 1 Mr. President, for today's proceedings, all Parties to this case
- 2 are present.
- 3 Mr. Nuon Chea is present in the holding cell downstairs; he has
- 4 waived his right to be present in the courtroom. The waiver has
- 5 been delivered to the greffier.
- 6 A witness who is to testify today -- that is after the hearing of
- 7 the key documents presentation -- that is, 2-TCW-813, confirms
- 8 that to his best ability, he has no relationship by blood or by
- 9 law to any of the two Accused -- that is, Nuon Chea and Khieu
- 10 Samphan, or to any of the civil parties admitted in this Case.
- 11 The witness will take an oath before the Chamber.
- 12 We also have a reserve civil party -- that is, 2-TCCP-244. Thank
- 13 you.
- 14 [09.07.54]
- 15 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 16 Thank you. The Chamber now decides on the request by Nuon Chea.
- 17 The Chamber has received a waiver from Nuon Chea dated 7
- 18 September 2015, which notes that due to his health, headache,
- 19 back pain, he cannot sit or concentrate for long, and in order to
- 20 effectively participate in future hearings, he requests to waive
- 21 his right to participate in and be present at the 7 September
- 22 2015 hearing. He affirms that his counsel has advised him about
- 23 the consequences of this waiver that it cannot in any account be
- 24 construed as a waiver of his right to be tried fairly or to
- 25 challenge evidence presented to or admitted by this Court at any

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- 1 time during this Trial. Having seen the medical report of Nuon
- 2 Chea by the duty doctor for the Accused at the ECCC, dated 7
- 3 September 2015, who notes that Nuon Chea has severe back pain and
- 4 dizziness when he sites for long and recommends that the Chamber
- 5 grant him his request so that he can follow the proceedings
- 6 remotely from the holding cell downstairs.
- 7 [09.09.14]
- 8 Based on the above information and pursuant to Rule 81.5 of the
- 9 ECCC Internal Rules, the Chamber grants Nuon Chea his request to
- 10 follow today's proceedings remotely from the holding cell
- 11 downstairs via audio-visual means. The Chamber instructs the AV
- 12 Unit personnel to link the proceedings to the room downstairs so
- 13 that he can follow the proceedings. This applies to the whole
- 14 day.
- 15 And the Chamber would like to hand the floor now to the
- 16 co-defence counsel for Khieu Samphan to make observations to the
- 17 key documents presentation by the Co-Prosecutors and the Lead
- 18 Co-Lawyers for the civil parties for the three worksites that
- 19 were made last week.
- 20 And Counsel, you may proceed.
- 21 [09.10.14]
- 22 MS. GUISSE:
- 23 Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning to all of you. Good
- 24 morning also to the public since <according to the Chamber and
- 25 the wishes of the Chamber from the very beginning, > these

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- 1 <documents> hearings are <also for the> public and <are kind of</pre>
- 2 the educational side of a hearing.>
- 3 I'm going to start proceeding with what I believe is the <very>
- 4 essence of <a trial> -- that is to say, responding <to charges>.
- 5 Responding means making observations, presenting interpretations
- 6 that may be different, and certainly will be different from those
- 7 of the Prosecution. Above all, it entails doing what is at the
- 8 <very> core of a criminal trial <> -- that is to say, <holding>
- 9 an adversarial debate.
- 10 We have fought, in the Khieu Samphan team, for a long time for
- 11 these document hearings not just simply to be a catalogue <and
- 12 listing> of documents, but to be something meaningful and <for
- 13 that > adversarial debate <to happen >. So even if Khieu Samphan
- 14 has not presented any documents for this key <documents> hearing,
- 15 it is <obviously of unquestionable importance that he> be able to
- 16 <> respond.
- 17 [09.11.35]
- 18 The role of these key <documents> hearings, as you reminded <us,>
- 19 Mr. President, on 26 August, is to ask the Parties to choose the
- 20 most important documents to support their case and the aim, you
- 21 <also> reminded us, is to allow the Chamber to better assess the
- 22 weight that we should give to the evidence at the end of the
- 23 substantive hearing in Case 002/02 -- that is to say, the weight,
- 24 the <evaluation, > is the <very essence > of your work <during your
- 25 deliberations.>

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1 And today my comments go in that direction -- that is to say,

- 2 we're going to share <with you> the Defence's understanding of
- 3 the weight to give to this evidence and to discuss <in general>
- 4 the probative value of the documents that were put before the
- 5 Chamber by the Prosecution and the civil parties. This may take
- 6 on different shapes: first, I'm going to make <general>
- 7 observations and then site <br/> site, I'm going to focus on
- 8 <making remarks or citing different> parts of the documents that
- 9 were presented, because, once again the quest for truth and
- 10 <adversarial debate> require that we take into account documents
- 11 <and parts of documents> that were not necessarily underscored by
- 12 the Prosecution or the civil parties. And I would like to remind
- 13 the public that my comments regarding the sites are going to of
- 14 course be restricted to the 1st January Dam worksite, and then to
- 15 the Kampong Chhnang Airport worksite, and then finally to the
- 16 Trapeang Thma Dam.
- 17 [09.13.26]
- 18 Now regarding my generic comments or observations, a certain
- 19 number of documents that were presented by the Prosecution and
- 20 the civil parties <-- and there are many of them --> are witness
- 21 statements, written <witness> statements -- that is to say,
- 22 <from> witnesses who have not appeared before the Chamber.
- 23 A criminal trial is first of all an oral trial. Why? Because when
- 24 a witness comes here to provide information and <at times makes
- 25 one or more accusations>, the Parties <need to be able to>

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- 1 examine and cross-examine <in order> to understand where this
- 2 witness or civil party draws his or her information from <There
- 3 needs to be a confrontation during the hearings. It is through
- 4 this confrontation or> debate that we can <learn> the details and
- 5 we can assess properly the probative value of the statements.
- 6 <This> also allows us to <observe> how the person behaves
- 7 <during> the trial, to see how the person reacts when she or he
- 8 is faced with certain questions, <and> this also allows <us> to
- 9 assess <his or her> credibility.
- 10 So when we present to you <> written statements of <witnesses,
- 11 who> do not appear before the Chamber<, as essential documents>,
- 12 well, <from the perspective of> the Khieu Samphan defence, <all I
- 13 can say is that > in terms of the general principle, < such
- 14 documents are of> weak probative value. Why am I saying this?
- 15 We have seen often here in this <Chamber>, civil parties and
- 16 witnesses who have come to correct things that were <said> in the
- 17 written statements, they came to provide details. <And> sometimes
- 18 <there is> a gap between what was said here before the Chamber
- 19 and what <was recorded> in their <written> statements.
- 20 [09.15.30]
- 21 I'm focusing, first of all, on the civil party applications <as
- 22 well as> key documents <that were also presented> before this
- 23 Chamber <on these segments. And> this might be the most
- 24 <striking> example of this gap <that sometimes exists> between
- 25 written statements and what witnesses or civil parties say before

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1 the Chamber. A very few recent examples I can mention; for 2 example, <just> last week even, on September 1, <> Chao Lang, 3 civil party, <clarified before the Chamber> -- in fact <this> even went beyond <a clarification>, in fact, <she> was providing 4 a new testimony<, in any case,> in relation to what was <written> 5 in <her civil party statement>. 6 7 You remember <what was in her civil party statement, > about a Filipina medic who was <her> colleague. <Once she was on the 8 stand, and answering questions from the Parties, this person 9 became a colonel -- a colonel -- Filipina, of course, > but in 10 11 charge of transporting explosives from the United States. So, you 12 see here -- <> this person was -- apparently was no <longer her> 13 colleague but <her> father's colleague, so you see <there are sometimes> drastic differences <> between what is written in the 14 15 statements in co-operation with the civil party lawyers <-- the 16 civil party lawyers themselves say it> -- that is to say, in the process of gathering information, sometimes information <is> 17 18 lost, sometimes when forms are processed by the ECCC services. 19 And I remember my colleague <standing up to tell us how this 20 happened, and that there was> no direct contact between the civil 21 party and the person drafting the summary of the civil party's 22 statement<, and that this could have been, and indeed was, at the 23 root of many errors. In this context, > you can understand that 24 <for the Khieu Samphan defence, > when we are presented with such

documents as being key <and essential> documents, we can only

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- 1 draw the Chamber's, as well as the Parties', attention to the
- 2 fact that we can only grant low probative value to documents
- 3 whose drafting is filled with <extreme problems> in terms of
- 4 reliability, but also we can only remind <the Chamber> that
- 5 <obviously> there is nothing better than putting questions to the
- 6 witness or to the civil party <before the Chamber> in order to
- 7 get the true account <from the civil party>.
- 8 [09.18.15]
- 9 <> I <think that, as you know, and we will get back to this
- 10 later, > that you ruled on the issue of civil party statements in
- 11 the investigations of Cases 003 and 004, but what <in any case,
- 12 what> we're saying regarding the <low> reliability <and lack
- 13 thereof> of these documents has once again been blatantly
- 14 demonstrated during the various hearings<, notably> on the impact
- 15 of the crimes.
- 16 I would like to remind you that this is exactly what happened on
- 17 the 20th August 2015, with witness Tak Boy, and here I am
- 18 reminding you of <hearing record E3/33401>, and Judge Fenz
- 19 probably remembers that because she <herself had to clarify> that
- 20 what was written in the <civil party> statement had nothing to do
- 21 with what the witness said before the Chamber, and <> before the
- 22 Chamber <he> said "I never said this." So here again we have a
- 23 clear example that there are inconsistencies with the written
- 24 statements of the civil parties.
- 25 [09.19.27]

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- 1 And I would like to remind you, and this is another important
- 2 element because we're speaking about civil party statements here
- 3 and the Co-Lead Lawyers of the civil parties <have also had to
- 4 bring> up these issues, and I'm <reminded> of the hearing of 3
- 5 April 2015, document E1/288.1 where my colleague, Marie Guiraud,
- 6 in a very honest way<, I note, > acknowledged -- it was a little
- 7 before 9.42 -- the issues in some of the civil party statements.
- 8 And I quote her <just> to be clear. This is what she says at that
- 9 hearing <>. This regards the effect of the crimes in the
- 10 co-operatives and the fact also that there were <several> civil
- 11 party statements that <indicated> that the civil parties were
- 12 Khmer Krom, but during the hearing the civil parties said they
- 13 were not Khmer Krom <at all>. So, my colleague said: "I'm obliged
- 14 to acknowledge that this is a reality. We will have to shed light
- 15 on the way the information was gathered and <what> we intend to
- 16 put <> before the Chamber <as documents, but> I would like this
- 17 discussion to happen at another <time>. It is now contaminating
- 18 the hearing <on> the impact of <the crimes." And she adds,> "So
- 19 what matters today is the oral statement of the civil parties.
- 20 And once again, I accept that from the Defence that it will be up
- 21 to us as Co-Lead Lawyers to clarify the situation, because <so
- 22 many> errors are repeated and are clear, in the VIFs, as well as
- 23 in the supplementary information forms that were filed." End of
- 24 quote.
- 25 [09.21.22]

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- 1 So this is the context in which I am reminding you today that
- 2 there are indeed problems with <these> civil party statements and
- 3 that you should consider them with the greatest caution possible
- 4 when you will deliberate. And why am I insisting upon this, Mr.
- 5 President, and Your Honours? Well, in your Judgment of 7 August
- 6 2014, you relied in great part on a great number of civil party
- 7 statements and this gives rise to the issue of reliability,
- 8 because you have to ground your decisions on the basis of <>
- 9 documents, and <for myself and> the Khieu Samphan defence, we
- 10 believe that <in general, > you cannot rely on such documents to
- 11 <enter a conviction> when <the> civil parties do not come to
- 12 testify before the Court.
- 13 And as I was saying earlier, you also <issued> a memo --
- 14 E319/14/2 -- in which you indicated <an approach for prosecutors
- 15 to follow> regarding the disclosure of civil party statements in
- 16 Cases 003 and 004, and indeed you noted the <challenges> that may
- 17 come about, and the issue of the probative value of the
- 18 information contained in these statements and of their
- 19 reliability of this information <as pertains to any rulings
- 20 handed down>.
- 21 [09.22.57]
- 22 This leads me to another general observation on Cases 003 and
- 23 004; this is an important point because this was at the root of
- 24 the incident that occurred at the beginning of the <key
- 25 documents> hearings in which the Prosecution and the civil

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- 1 parties presented their documents, <with an issue raised by the
- 2 Defence, which> I am obliged to reiterate. <Regarding these
- 3 statements drawn from> Cases 003 and 004 <relating specifically
- 4 to the presentation> by the Co-Prosecutors of documents <on> the
- 5 Trapeang Thma site<, I must> remind the public what the proper
- 6 procedure was in this case.
- 7 [09.23.50]
- 8 We are <in proceedings before> the ECCC -- and I <had to remind>
- 9 you of this last Thursday when the issue was raised with regard
- 10 to the witness for the next segment -- we are in here in
- 12 like to remind you that on 18 July 2007, the Co-Prosecutors filed
- 13 an introductory submission. And I would like to remind you that
- 14 on 16 August 2010, the Co-Prosecutors filed their final
- 15 submission -- that is to say, the elements they felt were useful
- 16 to give to the Investigating Judges before they <issued> their
- 17 Closing Order. And a Closing Order was issued, and the
- 18 Co-Prosecutors did not appeal this Closing Order, and so my
- 19 conclusion is that they believe that the information in the
- 20 Closing Order and the evidence was sufficient for them to
- 21 demonstrate -- or to attempt to demonstrate the guilt of the
- 22 <Accused> in Case 002.
- 23 [09.25.05]
- 24 There was no appeal, and I'm noting this because <countless>
- 25 times we have heard from the Chamber when we were endeavouring to

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- 1 prove that there were issues during the interviews by the
- 2 investigators of the OCIJ, that there were issues when we noticed
- 3 the differences between what was written in the statements and
- 4 what was heard on the audio tapes, and so many times the Chamber
- 5 <sent us packing, saying, "No, be careful, > there is an
- 6 investigation, you should have done your job during the
- 7 investigation, it's too late." It's too late, that's what we were
- 8 being told, and I must confess that I don't understand why <in
- 9 this context, > when the Co-Prosecutors, today in 2015,
- 10 <introduced or> tried to introduce a <significant> number of
- 11 elements from other investigations, I don't understand why
- 12 they're not also <being sent packing.>
- 13 Please, let's be <very> clear about the statements regarding
- 14 <the> Trapeang Thma <site> from other cases that were presented
- 15 by the Co-Prosecutors. <It's true,> the Co-Prosecutors filed a
- 16 <motion> asking to <tender these elements into evidence,> and we
- 17 < the Defence did not react fast enough <>. We did not <respond>
- 18 in a timely manner, I <would openly admit that, we are not acting
- 19 in bad faith. > However, I would like to <also > remind you that
- 20 <just> because the Parties do not respond, that <does not mean
- 21 that> they necessarily agree, <or that the Chamber in particular
- 22 is not required to monitor what happens, to> monitor documents
- 23 <requested to be tendered into evidence>.
- 24 [09.27.06]
- 25 I would like to refer you to our submissions regarding <> the

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- 1 general obligations of the Co-Prosecutors with regard to the
- 2 <introduction and> disclosure of documents coming from other
- 3 investigations, but I would like to remind you <above all> -- for
- 4 things to be completely clear <before the Chamber>, I would like
- 5 to remind you of the Martic jurisprudence before the ICTY. This
- 6 was a decision of 19 January 2006. In paragraph 11, this is what
- 7 is said -- and <this paragraph is unfortunately only in English,>
- 8 so<, interpreters, I will unfortunately read in English, and>
- 9 please excuse me for my accent. This is what is said in paragraph
- 10 11:
- 11 "Principles: Principles in matters of admissibility of evidence.
- 12 The Trial Chamber is, pursuant to the Statute of the Tribunal,
- 13 the guardian and guarantor of the procedural and substantive
- 14 rights of the Accused. In addition it has obligation to strike a
- 15 balance in seeking to protect the rights of victims and
- 16 witnesses. As the Trial is an often complex journey in search for
- 17 the truth in relation to the alleged individual criminal
- 18 responsibility of the accused, bearing in mind that the truth can
- 19 never be fully certified, the Trial Chamber considers the
- 20 question of admissibility of evidence do not arise only when one
- 21 of the Parties raises an objection to a piece of evidence sought
- 22 to be brought forward by the other party."
- 23 [09.29.14]
- 24 I would like to underscore this part: "As an inherent right and
- 25 duty to ensure that only evidence which qualifies for admission

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1 under the rules will be admitted. For this purpose, as may turn

- 2 out to be necessary from time to time, the Trial Chamber will
- 3 intervene ex officio to exclude from this proceeding this piece
- 4 of evidence which, in its opinion for one or more of the reason
- 5 laid down in the rules, ought not be admitted in evidence." End
- 6 of quote.
- 7 Why <> am I recalling this jurisprudence and <these> principles
- 8 today? It is because they are at the very centre of what we
- 9 pointed out <to you, what was pointed out to you back then by> my
- 10 <colleague, Counsel> Vercken, <when he> explained why he and the
- 11 Nuon Chea team objected to <the documents being presented as
- 12 key, > since <it was the documents hearing, where documents which
- 13 were not included in the investigation were being presented as
- 14 key, in an investigation that had gone on for quite some time,
- 15 during which the Co-Prosecutors had the opportunity to file
- 16 requests, or to file an appeal before the Pre-Trial Chamber,
- 17 which they did not do.>
- 18 [09.30.51]
- 19 <And the entire discussion on> documents from Cases 003 and 004
- 20 <does> not exclude, <moreover,> the issue of reliability. As I
- 21 pointed out at the beginning of my submissions<, you have this
- 22 problem, > that as regards <the proceedings in > Cases 003 and
- 23 004<, I believe> it is no longer possible to consult the audio
- 24 recordings of those interviews which means that we, the defence
- 25 teams, who were not a part of those investigations can only rely

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1 on what is presented to us in the statements of interview. <As

- 2 much as we have made objections or requested> clarifications
- 3 before the Chamber <regarding> persons who testified and whose
- 4 testimonies<, we noticed, > had discrepancies between what was
- 5 written and what was said before the Chamber<, that right and
- 6 opportunity is unavailable to us when the documents are only
- 7 presented in their written form. So once again> we have the issue
- 8 of reliability and it also raises the issue of <> the fairness of
- 9 the trial.
- 10 [09.32.11]
- 11 Written statements of witnesses who are not going to appear
- 12 before this Chamber are presented as <key> documents and they
- 13 will not be up to scrutiny, they will not be subject to
- 14 examinations by the Parties who <would> be able to ask questions
- 15 and <request> clarifications. What you're saying is, "This is
- 16 what the witness said", we don't know how the witness obtained
- 17 that information, we cannot cross-check <on which basis he or she
- 18 got that information, and we do not even know> whether it is
- 19 hearsay or not. So <once again> we have seen before this Chamber
- 20 that sometimes what is presented as <pure and simple> assertions
- 21 in written statements turn out to be hearsay evidence <once> the
- 22 witness appears to testify. The witness says: "No, I did not see
- 23 this personally, > I heard this; it was rumour"; and so on and so
- 24 forth. So <of course when it comes to the possibility of
- 25 correctly evaluating the weight of these statements, obviously

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- 1 the Defence has its hands tied, but, Your Honours, also have your
- 2 hands tied. > And under these conditions, you cannot therefore
- 3 accord any significant weight to those statements because they
- 4 are not <fully> subject to the principle of adversarial hearings,
- 5 and we cannot cross-check the <exact> sources of such information
- 6 <coming from witnesses>.
- 7 [09.33.22]
- 8 Having highlighted these points, what does the Khieu Samphan team
- 9 say in the face of the statements from Cases 003 and 004? These
- 10 statements raise a general question regarding the Trapeang Thma
- 11 Dam worksite segment<, for which these> documents <> were
- 12 presented as key documents. And this brings me <back to what I
- 13 was saying, which is, at some point, what are the Accused to
- 14 respond to? And at some point, when does the collection of
- 15 evidence end?>
- 16 <> Honourable Judge Lavergne, you've noted that it is possible to
- 17 <request new evidence. This evidence must truly be new, the
- 18 Parties must not have been able to obtain it earlier, or the
- 19 interest of justice must be so strong -- and in general it is
- 20 protective of the rights of the Accused -- that is, when there is
- 21 evidence, notably from the Defence, that is so important that it
- 22 is vital that it be presented. But that is not a reason to
- 23 introduce an ongoing investigation into a trial already underway.
- 24 That is not an opportunity to remedy loopholes in an
- 25 investigation either. Because, if I understand correctly, that is

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1 tantamount to saying: "OK, well, the investigation, maybe on

- 2 Trapeang Thma, or maybe on this or that other segment, was not
- 3 well done, so we need to plug up the holes by going out to look
- 4 for evidence in other case files." That is not acceptable. And it
- 5 is even less acceptable, given that we are in a trial in which
- 6 there has already been an investigation and which was already
- 7 postponed, and my client was first held in pre-trial detention>
- 8 on the basis of such <evidence>.
- 9 [09.35.27]
- 10 <So, if there is not enough evidence, then we need to assess such
- 11 evidence and not try to alleviate what might be a deficiency, or
- 12 perceived as a deficiency on the part of the Prosecution.>
- 13 Regarding materials that <are> already on <the case file, yes, I
- 14 said it, it is true, the documents that we objected to and which>
- 15 were the subject <a decision on your part. And which were
- 16 admitted into evidence, and are numbered they are> considered
- 17 as part of the case file.
- 18 Let me remind the Chamber that the Chamber has a possibility of
- 20 the mere fact that this was not pointed out to the Chamber right
- 21 on time does not mean that the Defence is indefinitely waiving
- 22 its right to raise this violation. > In that case it is incumbent
- 23 on the Chamber -- and again I'm recalling the jurisprudence of
- 24 ICTY<which I cited earlier> -- the Chamber has <a duty> to play
- 25 its role as the custodian of the rights of the Accused and to

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- 1 <monitor what is tendered into> evidence.
- 2 [09.36.31]
- 3 And regarding the possibility of <overturning your decisions>,
- 4 let me remind you of <paragraph 136 of your own ruling on 07
- 5 August 2014,> footnote <391,> in which you admitted that <during
- 6 deliberations you had overturned a decision regarding the
- 7 admission of a document, > because <you believed> it would confirm
- 8 Khieu Samphan's alibi. This means that you're not bound by a
- 9 decision <when, in light of new developments, you note that the
- 10 rights of the Accused have indeed been breached, when materials
- 11 have been tendered into evidence whereas they should not have
- 12 been>. And I wanted to point this out at the very beginning of my
- 13 submissions on the key documents presented by the Co-Prosecutors
- 14 <so> that the position of the <Khieu Samphan> defence should be
- 15 as clear and as precise as possible <so> that we understand, over
- 16 and beyond <the discussion we will have on the motion we filed
- 17 regarding> the obligations of the <Co->Prosecution. <The>
- 18 disclosures regarding Cases 003 and 004 <are the subject of> a
- 19 broader debate, but <on this point in particular and once again>
- 20 as regards documents <tendered into evidence> regarding Trapeang
- 21 Thma, it is possible for you to <overturn> your decision, and we
- 22 request that you should take into account all these preliminary
- 23 submissions I've made on the weak probative value of the
- 24 <documents> relating to witnesses who do not appear before you.
- 25 [09.38.12]

01430624

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- 1 As I pointed out earlier, a fair trial is, first of all, a trial
- 2 that is subject to adversarial proceedings, and we're talking
- 3 about <what can be a bit of> a fastidious exercise. But <it is
- 4 important, and > I think it is very useful <, it will be useful to
- 5 you, I hope, > in your deliberations when you have to consider
- 6 documents that are being presented by the various parties. And I
- 7 would like to talk about the respective sites and submissions,
- 8 and any additions of quotations that I consider necessary in the
- 9 case of the defence of my client, Khieu Samphan.
- 10 First of all as regards documents relating to the 1st January
- 11 Dam, document E3/2412, it is an article by François Ponchaud,
- 12 <entitled> "Kampuchea<, a> Revolutionary Economy". The
- 13 International Co-Prosecutor quoted a part of that article and I
- 14 would like to <draw> your attention to another <part which gives>
- 15 another perspective of the situation. The ERN is as follows: in
- 16 French is 00410765; and the ERN in Khmer is 00812343; ERN in
- 17 English, 00598519. The part that I consider relevant is as
- 18 follows: "Our motto is 'If we have rice, we can have everything
- 19 because the people can eat their fill'. We have rice for export
- 20 and we can then import the goods we need. With rice we can have
- 21 everything. We can have steel, factories, energy and tractors."
- 22 End of quote.
- 23 [09.40.31]
- 24 As part of the presentation of <this> document, the Prosecution
- 25 pointed out that -- they presented the construction of dams and

Corrected transcript: Text occurring between less than (<) and greater than (>) signs has been corrected to ensure consistency among the three language versions of the transcript. The corrections are based on the audio recordings in the source language and may differ from verbatim interpretation in the relay and target languages.

E1/342.1

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20

- 1 agriculture as a war. Indeed it was a war to have rice, which was
- 2 the only economic commodity of Democratic Kampuchea. This is a
- 3 point I wanted to highlight in this document by François
- 4 Ponchaud.
- 5 Another point regarding the utility of dams <and> agriculture; it
- 6 is the last page of this document <-- not the last page, it is
- 7 page --> the ERN in French is 00410772; in English, 00598525; and
- 8 in Khmer, 00410772. I would like to underscore what was mentioned
- 9 by various witnesses who appeared before this Chamber -- that is,
- 10 the fact that they didn't have to deal with only rice growing but
- 11 the growing of other crops and this is what Ponchaud says in his
- 12 article and I quote:
- 13 "Apart from rice farming, depicted as crucial in meeting the
- 14 people's needs and for export, emphasis is laid on <growing> the
- 15 following food crops, called 'strategic crops': bananas, soya
- 16 beans, sweet potatoes, sugarcane, yams, sesame, maize, etc.
- 17 <Rather frequent radio > reports <> indicate the number of
- 18 hectares on which the various crops are grown, the number of
- 19 banana trees, sweet potato tubers, coconut trees, so on and so
- 20 forth." This is a point that is considered essential by the
- 21 Prosecution, which shows that, as part of the construction of dam
- 22 and the irrigation system, there was a commitment to growing food
- 23 crops for the people.
- 24 [09.42.42]
- 25 The second document I would like to point out to the Chamber is

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- 1 the record of interview of Ieng Chham, and it is document
- 2 E3/5513. In that document the Co-Prosecutors read Question/Answer
- 3 <54,> particularly to say <or> stress the fact that there were
- 4 problems in technical training of technicians who <were supposed
- 5 to work> on the dam worksite, and notably <-- it wasn't question
- 6 54, this was questions 56 and 59, which were mentioned by the
- 7 Prosecution<, and I would like to highlight two questions and
- 8 answers:> Question/Answer 45 and Question/Answer 54.
- 9 Question and Answer 45: "<From what you observed, was the
- 10 learning process at the time scientific in nature>?" He's talking
- 11 about the techniques that had to be acquired by people who had to
- 12 work on the <dams>. This is Ieng Chham's answer: "I believe that
- 13 the <technology> at the time <was well-founded, which I thought
- 14 was good and remarkable. > I think that it was <well-developed>
- 15 for that time being because, at that time, we <worked> on
- 17 techniques <for using all of> those tools." End of quote.
- 18 [09.44.32]
- 19 And as regards the plans <for> the 1st January Dam, this is the
- 20 question that was put to the witness and it's Question 54:
- 21 "<Before> the dam construction, <had you seen> the <master>
- 22 project or the <master plan>?"
- 23 Answer: "I just saw <only a> plan <of the locks, which was> drawn
- 24 in <great> detail." End of quote.
- 25 These two points are, <in my view> important in <what is

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- 1 considered to be a key document, > as I understood from the
- 2 Co-Prosecutors' submissions <that> they were challenging the
- 3 plans <of these > dams and in this statement, you have information
- 4 that confirms the fact that techniques that were current during
- 5 that period were used. And I say this in connection with what
- 6 witness Pech Sokha said at the hearing of 21st July 2015 <(sic)>,
- 7 and I refer to the record of interview, <E1/302.1> (phonetic),
- 8 and <somewhere around 11.29 in the morning, > he said that his
- 9 boss <Chham> confirmed that the plan was correct<, as well>.
- 10 [09.46.07]
- 11 Another document I would like point out to the Chamber is
- 12 document E3/35; it's the <record of> interview of Ke Pich Vannak
- 13 and the ERN in French, < 00367722>; in Khmer, 00340564; and the
- 14 ERN in English, 00346150. The Co-Prosecutors quoted on the same
- 15 page, <information> regarding persons who died due to ill health
- or lack of medicines on the site but they did not <pursue> what
- 17 the witness actually stated. And <I would like to> look at the
- 18 following answer by the witness and -- so the last sentence
- 19 quoted by the Co-Prosecutor was as follows -- and this is what
- 20 the witness said: "During the construction of the dam, I knew
- 21 that people died of ill health and the lack of medication. " And
- 22 he goes on to say, and this is what I'm adding to the quotation:
- 23 "Then, I heard that Ieng Thirith had issued <an order> that
- 24 traditional medicines be boiled in order to obtain black tablets.
- 25 < We used empty cartridges as moulds to make this medicine. For

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- 1 more information on this story, you <will have to ask Dr. Sek.
- 2 At the time he was a military doctor and surgeon at the military
- 3 hospital, situated south of the administrative headquarters of
- 4 Kampong Cham province<. Sek still lives there."> And this is what
- 5 the witness says precisely: "I heard about <the manufacture of>
- 6 medicines when I drove Ieng Thirith and <a> Laotian <delegate> to
- 7 visit the 1st January Dam. I <am> not sure whether or not Ieng
- 8 Thirith knew about people who had died from the lack of
- 9 medicines. At that time, Ieng Thirith said <"We> lack medicines
- 10 but we are doing research on traditional medicine <in order to
- 11 treat> patients." Sometime later they <imported> quinine trees
- 12 from China to <plant them> in Cambodia. Those quinine trees <are
- 13 still in the east of Tang Krasang, > Santuk district <, Kampong
- 14 Thom province>. Later on there was an announcement about that. <I
- 15 heard it with my own ears.>" End of quote.
- 16 [09.48.55]
- 17 This part <seemed> relevant to us because we've spoken at length
- 18 of traditional medicine as if there <was> a <desire> not to take
- 19 <real> measures <to resolve the problem, notably regarding>
- 20 malaria. And <I think it is important to> point out that quinine
- 21 is an essential component of medicine used to <treat> malaria.
- 22 Perhaps the measures taken were not sufficient, perhaps they were
- 23 not up to the task <at hand, > but <according to this witness,
- 24 measures were indeed taken and traditional medicine along with
- other steps were taken> to treat the population <>.

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- 1 [09.49.45]
- 2 Another point I would like to highlight is in document E3/9349;
- 3 it is the record of interview of witness Chuop Non; the French
- 4 ERN is <00277437>; and the ERN in Khmer, 00239922; and the ERN in
- 5 English is 00244157; and the part that is of relevance to me is
- 6 the question asked and it is as follows:
- 7 "Can you describe the government structure at that time?"
- 8 Answer: "I knew there were <commune> chiefs, village chiefs and
- 9 mobile unit chiefs, but I don't know <if> the <commune> chiefs
- 10 received orders from <some other upper echelon>." End of quote.
- 11 This passage is important to my mind because it corroborates what
- 12 the Co-Prosecutors <themselves> said when they were presenting
- 13 their key documents, and they said that they didn't have many
- 14 contemporaneous documents on the worksites, and that was the
- 15 reason why they were relying very much on witness statements.
- 16 Here again it is important to point out, and I believe the
- 17 evidence we heard on the worksites shows that most of the
- 18 witnesses who appeared before this Chamber spoke at length about
- 19 local cadres, but <in general> they did not know the exact
- 20 instructions <that were> received <nor> who gave those
- 21 instructions. <To me, this> part of the testimony illustrates
- 22 that point and it is important to bear this in mind in your
- 23 deliberations.
- 24 [09.51.45]
- 25 We have another point and it is from E3/2782, and also 2783

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1 because there are different reference numbers for the French and

- 2 English, and I'm interested particularly in the English version.
- 3 It is the supposed biography of Ke Pauk before he died. The Khieu
- 4 Samphan defence is of the opinion that this document is of a very
- 5 low probative value. I don't know under what conditions that
- 6 document was obtained and I don't know under what conditions
- 7 questions were put <or not put> to the witness<, what kind of
- 8 reaction was really elicited, what could be construed as comments
- 9 from the person who allegedly made that statement>. Be that as it
- 10 may, I would like to draw the attention of the Chamber to the
- 11 English version E3/2782 and the ERN in English is 00089716 and
- 12 this is the caption that appears in English, and I'll quote in
- 13 English:
- 14 [09.52.58]
- 15 "This document is incomplete and copied from the original
- 16 document but it is not known how many pages left." End of quote.
- 17 So this document is a priori incomplete and we don't know
- 18 anything about <what happened to> the missing pages, unless
- 19 DC-Cam provided <the original version to the Chamber, and I do
- 20 not believe they have. We do not have the original version in
- 21 our possession. <In this context, I obviously am requesting that
- 22 you be more prudent regarding the probative value you give to
- 23 this document, > since the sources are not known at this point in
- 24 time and there are missing pages.
- 25 Lastly, my last remarks on the key documents presented on the 1st

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- 1 January Dam. We have a number of documents -- <E3/284>, <E3/286>
- 2 -- regarding media articles presented by the Prosecution alleging
- 3 that those media articles talked about the tours of foreign
- 4 delegations that went to visit the 1st January Dam. The
- 5 Prosecution also pointed out that it was very likely that the
- 6 <Party, in any case, the> leaders were proud of the construction
- 7 of that dam.
- 8 [09.54.29]
- 9 The remark I would like to make at this stage is to note that it
- 10 is particularly relevant to bear in mind that Khieu Samphan does
- 11 not feature as one of the persons who accompanied those
- 12 delegations to the 1st January Dam in these media articles. This
- 13 is something important to bear in mind in light of Elizabeth
- 14 Becker's testimony when she said that during her visit she did
- 15 not see Khieu Samphan. This is important when we talk about the
- 16 role of Khieu Samphan but I wanted to highlight this point
- 17 because it also transpires from documents presented as key
- 18 documents by the Prosecution.
- 19 As regards documents presented by the Civil Parties, I will refer
- 20 you to my introductory remarks, as <they are essentially> written
- 21 statements <from civil party applications>, with all the
- 22 difficulties I <referred> to this morning, we have to take them
- 23 with a pinch of salt as regards to probative value to be given to
- 24 those documents.
- 25 [09.55.43]

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1 I would like to talk <now> about the issue of documents relating

- 2 to the Kampong Chhnang Airport, particularly the documents
- 3 presented by the International Co-Prosecutor. I would like to
- 4 refer particularly to the comments and the remarks that arise as
- 5 far as the Defence is concerned. <A large number of the documents
- 6 presented on the Kampong Chhnang airport> are military documents.
- 7 When I talk of military documents, I mean <records> of meetings
- 8 with <division> secretaries and so on and so forth. In document
- 9 E3/182, which is the <minutes> of the Standing Committee
- 10 <meeting> of the 9 October <1975, I note that> the Prosecution
- 11 said that this document proves that Khieu Samphan was informed of
- 12 the <plan to build a> military airport, so he was aware of the
- 13 plan.
- 14 My first remarks are that, the fact that <the issue of the
- 15 Kampong Chhnang airport or the possibility of building the
- 16 Kampong Chhnang airport may have come up> in a general meeting of
- 17 the Standing Committee <does not mean we can> infer <> that
- 18 there was any willingness on the part of Khieu Samphan to want to
- 19 adhere to a plan that <led to> the ill-treatment of persons at
- 20 that Kampong Chhnang Airport construction site. That is my first
- 21 remark.
- 22 [09.57.23]
- 23 The second remark has to deal with numerous issues raised: you
- 24 <have> documents relating to the chain of military command; you
- 25 also <a href="https://documents.mentioned">also <a href="https://documents.mentioned">https://documents.mentioned</a> by the Prosecution in which

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- 1 Comrade Khieu is mentioned. This is important for the defence of
- 2 Khieu Samphan<, that> is, that Comrade Khieu, <who> was Son Sen,
- 3 was the only Khieu who had military responsibilities, and when
- 4 mention is made of Khieu in the testimony of witnesses before the
- 5 Chamber, we should bear in mind that the people during that
- 6 period did not necessarily know the leaders and they could have
- 7 mixed up the names. In any case, <I maintain> that Comrade Khieu,
- 8 Son Sen, was the person who was in charge of military affairs and
- 9 he was the one who managed<, apparently> very closely, the
- 10 matters regarding Kampong Chhnang Airport. Let me refer to you
- 11 document E3/229, in French, 00334958; ERN in Khmer is 00000713;
- 12 and it continues on the next page, the ERN in English, 00182625.
- 13 It is <interesting> to note that in these documents it is said
- 14 that, "Comrade Khieu reported as follows" -- and it's
- 15 sub-paragraph (a) in document E3/229, sub-paragraph (b) <it is>
- 16 said that, <"Super> Comrade Khieu raised <the> issue <of Chinese
- 17 assistance> related to the air and naval <sectors."> And we
- 18 understand that Comrade Khieu alias Son Sen is the person in
- 19 charge of such matters.
- 20 [09.59.16]
- 21 So, I'm making the same remarks regarding document E3/222, "Super
- 22 Comrade <reports"> -- and French ERN is 00323892; Khmer, ERN
- 23 <0008482 (sic) and it continues onto the next page>; and ERN in
- 24 English, <00182665>; and it continues on the next page, "Super
- 25 Comrade Khieu <reports">.

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1 <Next>, regarding document E3/236, also in document E3/236, <> 2 presented by the Co-Prosecutors, it's also interesting to see 3 that the list of the attendees is not always there <-- that is the case for this document --> and it's also interesting to see 4 that we're dealing here with <general considerations or> 5 decision-making without exactly knowing what was <reported> 6 7 regarding the operations at Kampong Chhnang Airport. So, we in the Khieu Samphan defence team believe that we cannot use these 8 9 documents<, no matter how key the Prosecution believes they are,> 10 to consider that <any desire> to mistreat the soldiers who were 11 working at the Kampong Chhnang Airport site <was approved of by 12 Khieu Samphan>. And to be complete here, because once again, most 13 documents presented regarding this airport are military documents because <as we have seen from the evidence presented,> this was a 14 15 military airport. I must remind you of your Judgment of 7 August 16 2014 in paragraph <378> in which you <had> already concluded that 17 the Chamber is convinced that Khieu Samphan never held personal

19 held any> responsibilities there. So this is an element that we

power in the military area<, regardless of whether or not he ever

- 20 should consider <in perspective>, and in the context of these <>
- 21 key documents <which are by and large military documents>, I have
- 22 to stress this point in relation to what the Co-Prosecutors are
- 23 presenting.

18

- 24 [10.01.42]
- 25 Another point that I think is important and which I <need to

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- 1 underscore as regards the documents presented by the
- 2 Co-Prosecutors is the fact <among, the fact > that in these
- 3 <minutes of meetings>, there were <a> number of points that were
- 4 brought up that demonstrate that the issues of food and rice were
- 5 being taken into consideration. < It was a continuous issue, once
- 6 again, and it was> a point that was put forth <br/> <br/>ty us> in Case
- 7 002/01, but <which> is also <at the heart of the Defence's
- 8 concerns> with regard to the reason why dams were built <and
- 9 irrigation was necessary> -- that is to say, explanations of
- 10 <extremely> important food issues that the population was facing,
- 11 and the necessity to solve these issues as soon as possible. And
- 12 this is what is said in document E3/13, which are the minutes of
- 13 <a> meeting between division secretaries <and undersecretaries;>
- 14 E3/13, French, ERN <00323892 (sic)>; Khmer, <00052416>; English,
- 15 00183994; and the paragraph I would like to focus on is <at the
- 16 top of the page in French, > paragraph 3, and this is what is
- 17 said:
- 18 [10.03.45]
- 19 <"3.> Regarding the living conditions of the soldiers:
- 20 A) As of 20 December, <the daily ration of> 23 cans of rice <per>
- 21 10 people <should be applied> and they should be able to eat two
- 22 or three times.
- 23 B) A litre of fish sauce per person per month.
- 24 D) It is necessary to raise many animals and to surpass the plans
- 25 that were set <in the decision of> the Third Congress. What's

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- 1 important is to solve the <reproduction> problems for our
- 2 brothers in arms. <We must select people to be responsible for
- 3 research on reproduction.>
- 4 E) We have to grow <a lot of> vegetables and give more energy to
- 5 the movement. We have to make sure that we grow popular <br/>basic>
- 6 vegetables such as squash, <qourds, > pumpkins, papaya, <zucchini,
- 7 'sloek ba' (phonetic), 'chralong' (phonetic)>, all kinds of
- 8 aromatic leaves, chives, papaya, as well as morning glory."
- 9 And later it is said:
- 10 "Propose <that> each unit to nominate people <in charge of
- 11 managing> the living conditions of the soldiers on a permanent
- 12 basis. Regarding clothing: Our brothers in arms should be
- 13 properly dressed. We have to raise many pigs."
- 14 Points 4 and 5--.
- 15 [10.05.09]
- 16 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 17 Counsel, please wait, and the floor is now given to the
- 18 <International> Deputy Co-Prosecutor. You may proceed
- 19 MR. DE WILDE D'ESTMAEL:
- 20 Thank you, Mr. President; and good morning to you, all of you.
- 21 The Defence has just said that they were reading out an excerpt
- 22 of document E3/13, but in fact it is an excerpt from document
- 23 E3/804. So <to avoid any confusion on> the record, I'm making
- 24 this correction.
- 25 [10.05.54]

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32

- 1 MS. GUISSE:
- 2 Indeed, thank you very much for having drawn my attention to this
- 3 mistake. Yes, indeed I was speaking about document <E3/804>. But
- 4 <returning> to document E3/13<, which> I brought up first, I
- 5 would like to let you know that the issue of rice was a central
- 6 issue for the army and that <the issue of providing food to the
- 7 army personnel is on the last page of document E3/13, in all
- 8 languages, > in which we see that there are statistical data
- 9 regarding the <transplanted> rice paddy. <So that was indeed
- 10 document E3/13.>
- 11 But now I will <go> to document <E3/804> in which I quoted part
- of sub-paragraph 3 and now I would like to get to sub-paragraph
- 13 6, French, ERN 00386209; Khmer, <00008482, and I think that
- 14 should be 83 for that part>; and English, 00233719, and on the
- 15 following page.
- 16 <It reads as follows:>
- 17 "6. Regarding general production work, sub-paragraph (a)
- 18 regarding the harvesting of paddy: All forces have to be
- 19 <assembled> to harvest on time <to avoid any losses>. The work
- 20 that is not necessary is to be <set> aside. Even education has to
- 21 be stopped on a temporary basis <>. We have to harvest the paddy
- 22 that is about to ripen by <assembling> forces for the harvest.
- 23 The paddy that is about to <ripen> has to be dried and we have to
- 24 propose to thresh the paddy <at the harvest site or after the
- 25 harvest site, before transporting the patty grains to storage>.

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- 1 We have to also solve the problem of mats and if there is a lack
- 2 of water, we have to pump water; not let the paddy just dry up
- 3 <at any price>."
- 4 [10.08.02]
- 5 "B) The problem of seeds: We have to put aside a sufficient
- 6 number of seeds and <select and> store them <well>. The issues of
- 7 dry season paddy, and floating rice paddy, we should come up with
- 8 plans."
- 9 And finally -- and this is the last page of this document:
- 10 French, it is 00386210; the same pages in Khmer and in English as
- 11 the ones I gave before<. It reads <as follows -- it says> "ours"
- 12 so I suppose <that means the resolution, at least, it is written
- 13 down as "ours":
- 14 "This <plan> is to> be applied as of 20th of December. The forces
- 15 doing heavy work should have 23 cans of rice <per ten people per
- 16 day. The forces from the centres> will have 20 cans <of rice per
- 17 day>." End of quote.
- 18 So here, once again, this is a document that is considered as a
- 19 key document by the Prosecution and this document proves that
- 20 there is constant concern with regard to what kind of rice can be
- 21 harvested and what kind of <food> rations can be provided to the
- 22 army.
- 23 [10.09.16]
- 24 <I would also like to look at the documents cited, that is>
- 25 E3/807 <and E3/1140>, which are minutes of meetings <of division

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- 1 secretaries and undersecretaries, > or <correspondences > sent to
- 2 S-21 that was brought up by the Prosecution, and here just to let
- 3 you know that we're speaking here again about military documents
- 4 regarding military management.
- 5 Another document that I think is interesting is E3/849 and I'm
- 6 going to be looking at the English version; it's a single page
- 7 document -- ERN 00183956. As Judge Lavergne <pointed out>, in
- 8 French there is a missing <annotation> and this should be checked
- 9 <a priori> against the Khmer but what I note in this document and
- 10 what I think is useful <for the Khieu Samphan defence> is that,
- 11 in March 1977, it is shown in number 2 and 3 of this table that
- 12 Division 310 and Division 450 were in Kampong Chhnang<, for
- 13 Division 310, and 1526 for Division 450, which is noted in this
- 14 document, at least, in March 1977,> these forces are considered
- 15 as being part of the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea.
- 16 [10.11.08]
- 17 Another document which I would like to revisit is document
- 18 E3/5263 which is a written record of interview of witness Sreng
- 19 Thi, <which> was mentioned many times by the International
- 20 Co-Prosecutor. And I would like to draw your attention to the
- 21 fact, as the President noted back then, that he is speaking about
- 22 a security centre called S-22<, Mr. Co-Prosecutor> Bill Smith
- 23 gave his interpretation of what S-22 was. But as the President
- 24 <highlighted>, S-22 is not included in the <security centres that
- 25 are the subject of this> current segment. And more generally

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1 speaking, it's not a security centre for which there were

- 2 findings in the Closing Order. So, we cannot consider this part
- 3 of the testimony<, or rather, of this statement,> with full
- 4 confidence, because these witnesses have been neither heard by
- 5 the Chamber nor by the Parties, and therefore, the Defence cannot
- 6 properly exercise its right to request clarifications and
- 7 indications of the sources of the information provided by the
- 8 witness <in question>.
- 9 [10.12.45]
- 10 Two other documents seem interesting to us as well; these are the
- 11 two written records of interview of witness Chhouk Rin -- that is
- 12 to say, document E3/362 and E3/361. Chhouk Rin was heard during
- 13 the first Trial -- 002/01 -- and he is one of the witnesses who
- 14 said that Khieu Samphan held no military responsibilities. What's
- 15 interesting to know aside from the fact that his testimony may be
- 16 considered useful by the Prosecution, but it's a pity that he was
- 17 not asked to speak before the Chamber because this would have
- 18 allowed us <to perhaps obtain more information, and> to
- 19 cross-examine the information presented by the prosecutor as
- 20 essential to its case. But, in any case, an important point in
- 21 this document -- E3/361 -- at French, ERN 00268884; Khmer, ERN
- 22 00194467; English, 00766453; and this is a point that was not
- 23 noted by the Prosecution but which is important <nonetheless,>
- 24 because it regards the purges and this is what the witness says
- 25 in his written statement in any case. The question that is put to

Corrected transcript: Text occurring between less than (<) and greater than (>) signs has been corrected to ensure consistency among the three language versions of the transcript. The corrections are based on the audio recordings in the source language and may differ from verbatim interpretation in the relay and target languages.

E1/342.1

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- 1 him is the following: "Can you clarify how you received <the>
- 2 order?" So the person putting the question is speaking about the
- 3 order to go to the East Zone, and this is what Chhouk Rin
- 4 answers: "High level military commanders, including myself,
- 5 received orders by telegram to travel to the East Zone and we
- 6 also received verbal orders in a special military meeting in
- 7 Phnom Penh and this meeting was held during about the same time
- 8 as the Party Annual General Assembly." And a specific part that I
- 9 would like to focus on, and I quote: "There were separate
- 10 meetings for military commanders and the <civilians>. I attended
- 11 the meeting for military commanders for approximately 40 to 50
- 12 division and regimental commanders in attendance." <End of
- 13 quote.>
- 14 So, once again when we speak about purges and military decisions
- 15 and purges within the army, it's interesting to note that Chhouk
- 16 Rin himself indicated that there were separate meetings for
- 17 civilians and for the military, so this is an important element
- 18 for the Khieu Samphan defence case because this refers us <once
- 19 again> to the fact that <you> have already concluded that Khieu
- 20 Samphan held no military duties and no Party appealed this in the
- 21 current Appeal, and therefore it is considered res judicata.
- 22 [10.16.18]
- 23 Another important point that I would like to bring up regarding
- 24 documents relative to the Kampong Chhnang Airport, there is
- 25 document E3/5276, which is the written record of interview of

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- 1 witness Sin Sot <which> was presented by the Prosecution. And
- 2 again <> we are expressing of course all our reservations with
- 3 regard to <the written statement of a> witness who is not
- 4 appearing before the Chamber <and whom we cannot fully examine
- 5 regarding the sources of his information. But> there is a point
- 6 that seems interesting with regard to how the Kampong Chhnang
- 7 Airport operated. It is at French, ERN 00339922; at Khmer, ERN
- 8 00282954; and English, ERN 00287356; and this is the question
- 9 that is put to the witness:
- 10 "Did you see the senior Khmer Rouge leaders visit the Kampong
- 11 Chhnang Airport?"
- 12 His answer: "I never saw anyone come and I did not know anyone
- 13 either. I never knew the name of the <person who was in charge
- 14 of> the airport construction site but I saw many hundreds of
- 15 Chinese experts overseeing the airport construction site. The
- 16 Chinese were wearing white shirts and khaki trousers." End of
- 17 quote. So, this part of Sin Sot's statement <of course> has to be
- 18 <compared> with the elements that you might have heard before
- 19 this Chamber with regard to the presence of many Chinese experts
- 20 at the Kampong Chhnang Airport, and it is interesting to note
- 21 that Sin Sot is indeed speaking about the Chinese overseeing the
- 22 works at the construction site.
- 23 [10.18.24]
- 24 And a last point regarding <> the Kampong Chhnang Airport, <has
- 25 to do with> the statements that were used by the Prosecution as

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- 1 essential elements <related> to crimes that they <> themselves
- 2 <understand> are not <among the charges> against the Accused
- 3 because <a priori> these crimes occurred after the arrival of the
- 4 Vietnamese in Cambodia, but <despite that> they are asking you to
- 5 take these crimes into consideration. This is document E3/3962.
- 6 This is the interview of Khoem Samhuon of Division <210>: French,
- 7 ERN 00355878; Khmer, 00287540; English, 00293369; and the part I
- 8 would like to focus on, because we're told to consider facts that
- 9 coccurred after> the facts <with which> we are seized <>, but <at</pre>
- 10 the same time, we overlook an important point that I'm going to
- 11 read to you, and this is the question that is put to the witness:
- 12 Question: "Do you have anything to add regarding the events that
- 13 occurred at the Kampong Chhnang construction site?"
- 14 The witness's answer is the following: "I wish to tell you that
- 15 those who were ill at the worksite were sent to the Kampong
- 16 Chhnang provincial hospital. I never saw anyone die at the
- 17 Kampong Chhnang Airport site." End of quote. <>
- 18 [10.20.20]
- 19 So, here <as> regards <the period of> the facts <with which> you
- 20 are seized, and this is what the witness says, but what the
- 21 Prosecution tells you is, "No, <but> it's true <>, " and I will of
- 22 course quote what <the> prosecutor Bill Smith said <so as to not
- 23 misrepresent what he stated at the hearing of> 3 September 2015
- 24 -- a little bit past 1.44 in the afternoon -- and this what he
- 25 said:

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1 "The Co-Prosecutor's office is aware of the fact that the Accused

- 2 are not being charged with these <> crimes <of executions>
- 3 because <it appears> they occurred after the ratione temporis
- 4 jurisdiction of the trial, but they <do not prove those facts.>
- 5 However, we are asking the Chamber to take into account this
- 6 evidence in order to see if these workers <or prisoners> from the
- 7 East Zone were persecuted or not at the Kampong Chhnang Airport."
- 8 End of quote. <>
- 9 So here, I have a real legal problem -- that is to say, we are
- 10 speaking here about facts <with which> you're not seized <> and
- 11 we're told that it's not <> to prove <these> crimes, but I have
- 12 written statements that are speaking about facts that do not
- 13 concern charges levelled against my client, facts that occurred
- 14 after the Tribunal's ratione temporis jurisdiction<, and facts
- 15 which are not under the jurisdiction of this Tribunal, for which
- 16 we do not have specific information, that is, > under which
- 17 circumstances these executions took place<, etc>. But we are
- 18 asked, <> nonetheless, to take these elements<, which we have
- 19 never "factually" heard any witnesses, > into account <and which >
- 20 are not part of your jurisdiction, but we are asked to take them
- 21 into account to prove a <crime of persecution>.
- 22 This, again, is a particularly poorly founded request, especially
- 23 since the Co-Prosecutor made sure not to quote the passage that I
- 24 just quoted to you, which <specifically demonstrates> that <> at
- 25 the Kampong Chhnang Airport worksite<, with which you are

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- 1 seized>, the witness saw no one die.
- 2 So I'm asking you, please, to dismiss the prosecutor's argument
- 3 with regard to this point and to note that you're not seized
- 4 <with> facts <relating to> to executions that occurred after the
- 5 arrival of the Vietnamese troops. And once again, we have very
- 6 6 these facts, and
- 7 therefore <you would be relying on a very weak basis> to
- 8 <establish another> crime<, that is, persecution,> which is what
- 9 the prosecutor is seeking.
- 10 [10.23.30]
- 11 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 12 <International> Deputy Co-Prosecutor, you may proceed.
- 13 MR. DE WILDE D'ESTMAEL:
- 14 Thank you, Mr. President. I simply would like to mention in
- 15 passing that paragraph 398 of the Closing Order <relating>
- 16 therefore to the Kampong Chhnang <airport> construction site
- 17 mentions massacres that occurred after 6 January 1979 and
- 18 therefore the Investigating Judges considered that <this> element
- 19 <was> important. Of course, this does not fall within the exact
- 20 temporal scope of this Case, <> however it is important in order
- 21 to assess <intent vis-à-vis> certain categories of people.
- 22 [10.24.23]
- 23 MS. GUISSE:
- Once again, let me <refer to> the explanations that I <have> just
- 25 <given. That is, if> we agree that the facts are not part of the

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- 1 temporal <jurisdiction> of the Trial, if we agree that we do not
- 2 know what were the specific circumstances <surrounding> these
- 3 executions that took place after <> 6 January 1979, I do not see
- 4 how we can conclude that there was <> specific <intent> behind
- 5 this, based on elements that <we do not specifically have, for
- 6 facts that > occurred before <the facts >. In any case, with regard
- 7 to <this witness, for the> facts that fall within your temporal
- 8 <jurisdiction and for the acts committed at the airport>, I would
- 9 like to <quote> again <what has been said>: "I saw no one die at
- 10 the Kampong Chhnang Airport."
- 11 So Mr. President, I'm going to turn now to the documents relative
- 12 to Trapeang Thma so maybe now we can take a break.
- 13 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 14 Thank you. Let us take a short break; we will take a break now
- 15 and return at <10.40 a.m.>
- 16 The Court is now in recess.
- 17 (Court recesses from 1025H to 1043H)
- 18 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 19 Please be seated.
- 20 The Court is back in session and the floor is now given to the
- 21 defence counsel for Mr. Khieu Samphan to resume her submission in
- 22 relation to the response to <the key> documents presented by the
- 23 Co-Prosecutors and Co-Lead Lawyers <for civil parties>. You may
- 24 now proceed.
- 25 [10.45.04]

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- 1 MS. GUISSE:
- 2 Thank you, Mr. President. I am coming to the end of my responses
- 3 and I will now deal with documents presented by the Prosecution
- 4 on the Trapeang Thma dam. And I will look at a number of
- 5 documents, particularly reports of the committees of <Sector> 5.
- 6 The first document is E3/178; the ERN in French is 00623317, and
- 7 the ERN in Khmer is 00275596, and the ERN in English is 00342719.
- 8 And it continues on the next page. This first passage that is
- 9 relevant to me is still in line with <-- what is relevant in
- 10 these documents -- once again, the Prosecution views them as key
- 11 documents -- is to find out what elements were presented in the
- 12 context of the sector. > This is what is stated in the ERNs I have
- 13 just quoted:
- 14 "Regarding the growing of maize and beans<, like> in the Phnum
- 15 Srok district, it was <completely> damaged <twice in a row, and
- 16 that was> on tens of hectares of land on which they planted these
- 17 crops, whereas it rained only once. But once those crops were
- 18 planted, it didn't rain, so the crops dried up <and died. Then it
- 19 rained again. > And they started planting again <but> again, the
- 20 drought caused the plants to dry up <and die>. Now the objective
- 21 is to wait a little bit for the rains to start <in order to
- 22 possibly start growing crops again>."
- 23 [10.47.32]
- 24 Regarding other strategic crops like cassava and sweet potatoes,
- 25 they had to grapple with the same problem of drought. And since

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1 there was very scarce rain in certain regions, the general

- 2 offensive <had not been launched yet>. The same is true of
- 3 vegetables and fruit trees that were provided for in the plan. In
- 4 the face of such an abnormal drought, <we conducted a gradual
- 5 study, and> we <planned on submitting a request> to Angkar
- 6 <between> May and <early> June. As a matter of fact, if the
- 7 drought persisted, <I> proposed that water be collected from
- 8 Stueng Thum and that <we dig channels to collect the water from
- 9 the Steung Thum>." End of quotation. <>
- 10 This passage <is relevant because it> highlights the problems
- 11 faced <even> by the local leaders <as regards agricultural
- 12 management>. It also shows that the problem of food shortages
- 13 faced by the people <are not, as one might think -- or in any
- 14 case, it seems that is how the Prosecution has presented it --
- 15 the result of a deliberate plan to starve> the people, <but that
- 16 there were real challenges> faced by the people.
- 17 [10.49.01]
- 18 Another passage has to do with <the districts, which were
- 19 mentioned> during the presentation <of> evidence on the Trapeang
- 20 Thma dam<, so it is still> in Phnum Srok. <This is the second
- 21 citation of the same document. > So the ERN of this document in
- 22 French is <00623318> and it continues on the next page; and the
- 23 Khmer ERN is 00275597; and the ERN in English, 00342721. <> The
- 24 paragraph that is of interest to me <is entitled, "The Food
- 25 Situation Faced by the People">. The second paragraph in this

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1 document after the title is as follows:

- 2 "Regarding the Phnum Srok district, <which> as of <mid-April> is
- 3 facing food shortages<,> we are <currently hurrying to resupply</pre>
- 4 them> using the vehicles in the region. We noted that the food
- 5 provided each day is <entirely> consumed on the same day. In our
- 6 view, the food sent from Phnum Srok cannot be enough <until the>
- 7 new paddy <is> harvested <in Phnum Srok district> in <September
- 8 and October, if we apply the regime imposed by Angkar. < In fact,
- 9 up> to then, we have the months of June, July, and August. In
- 10 this regard, as a measure to resolve the problem in this
- 11 district, we must endeavour to launch the offensive to harvest
- 12 rice at the beginning of the season, endeavour to plant maize,
- 13 beans, cassava, sweet potatoes, and all kinds of vegetables.
- 14 "Secondly, the food supply made available from the Thma Puok
- 15 district must be used economically, <by being mixed> with
- 16 cassava, sweet potatoes, and vegetables<, and a little later with
- 17 maize and beans> in order <that it may be combined> with the
- 18 paddy <a href="harvested">paddy <a href="harvested">harvested</a>> at the beginning of the season." End of quote.
- 19 [10.51.10]
- 20 And further down <on the same page>, this is what is stated in
- 21 second paragraph before the end of the document <in French>:
- 22 "Consequently, in this year, 1977, in the districts of Phnum Srok
- 23 and Preah Netr Preah, while there is storm attack to fulfil the
- 24 1977 <duties>, there is also a concern about the food; but for
- 25 this concern, we are absolutely determined <to find a> collective

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- 1 solution in the sector both in Thma Puok district <and> Sisophon
- 2 district, to <work hand-in-hand> to resolve <the problems> at
- 3 <all> cost, in order to <assemble all> the forces <very>
- 4 vigorously to achieve the <objectives> of the Party.
- 5 "<Regarding> the <food> rations in the front lines <and in the
- 6 sector of the early rice farming offensive, > currently only two
- 7 tins of <hulled> rice are provided, because if a ration of three
- 8 tins <of hulled rice > continues, <> it will affect the districts
- 9 <already suffering from shortages>. If a ration of two tins <of
- 10 hulled rice is set, the remaining one tin can be given to the <>
- 11 districts <suffering from shortages>." End of quote.
- 12 <These passages are> relevant to us because <they aim> to show
- 13 that whenever there were food shortages due to the problem of
- 14 drought <or other issues>, there <appears to have also been an>
- 15 internal management system <within> the <sector> and the zone.
- 16 <It is also important to note that, apparently, they organized
- 17 food supply <drives> from one place to the other. And <given that
- 18 the last page of the document> shows that <it> was addressed to
- 19 the Zone secretary in Office <560 and the archives, we note that,
- 20 in any case, at the internal zone level, there was a management
- 21 system and co-operation between the districts, which may also
- 22 explain the adjustments to the food rationing, in solidarity with
- 23 other sectors>.
- 24 <This is another point that we considered worth noting in this>
- 25 document considered as <key> by the Prosecution.

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- 1 [10.54.01]
- 2 Another document in the same line which <also> shows that there
- 3 were concerns with regard to food and <bad> weather <is> document
- 4 E3/179, the ERN in French is 00236772, the Khmer ERN is 00008501,
- 5 and the ERN in English is 00183016. It has to do with the Fifth
- 6 Region and this is what is stated:
- 7 "<Maize,> like soybeans, were damaged <twice> because of the
- 8 drought. Same applies to potatoes, hemp, and vegetables. We
- 9 focused on animal husbandry and <we are gradually preparing
- 10 chicken coops and stables." End of quote.>
- 11 <After that quote, the Prosecution gave a quote on the>
- 12 construction of reservoirs in Trapeang Thma. And <if we are to
- 13 understand the question on building the Trapeang Thma
- 14 reservoirs, > we must not forget the first previous passage
- 15 regarding farming conditions following the drought. These are
- 16 issues that we consider important to raise.
- 17 [10.55.50]
- 18 Another document that we would like to look at is document E3/950
- 19 which <appears to be> a report addressed to Angkar, Office 870,
- 20 by Nhim, <on 11 May 1978,> and the ERN in French is 00296222, and
- 21 the ERN in Khmer is 00021044, and the ERN in English is 00185216.
- 22 And this is what is stated in this document:
- 23 <"Problem-solving measures: Make an effort to provide food for</pre>
- 24 the population, in line with the ration set by Angkar, that is,
- 25 two and a half cans to those on the front, and one and a half

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- 1 cans to those who are at the rear, mixed with sweet potatoes,
- 2 maize, and beans.>
- 3 <Besides that, we shall endeavour to gradually resolve the issue
- 4 of clothing, fever, and housing. The same goes for the matters of
- 5 fish and meat." End of quote.>
- 6 <This part of the document is important to us, > because <it
- 7 appears to indicate> the issue of food shortages and the living
- 8 conditions of the people<, among the officials' concerns -- at
- 9 least that is what they put in their report. > And they said on
- 10 each occasion that they were working hard to resolve the problems
- 11 faced by the people, "to settle the matter." That is the term
- 12 used in the document. This is important to us. And once more, it
- 13 is an <important> contextual fact that we must take into account
- 14 when we <go back to the matter> of <> water <and the reservoirs,
- 15 which is then raised, > since it has to do with efforts made to
- 16 resolve the <food shortages> faced by the people.
- 17 [10.57.58]
- 18 Another <> document which deals with the same matter is E3/863,
- 19 and is the first page in all three languages, and in French it is
- 20 00623408; ERN in Khmer, 00076286; ERN in English, 00321961; and
- 21 it is in sub-paragraph 3 of this document. Since part of this
- 22 document was quoted by the Prosecution, but they didn't quote
- 23 what came before, and I wanted to place this passage in context.
- 24 This is what is stated in sub-paragraph 3.
- 25 <"Production work was highlighted in this report, but I would

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- 1 like to reiterate that the work was carried out in every sector,
- 2 late season and early season paddy, and various crops.>
- 3 However, these crops are not yet ready for <harvest. We have been
- 4 able to harvest much more than in the previous years.> There are
- 5 already some rain in the fields, in addition to water <we can
- 6 pump, from the reservoirs and canals. There is already some
- 7 there>. So these resources give us a chance to <grow anywhere>.
- 8 In every sector, <we have enough seeds on reserve, in line with
- 9 the plans for land use. Only> Sector 5 still has a problem with
- 10 seed shortages for the early season."
- 11 And this is where the quotation by the Prosecution <comes in>:
- 12 "I worked with Comrade Rin. <The comrade just has to produce>
- 13 14,000 <bags> of <> seeds so that we can plant them on the whole
- 14 land area <which he planned to farm>." End of quote.
- 15 So then, again, we are putting back <into> context this issue of
- 16 the drought and of <the reservoirs and> irrigation in order to
- 17 overcome the issues related to the drought and to make it
- 18 possible to harvest rice, but also other foods.
- 19 [11.00.36]
- 20 Finally, and this would be my last point regarding <the>> Trapeang
- 21 Thma <Dam, somewhat to wrap up my responses> -- so I will return
- 22 to what I was speaking about this morning -- that is to say,
- 23 another important point <in> the documents presented by the
- 24 Prosecution with regard to Trapeang Thma<, that is,> witness
- 25 statements coming from other investigations. And of course, I

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1 <would be making an omission if I did not mention that perhaps> 2 we were not <vigilant and proactive> enough by not systematically 3 objecting to the introduction of documents coming from Cases 003 and 004 <which are not earlier statements> from witnesses <coming 4 to testify> before this Court, or documents which are not 5 connected to people who are deceased or who are unable to come 6 7 testify. However, in any case, we will be vigilant in future. And <we must continue to insist when we remind you of the importance</pre> 8 9 of guaranteeing the rights of the Accused. This means that if documents which should not have been tendered into evidence are 10 11 admitted, > the necessary decision should be made -- that is to 12 say, that these documents <must be considered as having> very 13 little probative value <in the absence of the witnesses appearing to testify before the Court, > and they should be therefore 14 15 <thrown out by> a <decision> that you may issue once the 16 inculpatory, and, we hope, exculpatory evidence is presented. 17 So <again, > what we did < was to try> to put things back into 18 <perspective> this morning, because <you have a huge amount of</pre> 19 evidence which has been submitted to you, and while some parts> 20 may be inculpatory, some parts may be exculpatory. 21 And <those of you on> the Bench <> have to weigh both and not 22 just restrict yourself to a linear reading of the documents. You 23 <should also know what is exculpatory and may also> be 24 corroborated <br/> <br/> documents tendered into evidence, including

those presented as key documents for the Prosecution.>

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- 1 So <with that, > I am done with my presentation <for this
- 2 morning>. And thank you for the time that you have granted to me
- 3 to do so.
- 4 [11.03.16]
- 5 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 6 Thank you. We now conclude the proceedings of hearing the
- 7 presentation and the response to key documents in relation to the
- 8 three worksites: the 1st January Dam, Kampong Chhnang Airport,
- 9 and Trapeang Thma Dam, respectively.
- 10 The Chamber now proceeds with hearing testimony of a witness --
- 11 that is, 2-TCW-813, for the treatment of the Cham people.
- 12 Court officer, please usher <> witness, 2-TCW-813, into the
- 13 courtroom.
- 14 (Witness 2-TCW-813 enters courtroom)
- 15 [11.06.21]
- 16 QUESTIONING BY MR. PRESIDENT:
- 17 Q. Good morning, Mr. Witness. What is your name?
- 18 MR. IT SEN:
- 19 A. My name is It Sen.
- 20 Q. Thank you, Mr. It Sen. When were you born? And Mr. It Sen,
- 21 please observe the microphone -- that is, when you see the red
- 22 light on the tip of the microphone before you speak, so that your
- 23 response will go through the system, in particular through the
- 24 interpretation system, so that your response can be
- 25 simultaneously interpreted into two other languages <of> the

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- 1 Court, namely, French and English.
- 2 Again, Mr. Witness, when were you born?
- 3 A. I cannot recall that, Mr. President. I am 63 years old now.
- 4 Q. That is fine. <You are now 63 years old.> And do you recall
- 5 where you were born, Mr. It Sen? Again, please observe the
- 6 microphone.
- 7 A. I was born in Ampil <village>, Peus <commune>, Krouch Chhmar
- 8 <district>, Kampong Cham province.
- 9 [11.08.18]
- 10 Q. <Thank you. > And <what> is your current address?
- 11 A. I live in Ampeak village, Dambae <commune>, Tboung Khmum
- 12 <district>, Kampong Cham province.
- 13 Q. It is now in <Trabae (phonetic) district of> Tboung Khmum
- 14 province; isn't it>?
- 15 And what is your current occupation, Mr. It Sen? Again, please
- 16 observe the microphone.
- 17 A. In Ampeak village, I worked in a plantation -- in a cashew nut
- 18 farm.
- 19 Q. <Thank you. > And what are the names of your parents?
- 20 A. My father is It, and my mother is Veu -- Math <Veu>.
- 21 Q. And what is your wife's name? And how many children do you
- 22 have together?
- 23 A. My wife's name is Man Keah, and we have six children -- that
- 24 is, five sons and one daughter.
- 25 [11.10.15]

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- 1 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 2 Thank you. And I noticed the defence counsel Kong Sam Onn is on
- 3 his feet. You may proceed.
- 4 MR. KONG SAM ONN:
- 5 Thank you, Mr. President. I noticed that the witness seems to
- 6 read from a piece of paper that he's holding in his hand.
- 7 BY MR. PRESIDENT:
- 8 Court officer, please can you go and see what is in his hand --
- 9 or allow me to tell you, Counsel, in fact in his hand is a
- 10 swearing text <in his religious faith> that he will be instructed
- 11 to do soon <before the Chamber>.
- 12 Q. And Mr. It Sen, according to the verbal report by the
- 13 greffier, none of your parents, children, or wife, or any of
- 14 other relatives have any relationship by blood or by law to any
- 15 of the two Accused -- that is, Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan, or
- 16 any of the civil parties admitted in Case 002; is that
- 17 information correct?
- 18 MR. IT SEN:
- 19 A. Yes, that is correct.
- 20 [11.11.32]
- 21 Q. Thank you. And Mr. It Sen, which religion are you practising?
- 22 A. I practise the Koran.
- 23 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 24 And Mr. Witness, you're required to make an affirmation or to
- 25 swear before the Chamber so that your testimony can be used

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- 1 officially.
- 2 And Ms. Se Kolvuthy, please follow with the procedure of the
- 3 swearing-in of this witness according to his religion.
- 4 [11.12.34]
- 5 THE GREFFIER:
- 6 Mr. Witness, allow me to lead you with the process of
- 7 swearing-in. Please, place your right hand on the Koran<>. I will
- 8 read the text and please repeat my words that is, the following
- 9 text.
- 10 "I would like to answer only the truth from what I <had>
- 11 witnessed, heard, <knew>, and <remembered> in the name of an
- 12 Islamic believer who have only Allah as God; Mohammed as Allah's
- 13 messenger; and the Holy Koran as the guideline for me to follow.
- 14 I would like to swear in front of the Holy Koran, wallahi
- 15 billahi, which <verifies> that all what I am going to say is
- 16 true." Please repeat the words.
- 17 [11.13.33]
- 18 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 19 And Mr. Witness, please wait until the light on the tip of the
- 20 microphone is on.
- 21 MR. IT SEN:
- 22 "I would like to answer only the truth from what I <had>
- 23 witnessed, heard, <knew>, and <remembered> in the name of an
- 24 Islamic believer who have only Allah as God; Mohammed as Allah's
- 25 messenger; and the Holy Koran as the guideline for me to follow.

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- 1 I would like to swear in front of the Holy Koran, wallahi
- 2 billahi, which <verifies> that all what I am going to say is
- 3 true."
- 4 BY MR. PRESIDENT:
- 5 Thank you, Mr. It Sen. The Chamber now will read you your right
- 6 and obligation.
- 7 Mr. It Sen, as a witness you enjoy the right against
- 8 self-incrimination, and however, you are obliged to respond to
- 9 any questions by the Bench or relevant Parties, except where your
- 10 response or comment to those questions may incriminate you as the
- 11 Chamber has just informed you of your right as a witness. And you
- 12 must tell the truth that you have known, heard, seen, remembered,
- 13 experienced or observed directly about an event or occurrence
- 14 relevant to the questions that the Bench or Parties pose to you.
- 15 Q. And Mr. It Sen, have you been interviewed by investigators
- 16 from the Office of the Co-Investigating Judges? If so, how many
- 17 times, when and where?
- 18 [11.16.19]
- 19 MR. IT SEN:
- 20 A. I was initially interviewed at Ampil village in Peus commune,
- 21 Krouch Chhmar district. And then I was interviewed a second time
- 22 in <Ropaek (phonetic) village in Dambae district>. So in total, I
- 23 was interviewed twice.
- 24 Q. Thank you. And <prior to your appearance before the Chamber,>
- 25 have you reviewed or read the written records of your interviews,

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- 1 that you just said that you gave to the OCIJ investigators for
- 2 the two interviews, in order to refresh your memory?
- 3 A. I recalled every account; I recalled how I was mistreated
- 4 during the regime. <I recall everything in my heart.>
- 5 Q. And have you actually reviewed or read the two WRIs <prior to
- 6 your appearance before the Chamber today>?
- 7 A. I have just read them.
- 8 Q. And to your best knowledge and recollection, are the
- 9 statements you provided in the two WRIs consistent with the
- 10 actual words you provided to the OCIJ investigators during the
- 11 two interviews?
- 12 A. I read the written records and they reflect the actual words
- 13 that I used.
- 14 [11.18.36]
- 15 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 16 Thank you. And pursuant to Rule 91bis of the ECCC Internal Rules,
- 17 the Chamber will hand the floor first to the Co-Prosecutors to
- 18 put questions to this witness. And the combined time for the
- 19 Co-Prosecutors and the Lead Co-Lawyers for civil parties are two
- 20 sessions. It means you have the whole afternoon today. You may
- 21 proceed.
- 22 OUESTIONING BY MR. LYSAK:
- 23 Thank you, Mr. President, Your Honours, counsel. Good morning,
- 24 Mr. Witness -- Mr. It Sen. My name is Dale Lysak. I'll be asking
- 25 you some questions for the rest of this morning and this

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- 1 afternoon. And I'd like to start with some questions about your
- 2 background, where you're from, and what it means to be a Cham.
- 3 Q. In your OCIJ interview, you've indicated that Khmer Rouge
- 4 arrived in your area in 1973 at which time you were living in
- 5 Ampil village, Krouch Chhmar district, Kampong Cham. Can you tell
- 6 us, was Ampil a Cham village?
- 7 [11.20.18]
- 8 MR. IT SEN:
- 9 A. In fact, it was an adjacent village to a Khmer village. We
- 10 lived in that village and adjacent to our village was a Khmer
- 11 village, and adjacent to that Khmer village was another Cham
- 12 village.
- 13 Q. Did you say you were adjacent to a Khmer village? And if so,
- 14 what was the name of that village?
- 15 A. It was Preaek Krouch <village. And after meeting others, we
- 16 moved to Ampil> village<, Wat Ampil in> Peus <commune. There
- 17 were > actually <both > Khmer people <and Cham people > living in
- 18 Peus <commune, Ampil village and there were also Cham and Khmer
- 19 living in Preaek Krouch village>.
- 20 Q. And as of 1973, what's your best recollection of how many Cham
- 21 families lived in Ampil village?
- 22 A. I could not <grasp> the figure but to my recollection, there
- 23 were more Cham people living there than the Khmer people. <There
- 24 were actually many Cham families. I knew some families, but I do
- 25 not recall them. Ampil was a remote village where many people

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- 1 lived. It was a populated village>.
- 2 [11.22.32]
- 3 O. Thank you. You are a first witness in the trial segment that
- 4 is going to deal with the treatment of the Cham people. Sir, I
- 5 wanted to start by asking you a fairly general question. Can you
- 6 tell the Court, as best you can, who the Cham people are? What
- 7 does it mean to be Cham?
- 8 A. The Cham practice the <Koran> and they <have daily prayers and
- 9 fasting>.
- 10 Q. Did the Cham people have their own language?
- 11 A. Yes. And they practice the <Koran and fast on a daily basis>.
- 12 O. And did the Cham have their own culture and traditional
- 13 clothing? And can you tell us a little bit about the Cham culture
- 14 and traditional dress worn by its people?
- 15 A. Some follow the traditional practice in terms of tradition and
- 16 dress while others practice the modern tradition.
- 17 Q. What about back in the early 1970s before the Khmer Rouge
- 18 arrived in your area, did most people wear traditional clothing
- 19 back then, or was it mixed as you've just described?
- 20 A. <After the> Khmer Rouge took control of us the Cham people <in
- 21 1970's,> the Cham women <were forced> to cut their hair short.
- 22 <Women were no longer allowed to keep their hair long.> And we
- 23 were not allowed to <do> our <daily prayers and fasting. The
- 24 restriction began in 1970.>
- 25 [11.25.48]

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- 1 Q. Thank you, Mr. Witness. I am going to get to what happened to
- 2 your people when the Khmer Rouge arrived fairly soon. I want to
- 3 talk a little bit about what life was like for you before the
- 4 Khmer Rouge. Can you tell us -- for people who travel around
- 5 Cambodia, most of us recognize Cham villages and Cham people by
- 6 the traditional clothing and the headdress worn by the Cham
- 7 women, I wanted to ask you, are there other distinct features of
- 8 the Cham people that allow you to identify a person who is Cham?
- 9 And what I mean by that is, aside from clothing, how would you
- 10 recognize or tell if a person was Cham?
- 11 A. Besides the costumes, you <could> identify a person was a
- 12 Muslim when he <> went to <a> mosque to <do daily prayers, and
- 13 they fast on certain occasions. That was how they could be
- 14 distinguished. Sometimes they could not be recognized as Muslims
- 15 by clothing, in particular, when they put on casual clothes>.
- 16 Q. And what about when Cham people speak the Khmer language, do
- 17 you know whether Cham have a distinct accent or dialect that can
- 18 be recognized when they speak Khmer?
- 19 A. From the time that the Khmer Rouge took control of the
- 20 country, the Khmer Rouge forced us to speak Khmer and not to
- 21 speak our Cham language. And that happened since 1971 or '72.
- 22 [11.28.37]
- 23 Q. What about names used by the Cham people, are there distinct
- 24 or unique names that are used by Cham that are different than
- 25 Khmer names?

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- 1 A. I did not <get it. I did not even notice that.>
- 2 O. My question was about names that you gave to your children.
- 3 Are the names that Cham people use, are they unique or different
- 4 than names that are used by Khmer people?
- 5 A. For the Islamic people, we named our children differently from
- 6 those names used by the Khmer people, namely Sein <(phonetic),
- 7 Sos (phonetic), Isaac (phonetic)>, or Ismael.
- 8 Q. And can you tell us where the Cham people lived in Cambodia
- 9 during the early 1970s? Were there particular areas in Cambodia
- 10 where the Cham people were concentrated?
- 11 A. Our <Cham> people like to live together. Although it might
- 12 seem crowded, we do not want to live separately.
- 13 [11.31.10]
- 14 Q. Yes. And my question was: Was there particular parts of the
- 15 country, particular provinces, districts or areas where most of
- 16 the Cham people lived?
- 17 A. There were many of us living in Kampong Cham province. And I
- 18 can say the majority of Cham people lived in various parts of
- 19 Kampong Cham province.
- 20 Q. Were there a lot of Cham people who lived along the Mekong
- 21 River in Kampong Cham?
- 22 A. Yes, there were many. Many Cham came to live along the area
- 23 and at new lands; villages are full of Cham people in this area.
- 24 Q. I want to ask you specifically too about the district you
- 25 lived in, Krouch Chhmar district. Can you tell us -- give us an

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- 1 estimate of what percentage of the people in that district were
- 2 Cham back in the early 1970s?
- 3 A. There were many of us living together close to Khmer villages
- 4 <> along the river in <Krouch Chhmar district of Kampong Cham>.
- 5 We were in adjacent villages. There are some -- for example, one
- 6 village consisted of Cham people, and then there would be <a>
- 7 Khmer village<; and this pattern of dwelling stretched all the
- 8 way from Chumnik> in Krouch Chhmar <through Kampong Cham>. I
- 9 could say that there were Khmer -- two Khmer villages, and
- 10 adjacent to two Khmer villages there was one Cham village.
- 11 [11.33.53]
- 12 Q. I want to get your reaction -- read to you something that was
- 13 written by an author who has written about the Cham, a person
- 14 named Ben Kiernan. This is in document E3/1593, ERN Khmer,
- 15 00637755; English, 00678632; and French, 00639022. This is what
- 16 he wrote:
- 17 "Muslims form a near majority in only one district, Krouch Chhmar
- 18 in northern Kampong Cham. They lived together in big villages,
- 19 their houses clustered side by side. In the 1950s, the Cham there
- 20 numbered well over 20,000 in very big communities of garden
- 21 farmers, fisher folk, butchers, foresters, and weavers." End of
- 22 quote.
- 23 Mr. Witness, does that help refresh your memory about the number
- 24 of Cham who lived in Krouch Chhmar district? Is it correct that
- 25 the Cham people were nearly the majority of people in that

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- 1 district?
- 2 A. I'm sorry, Mr. Co-Prosecutor, I could not get your question.
- 3 Could you repeat it please? It <was> not clear to me.
- 4 [11.36.10]
- 5 Q. Thank you. My question is: Do you remember whether the Cham
- 6 people were almost a majority of the total number of people in
- 7 Krouch Chhmar district?
- 8 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 9 Please wait, Mr. Witness. You have the floor now, Mr. Koppe.
- 10 MR. KOPPE:
- 11 Thank you, Mr. President. I don't think this witness would be in
- 12 a position to give estimates as to majority of Cham in this
- 13 particular district. I think he is able to say something about
- 14 his own village, maybe some adjacent villages. But it goes too
- 15 far, I think, to ask from this witness such demographic details
- 16 as to the population composition. I think he cannot answer that
- 17 question.
- 18 MR. LYSAK:
- 19 Mr. President, I think--
- 20 [11.37.10]
- 21 MR. KONG SAM ONN:
- 22 Mr. President, according to the testimony of this witness a while
- 23 ago when the <International> Co-Prosecutor asked about <the
- 24 population of Muslims> in the Ampil village, the witness said
- 25 that he did not know the <exact> number or figure of people

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- 1 living in <the village>. And now the <International>
- 2 Co-Prosecutor started to ask <him about> the population <of>
- 3 Krouch Chhmar <district which was a much bigger scale; thus, > I
- 4 believe the witness may not have any knowledge about the
- 5 population. And I heard witness stated a while ago that after --
- 6 adjacent to two Khmer villages, there was one Cham village.
- 7 <Considering the number of villages,> I believe there were <more>
- 8 villages -- Khmer villages <compared to Cham villages along the
- 9 river> in <Krouch Chhmar district>. The Co-Prosecutor <just> now
- 10 <was> quoting the <opposite> figure from <a> book by <David
- 11 Chandler to put to the witness>, and I believe that this witness
- 12 may not be able to recount or tell the figure of Cham people
- 13 living in that area.
- 14 [11.38.24]
- 15 MR. LYSAK:
- 16 Mr. President, I appreciate the comments. I'm not asking him for
- 17 a specific number; I'm asking him for his memory as to whether as
- 18 Ben Kiernan has written, the Cham people were nearly the majority
- 19 in the district in which he lived. I think it's a fair question.
- 20 If he can't answer it, he can't answer it. But I think the
- 21 question can be put to him.
- 22 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 23 Mr. Witness, are you able to give your answer to the last
- 24 question put by Co-Prosecutor? If you do not know, please say so.
- 25 MR. IT SEN:

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- 1 A. I have no idea about the figure. And perhaps at that time, I
- 2 was working in the farm and I did not have any idea about the
- 3 figure at that time.
- 4 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 5 <Thank you.> The witness has stated very clearly that he had no
- 6 knowledge about the figure<>. The witness did not say that he did
- 7 not understand the question. <He was mentioning that he did not
- 8 know the figure; thus, he could not give a response.>
- 9 Now it is time for the break. And we will have lunch break now
- 10 and we will resume in the afternoon at 1.30.
- 11 Court officer, please find a proper place for this witness during
- 12 the lunch break and please return him into the courtroom at 1.30
- 13 p.m.
- 14 Security personnel are instructed to bring Mr. Khieu Samphan to
- 15 the holding cell downstairs and have him returned into the
- 16 courtroom <before> 1.30 in the afternoon.
- 17 The Court is now in recess.
- 18 (Court recesses from 1140H to 1332H)
- 19 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 20 Please be seated. The Court is back in session.
- 21 Before I give the floor to the Co-Prosecutors<, the Chamber would
- 22 like to remind the Parties> that<, having observed the witness'
- 23 responses, he> sometimes <has> difficulty to respond to long
- 24 questions put by the Co-Prosecutor. <Moreover,> when the witness
- 25 speaks, it is very difficult as well for us to understand <him>

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- 1 in <the> Khmer <language>. And I think perhaps the witness has
- 2 difficulty in <both speaking and> understanding <the> Khmer
- 3 language as well. So I suggest and instruct the <Parties> to put
- 4 simple and short questions so that the witness can respond to the
- 5 questions, otherwise, it will pose <difficulty> in ascertaining
- 6 the truth in <the> case. Now the floor is given to the
- 7 Co-Prosecutor to resume his line of questioning. You may now
- 8 proceed.
- 9 [13.33.57]
- 10 BY MR. LYSAK:
- 11 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Mr. Witness. I want to
- 12 ask you a few more questions about your background. Could you
- 13 tell us about your family in Ampil village back in 1973? Were you
- 14 married and did you have children then?
- 15 MR. IT SEN:
- 16 A. I was married in 1973 and I had two children at that time in
- 17 Ampil village.
- 18 Q. And was there a mosque in Ampil village?
- 19 [13.35.01]
- 20 A. Yes. There was a big mosque and the mosque remains until now.
- 21 Q. Can you tell us a little bit about the Cham leaders in your
- 22 village or district, for example, did you have hakim in your
- 23 village and who was he?
- 24 A. <The> village <chiefs at that time in 1973 were Phin Le
- 25 (phonetic) and Phin Lah (phonetic)>.

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- 1 Q. Were they hakim or were they regular village leaders?
- 2 A. <I did not know the hakim> at Peus Pir <very well;> however,
- 3 <the chief of Peus Pir commune was a Khmer man>.
- 4 Q. Do you know what happened to the hakims after the Khmer Rouge
- 5 arrived?
- 6 A. I have no idea. And I also did not know at that time what <>
- 7 hakims <did> or what their positions were.
- 8 Q. I want to now turn to the period when the Khmer Rouge arrived
- 9 and took control in your area, and to ask you about how things
- 10 changed in your village when the Khmer Rouge took control there.
- 11 A. After <the> Khmer Rouge <took> control <of the village,
- 12 private cooking pots were confiscated>. Halls were built for all
- 13 of us <> to eat collectively<. Individual cooking was not
- 14 allowed. The> village <> was <run> under <the> strict control of
- 15 <the> Khmer Rouge at that time.
- 16 [13.38.09]
- 17 Q. When the Khmer Rouge first arrived, were you still allowed to
- 18 practise Islam and to speak the Cham language? And if so, how
- 19 long were you allowed to practise Islam and speak your language?
- 20 A. <When they arrived, there were no> more prayers and <fasting>.
- 21 And the situation was strict <in 1973. Those who dared to do
- 22 daily prayers were arrested and disappeared. Two or three people
- 23 were not allowed to have an assembly. From then on, we were
- 24 under strict surveillance>.
- 25 Q. Do you remember who or how it was announced to the people in

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- 1 your village that you were no longer allowed to practise Islam?
- 2 A. <> I <just knew> that <Comrade> Seng was <> chief <of> Krouch
- 3 Chhmar district. Comrade Seng, <who was from the Southwest Zone,>
- 4 was <a very> strict <man. He was the person who imposed
- 5 restrictions on private cooking and short haircut for the Cham
- 6 women and other Islamic practices. Muslims were not allowed to
- 7 use the mosques for praying, but they were turned into weaving
- 8 workshops>.
- 9 [13.40.13]
- 10 Q. When the Khmer Rouge banned you from practising your religion,
- 11 what was done with all the Korans in your village?
- 12 A. <The> Korans <were> gathered -- collected and burned. <They
- 13 confiscated the Koran from every house. And for this reason,
- 14 there was a rebellion in> Kaoh Phal<. The Muslims armed with
- 15 machetes and swords fought> against the <military members of a
- 16 division. There was an uprising in Kaoh Phal because of the
- 17 confiscation and destruction of the Korans>.
- 18 Q. I'll be asking you some questions about that rebellion in a
- 19 little while. Who was it that went around and gathered and burned
- 20 the Korans in your village?
- 21 A. <The order came down to villages, and village> chiefs <and>
- 22 security guards <of Ampil village and Preaek Krouch village> went
- 23 around <to confiscate all> the Korans. The <> order <came down>
- 24 from <the> upper echelon.
- 25 Q. And the mosque in your village, what was it used for when you

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- were no longer allowed to practise your religion?
- 2 A. Muslim women and <elderly> Muslim ladies were <assigned to
- 3 weave Krama and perform other agricultural <activities within the
- 4 mosque>.
- 5 Q. Can you explain a little to the Court about the importance of
- 6 prayer in the Islam religion and what it was like for the Cham
- 7 people when you were no longer allowed to go to prayer?
- 8 [13.43.13]
- 9 A. No one <dared> to do so. If <anyone> did dare to resist the
- 10 order, they would be arrested and <taken> away. <We did not dare
- 11 to resist, or we would be taken away. They came to listen to us
- 12 every night underneath our house. We were not supposed to talk
- 13 about anything at our home at night. Whenever they heard anyone>
- 14 talking<, they would go into that house and arrest those people
- 15 immediately>.
- 16 Q. And when you were no longer allowed to practise your religion,
- 17 were you also not allowed to speak the Cham language anymore?
- 18 A. <We> were not allowed to speak <the> Cham language <at all>;
- 19 only <the> Khmer language was allowed to <be spoken> at that
- 20 time. <The rule was also applied to young children. It would be
- 21 your luck if they did not hear you speak Cham; but if they did,
- 22 you would be taken away for refashioning immediately>.
- 23 Q. Were there many Cham people in your area who did not know how
- 24 to speak Khmer well and who had difficulty when they could no
- 25 longer speak the Cham language?

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- 1 [13.45.00]
- 2 A. <It was not a big deal, although we were not allowed to speak
- 3 the> Cham language<,> we could speak <the> Khmer <language, and
- 4 we have spoken Khmer to this day. Anyway, > after <those > three
- 5 years, we were allowed to speak our language <as usual>. And
- 6 during that period, <we were> even <forced to consume> pork<>.
- 7 Q. You mentioned that one of the things that happened with the
- 8 Khmer Rouge was that women, people had to have their hair short.
- 9 Can you explain, was it against the Cham religion or culture to
- 10 have -- for women to have short hair?
- 11 A. For Muslim people, <according to> the holy book of <the>
- 12 Koran, we had to -- Muslim women <shall keep their hair> long<;
- 13 however>, during that time, Muslim women were instructed to have
- 14 <their hair cut short to their necks, and it was against our
- 15 religious faith>. During the <regime>, we <just followed> their
- 16 instructions. It was <not a big deal regarding having short
- 17 haircut> because after a while, our hair <would grow long again>.
- 18 Q. How did the Khmer Rouge go about making people cut their hair?
- 19 Did they send in cadres to do that?
- 20 A. No. No cadres coming to cut our hairs. The order <came down to
- 21 villages and communes, and people> were instructed to have <their
- 22 hair cut> short <br/> themselves>; otherwise, <they> were
- 23 considered opposing Angkar.
- 24 [13.47.56]
- 25 Q. And when the Khmer Rouge took control, were you allowed to

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- 1 still wear traditional Cham clothes?
- 2 A. No. Rather, actually we were allowed to wear our traditional
- 3 clothing. However, for <daily> prayers <and fasting, it> was
- 4 <strictly restricted>. For traditional clothing it does not cause
- 5 any trouble to all of us. We were allowed to wear our traditional
- 6 clothing at that time.
- 7 Q. Was there any point in time where you couldn't wear your
- 8 traditional clothes and you had to wear all black clothes?
- 9 A. We had the same black clothes to wear after <> such clothes
- 10 <were distributed to us>.
- 11 Q. You made mention a little while ago to a rebellion that took
- 12 place in Kaoh Phal. What can you tell us about what took place at
- 13 Kaoh Phal?
- 14 A. We, people <from> Ampil village, were not allowed to cross
- 15 over to Kaoh Phal. <Cannons were prepared and stood ready all the
- 16 way from Saoy and Ampil through> Kaoh Phal at that time. <They
- 17 were preparing about 10 military motor boats to launch attacks on
- 18 Kaoh Phal. Villagers from Ampil and Saoy villages who went to cut
- 19 grass on that island were also arrested because the Khmer Rouge>
- 20 were afraid that <they> would go to help Cham people on Kaoh
- 21 Phal.
- 22 [13.50.48]
- 23 Q. How far was your village from Kaoh Phal?
- 24 A. It was about 2 kilometres away from <Saoy-Ampil village> to
- 25 Kaoh Phal<, and there was a field in between. They> were

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- 1 <installing pieces of artillery in Saoy-Ampil village on the way
- 2 to Kaoh Phal. We dared not leave our houses, or we would be
- 3 arrested as they> were afraid <that we were going to help those
- 4 on> Kaoh Phal <>. We had to stay calmly in our village.
- 5 Q. Do you remember when it was that these events took place in
- 6 Kaoh Phal?
- 7 A. Shortly before 1975 -- let me rephrase. There was evacuation
- 8 in 1975, and after <the> rebellion <in> Kaoh Phal, all Muslim
- 9 people were evacuated <to various places including to Kampong
- 10 Thom>. The <rebellion> on Kaoh Phal <could have taken place> in
- 11 1974<; > and <it was less than a year, and that was in> 1975 <when
- 12 the> Cham people were evacuated. <The villagers from Kaoh Phal
- 13 and Svay Khleang were evacuated at the same time.>
- 14 Q. Am I correct that Kaoh Phal was an island in the Mekong River?
- 15 A. Yes, it was <an> island in the middle of the river.
- 16 Q. And when the fighting was going on there, were you able to
- 17 hear or see what was going on?
- 18 [13.53.29]
- 19 A. I was living in Ampil village<, while my> elder sibling was
- 20 living in -- on the island. He was -- <> my elder <sister swam
- 21 across the river to my village in Ampil, while my brother-in-law
- 22 remained on the island engaging in the fighting. They sprayed
- 23 villagers with bullets, and killed many of them. Villagers were
- 24 armed with only machetes and swords in that fight. Both my sister
- 25 and brother-in-law swam across the river to seek refuge in Ampil

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- 1 village. I learnt about the fighting from my brother-in-law who
- 2 had engaged in the fighting>.
- 3 Q. What did your in-law tell you about what was happening in Kaoh
- 4 Phal?
- 5 A. Those who <resisted> were smashed or shot dead and some of
- 6 them had their throats cut. Most Muslim men were killed. Only
- 7 Muslim women remained.
- 8 Q. Do you remember whether the events at Kaoh Phal took place
- 9 during Ramadan that year?
- 10 A. I could not get your question, Mr. Co-Prosecutor. Could you
- 11 repeat it? What did you say a while ago?
- 12 Q. My question was whether the events that took place at Kaoh
- 13 Phal, the rebellion, the fighting, did that occur during the
- 14 Ramadan month?
- 15 [13.55.51]
- 16 A. No, it did not happen in <the>> Ramadan <month>>. I could not
- 17 tell you the exact month when the rebellion took place. But <to
- 18 the best of > my recollection, it did not happen during the
- 19 Ramadan. <And it was because> we were not allowed to practise our
- 20 religion<> that <> there was a rebellion at that time<;> and <as
- 21 a result, > they brought in troops to curb the rebellion.
- 22 Q. Do I understand correctly then that at that time, you were not
- 23 allowed to respect Ramadan? Do I understand correctly?
- 24 A. Yes, your understanding is correct. Because of this, there was
- 25 a rebellion <> at that time.

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- 1 Q. You've mentioned that after this rebellion, the Cham people
- 2 were evacuated. Can you tell us what happened to your family
- 3 after the Kaoh Phal rebellion?
- 4 A. My families together with <other villagers throughout the
- 5 village> were evacuated at that time <> to Battambang province,
- 6 some to Stueng Trang, and some others were transferred <to Preaek
- 7 Achi and> to Kratie. For my villagers and my families, we were
- 8 sent to <Preaek Achi . Everyone was evacuated from the village>
- 9 at that time.
- 10 [13.58.28]
- 11 Q. Can you clarify, were all the Cham people from Ampil village
- 12 required to leave or was it just some of the Cham people from
- 13 your village who were moved?
- 14 A. Some <actually stayed behind in the> village. Half of the
- 15 villagers were <moved, while the other half stayed behind>.
- 16 Q. Who was it that told you that you and your family had to leave
- 17 your home village?
- 18 A. <They were the district committee, the commune> committee<,
- 19 village chief and> the <village> security guards <who> ordered
- 20 all of us to leave our village <br/>by boats in order to be
- 21 transferred> to Battambang at that time.
- 22 Q. Where was it that you were sent to board this boat?
- 23 A. <At Stueng Trang, however, some people managed to> board
- 24 trucks to <Kampong Thom, some to Preaek Sangkae, and others> to
- 25 Kratie <>. And for my team consisting of several families <>, we

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- 1 <stayed in Preaek> Sangkae for 20 days. And after that time, we
- were transferred <> to <Preaek Achi>.
- 3 [14.00.44]
- 4 Q. Could you tell us where Sangkae was, what district or commune
- 5 was that?
- 6 A. Sangkae was located close to Boeng Ket in Stueng Trang
- 7 <district. After Boeng Ket, it was Stueng Trang; and after Stueng
- 8 Trang, it was Preaek Sangkae; and if you go further ahead, it
- 9 would be Khsach Prachheh; and the river was in-between. After
- 10 Khsach Prachheh, it > was <> Trea village, Krouch Chhmar district.
- 11 Krouch Chhmar <was located in-between the two villages>.
- 12 Q. Do I understand correctly then that you were first taken by
- 13 boat across the river to Stueng Trang district; is that right?
- 14 A. Yes, we were taken first to Stueng Trang district. All of us
- 15 were <first transferred to Stueng Trang district>.
- 16 Q. How many families were sent with you by boat to Stueng Trang?
- 17 A. There were many people but I cannot recall the exact number.
- 18 There were around 100 boats loaded with people to Stueng Trang
- 19 district. <Upon arrival, since there were not enough> trucks <to
- 20 take us to Kampong Thom, some of us were instead taken to Preaek>
- 21 Sangkae <and Preaek Prachheh>. And there were not enough trucks
- 22 for those people leaving the boats. <Not only villagers from Saoy
- 23 and Ampil villages, but also villagers> from <> other villages
- 24 <including Roka Khnaor were also being transferred>. And we were
- 25 sent <there> together.

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- 1 [14.03.18]
- 2 Q. Do you know whether all the people who were being moved with
- 3 you were Cham or whether there were also Khmer people who were
- 4 being moved out of Krouch Chhmar district?
- 5 A. No, there were no Khmer people. All were the Cham people who
- 6 were moved. They were all Cham people, that is, when we were
- 7 moved <out of Krouch Chhmar>.
- 8 Q. Did anyone explain to you why you were being moved out of
- 9 Krouch Chhmar district?
- 10 A. We were told the villages were crowded, so that we were being
- 11 sent to Battambang <to help with the harvesting of rice>, since
- 12 there were plenty of lands <and paddy> for us to live <and
- 13 harvest> in Battambang. So it would not be as crowded as the
- 14 villages that we were living in. <That was how we were told.>
- 15 Q. And you said that when you were taken to Stueng Trang, you
- 16 spent 20 days in Sangkae. What happened to you after that? Where
- 17 were you sent, where were you moved after those 20 days?
- 18 A. Then we were sent to Preaek Achi area that was situated along
- 19 <> Trea village, <> near Kampong Treas.
- 20 [14.05.29]
- 0. Was Preaek Achi in Krouch Chhmar district?
- 22 A. Yes, it was located in Krouch Chhmar district. < Kampong Treas
- 23 and> Trea village <were> also located in that district. <While
- 24 living in Preaek Achi, > we were placed into various houses
- 25 belonging to the Khmer people. And <each Cham family was> put to

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- 1 live mingled with <each family of> the local Base People who were
- 2 Khmer there.
- 3 Q. Did anyone ever explain to you why you were moved for 20 days
- 4 over to the other side of the river in Stueng Trang and then
- 5 moved back to Krouch Chhmar?
- 6 A. They said that because too many people had moved to Battambang
- 7 and there was no place for us, so we were moved again.
- 8 Q. How long did you live in Preaek Achi village?
- 9 A. We were there for about three years, <and by the time of the
- 10 Southwest Zone cadres' arrival> we returned to Ampil village. So,
- 11 from my recollection, we left our village for about three years
- 12 and then when the <Southwest Zone cadres came to take control> in
- 13 the East Zone we were instructed to return to our respective
- 14 villages. <This announcement was made by the Southwest Zone
- 15 cadres.>
- 16 Q. I'll get to that period where you were told to go back to your
- 17 home village in a little bit. First, can you tell us a little bit
- 18 about how the Cham people who were moved to Preaek Achi village?
- 19 How were you treated by the local cadres when you lived there?
- 20 [14.08.22]
- 21 A. They didn't do anything to us. The village chief did not do
- 22 anything to us and if we wanted to remain there we could or if we
- 23 wanted to move on, we could move on. He didn't chase us away from
- 24 his village. I refer to the village chief <of Preaek Achi>.
- 25 Q. What were you assigned to do during the years that you lived

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- 1 in Preaek Achi?
- 2 A. I was actually doing the water wheel into the rice field. And
- 3 I worked, actually, behind the Preaek Achi village, that is to
- 4 waterwheel the rice fields there.
- 5 Q. During the time that you lived in Preaek Achi, were you
- 6 allowed to practice the Cham religion or to speak the Cham
- 7 language?
- 8 A. No, we were not allowed to get in any worship service
- 9 including fasting, speaking the Cham language or doing daily
- 10 prayers, and as I said <> earlier we were desegregated into
- 11 various homes of the Khmer people. We were not allowed to engage
- 12 in any <religious activities at all including daily prayers and
- 13 fasting> and we ate communally.
- 14 [14.10.23]
- 15 Q. Did you have to eat pork during those years?
- 16 A. <Yes, we did. Since they knew that we did not eat pork, they>
- 17 mixed <the food with pork. For example, after they slaughtered a
- 18 cow and a pig for food, they actually mixed <the> pork <with
- 19 the> beef; <> and we didn't know about that <until we ate it>.
- 20 And every Cham there was forced to eat pork <>. And some of us
- 21 could not take it so they vomited after they ate it.
- 22 Q. Did there come a time when you were in Preaek Achi, where the
- 23 local Khmer Rouge cadres from the East Zone were arrested and
- 24 replaced by cadres from a different region?
- 25 A. We were arrested when we <> returned to Ampil village. <It was

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- 1 Seng who made the announcement that those returned from> Preaek
- 2 Achi village would be relocated to Trea <village> and that was
- 3 the time <when> we -- some of us <qot> killed <under the pretext</p>
- 4 that those who had returned to the village would be relocated to
- 5 Trea village.>
- 6 Q. I think you were talking about yourself and the Cham people.
- 7 Before I ask you about what happened to you and the other Cham, I
- 8 was asking about the Khmer Rouge cadres from the East Zone. Do
- 9 you remember whether there was a time where they were replaced by
- 10 Khmer Rouge cadres from the Southwest Zone.
- 11 [14.12.54]
- 12 A. No, there was no replacement. Actually, <it was> the Southwest
- 13 <Zone cadres, not the East group who> was all in control at the
- 14 time <>. The <Southwest Zone cadres had> full authority <> in
- 15 every village. And, before that they actually were fighting with
- 16 the force from the East Zone, and after the battle they took
- 17 control of every village.
- 18 O. What year -- when was it that the southwest cadres took
- 19 control of your area?
- 20 A. The -- so the evacuation took place in 1975, and that happened
- 21 about three years after. Then I could say it happened around
- 22 mid-1978, that was the times that the killing, extensive killings
- 23 took place.
- 24 Q. You mentioned already that you were instructed to go back to
- 25 your home village. How long was it after the arrival of the

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- 1 southwest cadres that you were told to leave Preaek Achi and go
- 2 back to Ampil village?
- 3 [14.15.01]
- 4 A. It was not long after we arrived at Ampil village. It was only
- 5 about a fortnight. And actually, we had stayed at Preaek Achi
- 6 village for about three years. <And when it was announced that>
- 7 we <could return to our native village, we then returned> to
- 8 Ampil village, and about a fortnight later<, Comrade Seng made an
- 9 announcement that> we were <to be relocated> to Trea village<,
- 10 and people were taken to be killed there>.
- 11 Q. Who was it that told you to go back to your home village? And
- 12 who was it that told you when you got back to Ampil to go to Trea
- 13 village?
- 14 A. The village chief told us to return to Ampil village. He was a
- 15 southwest cadre and they told us that now the peace prevailed and
- 16 that we could return to our native village <as the East Zone had
- 17 been secured. > And when we were at Ampil village, <Comrade>
- 18 Seng, <who was in charge of Krouch Chhmar district>, told us that
- 19 <those who had returned to> Ampil <village were to be relocated
- 20 to Trea village as the village was already crowded with people.>
- 21 For that reason we were <ordered> to relocate in Trea village
- 22 after <having stayed> a fortnight <> in Ampil <village>.
- 23 [14.16.48]
- 24 Q. I want read to you a short excerpt from one of your -- the
- 25 interview that you gave to Ysa Osman that was published in "The

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- 1 Cham Rebellion". This is document E3/9334, E3/9334; Khmer, ERN
- 2 00204434; English, 00204442; and French, 00274723. This is what
- 3 you said in that interview:
- 4 "In 1978 the cadres of the Central Zone", and I note that in your
- 5 OCIJ interview you corrected this to Southwest Zone, so let --
- 6 starting again with your correction: "In 1978, the cadres of the
- 7 Southwest Zone came in and set up a new administration structure.
- 8 The people welcomed this because the cadres claimed they were
- 9 uncorrupted and had come to liberate us from the clutches of the
- 10 Khmer Rouge traitors. They announced that those people who had
- 11 come from far away should now go back home to their places of
- 12 birth. This announcement gave us hope again for the Cham race."
- 13 End of quote.
- 14 Who was it that told you -- who was it that referred to the old
- 15 cadres as traitors? Do you remember?
- 16 [14.18.50]
- 17 A. No, I don't. I only heard through group chief and the village
- 18 chief about that. We heard that the Southwest <Zone cadres> came
- 19 to screen the people and that we would not be in any difficult
- 20 situation after their arrival, that's what we were told. <They
- 21 said that the former cadres had mistreated people. They were
- 22 lying to people.> They said that they came <> because <the East
- 23 Zone cadres had mistreated people, and> that peace should prevail
- 24 shortly after and that we <> would be allowed to return to our
- 25 home villages.

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- 1 Q. And in the interview excerpt of yours that I just read, you
- 2 told Ysa Osman that the announcement to return to your home
- 3 village gave you hope again for the Cham race. Can you explain
- 4 why you had lost hope for the Cham race at that time?
- 5 A. It was their policy to seriously mistreat us<, the Cham
- 6 people>. We were absolutely prohibited <> from engaging in any
- 7 prayer or worship <after their arrival>. If we were to make even
- 8 a smallest mistake we would be arrested and killed. <In fact,
- 9 they were even stricter than their predecessors. The> village
- 10 <chiefs> or the commune chiefs in succession were arrested and
- 11 killed after the arrival of the Southwest <Zone cadres. Village
- 12 chiefs and commune chiefs> kept disappearing one after another.
- 13 [14.21.11]
- 14 Q. Now, you testified that you returned to your home village, to
- 15 Ampil village, for a short period. Can you tell us what you
- 16 observed in 1978, when you went back to your home village? And
- 17 specifically, how many Cham families were left in Ampil village
- 18 when you returned?
- 19 A. There were quite a number of Cham families remained in the
- 20 village, although I cannot tell you the total <number>. And some
- 21 Khmer families were living mingled with the Cham people there in
- 22 Ampil village. So they were living mixing with the Khmer people.
- 23 Q. Let me read to you another excerpt from the interview you gave
- 24 to Ysa Osman. This is again, E3/9334. This excerpt is at Khmer,
- 25 00204435; English, 00204442; and French, 00274723. And you were

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- 1 describing here how you returned to Ampil village. And this is
- 2 what you said:
- 3 "I observed that there were only 10 Cham families left in the
- 4 village out of the hundreds that used to live there. My older
- 5 sister Afiah was among those who were still there. I stayed with
- 6 her." End of quote.
- 7 Does this refresh your recollection about how many Cham families
- 8 were left when you returned to Ampil village? Is it correct that
- 9 there were only 10 Cham families there?
- 10 [14.23.44]
- 11 A. No, there were more than 10 families living -- still living in
- 12 that village. But I cannot tell you how many families. <There>
- 13 could be between 20, 30 or 40 families living -- still living
- 14 there <in Ampil village>.
- 15 Q. You testified that you were allowed to stay in Ampil village
- 16 for about a fortnight and that you were then told to go to Trea
- 17 village. Can you describe for us what happened during your trip
- 18 from Ampil to Trea village?
- 19 A. We were <then> told to return <> to Trea village. So in the
- 20 morning we packed our little belonging and everything had to be
- 21 placed <> on an oxcart. <It was their absolute order that we had
- 22 to move to> Trea village, and when we arrived in Trea village we
- 23 didn't even have any rice to eat <until late in the evening. Upon
- 24 arrival in> Trea village<, we noticed that it> was full of
- 25 soldiers.

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- 1 Q. How many people or how many families, how many Cham families,
- 2 were sent with you from Ampil village to Trea?
- 3 A. There were <about> 20 ox-carts and that -- actually the 20
- 4 ox-carts were full of members from 30 Cham families.
- 5 Q. And when you were traveling on the road from Ampil to Trea
- 6 village, did you see other Cham people walking or moving in that
- 7 same direction?
- 8 [14.26.51]
- 9 A. No, I did not. There was only a group of us <from> Ampil
- 10 village and I saw people, lots of people <were already> in Krouch
- 11 Chhmar<, and I did not know from where those people came from.
- 12 They> were all destined to be killed <as well>. And when we
- 13 arrived in Trea village, the soldiers there ordered us to <stop
- 14 there, and unload> our belongings and place them in a mosque
- 15 there <in Trea village. We were stopped there, and offered to
- 16 stay there at the mosque>.
- 17 Q. I need to have you clarify something for me. When you arrived
- 18 in Trea village was it just the 30 families that had been sent
- 19 from Ampil village or were there other Cham people who had also
- 20 been sent to Trea from other villages?
- 21 A. There were other Cham families from Saoy village. So, Saoy and
- 22 Ampil villages were the two villages where the Cham people were
- 23 sent to Trea village. In fact, more people had actually been sent
- 24 to Trea village <ahead of us>. And upon our arrival we <noticed
- 25 that every> house <along the river bank was> full of <the Cham>

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- 1 people who had arrived before us.
- 2 [14.28.36]
- 3 Q. Where was Saoy village? And, can you tell us approximately how
- 4 many Cham families were sent from Saoy village to Trea?
- 5 A. Half of the Cham people <were> from <> Saoy village<, while
- 6 the other half > came from Ampil village. So I could say about <>
- 7 20 families amongst <the 40 families> were from Saoy village.
- 8 Q. Do you remember, on your way from Ampil to Trea village,
- 9 meeting an elderly Cham woman in a village called Khsach
- 10 Prachheh? Do you remember meeting an elderly Cham woman and do
- 11 you remember what she told you?
- 12 A. When we were almost near Trea village, Cham people there
- 13 <asked> us where we were heading<, and> we told them that we were
- 14 told to leave Ampil village and go to Trea village. And <those
- 15 people told us that they had witnessed> some Cham people <br/> <br/>being>
- 16 blindfolded and <led> to the <river. Having heard that, > some
- 17 Cham women <who were with us> cried<, and were reluctant to move
- 18 on. By then, we had no other options, besides moving forward as,
- 19 if we were to return to Ampil, we would not be allowed to stay
- 20 there anyway. We were reluctant to move forward as we were afraid
- 21 that we would be> blindfolded <and led> to the <river. <> And, we
- 22 heard about this information when we were <already> approaching
- 23 Trea village. <>
- 24 Q. How -- How far was it from Ampil to Trea village and how long
- 25 did it take you to walk there that day?

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- 1 [14.31.27]
- 2 A. At that time, we travelled on <ox-carts> so it was rather
- 3 slow. We started a journey in the morning and when we arrived in
- 4 Trea village <> in late afternoon<; anyway, we made several stops
- 5 along the way. > And as I told you Seng, comrade Seng in Ampil
- 6 village did not allow us to remain anymore in Ampil village and
- 7 we were sent to Trea village. <In fact, we did not want to leave
- 8 our village. There could have been some 100 people killed because
- 9 of Comrade Seng who was from the Southwest Zone.>
- 10 Q. You've mentioned comrade Seng a number of times. What was
- 11 comrade Seng doing while you were traveling from Ampil to Trea?
- 12 A. He had overall responsibility over Krouch Chhmar district. He
- 13 <said he> was <on> the Krouch Chhmar district committee.
- 14 Q. When you were sent from Ampil to Trea village, did your entire
- 15 family go with you? That is your wife and your two children?
- 16 [14.33.07]
- 17 A. We went to together. I was traveling with my wife and my
- 18 toddler and also my <elderly> mother-in-law was with me at that
- 19 time. <So there were a total of four people including myself on
- 20 that journey.>
- 21 O. How old was your toddler then?
- 22 A. My toddler could speak at that time. Perhaps he or she was two
- 23 or three years old at that time.
- 24 Q. You said that you went with your wife and your two to
- 25 three-year-old toddler and your mother-in-law. Where were the

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- 1 other members of your family? Did you have other children at the
- 2 time and where were they?
- 3 A. <Other people also> went together with <their> family members.
- 4 Some members within other families were -- some women within
- 5 other families were <8 or 9 months> pregnant and they -- other
- 6 families also had <four> small children. Upon our arrival at
- 7 <Trea village>, we were separated from each other. The adult or
- 8 the <grown-up children or> girls <> were not allowed to stay
- 9 together with their parents at that time. <Women were separated
- 10 from men.>
- 11 Q. Where was it that the girls, the Cham girls were separated
- 12 from your group?
- 13 [14.35.39]
- 14 A. These unmarried girls were put in a different group and as for
- 15 men and women, they were put in different groups. And at that
- 16 time the men were <told> to go <and> have porridge <at the river
- 17 bank, while> the women were told to stay at a one particular
- 18 place. It was <about 6 p.m. at that> time <as> the sun already --
- 19 was already down <>.
- 20 Q. You said the men were told to go to a house to have porridge.
- 21 How many men were sent to this house where you were told you were
- 22 going to have porridge?
- 23 A. Approximately 40 of them climbed up onto a house.
- 24 Q. Were you still with your wife and toddler at this time or had
- 25 you been separated?

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- 1 A. I was separated from my wife to go to have the porridge. My
- 2 wife was staying in the mosque at that time. We men <> were
- 3 <told> to go to the riverfront and we were told to stand in line
- 4 at that time <in order to receive the porridge. Having just lined
- 5 up,> they pointed a gun at our necks, <and> at that time<, all of
- 6 us were tied up>. It was that time that <we> parted from <our>
- 7 wife and <children; and we had no idea where they were taken to
- 8 be killed>.
- 9 [14.38.16]
- 10 Q. Did you ever see your wife and toddler after that?
- 11 A. No. After, I was tied up, I was beaten, kicked and they used
- 12 the <car-tyre> sandals to hit our heads. <Some> of us fell down
- 13 to the ground and they grabbed our hairs <to sit up again in
- 14 order to beat us and kick us again>. They kicked us repeatedly
- 15 and they <asked whether we> were Muslims<. We thought> that <if>
- 16 we <told that we> were Khmer<,> they would <not beat us. No, it
- 17 was not the case. They said we were lying to them, and as a
- 18 result, they> repeatedly kick and beat us <even worse> at that
- 19 time. <In fact, they knew that we were Chams. Out of fear and
- 20 with the hope that it would get better by telling them that we
- 21 were Khmer, things went the opposite. Having told them that we
- 22 were Khmer, they started to mistreat us even worse.
- 23 Sarcastically, we were not that badly mistreated when we told
- 24 them that we were Chams>.
- 25 Q. You said that when you arrived in Trea village, you saw many

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- 1 soldiers. Can -- can you describe for us where it was that you
- 2 saw soldiers when you arrived in Trea village and what they were
- 3 doing?
- 4 A. The soldiers were killing people. <Upon our arrival on that
- 5 day, A big rope was > used to <attach from one person to another,
- 6 and to have them towed by a motor boat into the river>, and
- 7 <when> the <motor boat reached> the middle of the river<, the
- 8 rope was released in order to drown those men in the river. The
- 9 same process was repeated over and over again until late
- 10 afternoon on that day. > I was <tied up and stayed> in that
- 11 house<, and I saw them come back and forth> to collect <people
- 12 and have them attached by a rope, towed by a motor boat into the
- 13 river and drowned. Having observed the incident, we who were
- 14 detained> on the house were weeping and crying at that time.
- 15 [14.40.55]
- 16 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 17 It is now time for a short break. The Chamber will take a short
- 18 break from now until 3 p.m.
- 19 Court officer please find a proper place for this witness during
- 20 the break time and please invite him back into the courtroom at 3
- 21 p.m.
- 22 The Court is now in recess.
- 23 (Court recesses from 1441H to 1501H)
- 24 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 25 Please be seated. The Court is back in session.

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- 1 And the floor is given to the Co-Prosecutor to resume his line of
- 2 questioning. You may now proceed.
- 3 BY MR. LYSAK:
- 4 Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. Witness, we were talking about
- 5 the events that took place in Trea village, and I want to go to
- 6 the time where you were brought with a group of at least 40 other
- 7 men to a house by the river. When you -- when you and the 40 men
- 8 were taken to this house, how many Khmer Rouge soldiers or cadres
- 9 were at that house with you?
- 10 [15.03.08]
- 11 MR. IT SEN:
- 12 A. I did not count them at that time. There were many <Khmer
- 13 Rouge soldiers> below the house <in which we> were sleeping <>.
- 14 There were at that time many houses, and I did not know at that
- 15 time where <those> Cham people were from. <They> were <actually
- 16 living in those> 20 houses <along the river bank. In fact, those
- 17 people had been gathered in those houses in order to be killed.
- 18 There were soldiers underneath every house>.
- 19 Q. I want to talk about when you first arrived at the house, when
- 20 you were first brought there. Were the Khmer Rouge soldiers that
- 21 were there, did they have guns?
- 22 A. They were all armed. For instance, if there were 100 of them,
- 23 all of them were armed.
- 24 Q. And was it when you were taken to that house that you and the
- 25 other men, the other 40 men, were asked whether you were Cham or

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- 1 Khmer?
- 2 [15.05.01]
- 3 A. They asked us after they <had> tied <up> all of us<. People in
- 4 every house were tied up.> And we were beaten at that time until
- 5 they were satisfied with their acts. And it was at 7 p.m. that we
- 6 were told to climb up onto the house<, and doors> and windows
- 7 were locked<. We were put in that house to sleep that night, but
- 8 we were tied up, while the soldiers> were sleeping in the
- 9 hammocks below the house. There were around 10 of them quarding
- 10 <over> all of us <below the house>.
- 11 Q. When you were tied up and asked whether you were Cham or
- 12 Khmer, who was it that was asking you this question?
- 13 A. They were <armed> military men, and they pointed their guns at
- 14 our necks, <and asked us> whether we were Khmer or Cham people.
- 15 Some of us mistakenly said that we were Khmer at that time, and
- 16 they kicked us, and we fell to the ground. After that, they
- 17 grabbed our hair <to make us sit up again before they> beat us,
- 18 and kicked us again. <They repeated the process over and over.
- 19 They did this to us when we were tied up.>
- 20 [15.06.43]
- 21 Q. Did they ask you any questions other than whether you were
- 22 Cham or Khmer?
- 23 A. <They asked> no other questions. And after we were <badly
- 24 mistreated>, we were put into that house <the whole night that
- 25 night>. Everyone was tied up in that house.

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- 1 Q. And when you were taken to this house, did you see people who
- 2 were being held in other houses next to yours?
- 3 A. Yes, <I did.> I peeped through the window<, and> I could see
- 4 <that there were full of> Cham people <> in those <nearby>
- 5 houses. <There were about 10 houses.>
- 6 Q. How did you know that the people who were in the houses next
- 7 to you were also Cham?
- 8 A. <I knew it because the moment they spotted us, they exlaimed
- 9 that we were also coming to the place. They told us that they had
- 10 arrived at the place one day ahead of us. We noticed through the
- 11 window that> they were all Cham.
- 12 Q. Did you recognize any of the other people, the other Cham
- 13 people, who you saw in other houses?
- 14 A. I did not know <which villages> those Cham people were
- 15 arrested from. However, all I know <was> that <those> Cham people
- 16 were collected from different villages. <As for the Cham people
- 17 from my village, we were all gathered in that house. > And Cham
- 18 people <from various places were mainly kept in Trea village,
- 19 while some others were kept> in Krouch Chmar <in order to have
- 20 them killed>.
- 21 [15.09.53]
- 22 Q. You've said that you were locked in this house, and that the
- 23 guards and people then -- the people around you went to sleep. I
- 24 want you to now -- I want to go now to the morning, the next
- 25 morning. Can you tell the Court what happened to the Cham people

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- 1 who were being detained in these houses the next morning, when
- 2 you got up?
- 3 A. Nothing happened the next morning. We were <kept there> in
- 4 that house for one day and one night. And the militiamen <were
- 5 lying to> us that we would be given porridge to eat <soon>, and
- 6 we were waiting until the evening. And <they told us the same
- 7 lie> in the evening, <but> there was no porridge for us. And the
- 8 militiamen lied to us once again that the porridge would come in
- 9 soon. At that time, frankly, we had <neither> water <nor porridge
- 10 for one day and one night. They kept lying to us over and over.
- 11 We were tired and slept anywhere in the house, and we were tied.>
- 12 [15.11.22]
- 13 Q. I want to make sure I understand correctly. Are you saying
- 14 that after the -- you had arrived in Cham village -- in Trea
- 15 village, that you spent the next day locked up in that house,
- 16 without receiving any food? But nothing other than that happened
- 17 that first day; is that correct?
- 18 A. No, we did not have anything to eat <or> drink. And the day
- 19 after, we were still tied up, and we were taken to the <pier.
- 20 After about half of the detainees had been taken>, I <managed to
- 21 loosen> the rope, <open the planks of wood,> and <slip away
- 22 through the back of> the house <>. During that night, during the
- 23 second night, there were no soldiers below the house, but they
- 24 were some of them at the staircase of the house. There were
- 25 soldiers underneath the house the previous night. Since there

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- 1 were no soldiers below the house on> that time, I <managed to
- 2 slip through the back of> the house<. I untied myself, and
- 3 climbed down the house that night>.
- 4 Q. I'll ask you -- I'll come back to what happened to your group,
- 5 and what happened to you when you were taken out that night.
- 6 Before -- before you were taken out of the house that night, did
- 7 you see what was happening to other -- the other Cham people who
- 8 had been gathered in Trea village?
- 9 A. They were taken to the riverfront <and the pier>. I noticed
- 10 that there was a big pit at the riverfront. People, Cham people,
- 11 were taken out of <one house after another>, and <led to> the
- 12 riverfront. <It took them from dusk until about 12 midnight to
- 13 take people out of the houses to the riverfront.>
- 14 Q. And what happened to the people when they were taken out of
- 15 the houses and brought to the riverfront?
- 16 A. I'm sorry. Could you repeat your question? Could you say it
- 17 again?
- 18 Q. Yes. My question is: what was done to the people who were
- 19 brought out to the riverfront?
- 20 [15.14.56]
- 21 A. Soldiers came to take all of them out to the riverfront, 30 of
- 22 them, and one soldier was responsible for one Cham person. All
- 23 Cham people were taken out to <a> big grave or pit <located right
- 24 in front of Trea village. Those people were beaten with an iron
- 25 bar. > I saw the iron bar, <the ox-cart axle > with the size of my

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- 1 lower arm, located at the <edge of the> pit or grave.
- 2 Q. Did you see people being taken into the river?
- 3 A. After I <managed to slip away from> the house, I was <hiding
- 4 myself inside several bushes of sago palms about five metres away
- 5 from> the route where the soldiers were taking the Cham people to
- 6 the riverfront. It was lucky for me at that time that the
- 7 soldiers did not notice my presence at that place.
- 8 Q. And what is it that you saw the soldiers doing with the people
- 9 in the river?
- 10 [15.17.05]
- 11 A. No screaming, no crying. It was quiet. And after Cham people
- 12 in one house had been collected by those soldiers, the soldiers
- 13 <went> to take Cham people from another house. <Since there were
- 14 many of them, it took them about an hour or so to take people out
- 15 of each house. It took them just a while to take some 20 or 30
- 16 people out of each house. They went back and forth one house
- 17 after another. I remained in that spot until 12 a.m. when they
- 18 finished their job. > I < had to > secretly < remain > in the < sago
- 19 palm> bushes <until 12 a.m. as there were many of them around.
- 20 However, I left the spot when they were having a drink after they
- 21 had finished their task>.
- 22 Q. Mr. Witness, did you see the soldiers, the Khmer Rouge
- 23 soldiers, killing the people who were taken out of the houses?
- 24 And if so, can you tell the Court how they were killing the
- 25 people who were taken out of the houses?

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- 1 A. I <could see> very clearly that Cham people were being walked
- 2 away to the river <during the day; however, I could not see what
- 3 they did actually during the night. During the day, I noticed
- 4 that people with> blindfold <were taken out of the houses, and
- 5 led to the river. They then used a big rope to attach some 30
- 6 people together one after another, while the other end of the
- 7 rope was attached to the back of a motor boat. And so when the
- 8 boat got to the middle of the river, they released the rope with
- 9 people attached to it into the river to drown those people. I
- 10 witnessed the incidents with my very eyes during the day.> At
- 11 night time, I could not see <such details, but I saw people being
- 12 led to the direction of the big grave or pit by the riverfront.
- 13 From the spot where I went into hiding, I could not even hear any
- 14 screaming or crying. They did it quietly at night. Again, during
- 15 the daytime, I saw people being attached to a rope and drowned in
- 16 the river>.
- 17 [15.19.45]
- 18 Q. Mr. Witness, I want to read to you an excerpt from the
- 19 interview you gave to Ysa Osman. This is E3/9334, E3/9334; Khmer,
- 20 00204436 437; English, 00204442 43; and French, 00274724 -
- 21 25. This is what you said in that interview, quote: "At about 7
- 22 o'clock" -- and you were talking about the morning in this
- 23 passage -- "I saw five or six Khmer Rouge cadres go up into a
- 24 house nearby. They dragged out the prisoners, each tied up and
- 25 blindfolded. I stared, watching them. Then I saw them walk the

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- 1 prisoners, one by one, to the river bank. A boat was anchored
- 2 there, and there were about 30 prisoners waiting nearby. They
- 3 undressed the prisoners down to their shorts, and put them in a
- 4 line. All of the prisoners were men. They took a rope from the
- 5 boat, and ran it through the bonds of each prisoner, from one to
- 6 the next. One end was tied to the last prisoner in line, and then
- 7 they tied the other end to the stern of the boat. Then they took
- 8 off the blindfolds. I was completely terrified, as I watched the
- 9 men, some crying, some screaming, as they fell to the ground and
- 10 rolled as the boat pulled away toward the middle of the river. At
- 11 mid-stream, one Khmer Rouge loosened the end of the rope that was
- 12 tied to the boat. Then the boat turned back to shore, to repeat
- 13 the process. We began to whisper to one another as we watched
- 14 this. We knew our fates would be the same. The boat kept
- 15 repeating this, over and over throughout the entire day." End of
- 16 quote.
- 17 I have a number of things I want to ask you. The first thing I
- 18 want to clarify with you, Mr. Witness: did you see people being
- 19 dragged and drowned into the river, while you were still in the
- 20 house in which you were being detained? Or did you only see that
- 21 at night time, after you had escaped from the house?
- 22 [15.23.00]
- 23 A. Yes, that is -- that is what I saw during the daytime. < During
- 24 the night, they> -- Cham people were undressed to their shorts.
- 25 They were dragged out of the houses, blindfolded<,> tied up<, and

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- 1 attached to a rope>. This incident repeated <the whole day> until
- 2 they completed their task. <The motor boat could have made one
- 3 hundred trips as it went back and forth. There were many motor
- 4 boats. People were brought in by other motor boats as well. The
- 5 motor boats came in and out all day long.> I did not know where
- 6 Cham people were <br/>brought in> from. <It could have been the case
- 7 that they were busy dealing with other people during the daytime,
- 8 and they were to deal with us at night. Because of the gap
- 9 in-between, I was able to slip away that night.> There were piles
- 10 of clothes, <as those> people were undressed to their shorts. And
- 11 those <> clothes were <to be distributed to villagers>.
- 12 Q. The house in which you were being detained, how far was it
- 13 from the river?
- 14 A. It was about 50 metres away from the river bank. I could see
- 15 what happened very clearly. It was -- my house was adjacent to
- 16 another house, and I could see the <water in the> river and the
- 17 <motor boats> very clearly from my house. I <looked> through the
- 18 <cracks> of the <wooden> wall.
- 19 [15.25.10]
- 20 Q. Could you describe for us what this house was like, in which
- 21 you were detained, and from which you saw what was going on at
- 22 the riverfront? What kind of house was it? Can you describe?
- 23 A. It was an old <wooden> house, 11 metres long and 6 metres
- 24 wide, the house where I was detained.
- 25 Q. Was it a traditional country house that had stilts or piles,

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- 1 so that the house was elevated off the ground?
- 2 A. It was a traditional <stilt> house. It was elevated <between
- 3 two and three metres off> the ground. <> But it was not <elevated</p>
- 4 too> high <off> the ground. We could reach the floor of the house
- 5 with our arms <when we stood on the ground>.
- 6 Q. And you stated that you saw the boat that was dragging and
- 7 drowning people in the river, repeating this throughout the day.
- 8 Can you tell us how many times you saw a boat take people out and
- 9 drown them in the river?
- 10 [15.27.34]
- 11 A. It happened from the morning until the evening. It started
- 12 from 7 a.m. in the morning until the evening. <The motor boats
- 13 came back and forth throughout the day though they had some small
- 14 breaks. > I did not know how many trips they came to collect Cham
- 15 people. It happened repeatedly from the morning until the
- 16 evening, from <7 a.m.> until the evening. I was sitting in the
- 17 house, watching what was happening. I was crying. I was weeping,
- 18 and I was thinking that my fate would be in the same way. They
- 19 were walking past my house <back and forth>, and I could see
- 20 <comrade> Seng was walking <back and forth> past my house at that
- 21 time. <He ran around to facilitate the taking of those people.>
- 22 Q. Could you tell us now how it was that you managed to escape
- 23 from your house?
- 24 A. I <managed to slip away by going into hiding> in the <bushes.
- 25 Only when they were taking a break and enjoying themselves with

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- 1 some food and drink after they had finished their work did I
- 2 leave that place and crawled toward the river. Although I saw
- 3 some quards there, I was committed to go there. I accidentally
- 4 found a water container; it was actually my water container that
- 5 we had been ordered to leave them at the mosque. I could
- 6 recognize it. I had no idea as to what reason those piles of
- 7 clothes had been brought to the river. I had the> water container
- 8 <with me, and filled half of the container with water. I then
- 9 used the container to help me swim along the river. When I got to
- 10 Kampong Treas, I went ashore. It was very close to Kampong Treas
- 11 actually, and it was toward the very end of > Preaek Achi.
- 12 Q. I want to go back to the time that you were able to escape
- 13 from the house, before you went to the river, and floated -- swam
- 14 down the river. How is that you were able to get out of the house
- 15 in which you were being detained, without the soldiers seeing
- 16 you? Can you tell us how that happened?
- 17 [15.31.04]
- 18 A. At that time, they were <actually reinforcing the loose rope
- 19 among some detainees. There were soldiers at the front of the
- 20 house, not at the back.> The house was <about> 11 metres long,
- 21 and <I slipped away through the back of> the house <without
- 22 alerting anyone. I then crawled into the sago palm bushes. It was
- 23 dark, and there was actually a heavy rain <that night. Although
- 24 they had a kerosene lamp to illuminate the house, they were not
- 25 aware that I had slipped away through a plank on the floor. They

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- 1 could have thought that everyone in the house had been taken and
- 2 killed>.
- 3 Q. Did you leave the house through a door? Or did you leave the
- 4 house through a plank on the floor?
- 5 A. In fact, I pried a plank open. It was loose, and it was just
- 6 big enough for my body physically to get out of the house. Nobody
- 7 <along with the other detainees> was aware that I <was slipping
- 8 away as they were only focussing on what was happening at the
- 9 front>. And actually, <at the> front, the soldiers were
- 10 tightening up the knots on those people <, while some others were
- 11 being taken away>.
- 12 [15.33.10]
- 13 Q. Do I understand correctly, then, that you escaped through that
- 14 plank at the time that the other people in your house were being
- 15 taken away? Is that correct?
- 16 A. Yes, they took everyone out, but in fact about half of the
- 17 people were -- had already been taken out <when I managed to>
- 18 loosen the tie then I pried the plank open and I <slipped away>.
- 19 About <20 out> of the <40> people <in> the house had been taken
- 20 away <to the riverfront> already, <so there were> about <20> more
- 21 remaining on the house.
- 22 Q. And you said that when you got out of the house and went down
- 23 to the river, you saw a pile of clothes. Where is it exactly that
- 24 you saw these clothes? And can you describe for us what the size
- 25 of this pile of clothes was?

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- 1 A. Actually, it was so dark during the night I could not see the
- 2 big pile. However, I could feel it, and I knew it was a pile of
- 3 clothes, of those people who were taken out from the village. <I
- 4 accidentally felt a water container within the pile of clothes,
- 5 and I knew it that it was actually my water container that I had
- 6 brought from Ampil village. That pile of clothes was as high as
- 7 my neck. I did not know as to how people> were stripped of their
- 8 clothes <and killed, but that pile of clothes was right next to>
- 9 the water <>
- 10 Q. This pile of clothes that was by the river, how high was it?
- 11 Do you remember how high the pile was?
- 12 [15.35.43]
- 13 A. Actually, the pile was about two metres wide and the height
- 14 was about <> a metre, or it could be up to my waist.
- 15 Q. You've told us that you went into the river to escape from
- 16 Trea. Where did you end up after you swam away in the river?
- 17 A. <It was almost dawn when I reached> Preaek Achi<, and I went
- 18 ashore>. Actually, I still had a <niece or nephew> living in
- 19 Preaek Achi <who remained in Preaek Achi when I decided to leave
- 20 Preaek Achi for my home village. We had been evacuated to live in
- 21 Preaek Achi together. It was almost dawn when> I went to
- 22 <his/her> house<. By that time,> I was so hungry <I had to eat> a
- 23 raw corn from the plantation <in order to gain some energy to go
- 24 on. As of that moment>, I had not had anything to eat for two
- 25 days.

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- 1 [15.37.25]
- 2 Q. I want to wrap up my questions, so my colleagues have some
- 3 time to ask you a few questions. Before I complete my questions,
- 4 you talk about in your interviews of how, after you survived the
- 5 killings at Trea village, at the end of the Khmer Rouge period
- 6 you returned back to Ampil village. When you came back to Ampil
- 7 village at the end of the Khmer Rouge regime, did you ever see
- 8 again any of the Cham people who had been taken with you to Trea
- 9 village that day?
- 10 A. I actually went to Trea village by myself, nobody <took> me
- 11 there. In fact, I arrived in Ampil village by nightfall, and I
- 12 hid myself in the house of my elder <sister Fiah>. Nobody knew
- 13 that I was there at the house <because I arrived in the village
- 14 by nightfall. I eventually went into hiding in my> elder
- 15 <sister's house on a farm, and she secretly> shared me the gruel
- 16 <every day. I went into hiding in her house, and nobody knew
- 17 about it. If they had known about it, they would have arrested me
- 18 and sent me there again>.
- 19 Q. Thank you, Mr. Witness. I was asking you about after the Khmer
- 20 Rouge had been driven out of power. But my question is: did you
- 21 ever see again any of the Cham people who had gone with you to
- 22 Trea village and been detained in the houses there? Did you ever
- 23 see any of those people again, after the Khmer Rouge regime was
- 24 over?
- 25 A. No, I did not <>.

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- 1 [15.40.06]
- 2 Q. The last question I'd like to ask you, before I turn it over
- 3 to my colleagues: your family members, how many of your family
- 4 members died during the Khmer Rouge regime? And who was it? Who
- 5 from your family died during that period?
- 6 A. In my family, I lost two of my elder siblings -- that is, <my
- 7 only two> elder <> brothers. <They were arrested, blindfolded and
- 8 taken away and killed. > And in fact, in my family, there were
- 9 only three boys including myself, <so> my <only> two elder
- 10 <br/> brothers namely Salat (phonetic) and Yusuf (phonetic) were>
- 11 killed during the regime.
- 12 Q. You've already told us that you never saw your wife and your
- 13 youngest son again, after they had been taken with you to Trea
- 14 village. What about your other child? You mentioned that you had
- 15 two children at the start of the Khmer Rouge period. What
- 16 happened to your other child?
- 17 [15.41.44]
- 18 A. I never saw <them> again <after we arrived in Trea village. My
- 19 children could have been taken and killed along with> my wife<. I
- 20 have never seen them to this day, since the time I was separated
- 21 from them under the pretext that I was being asked to go to eat
- 22 porridge. > However, I did not know how they died. <They could
- 23 have been either killed and dumped into the pit or killed by
- 24 being> drowned <in the river. I just knew that women were taken
- 25 away and killed> at night time.

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- 1 MR. LYSAK:
- 2 Thank you for answering my questions, Mr. Witness. My colleague
- 3 has some questions for you. Thank you for your time today.
- 4 MR. SENG LEANG:
- 5 Good afternoon, Mr. President, Your Honours and everyone. In the
- 6 interests of time, I only have three or four more questions,
- 7 supplementary to what has been asked to the witness.
- 8 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 9 You need to consult with the Lead Co-Lawyers for the remaining
- 10 time, as we only have <> less than 20 minutes left for the
- 11 allotted time to the two teams.
- 12 MR. PICH ANG:
- 13 Mr. President, I think the time is manageable, as <Lawyer> Ty
- 14 Srinna only needs about 10 minutes to put questions to the
- 15 witness, and <so> the Co-Prosecutor can use the remaining time.
- 16 [15.43.40]
- 17 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 18 You may proceed.
- 19 QUESTIONING BY MR. SENG LEANG:
- 20 Q. I have about five minutes, so let me go straight into my
- 21 questions. Mr. Witness, you said you lived for a period of time
- 22 in Preaek Achi village. Did you ever see any Cham person who was
- 23 forced to get married while you were living there?
- 24 MR. IT SEN:
- 25 A. No, I did not.

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- 1 Q. Let me go back to the time of the arrival of the <Southwest
- 2 Zone> cadres. <Like> the New People, you were allowed to return
- 3 to your home village of Ampil, and that <after> you <had> stayed
- 4 there briefly <> the commune chief instructed you, as well as
- 5 <other returnees>, to relocate to Trea village. Can you tell the
- 6 Court how many <returnees> who were instructed to go and resettle
- 7 in Trea village with you?
- 8 [15.45.08]
- 9 A. There were about 20 families from Ampil village, and another
- 10 20 families from Saoy village. We were all sent together to Trea
- 11 village.
- 12 Q. When you were instructed to go and resettle in Trea village,
- 13 amongst other Cham people, did you make any request to the
- 14 commune chief or the cadre in charge <of the village>?
- 15 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 16 Mr. Witness, please observe the microphone.
- 17 MR. IT SEN:
- 18 A. It was Comrade Seng who told us that next day the <returnees>
- 19 had to be returned to Trea village, and <he urged the village
- 20 chief to make sure that> we had to <return to Trea village> the
- 21 next day. We were not allowed by the village chief as well as the
- 22 village security personnel to stay in Ampil village any longer.
- 23 And if we were to stay, they would deprive us of gruel. <At all
- 24 cost, we had to leave the village; or we would be starved.>
- 25 BY MR. SENG LEANG:

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- 1 Q. And did you present any request?
- 2 [15.46.43]
- 3 MR. IT SEN:
- 4 A. Yes, I did. I said that I didn't want to go there. But I had
- 5 no choice. I knew that I would be killed when <they said we were
- 6 to be relocated to> Trea village. But there was also no point
- 7 staying behind, because our food and gruel would be deprived.
- 8 There was no alternative for us but to go. <I did not believe
- 9 them in the first place when they said we were to be relocated. I
- 10 knew that they were planning to get us killed; but we just could
- 11 not stay.>
- 12 Q. So you knew beforehand that you would be killed when <they
- 13 said> you <were to leave for> Trea village<, didn't you>?
- 14 A. Yes, I did. <A> group <of people> had been sent there before
- 15 us<, and they disappeared>. They were told to go there to build
- 16 houses, but they never returned. And then their families were
- 17 sent after <under the pretext that they were being expected by
- 18 their families>, and they disappeared, too. For that reason, I
- 19 didn't want to go, but I could not stay behind because the food
- 20 would be deprived.
- 21 Q. And while en route to Trea village, you said that 20 families
- 22 were travelling together with you. Was it 20 families or 40
- 23 families -- that is, the families <that joined you on that
- 24 journey>?
- 25 [15.48.11]

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- 1 A. It was a mixed collection, a mixed gathering <of half of the
- 2 families> from Ampil village and <the other half> from Saoy
- 3 village. And I could say maybe there were about 40 families
- 4 together from these two villages<; however, I saw many ox-carts
- 5 full of people on that journey. As for men, when we were detained
- 6 together in a house, it was crowded with men. There were about 40
- 7 of them, and they were from Saoy and Ampil villages>.
- 8 Q. And while you were en route, did you observe any security
- 9 guards patrolling along the road?
- 10 A. No, there was no guard. We were asked to make our journey by
- 11 ourselves, and it was comrade Seng who travelled <on his motor
- 12 bike back> and <forth>, monitoring us leaving the village -- that
- 13 is, leaving Ampil to Trea village. He was on his motorbike,
- 14 observing the procession that we made. < Nobody else was
- 15 monitoring us.>
- 16 Q. Was comrade Seng armed with any kind of weapon?
- 17 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 18 Mr. Witness, please observe the microphone.
- 19 MR. IT SEN:
- 20 A. I did not see <him carrying any rifle>. However, if he had a
- 21 <pistol> under his shirt, I would not notice. But people believed
- 22 that he <had a mummified three or four month old foetus, believed
- 23 to be a powerful magicial charm, that was protecting him; and
- 24 that whenever he made a scream, he would become invisible
- 25 immediately>.

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- 1 BY MR. SENG LEANG:
- 2 Q. <Since> there were no guards, and you knew there were about 40
- 3 families travelling with you together, and you knew beforehand
- 4 that you would be killed when you arrived in Trea village, why
- 5 didn't you decide to flee to other villages<, namely>, to Preaek
- 6 Achi village <or other villages you had lived before>?
- 7 [15.50.34]
- 8 MR. IT SEN:
- 9 A. When we almost arrived at <> Trea village, we <were reluctant>
- 10 to go <forward. We were full of fear. It took us about half an
- 11 hour to decide to enter the village>, as we saw many soldiers at
- 12 <> Trea village. And it was too late to return our <ox-carts
- 13 elsewhere, and everyone started weeping>. And we didn't know
- 14 where to go. <We knew that we could not go back. And if> we were
- 15 to go to the forest with the <ox-carts>, we <did not know as to
- 16 where it would lead to>. And by that time, some women <were
- 17 weeping> and <crying>, as it was too late to return or to go
- 18 back. Because by that time, we reached the point of no return,
- 19 <though> we <had been> told <by people who lived near Trea
- 20 village> that people were being tied up<, blindfolded> and <led
- 21 to the pier> every day.
- 22 Q. You said you stopped about half an hour before you entered the
- 23 Trea village; am I correct?
- 24 A. Yes, <panic rose within us, and> we stopped for about half an
- 25 hour <as> we did not know what to do. <The oxen were still

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- 1 attached to the yokes, while women were getting off the ox-carts,
- 2 sat on the ground, and started to cry. They were asking us not to
- 3 go forward. > However, men still stayed on the <ox-carts >. We did
- 4 not know what to do. We knew that we would be taken and killed
- 5 when we entered the village, but if we <were to return, we would
- 6 be sent back anyways. We were just out of thoughts>.
- 7 [15.52.18]
- 8 MR. SENG LEANG:
- 9 I'm running out of time, Mr. President. Thank you, and I'd like
- 10 to cede the floor to the Lead Co-Lawyers <for civil parties>.
- 11 QUESTIONING BY MS. TY SRINNA:
- 12 Q. Thank you, Mr. President. And good afternoon, Mr. President,
- 13 Your Honours and everyone. And good afternoon, Mr. It Sen. My
- 14 name is Ty Srinna. I am a lawyer for civil parties. I have some
- 15 questions to put to you. Let me go back a little bit to the time
- 16 when you, the Cham people, were living in Preaek Achi village and
- 17 later on, you spent two weeks living in Ampil village. These are
- 18 the two main <points> of my questions. Can you tell the Court the
- 19 living conditions and the food ration for you while you were
- 20 living in these two respective villages?
- 21 MR. IT SEN:
- 22 A. Before that, my elder <sister> actually went to collect gruel
- 23 <herself>, and then <she shared some of her> gruel <with me>.
- 24 Later on, my <sister told the village chief that I could not go
- 25 on the journey, and I> had <to return to the village due to the

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- fact that I had suffered from> dysentery <>.
- 2 [15.53.53]
- 3 Q. Mr. Witness, allow me to rephrase my question. My question is
- 4 in relation to the living condition of the Cham people, <in
- 5 particular, regarding> the food ration given to the Cham people.
- 6 What was the <food ration> like? And what was the food like? Was
- 7 it abundant? Was the living condition difficult <or comfortable>
- 8 while you were living in Preaek Achi village?
- 9 A. The situation was extremely difficult. Three kilos of rice was
- 10 <cooked in a big pot for> people living in a house. We could not
- 11 cook any rice, but we instead cooked <thin> gruel <every day.
- 12 While living in Ampil village, we had thicker gruel. While living
- 13 in Preaek Achi, the living condition was harsh as we> never had
- 14 <> cooked rice, <throughout the year>.
- 15 Q. And you were a Cham Muslim person. Did they respect you in
- 16 giving you food <allowed by your religion>? I mean, that they did
- 17 not give you pork to eat? Or what was the condition like?
- 18 [15.55.20]
- 19 A. The food was prepared, mixed together. For example, meat --
- 20 pork <> was mixed while they were preparing food, and it was
- 21 given to us, the Cham people. <They did not separate the food for
- 22 giving to the Cham or the Khmer. > We were forced to eat. However,
- 23 some of us <could not> eat, <they> were given some grains of salt
- 24 instead.
- 25 Q. You said some of you were forced to eat pork. What kind of

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- 1 effect did it have mentally on the Cham people while they were
- 2 eating pork?
- 3 A. Of course, it did have an impact upon us, but what could we
- 4 do? Some of us had to eat, and they threw up after<, while some
- 5 others just ate whatever provided to them. > And <for the Cham
- 6 people who could not eat pork, > they begged for grains of salt
- 7 instead of pork. And sometimes we had to hide the salt so that we
- 8 could eat it during our meal time instead of having pork soup.
- 9 Q. So, according to your religion, the Cham people do not eat
- 10 <pork>. And what happened to the Cham people who were forced to
- 11 eat <pork>, because that would be contradictory to the discipline
- 12 in your religion?
- 13 A. <My apologies. It was written in> the holy text of Koran
- 14 <that> Allah <strictly prohibits> us <from eating> dog meat <and>
- 15 pork, under any circumstances. These are the two <types of> meats
- 16 that we are prohibited from eating<, according to the Koran>.
- 17 [15.57.45]
- 18 Q. Does the holy Koran provide any explanation for the
- 19 prohibition of consumption of dog meat and pork?
- 20 A. In the holy Koran, Allah prohibits us from consuming dog meat
- 21 and pork. As for the rest of the meat, <> we have a choice to
- 22 eat. <According to the Koran, pork is not allowed to be consumed
- 23 by the Muslim. > That's all I know.
- 24 Q. You <constantly> stated about <"samyang">. Can you provide an
- 25 explanation to what it means to the Court?

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- 1 A. In the holy Koran, Allah mentions "samyang", and we<, Muslims
- 2 stick to what is written in the holy Koran. <On the order of
- 3 Allah, every> Muslim has to worship <and do daily prayers, and we
- 4 just have to do it on a daily basis>. And <the Holy Koran
- 5 requires us to fast, we have to fast accordingly. We have to
- 6 stick to what is written in the Holy Koran>.
- 7 Q. Do all the Cham people have to engage in the practice of
- 8 samyang? That is "pray", in English. Does samyang represents a
- 9 symbolic practice or prayer, of adherence to the holy Koran by
- 10 all Muslims?
- 11 [15.59.52]
- 12 A. Not every Muslim person < has prayers on a daily basis>, but
- 13 for <faithful> Muslims, we all have to practice samyang, or to
- 14 pray <on a daily basis. Not every Muslim is a faithful Islam
- 15 believer.>
- 16 Q. I'd like to put a few more questions in relation to your time
- 17 at Trea village. What kinds of people were sent to Trea village?
- 18 Were you considered making mistakes, so that you were sent to
- 19 Trea village?
- 20 A. No, we did not commit any mistakes. We were simply villagers
- 21 clike others>. However, <since> we <had> returned <to our
- 22 village > from Preaek Achi village <>, then we were instructed to
- 23 go <back> to Trea village. <That was the only difference.> And it
- 24 was <Comrade> Seng, who was a <Southwest Zone> cadre, who told us
- 25 that the area had been liberated, and that we could return to our

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- 1 home village. <That> was the policy<; but after we had arrived,</pre>
- 2 we were told to return to Trea village. He himself could have
- 3 misunderstood the actual policy> as <he was the one who told us
- 4 that> the area had been liberated, and the country <was enjoying>
- 5 peace. <However, when> we <arrived in Ampil village, we> were
- 6 sent <back> to Trea village.
- 7 Q. <Thank you. I have one more question regarding the time> when
- 8 you arrived in Trea village, you said that you were questioned,
- 9 and pure Cham people were put in one group, and the half-Cham
- 10 half-Khmer were placed in another group. <What happened to each
- 11 group?> Were you questioned on other issues, besides on your
- 12 ethnicity? <Were those people tortured for other pieces of
- 13 information?>
- 14 [16.02.01]
- 15 A. No <more information was asked of us. Again, > those who were
- 16 sent there were all Cham. There were no Khmer people. However,
- 17 maybe they <were testing our loyalty toward them> by asking us
- 18 those questions, whether we were <>Khmer <or >Cham. However, they
- 19 knew that we were all pure Cham people. <Again, they were testing
- 20 our loyalty.> However, we were afraid that they would beat us if
- 21 we said that we were Cham, so some of us told them that they were
- 22 Khmer <with the hope that they would treat us better; but> it
- 23 became even worse, as they even beat us more <for the reason that
- 24 we were lying to them>.
- 25 Q. <Thank you. I have another question. I am interested in an

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- 1 incident you went through.> Later on, you fled from Trea village,
- 2 and you survived. Have you ever returned to Trea village after
- 3 the fall of the Khmer Rouge regime? If that is the case, and as
- 4 you said, you saw a big pit in Trea village during the Khmer
- 5 Rouge regime. And if you returned to Trea village after the fall
- 6 of the Khmer Rouge regime, have you observed whether there was
- 7 only one single pit? Or there were many more pits?
- 8 [16.03.20]
- 9 A. No, I have not returned to the Trea village. And from what
- 10 people said, we all know there was only one large pit there, with
- 11 many iron bars scattered nearby. But personally, I never returned
- 12 <to Trea village> again.
- 13 Q. <Thank you. > Were you aware of the <separate > killing of the
- 14 Cham women?
- 15 A. The wives were killed separately. The single <grown-up girls>
- 16 were killed separately. The husbands were killed separately. <The
- 17 small children were killed along with their mothers. > They killed
- 18 the Cham people in these three different -- separate groups.
- 19 Q. Have you heard <of> an event where a Cham woman was asked to
- 20 lie on a plank, facing down, and then later on, her throat was
- 21 slashed, and thrown into <a> pit? <Did you witness such an event?
- 22 Or have you heard of such an event?>
- 23 A. I <didn't see it or hear of> it. Rather, I heard it. I <just>
- 24 heard <that people were beaten on their necks and dumped into a
- 25 pit; however, > I did not witness < such an event >.

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- 1 MS. TY SRINNA:
- 2 In the interests of time, I thank you very much for your
- 3 responses. And Mr. President, I'm grateful for the opportunity.
- 4 [16.05.20]
- 5 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 6 The Chamber will adjourn now, and resume tomorrow -- that is,
- 7 Tuesday, 8 September 2015, commencing from 9 o'clock in the
- 8 morning, where we will continue to hear testimony of witness It
- 9 Sen, and commence hearing testimony of a civil party -- that is,
- 10 2-TCCP-244.
- 11 Mr. It Sen, the Chamber is grateful of your time to testify
- 12 before this Chamber. However, it is not yet concluded, and you
- 13 are invited to return to resume your testimony tomorrow, starting
- 14 from 9 o'clock in the morning.
- 15 Court officer, in collaboration with WESU, please make
- 16 arrangement for this witness, as well as the reserve civil party,
- 17 2-TCCP-244, to the place where he's staying, and invite them to
- 18 return to the courtroom tomorrow <at 9 a.m.>
- 19 Security personnel, you are instructed to take the two Accused,
- 20 Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea, back to the detention facility, and
- 21 have them return to attend the proceedings tomorrow before 9
- 22 o'clock in the morning.
- 23 The Court is now adjourned.
- 24 (Court adjourns at 1606H)

25