## KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA NATION RELIGION KING

BY SANN RADA

I, Say Bory, Defense Lawyer for Mr. Khieu Samphan COURT OFFICER

To

Mr. You Bunleng and Mr. Marcel Lemonde Co-Investigating Judges of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

**Subject**: Request to send a letter by Khieu Samphan

I have the honor of sending the Co-Investigating Judges one letter by Khieu Samphan, one copy in Khmer and one copy in French, dated 30 December 2007, according to the request of the Co-Investigating Judges made during the interviews on 13 and 14 December 2007.

Mr. Khieu Samphan has only just presented this letter to me on 8 January 2008.

Attached to the French text is an excerpt in French from his second book, for Judge Marcel Lemonde.

Phnom Penh, 8 January 2008

Signature

Lawyer Say Bory

This document received On 8 January 2008 Ly Chantola

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Received 14/01/2008 Case File Officer SANN RADA

## NATION RELIGION KING

With respects to Mr. You Bunleng and Mr. Marcel Lemonde, Co-Investigating Judges of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Respected Co-Investigating Judges:

During your interviews of me on 13 and 14 December 2007 concerning the organization of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Communist Party of Kampuchea, I demonstrated clearly that even in my position as Chairman of the Presidium of State and a member of the Party Central Committee, I had no personnel under my command, had no office, and was not responsible for governing any zone or sector or any military unit. Therefore, I had no power at all.

Inside Office 870, since I could not fulfill the task of preparing the price tables for the products of the cooperatives as there was no exchange of merchandise, I was left only with the remaining work of distributing the things they had collected in Phnom Penh to the various bases and ministries following the decisions of the Standing Committee, and in addition to this, maintaining good contacts with Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk.

At this time, I request permission to absolutely confirm that I was not Chairman of "Office 870" at any time whatsoever, whether in "actuality" or "legality." Any claim beyond this is unacceptable at any level, without any supporting written record recorded in an internal document of the Khmer Rouge. When I was appointed to work in this office as an ordinary member, there was a clear written record. If I had been promoted to Chairman, why is there no written record? Furthermore, I seriously wonder about the so-called supporting grounds of the words of leng Sary as they appear in Written Record 426 (page 136) of the charges against me, because Mr. Ieng Sary himself has clearly confirmed to me that he never said that at all. This confirmation was published in my first book entitled "The Recent History of Kampuchea and My Sequential Stances" which was printed in 2004. (See page 150 of the Khmer version and page 143 of the French version.)

The Co-Judges already know how I learned about the evacuation of the people from the capital city.

I have also informed you about the secrecy provision: "Whoever's task it is, that person knows it. The tasks of others are not to be known, not to be seen, not to be heard." In addition, there was another general rule forbidding coming and going without a clear work/official reason. Also, they did not allow me to attend meetings on internal Party affairs. Therefore, I could not learn of any matters at all which actually occurred inside the country.

It is not hard to understand why I could not object and refuse to accept the job of Chairman of the Presidium of State of Democratic Kampuchea after Samdech Preah

Norodom Sihanouk had resigned from the position of Head of State. Suppose I had objected. I would then certainly have been accused and punished for having betrayed the Party and betrayed the nation, because the Khmer Rouge leaders had already made an appeal for the entire country to prepare itself to face the danger from Vietnam, which was at that time stronger than ever before, since they had already united their country. My situation at that time was the same as I had said at the time when I had just escaped and fled from Phnom Penh in early 1967: "Beginning now, having been strongly blown about by the windstorm of events, I must go with the flow to live under the protection of a movement which is not very suitable with my style of life as I trained and educated in the West, and not what I had intended for my life, to live as an independent intellectual ... either. So, I can take no other initiatives. I can only react to the important events which I will encounter in the future, following my conscience with an understanding of what I can force myself to accept or not accept, that's all." (The Recent History of Cambodia ... page 25).

I request permission to further inform you that during "open" meetings of the Standing Committee, as in the meetings of the Party Central Committee, I never stated any opinions, because I knew that it would have been useless. In any case, I had no rights to participate with them in making decisions. In the Party Central Committee there were never any votes taken. The job of this committee was to concentrate on listening and discussing to grasp and absorb "in the sense of implementing" what was presented by the Standing Committee for implementation, in accordance with the actual situation in each person's position/location, and correctly following the goals which the Standing Committee had set.

Before concluding, I am happy to inform you of the report of the section responsible for United States foreign assistance, on page 229 of my second book recently published in 2007, the text of which follows: "In order to evade starvation, Kampuchea must smelt its swords to use the steel to make plowshares, but there is not much hope that they can or want to do so ... Therefore, if there is an abundance of outside food and material assistance, famine will spread throughout the country. Beginning this February ... it is unavoidable this year that half of the people will have to work like slaves with only a little food (and those who supported the Republic of Lon Nol may be in even more difficulty). This misery and starvation will have to continue for two or three more years before Kampuchea has sufficient food to eat on its own." (William Shawcross: "Sideshow", page 375.)

I spoke of this report on 13 December because I wanted to inform you that in fact my second book was an effort to use documents which originated from reliable sources, like this report for example, or some of the results of the work of researchers which are difficult to challenge, or the results which may be connected with some of what I learned having traveled with this movement for a considerably long time and having passed through the twists and turns, complications, and dangers again and again with them. The overwhelming majority of these twists and turns are already widely known, or at the very least are not difficult to research and verify. Therefore, as the title of this book states, this

book is only my thoughts on an historical period of our nation. Therefore, it need not be introduced into this case.

As I wrote in my first book in 2004, I understand that "Each of us should try to express our ideas on that period in the history of our country, to the maximum, in a high spirit of responsibility, even if our opinions are not yet in agreement, so the youth will take them for their consideration and thought when choosing the paths of their future lives. ("The Recent History of Cambodia ...", page 144).

In conclusion, I ask that the Co-Investigating judges kindly accept my highest respects.

Done on 30 December 2007 [Signature] Khieu Samphan