



ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា  
ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ  
Kingdom of Cambodia  
Nation-Religion-King

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសេសវិសេសសាលាដំបូងក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Chambres Extraordinaires au sein des Tribunaux Cambodgiens

**ឯកសារបកប្រែ**  
**TRANSLATION/TRADUCTION**  
ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date): 27-Jan-2012, 13:21  
CMS/CFO: Phok Chanthan

ការិយាល័យសហចៅក្រមស៊ើបអង្កេត

Office of the Co-Investigating Judges

Bureau des Co-juges d'instruction

សំណុំរឿងព្រហ្មទណ្ឌ

Criminal Case File /Dossier pénal

លេខ/No: 002/14-08-2006

លេខស៊ើបអង្កេត/Investigation/Instruction

លេខ/No: 002/19-09-2007

**កំណត់ហេតុនៃការស្តាប់បម្លើយសាក្សី**

Written Record of Interview of Witness

Procès-verbal d'audition de témoin

On the nineteenth of August, two thousand and nine, at 1017 hours, at Chhouk (ឈូក) village, Pralay (ប្រឡាយ) commune, Staung (ស្ទោង) district, Kampong Thom (កំពង់ធំ) province;

We, Chay Chan Daravan (ចាយ ច័ន្ទតារាវណ្ណ) and Thomas KUEHNEL, Investigators of the Extraordinary Chambers, being assigned by the Rogatory Letter of the Co-Investigating Judges, dated 24 July 2009;

Noting the Law on the Establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers, dated 27 October 2004;

Noting Rules 24, 28 and 60 of the ECCC Internal Rules;

With Mr. Samorn NIL (សាម៉ែន នីល), as sworn Interpreter of the Extraordinary Chambers;

Recorded the statements of SUON Kanil (ស្រួន កានិល), a witness, who provided the following information regarding his personal identity:

The undersigned, SUON Kanil, revolutionary name Neang (នាង), was born on 29 March 1953 in Chhouk village, Prâlay commune, Staung district, Kampong Thom province.

He is of Khmer nationality and is a peasant.

His father, SUON Sin (ស្រួន ស៊ិន), is “deceased”, and his mother, CHĂN Kim Huot (ចាន់ គីមហ្វុត), is “deceased”.

His present address is in Chhouk village, Prâlay commune, Staung district, Kampong Thom province.

He is married to CHIV Ny (ជីវ នី), “alive”, and is father of six children, including two sons and four daughters.

The witness has no criminal record.

The witness declared that he can read, write and understand the Khmer language.

The witness declared that he cannot read or write any other languages. Therefore, the original of this Written Record is written in the Khmer language.

We advised the witness that an audio or video recording was being made of this Interview.

The witness told us that he is not related to either the Charged Persons or to any of the Civil Parties.

The witness took an oath, in accordance with Rule 24 of the ECCC Internal Rules.

We notified the witness of his right against self-incrimination, in accordance with Rule 28 of the ECCC Internal Rules.

### Questions and answers:

**Q:** Did you ever attend any meeting with the Zone committee?

**A:** The meeting [I attended] was the assembly meeting which was held once in every six months or once a year, and was presided over by KÈ Pauk (កែ ពាក់). The meeting was

attended by the district committee, the sector committee, and the commune committee. During the meeting they reported about the result of their work. The agenda of the meeting included the plans for building the irrigation system, dams, and digging canals. That meeting was held in 1976 or 1977. As for the special meeting, it was attended by the Zone committee only. KÈ Pauk used to call me twice to meet with him personally to talk about the telegram work. He instructed me to work seriously and respect working schedule so that the work would not be slow, and to organize additional staff for the telegram section. The assembly did not talk about the arrest or purge. I did not know much about the purges because we had to comply with the four—fold slogan: “no know, no see, no hear, and no talk”.

**Q:** You said that there were two offices in the Central Zone, what were the structures of those offices?

**A:** [One was] the office of the Central Zone committee whose chairperson was in the rank equivalent to that of the district deputy. Another office was the central office, which was also served as KÈ Pauk office and as the place for general management of the Zone. In case KÈ Pauk was absent, people came to meet with the chairperson of the Central Zone office named Suor (ស្រួរ). Suor was a former political resistant, but he disappeared before other people in around 1977. Six months after Suor disappeared, Nhean (ញ៉ាណ) (female), who was also a former political resistant, replaced him. After Nhean disappeared, Sèn (សែន) took over. But Sèn committed suicide later on by hanging himself. After that, Moeun (ម៉ឺន) alias Maut (ម៉ូត), who was KÈ Pauk brother in law, became the chairman of this office. Moeun was dead.

**Q:** Did you know what the roles of the chairperson of the Central Zone committee office were?

**A:** I did not know what the chairperson of that office did. [I] saw him monitoring the rice farming work only. The office chairperson did not have any relation with my telegram unit. At that time there were only Chhean (ឈ៉ាន) and his deputy Chhy (ឈី) alias Chhăm (ឆាំ) who had some relation with my telegram group. The chairperson of the central office, Chhean, was the one in charge of the office of the telegram, bodyguard, hospital, and the printing house.

**Q:** What did the chairperson of the central office mean?

**A:** The chairperson of the central office named Chhean. He was in charge of the general work of the office which located near KÈ Pauk house. This central office was created after the Zone was split into two. The central office and the office of the Zone were not far away from each other. These offices located in the provincial town of Kampong Cham (កំពង់ចាម), and they were only about ten meters away from each other.

**Q:** What was the composition of the Central Zone committee before the arrival of the Southwest Zone group? How many members in the committee?

**A:** The committee of the Central Zone composed of five members included KÈ Pauk who was the chairperson, Srēng (ស្រីស្រីង) was the deputy (disappeared), Tol (តុល) was a member (disappeared), Chên (ចិន) was [a member] (disappeared), and Sâmoeun (សំអ៊ែន), who was KÈ Pauk brother in law, (died in around 1990) was a member.

**Q:** Was the composition of the Central Zone committee changed after the Southwest Zone group arrived?

**A:** After the Southwest Zone group had arrived, KÈ Pauk was still the chairperson, *Ta* (grandpa) An (តាអាន) (from the Southwest Zone) became the deputy (he presently lives in Ânlung Veng (អន្លង់វែង)), *Ta* Oeun (តា អ៊ែន) (died) was a member, *Ta* Ngin (តា ឆិន) (disappeared) was a member, and *Yeay* (grandma) Yut (យាយ យុត) (from the Southwest Zone) was a member. *Yeay* Yut is still alive, but I do not know where she lives. Before the Southwest Zone forces arrived, some members of the Central Zone committee had disappeared, so did some Sector committees, district committees, commune committees, and even cooperative committees. But I could not grasp what were the reasons behind those disappearances. I knew about the disappearances of the Central Zone committee members through their former messengers who told me about them. After the arrival of the Southwest Zone group, there were only three persons remaining in the composition of the Central Zone committee, other than these, they put the Southwest forces to take control of the committee from the Sector down to the cooperative. The Southwest Zone forces arrived in around late 1977 or early 1978. There were many people coming from the Southwest Zone at that time. [When] they arrived, they held meetings with all the members of the Zone committee, assigned them the roles, and then sent them to the sector, district, commune, and cooperative according to their respective roles. *Ta* An and *Yeay* Yut represented the Southwest Zone forces. At that time the Southwest Zone forces took over about 90% of the Central Zone [leadership].

**Q:** Did you know which sectors were under *Ta* An control?

**A:** *Ta* An was in charge of Sector 41, and *Yeay* Yut was in charge of Kampong Siem (កំពង់សៀម) district. She was also the member of Sector 41. *Ta* Oeun controlled Sector 42, and *Ta* Ngin took charge of Sector 43. These assignments resulted from the Zone committee meeting. I did not attend this meeting because it was only for the leadership level. There was no note taker in the meeting. The leaders attending it took note by themselves.

**Q:** Regarding to the printing work in the Central Zone, what did the printing house do?

**A:** The printing house printed banners and slogans and permission letter, and managed the Zone documents. The person in charge of that printing house named Seu (ស៊ី). After

he disappeared, Sao (ស្រី) took over until the Vietnamese liberated. Sao is still alive today, but I do not know where he lives. At that time no Revolutionary Flag Journal or Youth Journal were printed there. Those journals were sent from Phnom Penh. The Revolutionary Flag Journals were for the alternate party member and the full right party member to read. The Revolutionary Flag Journals were not provided to people and the Youth League. I knew about this through people working at the printing house. They told me that the Revolutionary Flag Journals were sent from Phnom Penh. I knew that the Revolutionary Flag Journals were not for us to read since the time I first joined the Revolution. I could read the Youth League Journal only. That was because all the party affairs were printed in these Revolutionary Flag Journals.

**Q:** Did you remember the names of the members of Sectors 41, 42, and 43?

**A:** The committee of Sector 41 included *Ta An* who was the Sector secretary, *Yeay Yut* was the deputy secretary, and *Phâl* (ផ្កា) was the member. *Phâl* was killed and robbed of gold by his own messengers. Sector 42 was under *Ta Oeun*, but I did not know who the deputy and the member were. Sector 43 was under *Ta Ngin* control, but I did not know who the deputy and the member were either.

**Q:** After the Southwest Zone group arrived, was the telegram team of the Central Zone still the same or was it changed?

**A:** The work of the telegram group was still the same. Each sector had its own telegram office, and if they wanted to send any telegram to other place, they had to send through the Zone. I used to receive the telegrams from all Sectors. For example, when they wanted to invite the Sector secretaries to attend the meeting at the Zone, they used the telegram.

**Q:** You said just now that there were people disappearing then, what did you mean?

**A:** The word “disappearance” meant death. Disappearance could mean either death by natural cause or by arrest and execution.

**Q:** Let me show you a name list of the prisoners from the S-21 (ស៊ី-២១), and I want you to read line 12 on this table bearing ERN 00333779. Yesterday you spoke about people disappearing in Sectors 41, 42, and 43, is it correct?

**A:** In this document with ERN 00333779, line 12, the name is CHAN Monn (ចាន់ ម៉ុន) alias Tol who was the secretary of Sector 42 in the North Zone. That is correct.

**Q:** Was this CHAN Monn, who you said had disappeared in Sector 42, correct?

**A:** Yes, it is correct that he had disappeared.

**Q:** According to this document, he disappeared on 18 February 1977, correct?

**A:** Yes, according to my recollection, it was correct.

**Q:** After that time, did you ever see him again?

**A:** No, I did not.

**Q:** As you knew it, at that time what was the motive behind his disappearance?

**A:** I knew about that vaguely. At that time if someone had disappeared without any reasons, it meant the disappearing person was a traitor.

**Q:** After you read its content, do you agree or not that this is the name list of the prisoners who had been arrested and taken to S-21? And were people who disappeared at that time were arrested and taken to S-21, correct?

**A:** Yes, based on what I read in this document you gave me, I agree. But I did not know where those people, who disappeared, were taken to.

**Q:** During the Khmer Rouge period, did you know S-21?

**A:** I did not know it. But based on my knowledge, people who disappeared at that time were mostly sent to Phnom Penh or Kampong Cham. But I was not sure about that.

**Q:** You thought that they arrested those people who they called to study, why did you think so?

**A:** I thought so because, for example, if they carried out the arrest in the Zone, it would be known to me. At that time, they used two slogans which were: sending to study and transferring to work at another place.

**Q:** You said that they invited [people] to go to study, can you explain [people] at what level were invited to study? And what level made the invitation?

**A:** I would like to tell you that those who were invited to study in Phnom Penh were mostly the members of the Zone committee and the Sector level. Those who were invited to study in Phnom Penh were named on the invitation. When the persons had been called to study and did not return, it meant that they were arrested. The invitation to attend the meeting in Phnom Penh was made through the telegram and sent from Office 870 in Phnom Penh. I could not understand the meaning of the invitation telegram because I was not the telegram translator, but I learned about its content through the messengers of the Zone secretary.

**Q:** Based on your knowledge what was the method they used to arrest people?

**A:** I did not know about the other arrest methods besides calling people to study.

**Q:** In the document with ERN 00333779, please read Master Number 513 and sequential number 17, and then can you explain to us about that item?

**A:** I did not know CHĀN Sorn (ចាន់ ស៊ុន) who was the Santuk (ស័ន្ទុក) district secretary. And the name of the Santuk district secretary whom I told you about yesterday was not the same as this person in this document.

**Q:** Please look at the document with ERN 00333788 and read sequential number 210. After you read this line, can you tell us if this name, Suor, was the same person as Suor you told us earlier?

**A:** This line, sequential number 210, the name is NUT Choeun (នុត ជឿន) alias Suor who was the secretary of a district, but it did not say the district name. I have not specified about Suor yet. This district secretary, Suor, was not the Suor who was the chairperson of the office whom I told you about. That was because the district secretary could not be the chairperson of the office. These two Suors were two different persons, one Suor whom I specified to you this morning was from the Central Zone, but the Suor in this document was from the North Zone.

**Q:** Please look at the document with ERN 00333781 and read the line with sequential number 52. Was this name you just read the same as the person you told us?

**A:** Number 52/1480 is CHOR Chhan (ជ ឆាន) alias Srēng. He was the deputy secretary of the new North Zone. This Srēng was KÈ Pauk deputy. This was Srēng whom I told you about from the beginning.

**This interview paused at 1215 hours on the same date.**

**This interview resumed at 1457 hours on the same date.**

**Q:** Followed my request, you have read the name list of the prisoners of S-21 from ERN 00333779 to 00333795 and from order number 1 to order number 360. Now after you read them, can you point to us how many names you knew?

**A:** I saw and knew some names. I myself knew those names without anyone telling me about them. In the document bearing ERN 00333779, the order number 13/484 is CHĂN Phat (ចាន់ ផាត) alias Phauk (ហ្វោក) who was the security chief of the Central Zone. Based on this document, he was arrested on 26 October, 1977. I would like to speak about this name as follow: This Phôk used to stay with me since before 1975 when we were the combatants. At the beginning we stayed together in Siem Reap, but were later transferred to Kampong Cham. At that time, the situation changed because people were disappearing continuously. The situation changed meant that the workers who were had held previous positions, involved with a tendency, were also arrested. Phôk became the security chief of the Central Zone in early 1977. I did not know who the first and second security chiefs were [before him], but Im (អ៊ឹម) replaced Phôk as the security chief. When the situation changed, they arrested people continuously, and those who had been arrested implicated each other. The arrests at that time were made in strings. I was able to know about these matters from my observation.

-Number 20/535 is CHĂN Srean (ចាន់ ស្រែន) alias Chit (ជិត) who was the chairperson of the hospital of the Central Zone. As I knew about him, he was a school teacher in 1973. After 17 April 1975, he was assigned to be in charge of the hospital. When he first arrived in Kampong Cham, they appointed him to take charge of the hospital although he

did not have any medical knowledge. Later on he was arrested because he had been implicated by others. He was a political cadre who was arrested.

-Number 52/1480 is CHOR Chhan alias Srēng. He was the deputy secretary of the new North Zone. I knew he was KÈ Pauk deputy who had been implicated by others. He was arrested in around 1977.

-Number 62/1667 is CHUON Oeur (ជួន អឿ) (male), no alias. He was the deputy of the Economics Unit of the Central Zone. I knew this CHUON Oeur (arm amputated) well. He was Nhean husband and a former political resistant.

-Number 85/2368 is HÈM Sot (ហែម សុត) alias Sean (ស៊ាន). He was the chief of the Industry Unit of the Central Zone. He was a political resistant who had been also implicated by others.

-Number 129/3562 is KHEM Ēn (ខឹម អេន) alias Va (វ៉ា). He was the chief of the Industry Unit of the North Zone before Sean. He was blind in one eye.

-132/3665 is KHEM Chhum (ខឹម ឈុំ). He was the secretary of Stoung district in Sector 43. I met with this person once while I was traveling to my home village. At that time I stopped by his place to ask him for some tobacco. This person was also a former political resistant who had been implicated by others and was subsequently arrested.

-Number 134/3703 is KHUL Khin (ហុល ឃីន) alias Yean (យ៉ាន). He was the deputy of the Logistic Unit of the [military] division. This person was KÈ Pauk brother in law. His wife and KÈ Pauk wife were siblings. They arrested him because of an incident in Kampong Cham, in which there was a big explosion that caused fire on some houses and broke many glass windows of the nearby buildings. He was arrested on 14 November 1977 because they said that “only the crab in that paddy which cut [destroy] the rice plants in that same paddy”. This meant that this explosion in that place caused by those who were staying there.

-Number 147/4440 is LACH Srim (ឡាច ស្រីម) alias Lei (ឡឿ). He was a commander of a company unit of Division 174. He had one leg amputated. At that time because he worked hard, they sent him to take charge of the guest reception unit of the Zone. He was arrested on 26 October 1977 because he had been implicated by Kun (គុន), who was the chairperson of the guest reception section. I knew about this because that [reception] unit was near my work place, and his wife also told me about that. Lei arrest was made following an order from the Centre, but I was not sure what was the motive behind his arrest.

-Number 176/5350 is MAO Choeun (ម៉ៅ ជឿន) alias Ly (លី). He was the chairperson of the logistic unit of Division 174. During the period of the political struggle he was KÈ Pauk messenger. In 1975 he was the chairperson of the Central Zone office of KÈ Pauk. He was arrested on 20 September 1977 because Yean, who was the deputy chief of the logistic unit of the military division, caused the explosion. So, I thought, he was arrested because he was the chief of the logistic unit of the division.



-Number 202/6763 is NUON Eam (ឆ្លូន អ៊ាម) alias Kun (គុន). He was the deputy chairperson of the guest reception unit of the Central Zone. At that time KÈ Pauk himself spoke about this name in the meeting in the Central Zone office that this person attempted to poison KÈ Pauk. This person was arrested on 25 October 1977. I would like to specify that there was a connection between Lei and Kun because they were arrested just one day after one another.

-Number 205/6768 is NUON Ieng (ឆ្លូន អៀង) alias Kun (គុន). He was the chairperson of the guest reception unit of the Zone. I guess the person of number 202 and that of number 205 were the same person.

-Number 246/8215 is RĒ Sim (រ៉េ ស៊ីម) alias Reap (រ៉ាប). He was the secretary of the Regiment 601 and also the deputy [secretary] of Division 174. I would like to specify that RĒ Sim was the deputy secretary of Division 174. He had the connection with Seu (ស៊ី), the secretary of the Division, who was arrested on 12 September 1977.

-Number 268/8959 is SĀY Srun (សាយ ស្រុន) alias Seu. He was the secretary of Division 174 of the North Zone. He was arrested on 12 August 1977. There was a connection between the arrests of Seu and Reap as specified in number 246 above.

-Number 304/10043 is SUN Hoeun (សុន ហៀន) alias Im. He replaced Phôk as the security chief of the Central Zone. Im was arrested on 6 July 1978. Im previously was the photographer of the central office. After Phôk was arrested, KÈ Pauk decided to put Im in his [Phauk] place. The reason that led to Im arrest was that [one day] there were security guards from the Centre in Phnom Penh coming to the security centre of the Central Zone to interrogate the prisoner of the Central Zone. After they had interrogated the prisoner, they saw Im went to interrogate that same prisoner, so they accused Im of collaborating with that prisoner. At that time the security guards of the Centre reported to KÈ Pauk that Im had collaborated with the prisoner, and he was arrested subsequently. I knew about this arrest when I delivered a telegram to KÈ Pauk. At that time Pauk told me “I trust him [Im], but he had a shallow attitude. I could not help. So it was up to the upper echelon to decide”. At that time because they had a policy to pardon the prisoners, the Centre sent the security guards to visit the detention centre of the Zone in order to evaluate the situation before they could pardon any of them. I did not remember how many security guards coming from Phnom Penh, but they did not come often.

-Number 348/11907 is YĂB Yân (យ៉ាប យ៉ន) alias Soa (ស៊ោ). He was the chairperson of the logistic unit of Division 174 of the Central Zone. He was arrested on 19 September 1977. His arrest resulted from the explosion incident. The investigation on that explosion incident was conducted by KÈ Pauk along with the Centre. That explosion killed 12 combatants. At first KÈ Pauk reported the explosion incident to the Centre. After that the Centre told KÈ Pauk to arrest those who, as they believed, were involved in causing it. I remembered that KÈ Pauk had told me about this matter. The two persons on numbers 348 and 246 could have been arrested for the same reason.

**Q:** Were there any arrests of the Central Zone cadres decided by KÈ Pauk?

**A:** KÈ Pauk did not have a right to arrest anyone in his Zone, but he had a right to grant a pardon. For example, there were two cases [which were pardoned by him]; one of which was the case of my father in law, MEAS Chiv (មាស ជឿវ), whom he [KÈ Pauk] decided to release after the security [chief] named Phauk had arrested and detained him. At that time KÈ Pauk ordered Chàn, who was the secretary of Sector 43, to resolve it by sending a telegram to order Phauk to release him. The second case was that of my brother in law named Mēt (ម៉េត) who had been arrested and put in the security centre in Kampong Cham province. Phauk first told me that Mēt had been arrested and I should go to speak with KÈ Pauk about that. I asked Phauk why he arrested my brother in law [but he did not tell me the reason]. After that, KÈ Pauk asked Phauk why you arrested comrade Neang brother, Mēt. You should release him now. KÈ Pauk said why you arrested him if it was just a minor problem. Mēt was a messenger of Sean who was the chairperson of the industrial factory of the Central Zone.

**Q:** Since the time you stayed with KÈ Pauk, did you know if KÈ Pauk ever decided to arrest any people in the Central Zone?

**A:** KÈ Pauk never used his power to arrest any people personally. All the arrests of the people in the Central Zone were decided by the Centre.

**Q:** You personally have noticed [read] this prisoner list. You have understood, noticed and marked on it. I would like you to confirm that by giving your thumbprint on these documents so that I will attach them to this interview, do you agree?

**A:** Yes, I agree.

**Q:** Did you know about any other events or purge that took place in the East Zone?

**A:** I did not know clearly. [I] saw the Central Zone troops were sent to the East Zone, but I did not know why they were sent there.

One copy of the Written Record was provided to the witness.

The Written Record was read out to the witness; the witness had no objections and signed it.

After the Written Record was read out to the witness, the witness refused to sign it.

This interview ended at 1642 hours on the same date.

Witness

Interpreter

Investigators

[Signature/Thumbprint]

[Signature]

[Signatures]

SUON Kanil