

Excerpts from the manuscript of Soung Sikoen's book

(Page 11 or 155 and onward)

<b>ឯកសារទទួលបាន</b>	
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Chanthan Phok	

In Sopheap, alias Mitt Mi and I were obliged to wait more than two weeks (after the liberation of Phnom Penh – note by K<sup>1</sup>) before we were able to leave (from B-20 or Dei Kraham – note by K). Comrades Hou Yuon, Ping Say and Chhorn Hay were travelling together on the boat coming from Phnom Penh, which was supposed to take us there. [IN ENGLISH IN ORIGINAL][Note: Hou Yuon was backed to B-20 in the second half of May (possibly 24 May) 1975. This confirms that Hou Yuon was send back to the Party's base in Dei Kraham we learnt from other sources before, but still to check the claim that he was shot by Pol Pot Chief of bodyguard while he was trying to commit suicide] [END OF ENGLISH SEGMENT].

[IN ENGLISH IN ORIGINAL]Sikoeun writes the following[IN ENGLISH IN ORIGINAL]: “He was the only Democratic Kampuchea leader who openly questioned the confiscation of private property and the forced evacuations from the cities. As an economist, he predicted the failure of collectivization. So, during a meeting of senior Khmer Rouge leaders at the end of 1975, he challenged Pol Pot: “I don't see your regime surviving more than three years.” [IN ENGLISH IN ORIGINAL] (but how this can be possible since Hou Yuon was arrested and send to B-20 soon after 17 April 1975? as he claims above K) [END OF ENGLISH SEGMENT].

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Tun Chot Sirinn came to join us for a few days before leaving to take care of compatriots who had arrived from Beijing and who were staying in the building of the former Ministry of Defence, which was very close to B-1. [IN ENGLISH IN ORIGINAL](This confirms that those coming from Beijing were first staying there, this place was K-2 and later used as Social Affairs Ministry with Phear as Chief-K) [END OF ENGLISH SEGMENT]

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Thiounn Prasit worked as an interpreter for the meetings that our leaders – mainly Comrades Pol Pot and Ieng Sary – held with representatives of their parties and movements.

Together with Keat Chhon, Prasit was one of the masterminds of the Ministry, even though he held no official position. He was the jack-of-all-trades because he never refused to do any job that was assigned to him. He was a personal friend of Pol Pot and of Ieng Sary and he remained faithful and devoted to them. It is surely this friendship that saved Prasith's life because after the assassination of the British lecturer Malcolm Caldwell in December 1978, he, together with So Hong and Phi Phuon, alias Cheam, was on the list of suspects of the Security Office, which was

<sup>1</sup> K = Kheng

<b>ឯកសារចម្លងត្រឹមត្រូវតាមប្រព័ន្ធបញ្ជាវិនិច្ឆ័យ</b>	
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**then run by Son Sen [IN ENGLISH IN ORIGINAL] (survival of Prasith) [END OF ENGLISH SEGMENT].**

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**As a full-fledged Party member since 1971, I was asked to serve in all the departments of the Ministry. I was successively appointed head of the Europe department, head of the Southeast Asia department, Deputy head of the secretariat, deputy head of protocol and deputy head of the general policy department. Keat Chhon, half in jest, granted me the title of “brilliant number 2” and urged me to become “brilliant number 1” as well.**