

[ERN: 00015971-00015996]<sup>i</sup>

History of My Early Traitorous Activities



My name is POENG Kim Sear (ពឹង គីមស៊ីរ); I am 51 and married. I was born in Puok (ពួក) Commune, Puok (ពួក) District, Siem Reap (សៀមរាប) Province.

As of the age of nine, I attended a French school in Puok District for three years from 1935 to 1937. After that, I continued my studies in Siem Reap through Grades 7, 8 and 9 from 1937 to 1940. During these studies, I did not have any relatives in Siem Reap, so I stayed in Damnak (ដំណាក់) Pagoda at the monastery of monk Mohachhän (មហាឆាន់), who was a friend of Achar/Buddhist celebrant PANG Khät (ប៉ាង ខាត់) at Unalaom (ឧណ្ណាលោម) Pagoda (Phnom Penh).

My older brother, POENG Sây (ពឹង ស៊ីយ), also stayed there and also received education.

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*9 May 1977]*

My older brother and I were indoctrinated about the Free Khmer by Mohachhän. During our free time, my older brother and I were educated to love the concepts of human rights and freedom, and to be bold in fighting for these rights. He sometimes spoke well of the influence of the Free Khmer, nd democracy.

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*26 April 1977*

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In 1941, I continued my studies at Kampong Cham (កំពង់ចាម) High School.

Five months later, there was a conflict between France and Japan. French people were arrested by Japanese troops countrywide. After an approximate two-month break at home, I applied to study at Sisowat (ស៊ីសុវត្ថិ) High School and applied to stay at

Battambang Foyer, which was later on changed to Khaet Khmer Foyer. My older brother, POENG Sây, was studying at Sisowat High School as well and stayed there until 1948. During my stay with Mohachhân, I did not understand communism well.

From the time I stayed in the Foyer, I was indoctrinated by a senior person in charge there to favour the Democratic Party because it had SONG San (ស្រុង សាន) as a Steering Committee member and, and he was also the head of the Foyer. Moreover, the Party was supported by scholars. Afterwards, while I was in both the Party and the Foyer, I was educated to love the capitalist democratic regime which was against the communist regime; hence, it meant fighting the Revolution and supporting imperialism.

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After being educated this way, I thought of fighting the communist regime and in 1943, I decided to join the Democratic Party (with a logo of elephant heads) and become a full-fledged member.

This party was led by the central committee members, namely:

1	IEV Kaeus (អ៊ែវ កើស)	Chairman	Past: Businessman Present: Deceased
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2	Prince Yuthivung (យុទ្ធវិវង្ស) (ស្រី យុទ្ធវិវង្ស)	Vice Chairman	Past: Leader of a party in France Present: Deceased
3	SONG San (សុង សាន)	Vice Chairman	Present: Living in France
4	SOK Chhong (សុក ឆុង)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
5	HUY Kanthul (ហ៊ុយ កន្ទុល)	Member	Deceased
6	SEM Va (សិម វ៉ា)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in France
7	TEP Phán (តេព ផាន់)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in France
8	CHIEM Vâm (ជៀម វ៉ិម)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in France
9	PHON Ok (ផុន អុក)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in France
10	NHEK Suong (ញឹក ស្វង់)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Cambodia (Phnom Penh)
11	TĂK Hēng (តាក់ ហេង)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
12	CHEA Lim Suy	Member	Deceased

	(ជា លីមស៊ីយ)		
13	ĂNG Kim Khorn (អាំង គីមយន)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Beijing (I am not sure of this)
14	Prince Phurisara (ភ្នំស្រីសារា)	Member	Pre-Peace: Fleeing into forest
15	POENG Sây (ពឹង សយ)	Member	Pre-Peace: Fleeing into forest
16	CHĂO Sào (ចៅ សៅ)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
17	SÂY Vet (សយ វេត)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
18	MI Samedi (មី សាមេឌី)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
19	NGUON Kimchhoeun (ងួន គីមឈឿន)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
20	Mrs. TIB Mâm (ទីប ម៉ម)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
21	HAU Tong Hau (ហូ តុងហូ)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
22	HAU Tong Peng (ហូ តុងពេង)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh

23	HAU Tong Lib (ហ្វូ តុងលីប)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
24	IN Sokan (អ៊ិន សូកាន)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in France
25	YÈM Sarung (យ៉ែម សារុង)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in France
26	THĂCH Chên (ថាច់ ចេន)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
27	HĂK Hèmsai (ហាក់ ហែមសៃ)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
28	NGUON Chien (ងួន ចៀន)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
29	KHENG Nov (ហេង នូវ)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
30	BĒL Timân (បេល ទីម៉ាន)	Member	Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh

(Please note that POENG Sây was also in charge of the Democratic Newspaper, and was convicted time and time again because of this work.)

#### Objectives of the Democratic Party

Seen from the outside, the Party was fighting to take power from the feudalists and grant it to the people; however, internally, this party utilized the acquired power to serve capitalism and spoil the benefits of minor peasants and labourers (power was

only held by Party officers and the rich, and they shared benefit for themselves and their partisans). They never cared for the interests of peasants and labourers.

Serving the benefits of capitalism meant serving imperialism and opposing communism.

In conclusion, the Democratic Party, which was symbolized by a logo of elephant heads, aimed not only to defeat the spirit of struggle among resistance of common people, but also to fight communism and feudalism, and to keep building capitalism.

Within this Democratic Party, there were certain persons who played roles as progressive people such as TẮK Hēng, POENG Sây, Phurisara, IN Sokan and CHUON Mum (ជួន ម៉ុំ), but they were actually serving the Democratic Party instead. Therefore, it meant that they were supporting capitalism.

I kept observing this until I realized that they were assigned by the CIA to serve the Party in order to act against communism – which had only just been born in our country and was growing continuously.

I became aware of that (CHUON Mom, TẮK Hēng, POENG Sây, IN Sokan and Phurisara had been recruited by the CIA) after I joined the CIA in 1948 (I was told this by SONG San, who was a CIA leader).

#### My activities within the Democratic Party

##### A. Pre-propaganda campaign

##### B. During the propaganda campaign

##### A- Pre-propaganda campaign

Secretly, I and my cliques, namely THẮCH Chēn and NGUON Kim Chhoeun, secretly prepared propaganda campaigns at many places such as with the students and monks at the Unalaom and Kèv (កែវ) pagodas.

##### B- During the propaganda campaign

I helped IEV Kaeus propagandize at Moyuvongs (មយូវង់) Pagoda (Phnom Penh). I also helped SONG San propagandize at Langka (លងកា) Pagoda (Phnom Penh).

Besides propagandizing the capability of each person, I also promoted the Party. For example, I propagandized that the Democratic Party was the one which served and provided people with adequate rights of expression, writing and belief – even though I realized that most of this was not true.

The reason why I assisted IEV Kaeus and SONG San was because SONG San was the head of the Fuier and IEV Kaeus, who was from Battambang, also supported the Fuier; moreover, both of them were educated people and loved human rights and freedom.

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*27 April 1977*

*POENG Kim Sear*

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When I became a CIA Agent

After I had served the activities of the Democratic Party for four years, I decided to join the CIA as an agent and in the meantime, I studied medical skills at Phnom Penh Medical School from 1948 to 1950.

In 1948, I was brought by ĂNG Kim Khorn to meet SONG Săk (សៀង សាក់) at Chhithirith (ឈិថ្លីរិថ្លី) Bank. It was a big private bank located in the southern part of Phsar Chas (ផ្សារចាស់).

I entered into a large room in which there was a large table which SONG Săk was sitting behind. There was a large USA flag stretched on the wall behind SONG Săk, who was a CIA leader.

After I was asked by SONG Săk about my real name, I replied that my name was POENG Kim Sear. I absolutely decided to join the CIA and then SONG Săk asked me to undertake a solemn declaration and to work for the CIA with my full capacity. Later on, I left the room.

- My salary was 250 dollars.

- My role and responsibility was to propagandize in schools so that the students would reject communism and turn to support liberalism.

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From 1948 to 1953, my partisans in the CIA network were as follows:

Group 1:

1	CHĂO Sēng (ចៅ សេង)	Studied at the School of Pedagogy.
2	NHOEK Sarun (ញឹក សារុន)	Studied at the School of Pedagogy.
3	TAV Livme (តាវ លីវមេ)	Studied medical skills, then served as a detective inspector.
4	UK Thon (អ៊ុក ថុន)	Studied medical skills for two years then joined law school.
5	POENG Kim Sear (ពីង គីមស៊ី)	Studied medical skills.

(Please note that prior to the peace, TAV Livme, UK Thon and NHOEK Sarun were living in Phnom Penh, while CHĂO Sēng was living in France.)



## Group 2:

1	ĂNG Kim Khorn	Merchant Pre-Peace: Living in Beijing
2	TĂN Kimsan (តាន់ គីមសាន)	Merchant Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
3	TĂN Kimvun (តាន់ គីមវុន)	Merchant Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
4	UY Tăng Kay (អ៊ុយ តាំងកាយ)	Merchant Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh

These four persons were in charge of propagandizing among other merchants; and currently their whereabouts are unknown.

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## Group 3:

1	LI Chen Hov (លី ចិនហ្វូវ)	Medic (Leader)
2	OK Samoeun (អ៊ុក សាមឿន)	Medic

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3	NOU Pech (នូ ពេច)	Medic Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh
4	KUNG Chàk (កង់ ចក់)	Medic Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh.

This Group was in charge of propagandizing amongst the soldiers.

Group 4:

1	NGUON Kim Chhoeun	Pre-Peace: Working in the Ministry of Interior in Phnom Penh.
2	PÈL Timân (ប៉ែល ទីម៉ាន)	Pre-Peace: Lawmaker
3	KHENG Nov (កេង ណូវ)	Pre-Peace: Lawmaker
4	TOEK Lay (តឹក ឡាយ)	Pre-Peace: Lawmaker
5	NGUON Choeun (ងួន ជឿន)	Pre-Peace: Lawmaker

This Group was in charge of propagandizing in ministries and the National Assembly. Prior to peace, these persons were all living in the city.

Working for the CIA, I gradually came to know that from outside appearances, some “heroes” should be trusted as pro-communism Cambodians of; yet internally they worked for the CIA. Some of them were within the Democratic Party:

- TĂK Hēng
- CHUON Mum
- POENG Sây
- Prince Phurisara

- IN Sokan (I only knew about him after I lived in France).

These persons had tendency towards communism, yet they worked for the capitalist Democratic Party.

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From 1953 to 1954:

I was a medic taking care of soldiers who were guarding the Phnom Penh-Paoy Paet (ហ្នឹងប៉ៃត) railroad. I did not implement many activities because the soldiers were not fully assembled; moreover, they were old.

From 1954 to 1956:

I was a civil physician in charge of surgery with CHUON Choeun (ជួន ធឿន). In terms of politics, I made a special contact with him (POENG Sây was staying at my house). Because I was too busy and I was also preparing for exams in my surgery studies and guarding at night, my CIA mission duties were reduced.

For my older brother, he rarely stayed at home. He often went to the Party office to meet TĂK Hēng, CHĂO Săo, Phurisara, THĂCH Loeung (ថាច់ លៀង) and the female teacher Bunnari (ប៊ុនណារី).

The reason why POENG Sây tried to do such work was because he wanted the Party to defeat other parties including the People's Party. Another reason was to serve the capitalist regime so that it would survive under the Democratic Party; thus, it meant fighting against communism.

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From 1957 to 1961:

After I passed the exams, I continued my medical studies in France, staying at the Khmer House.

Before I left Cambodia, I met SONG Säk, who was the CIA leader. He gave me a new mission which was to find out the political allegiances of Khmers in France. Another duty was to bring back new ideas for the Democratic Party for when I returned.

From my observations, Khmers in France were divided into two categories, the O.E.K and the A.E.K..

The supporters of O.E.K were as follows:

- CHUON Mum
- IN Sokan
- SEANG Pòsè (ស៊ីង ពៅសែ)
- TIV Chenleng (ទីវ ចិនលេង)

They were also CIA agents (SONG Säk had told me this the last time I met him before leaving Cambodia).

My activities as a CIA agent in France

Together with CHUON Mum, IN Sokan, SEANG Pòsè and TIV Chenleng, my political activity was taking a stance on human rights and freedom. I propogandized against communism amongst my peer students and outsiders.

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Besides the above-mentioned people, I got in contact with IN Sophan (អ៊ិន សូផាន) and IN Sopha (អ៊ិន សូផា), who both were staying at the Khmer House with me (I have no idea where they are now). IN Sophan and IN Sopha joined the CIA in France between 1958 and 1959.

Other people that I met included:

- TAUCH Khăm Doeun (តូច ខាំឌៀន), who was staying in Khmer House with me, also played a role as a progress person in France (current details unknown). He joined the CIA in France in 1958. TAUCH Khăm Doeun never returned to Cambodia after he went to study abroad.

- KEAK Chhon (កាក់ អ៊ិន) played a role as progress person. His wife was Vietnamese. He once returned to work in Cambodia and then went back abroad (current details unknown). He joined the CIA in 1958.

- TOAT Si (ទាត់ ស៊ី) played a role as progress person. Ever since he left for France, he never returned to Cambodia (current details unknown). The date he joined CIA is unclear.

- TOAT Kim Tēng (ទាត់ គីមតេង) played a role as a progress person in France (current details unknown). Ever since he left for France, he never returned to Cambodia. The date he joined the CIA is unclear.

- SEANG An (ស៊ាង អាន) joined the CIA through KHÈK Vāndi (ខែក វណឌី) in 1965.

- SEANG Sēng (ស៊ាង សេង) joined the CIA through KHÈK Vāndi in 1965.

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Mostly, my communications with IN Sophan, IN Sopha, TAUCH Khăm Doeun, KEAK Chhon, TOAT Si and TOAT Kim Tēng were about general things. Sometimes, we talked about the politics of our country as well. They thought that communism could not be eliminated unless corruption was removed. We secretly met once or twice a year in my room at the Khmer House.

Apart from the above-mentioned matters, the CIA planned to infiltrate more agents into the Democratic Party to fight against communism.

CHUON Mum, IN Sokan and SEANG Pôsè considered this and decided to infiltrate more agents into the Party in Cambodia together with POENG Sây and TĀK Hēng.

Nevertheless, these plans failed because Samdech Sihanouk (សីហនុ) dissolved all parties and instead established a party called Sangkum Reastr Niyum (សង្គមរាស្ត្រនិយម), drafted by SĀM Sary (សំ សារី) (he was a CIA agent and after failing in assassinating Samdech Sihanouk, he fled into the forest).

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I returned from France in 1962 and started to work at the Khmer-Soviet Friendship Hospital.

From 1962 to 1963, I met other CIA members such as POENG Sây, TĂK Hēng, SEANG An, ĂNG Kim Khorn, TĂN Kimsan and TĂN Kimvun under the leadership of SONG Săk. We talked about three plans as follows:

1- A plan to infiltrate more CIA agents into what was left of the demolished Party. Sihanouk dissolved all parties and established one single party called the Sangkum Reastr Niyum Party.

2- A plan to topple Sihanouk through his concubine Monich (ម៉នីច) and her family. In this plan, SONG Săk had a direct role in granting gold, diamonds, villas and residences to her and her family in order to lure her to adore the capitalist regime and in turn, to disavow communism.

3- A plan to communicate with the powerful, and super rich people. This plan was carried out through the Chhithirith Bank and Life Insurance Company. The Bank was led by SONG Săk in communicating with the super rich.

My activities at the Veay Chab (វិយ័ចាប) Mountain under siege:

I assigned many groups to take care of the combatants who came to take siege of Veay Chab Mountain along the bank of a tributary. Each group consisted of two physicians (there were around 10 groups in total). I was also on that mission. I was staying around Chhēng Meanchey (ឆេង ម៉ានជ័យ).

After the residents were turned back to society, I had to prepare to build four small hospitals around Veay Chab Mountain, and I propagandized there for nearly one week.

I once propagandized in Thnàm (ថ្នាំ) and then again in Reang Kèsai (រាំងកែសៃ).

I adulated the current regime against communism.

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- Besides the propaganda, there were also some donations (such as houses and medicines) to residents who returned to society.

- The supply chain for such as [illegible], medicines, medical instruments, salt and sugar to supply the Khmer Rouge was destroyed.

- People were evacuated to live under the government or close to the government and turned to fight against the Khmer Rouge by equipping them with weapons and providing salaries.

In the meantime, my activities as a CIA agent along with TEP Ēm (តេព អ៊ឹម), BON Samkäch (បុន សំកាច) and ONG Bonlong (អុង បុនឡុង) were not so essential. I mostly got in contact with my cliques in Phnom Penh in order to find new ways to get rid of the Khmer Rouge. They were TAV Livbè (តាវ លីវប៉ៃ), CHĂO Sēng, UK Thon, ĂNG Kim Khorn and TĂN Kimsan. From our discussions, we observed that most people still favoured their rights and freedom, so our propaganda efforts were worthwhile, although injustice and suppression still existed in society.

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My communication with SĒK Sam Iet (សែក សំអ៊ឺត) (a CIA agent), Governor of Battambang (បាត់ដំបង) Province

In 1967, TIM Nguon (ទឹម ងួន), Governor of Battambang Province, was replaced by SĒK Sam Iet, who was an army major and also a CIA agent.

The CIA cliques at that time were as follows:



1	TEP Em (ទេព អឹម)	Catholic priest who was evacuated along the road to Sisophon (ស៊ីសុផុន) after the peace.
2	BON Samkach (បុន សំកាច)	Provincial chief of Buddhist monks staying at Pou Veal (ពោរវាល) Pagoda. He was seen in Battambang city during the peace day.
3	ONG Bonlong	Owner of a Battambang guesthouse. Pre-Peace: Living in Phnom Penh.
4	THOY Bonsau (ថុយ ប៉ុនសូ)	Inspector of a secondary school. Prior to the peace, he was not seen in Battambang (for around 10 days).
5	KUNG Chhēn (គង់ ឆេន)	Physician. Three or four days prior to the peace, he had gone to Pailin (ប៉ៃលិន).
6	ENG Tēng (អិង តេង)	Director of the Health Department. About one month prior to the peace, he left for West Germany (អាស្រ័យដ្ឋាន ខាងលិច).

(Currently, the whereabouts of all these persons are unknown).

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The following were forces I mobilized:

1	SAO Hai Hong (សោ ហៃហុង)	Merchant. Pre-Peace: Left for Thailand.
2	NGEN Prâm (ងិន ប្រម)	Bank manager. He was evacuated along the road to Mongkol Borei (មង្គលបុរី).
3	KI San Tho (គី សានថូ)	Commune chief. He went to greet Samdech.
4	KI San Ho (គី សានហូ)	Sawmill owner. He went to greet Samdech.
5	HĂB Khieng (ហាប់ ឃឿង)	Evacuated by Sorapa (សូរ៉ាប៉ា) on the road to Sisophon.
6	TĂN Bēng Son (តាន់ បេងសុន)	Merchant. Pre-Peace: Living in Battambang.
7	SAO Bon Hok (សោ ប៉ុនហុក)	Merchant. Pre-Peace: Living in Battambang. He was evacuated to Tapon (តាប៉ុន).
8	HAU Tong Han (ហ្វូ តុងហាន)	Sawmill owner. Pre-Peace: Living in Battambang.
9	BON Kot (ប៉ុន កុត)	Rice mill owner. Pre-Peace: Living in Battambang. He was evacuated to Tapon.

(Currently, all of them are unknown).

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The above nine people had been educated by me since 1965 and in 1968, they were enlisted in the CIA.

This enlistment was done at SĒK Sam Iet's office. After taking an oath before the US flag, all of them were assigned as CIA agents with a salary of 300 dollars. The following were their roles and responsibilities:

- Conducting propaganda against communism.
- Working with the provincial governors when needed.
- Investigating to discover communist agents.

From 1968 to 1970:

The CIA agents in Battambang mostly undertook the following activities:

- 1- Propagandizing against the Khmer Rouge.
- 2- Searching for provokers amongst the people through their peer commandos.
- 3- Distributing small gifts to those who had just returned to society.

(The government also built roads, houses and small hospitals around Veay Chab Mountain.)

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Plan of the CIA in Battambang

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- From 1970 to 1972:

- A. The main objective was to entice as many people as possible to join the army.
- B. Contacted SĒK Sam Iet, TEP Ēm and BON Samkach frequently to find out ways to continue wiping out the Khmer Rouge (such as how to use new effective ways and means to get secret information).
- C. Continued to propagandize both inside and outside the city.

- From 1972 to 1974:

During this period I also contacted TAV Liymè, UK Thon, TĀN Kimsan and TĀN Kimvun in Phnom Penh to learn if the Republic could survive any longer, and what new plans would be if the situation became critical.

The responses from these meetings were as follows:

- 1- To keep searching for real Khmer Rouge members who were embedding in the ranks of administrators.
- 2- To follow provincial decisions.
- 3- To escape when the situation became dangerous.

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SĒK Sam Iet frequently communicated with SONG Sāk.

Certain propaganda was still conducted; however, I had to stay at home for one year (1973–1974) since I got sick.

- In early 1975, the provincial governor was changed and SĒK Sam Iet was replaced by SAO Hao. A new plan with SAO Hao was initiated. This was to conduct a training class in university called the School of Political War. This class provided training about activities against communism through political means. At that time,

KUNG Chhēng, a medical practitioner from the medical sector, was sent to the class. The trainees were both soldiers and civilians and the course lasted for three weeks and was conducted for the purpose of propagandizing against communism.

Note: The following were additional forces I mobilized:

1	SAO Bǎn Hǎp (សោ ប៉ាន់ហាប់)	Evacuated along the road to Sisophon.
2	CHǎO Si (ចៅ ស៊ី)	Evacuated along the road to Sisophon.
3	PRUM Sēng (ប្រុំ សេង)	Evacuated along the road to Sisophon.

(Currently, the whereabouts of these three persons are unknown).

*[Annotation on the right margin:*

*02 May 1977*

*POENG Kim Sear*

*(Signature)]*

### The failed plans

The failed plans were developed and led by SĒK Sam Iet. SĒNG Ra Ol (សេង រ៉ាអុល) and MUY Ngeang (មួយ ង៉ាង) were his assistants (they were also soldiers).

The participants in the meeting were both soldiers and civilians. The civilians (CIA) like me included TEP Ēm, BON Samkach, THOY Bunsau (ថុយ ប៊ុនសូ), NGIN

Prâm (ឃីន ប្រម) and SAO Hai Hong. The two soldiers were majors and another, who was a medic, who also participated in the meeting was a colonel. His name was KEAN Pork (គាន ពក់).

There were another four or five soldiers (unknown) in the meeting as well. The decisions of the meeting were as follows:

- Colonel SĒNG Ra Ol and Colonel MUY Ngeang were leaders of this failed plan. The plan was set as follows:

- 1- Preparing food and wine at every big bank when friends arrived.
- 2- Catching those friends at anytime and bringing them to a casern.
- 3- The soldiers had to be stationed at the casern in Chamkar Samraong (ចំការសំរោង) and at every commando post.
- 4- Commandos had to wait at the main commando posts.

By any means, the high-ranking people must be trapped with the assistance of the bank, the life insurance company and the guesthouse owned by SONG Săk, thus this would contribute to the reputation of SONG Săk who was the CIA leader. By doing so, SONG Săk would be seen (before chased by Sihanouk) to have more and more power and wealth. (However, later on SONG Săk became a wanted man because of his romance with one of Sihanouk's concubines).

In conclusion, the second and third plans failed when SONG Săk fled to Thailand.

In 1963, I was transferred to work in Battambang. Before I left, I discussed with SONG Săk about what I should do in Battambang in order to get rid of communism there.

The main plan was to propagandize against that regime. There were not many activities done from 1963 to 1964 because I was mostly busy with surgery preparation in Battambang.

From 1965 to 1967, there were the activities of the Khmer Rouge at Veay Chab Mountain. Together with TIM Nguon, who was the assistant to the provincial governor there, and other high dignitaries, the meeting decided to surround Veay Chab Mountain.

*[Annotation on the right margin:*

*29 April 1977*

*POENG Kim Sear*

*(Signature)]*

*[Annotation in the center margin:*

*Because A POENG Kim Sear died, his confession was not completed, thus we would like to summarize the interrogator's records during his verbal questioning. The following is the summary of the confession].*

## Summary

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### When Battambang city was liberated

On the second day after Battambang's liberation, POENG Kim Sear met Sou (ស៊ុន), a committee member of Sector 4, Battambang. It happened when POENG Kim Sear went to inspect the weapons of the revolutionary soldiers with other residents. At that time, there were some physicians who knew Sou. After greeting each other, Sou left a message for POENG Kim Sear to meet him in the evening. Then, in the evening, they met at the same place (I do not remember where). At this meeting, Sou just asked him to get the lock of his car repaired. At that time, not all the people had yet been evacuated.

Later on, Sou allowed POENG Kim Sear and his family, including 10 other physician families, to stay at the civil hospital of Battambang to look after the equipment.

During this period, Sou and his family frequently visited POENG Kim Sear. Sometimes, they came from 3 a.m. until 5 a.m.. However, these visits were just to talk about the situation of preparing the country for the future. Each time they came, they brought along five or six bodyguards.

Afterwards, Sou and his family came to meet him one night and brought along some soldiers on a truck. Sou and his family came to wake up POENG Kim Sear and asked him to pack his stuff and get in the truck with them, saying that, "In the morning, *Bong* it will be difficult to travel because vehicles will be banned."

Note: Before leaving the hospital, Sou convened all physicians and declared that, "Whoever wants to do farming, do so and whoever wants to continue be a physician, please do so". At that time, most of them choose to do farming. However, Sou added that POENG Kim Sear and another physician who had known him for a long time would be going with him.

POENG Kim Sear and some other physicians were trucked by Sou to live near Samdech Pagoda, and were assigned to do farming. Shortly after, Sou brought



POENG Kim Sear and those physicians to work at a hospital in Moung (វាំង) [at Saomanoas (ស្នាក់នៅ) Pagoda] where many patients were. Sou did not allow POENG Kim Sear to freely walk outside and inside the hospital because many people knew him. He was assigned to be a surgeon.

Regarding his activities within this hospital, he only mentioned:

- Propagandizing against the influence of revolutionary physicians that they were illiterate and could not do medical work.
- Propagandizing to patients that they often became sick because of lack of food caused by the revolutionary organization.

Note: Before he came to work at this hospital, POENG Kim Sear met one of the CIA agents, NHOEK Sarun, who had worked with him since 1954 or 1955. NHOEK Sarun met POENG Kim Sear under a mango tree in front of his house near Samdech Pagoda accompanied by a teacher. After asking after each other, NHOEK Sarun left for other work, saying that he would come back soon.

Later, NHOEK Sarun came back and met him under nearby bamboo trees. NHOEK Sarun said that he had not been in Phnom Penh for a long time. Along the railroad from Odongk (ឧដុង្គ), he met Prince Phurisara.

The reason why NHOEK Sarun met POENG Kim Sear two months after the liberation:

- To discuss issues as to the fact NHOEK Sarun had to leave for Thailand as his wife was already there and he also knew an American. He would go there to get in contact with external CIA agents and assign them to come and embed among people in order to grasp all issues in Cambodia and ask for military support from the United States to equip Khmer people who had fled to live or already lived in Thailand so that they would organize subversive activities along the border.

- During this discussion, NHOEK Sarun asked POENG Kim Sear to find out who held the highest rank in Battambang. POENG Kim Sear replied that he knew a

man whom he had known for a long time because they used to study in the same class in Phnom Penh. His name was Sou and he was a Sectoral Committee member.

\* On this point, what he said was confusing. At one point, he said that he was forced by NHOEK Sarun to escort him to urgently meet Sou in order to talk about the matter of asking for military assistance from the United States; and at other point, he said NHOEK Sarun wanted to convince Sou to join the CIA.

\* On the point of asking him about NHOEK Sarun, his answers were not understandable. If we asked him about one point, he answered about another. In short, when he was questioned about his networks, he answered in a confusing manner. If we asked him about the post-liberation time, he answered about the pre-liberation time.

\* NHOEK Sarun knew Sou for a long time because they had studied together in Rumduol (រំដួល) Pagoda and also used be peer monk disciples.

After the discussion, NHOEK Sarun left him (he said that he did not know where he went). However, NHOEK Sarun was arrested by Angkar. POENG Kim Sear was aware of this through Sou's child who came to ask him, "Did *Om* talk to the one who came to see you?" POENG Kim Sear replied that they talked about nothing, just greeted each other.

Living and working in the hospital around seven or eight months after the liberation, Sou allowed POENG Kim Sear's family to live in a cooperative (I do not remember in which village; however, it was around Samdech Pagoda). POENG Kim Sear asked for permission to live in the cooperative as well. He permanently stayed there. Regarding the activities in that cooperative, he propagandized to older people who were working with him in the village that, "Do farming based on the sky, eat rice; do farming based on the canal, eat porridge." Besides, he said nothing.

\* Since the liberation until living in the cooperative, he talked about communicating with his old CIA networks. They were as follows:

1	BUN Phut (ប៊ុន ភុត)	The interrogator said that currently, he is probably living in Tapon Village, Tapon
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		Commune.
2	SAO Bun Hok (សោ ប៊ុនហុក)	Living in Takok (តាកុក) with his elder sibling.
3	CHĂO Si (ចៅ ស៊ី)	He is probably living in Thnàm near Bavel (បវេល).

For this communication, his answers were confusing. Sometimes, he said this and sometimes, he said that; sometimes he said this place and sometimes, that place. Nothing was clear.

Since this enemy was interrogated, he was never clear on dates. He used absentmindedness as his excuse.

Summarized on 06 May 1977

Interrogator

PUT Srim (ពុត ស្រីម)

<sup>i</sup> Fully revised passages of this document are available upon request to the ECCC Interpretation and Translation Unit (ITU).