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To respected and beloved brother,

I would like to report on the visit paid by Yugoslavian journalists in the Northwest Zone as follows:

1. Based on the schedules, departing Siem Reap at 6:30 a.m. and arriving at Baray (បារាយណ៍) at 7:30 a.m., Trapaing Thmar (ត្រពាំងថ្ន) at [illegible], Sisophon (ស៊ីសុផុន) at [illegible], Me Chbar (មេច្បារ) at 3 p.m. and then Battambang. The welcoming cadres of the Northwest Zone comprised Comrade Chiel (ជៀល) and Brother Rin (វិន). Comrade Chiel went to welcome the guests at the Siem Reap-Battambang border.

Questions raised by Yugoslavian reporters: How many people were working in Trapaing Thmar worksite? When did the work start? Answers: 20,000 people. It started from [illegible] to [illegible] Questions: How can the food be supplied? What food? Do you supervise this worksite today? Answers: The cooperative is independent and self-reliant. It depends on the concrete situations. Food would include beef, pork, fish, fish paste (prohok), Pa'ok (¾n). Question: How many trucks are used in this worksite? Four trucks are used to transport the mobile unit people. Questions: When the work in the worksite is completed, will the unit people be demobilized? Are the people allowed to get married in the unit? Who decided for the marriage? If people are married, are they allowed to live together? Are they allowed to visit their family? Are they allowed to write their family? [Illegible]. Who decided to move mobile unit people from one place to another? Do people have a break from work? If people have [illegible] day break in a month and need to attend the political training session, do they have break from work?

Answers: When the work is completed, the mobile unit members are transferred to do rice transplanting in the raining season. The mobile unit members are allowed to get married if a proposal for marriage is made. The mobile unit commanding committee or the cooperative decides to arrange the marriage. If anyone is married, they can go to live with their spouse. He/she is allowed write home and a messenger is used to collect and/or deliver the letters from one place to another. It is not difficult here. There is a three-day break per month and one morning or one or two hours are spent for education. Question: If there are bad or lazy people in the worksite, what do you do with these people?

Answer: The issues are rare. However, if such a case happens, the person would be trained with politics and consciousness. Question: how many soldiers are deployed in this area? There are militias and district and sector soldiers. Question: Do people in

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the worksite have radios? If they do, how many radios do they have? Answer: each cooperative unit has a radio. People listen to the radio through a loud speaker.

- 2. Within the mobile unit, are there any sub-units? How many party members are working this worksite? Answer: There are sub-units.
- 3. I am not quite sure of the numbers of party members.
- 4. Who makes a decision for a person to be party members? What are the criteria for a person to be a party member? Answer: The assessment and decision are made by the collective.
- 5. This scientific experiment will improve the rice yields throughout the country.
- 6. I cannot make comments on this experiment but I will write a topic on "Rice cultivating in Cambodia will be surely progressive based on the experiment from this worksite.
- 7. It is super great to see motor bike engine being used for rice blowing.
- 8. Cambodia is a natural rich country. Cambodian people will surely not face the shortage of rice.

## Conclusion

- 1. After witnessing the real situations, it is recognized by the journalists that Cambodia will be progressive with independent, self-reliant stand.
- 2. Based on their questions, impressions, and attitudes, they surely came and spied on our country.
- 3. It was clear that they took this opportunity while they were here to disseminate the capitalist concepts. They, for example, tried to state:
  - a. that tourism would bring in financial gains;
  - b. that relaxation and entertainments with dances and singing are corrupt;
  - c. technical aspects;
  - d. freedom of marriage arrangements, love and over-joyfulness and so on
- 4. What was the Agricultural Technique School used for in the past? How long did it take to train a person on rice plant breeding? Who provided such technical training? Answer: It took one year and then the trainees went to practice their skills in cooperatives.
- 5. What is the difference between "Province" and "Sector"? Answer: "Province" was used in the former regime while "Sector" is used in the current regime.
- 6. If a family in cooperative wishes to have a horse, is it allowed to do so? Answer: No horse. All horses died. If there were horses, they would belong to the cooperative, not to the individuals.
- 7. Have Brother Pol (បងប៉ុល) ever visited Trapaing Thmar dam? Answer: very often.

Impressions made by the journalists

- 1. I pretended that I have been to Kampong Som when they saw Prapaing Thmar dam.
- 2. It was really great;
- 3. Children also play the stories on dam building;
- 4. The Northwest Zone is the rice barn of Cambodia; and

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5. They were happy to notice that rice cultivating in Cambodia is based on a strong foundation.

Note: I previously wrote a report for you with a pencil as Comrade [illegible] took the report and had it telegrammed and sent to 870 straight away. Please be informed of this.

Moreover, the report was not detailed as I did not have time for it. The visit lasted very late at night.

With warmest revolutionary fraternity.

Kân (ñß)

(No date is written)

Received on 15 March 1978 at 20.30

Copied to: Uncle, Uncle Nuon, Brother Văn, Brother Vorn, Office, Documentation