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សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ

អតីព្នុស្សគិនទទាគយិដិចដំបាមរដ្ឋស

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

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Office of the Co-Investigating Judges Bureau des Co-juges d'instruction សំណុំឡើឡពុស្មានស្នា

Criminal Case File /Dossier pénal W18/No: 002/14-08-2006

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Investigation/Instruction

No: 002/19-09-2007-ECCC-OCLJ

Kingdom of Camboling 1992 Nation Reference Nation Reference Received VDOCUMENT REQU

ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date of receipt/Date de reception):

Written Record of Interview of Witness Procés verbal d'interview de témoin

On the twenty-seventh of November two thousand and nine, at 8:30 a.m. at House 54, Street 454, Tuol Tumpoung 1 (ទូលទំពូងទី១) Commune, Chamkar Mon (ចំការមន) District, Phnom Penh City,

We, MEAS Bora (មាស ឬរ៉ាំ), Investigator of the Extraordinary Chambers, being assigned by the Rogatory Letter of the Co-Investigating Judges, dated 8 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 (none), as sworn Interpreter of the Extraordinary Chambers,

Recorded the statements of **CHAN Youran** (**Ind Lynd**), a witness, who provided the following information regarding his personal identity:

Original KH: 00407725-00407734

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា មានទីតាំងស្ថិតនៅ ផ្លូវជាតិលេខ៤ សង្កាត់ ចោមចៅខណ្ឌ័ ដង្កោ ក្រុង ភ្នំពេញ ប្រអប់សំបុត្រលេខ៧១ ទុរស័ព្ទលេខ +៨៥៥(០)៦៣ ២១៨៩៤១ ទុរសាលេខ +៨៥៥(០)៦៣ ២១៨៩៤១។

maps: D233/12

The undersigned CHAN Youran (ទាន់ យុវ៉ាន់), alias/revolutionary name [none], was born on 7 January 1934 at Boeng Reang (បឹងរាំង) Commune, Daun Penh (ដូនពេញ) District, Phnom Penh City. He is of Khmer nationality and is a farmer and is a Buddhist lay devotee. His father CHAN Duch (ទាន់ ឌុច) is deceased, and his mother OB Lmorn (អុប ល្អន) is deceased. His current residence is at House 54, Street 454, Tuol Tumpoung 1 Commune, Chamkar Mon District, Phnom Penh City. He is married to POT Sarăn (ពិត

- [X The witness has no criminal record.]
- X The witness declared that he can read, write, and understand the Khmer language.
- X The witness declared that he can read and write the French and English languages. Therefore, the original of this Written Record is written in the Khmer language.
- X We advised the witness that an audio or video recording was being made of this Interview.
- X The witness told us that he is not related to either the Charged Persons or to any of the Civil Parties.
- X The witness took an oath, in accordance with Rule 24 of the ECCC Internal Rules.
- X We notified the witness of his right against self-incrimination, in accordance with Rule 28 of the ECCC Internal Rules.
- [\square We provided the witness with a letter of assurance, in accordance with Rule 28(3)(b) of the ECCC Internal Rules.]

Question - Answer:

- Q: Before 17 April 1975, where did you live? And what did you do?
- A.1: I have read the ten questions which you have given me. This sworn statement is my response to those ten questions for submission two both Co-Investigating Judges of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia. I, CHAN Youran, was born in Phnom Penh in 1934. Now I am an observing lay devotee of Buddhism at Tuol Tumpoung Pagoda in Phnom Penh. Since 1998 I have lived in peace in the shade of Buddhism and in independence. Let me also inform you that I am tired and bored my life, which has been a life of pain; as the Lord Buddha said, life is pain. It is my understanding that I have fulfilled my missions as a child of Cambodian to our nation, religion, and King in accordance with my personal propensities and virtues. Now I wish to tell you frankly that I have prepared myself to leave this world in supreme peace and quiet.

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Secondly, through you, I wish to send my respects and best wishes to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia hoping that it will be a success for the Cambodian nation and for humanity.

My third point, on this occasion: I wish to pay my profound respects to the many millions of my fellow Cambodian brothers and sisters who sacrificed their lives for the nation during the war after 17 March 1970. Among them were my mother and father, and many brothers and sisters, relatives, friends, children, nieces and nephews.

Point four: Let me tell you that I served the nation as a diplomat in our Cambodian Foreign Ministry and in a number of overseas embassies of the Kingdom of Cambodia for many years both before and after 17 March 1970.

Fifth: I also wish to tell you that I was a diplomat in our embassy in Paris from 1959 until 1963. I was a member of a delegation repressing our country before the International Court at the Hague in Holland from 1959 to 1962. As you know, in the Preah Vihear Temple case, we opposed Thailand's illegal occupation of the temple. On 15 June 1962, as you know, the Hague International Court decided to recognize the temple as belonging to Cambodia. The International Court forced Thailand to hand the temple back over to Cambodia. As you know, this historic victory was the accomplishment of Cambodia's Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk. I personally participated in the case. Let me mention that the Cambodian delegation was led by H.E. TROUEUNG Kang (IP) mb, and French and American lawyers joined in the defense of our case. Let me mention that the two French lawyers were Mr. Paul REUTER and Mr. Roger PINTO. The two American lawyers were Mr. Dean ACHESON, the former American Secretary of State, and Mr. CLAGETT. H.E. SUON Bon (MS IMI) was one of our witnesses.

Let me tell you a bit about the coup on 17 March 1970, because that event was an important key for us. At the time of the coup, I was the ambassador stationed in Senegal in Africa. At the time, I was in an international meeting in the city of Niamey, Niger, in Central Africa. I made an immediate announcement through the French information service AFP. My stance was to oppose the coup and I was determined to stand behind Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk as the leader of an independent, neutral, and non-aligned Cambodia. This is why I accompanied the Prince in the struggle for national liberation until 17 April 1975. Then I and a number of compatriots accompanied the Prince in Peking. Then those brothers and sisters and I met Mr. IENG Sary. Mr. IENG Sary was in Beijing at the time as a special emissary for Cambodia. Through Mr. IENG Sary, we all first heard the name of Mr. POL Pot as being the leader of the struggle back inside the country.

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When did you return to Cambodia? And through what countries did you transit? Q: A.2: Let me tell you that the important events on 17 April 1975 were a victory for the nation and our entire people who had liberated the country. But unfortunately 17 April 1975 became a day of huge tragedy for our nation. I was in Beijing at the time, and in late 1975 I returned to Phnom Penh from Beijing. Phnom Penh had been transformed into a silent city. This was the actual situation, the true situation. Upon arrival in Phnom Penh, I lived in a house near the Independence Monument with the other brothers and sisters that had come from Beijing, Samdech PAEN Nuth (ប៉ែន នុត) and his wife, Mrs. SARIN Chhat (សារិន ឆាត). Mr. DUONG Samol (ខ្នង សំអុល) and his wife, etc. They had me, Mrs. SARIN Chhat, Mr. DUONG Sam-ol and his wife, and Prince NORODOM Pouurissara (ទ្រង់នរោត្តម ភូវិស្ស៊ាំ) and his wife go live in the countryside for a while. Then they had me return to Phnom Penh to stay at the Foreign Ministry, at what was called the "Curved House," the "Phteah Kaong" (ជ្រុះរីកាដ). At the time the Foreign Ministry was led by Mr. IENG Sary, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. There was a mixed presence, as follows: Mr. SARIN Chhat, Mr. KEAT Chhuon (គាត ឈន់), Mr. CHUON Prasith (ជូន ប្រាសិទ្ធ), Mr. DUONG Sam-ol, Mr. İN Sophcap (អ៊ិន ស្ភាព), Mr. SUONG Sikoeun (សួង ស៊ីគឿន), Mr. AOK Sokun (ឱក ស្គន), etc. As you can see, this was a mixed composition, it included me and a number of other people who were not Party members of the Organization. (The witness suggested the underlining.) This is the true situation. At that time I had the mission of listening to the news on foreign radio stations and helping receive foreign visitors once in a while along with Mr. IENG Sary. At that time, let me tell you frankly, I did not see or receive any documents from the Organization. As for Mr. IENG Sary, once in a long while I met him, and he did not tell me anything at all about the Organization. I noted that he and I and the others in the ministry had normal contacts. Every once in a long while some staff disappeared from the ministry, and it was heard that this was because of documents about those subject persons. I wish to tell you that at that time, I joined in the production movement farming inside the ministry planting crops and vegetables to supply the ministry living standard. On this point, let me add a little bit. In approximately late 1977 Mr. IENG Sary went to the United Nations representing Democratic Kampuchea, and I went along in the delegation. When he returned, he passed through China, and that was the first time that I saw and met Mr. POL Pot. Another matter, concerning NUON Chea. Later a delegation from the assembly of Algeria travelled on a visit to Phnom Penh, and Mr. NUON Chea received the delegation. At that time I saw Mr. NUON Chea for the first time (1977). He received them at the site of the current Ministry of Religious Affairs. Later I heard that CATWELL had been murdered in Phnom Penh. (He

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was visiting Phnom Penh; he may have been British or American.) Later I heard that there was a war in the east between Cambodia and Vietnam; that was in late 1977 or early 1978. Later I learned that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk travelled to Beijing by a special aircraft; Samdech PAEN Nuth went along. On 7 January 1979 the staff of the Foreign Ministry had to leave Phnom Penh by train to Svay Sisophon. Mr. IENG Sary and Mrs. YUN Yath (LIS LING) (the wife of SON Sen) went with them. My summary is: That era has ended. Second, what I recently watched on television about S-21 leads us to see clearly the true nature of the Democratic Kampuchea regime. Third, according to the law of karma, this regime must be responsible to national history for both its good and bad deeds. Fourth, I

watched on television about S-21 leads us to see clearly the true nature of the Democratic Kampuchea regime. Third, according to the law of karma, this regime must be responsible to national history for both its good and bad deeds. Fourth, I personally through the Three Jewels am a quiet individual who clearly understands that everything follows karma. I bear no vindictiveness toward anyone because holding grudges does not extinguish vindictiveness. These are the teachings of the Lord Buddha.

- Q: Did you know about or hear of the Boeng Trabaek Office?
- A.3: I heard the name, but I did not know where it was and I never went there.
- Q: At that time did you know of S-21?
- A.4: Let me tell you frankly that I never heard or knew of it.
- Q: When you returned from Beijing and they sent you to the countryside for a while, where did they send you?
- A.5: I remember that they sent me to Speu (ស្ពី), Steung Trang (ស្ពីឯត្រង់) District, for about two or three months, and I stayed in a pagoda.
- Q: Who met you when you got off the plane?
- A.6: I was very happy to return to Phnom Penh. I don't know who came to get me.
- Q: While you were working at B-1, how was B-1 organized? And what section were you in?
- A.7: Speaking frankly, I did not want to know anything at all. I did not want to know about their affairs. They had me listen to the foreign radio stations, and I listened. This it the truth; they assigned me the task of listening to the radio. At that time, just getting that much was huge.
- Q: When you returned to Phnom Penh, had the people already been evacuated from Phnom Penh?
- A.8: They all had already been evacuated.
- Q: Did you know about the evacuation plans?
- A.9: I did not know. Even Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk did not know.

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maps: D233/12

- Q: Did you know about the manner in which people inside the Foreign Ministry disappeared?
- A.10: I did not know. I just heard what was passed on by word of mouth, that's all.
- Q: Your jobs were to listen to the news and to grow vegetables. After you listened, did you make reports to your superiors?
- A.11: The Organization had heard everything already. As for us, they had to give us something to do. They did not bother with us, and we did not have to report to superiors.
- Q: When you worked listening to the news, what section were you in?
- A.12: Listening to the news was never under anyone, and there was no section either.
- Q: When you came from Beijing, did they confiscate any documents or property from you?
- A.13: I was a former diplomat; liberating the nation was enough; I had nothing for them to confiscate. I was a loyal diplomat of the nation and the King who had sacrificed everything to liberate the nation. There was no one ... who on 17 March 1970 made an immediate announcement via AFP of standing behind the Prince.
- Q: Before you arrived in Phnom Penh, had you come voluntarily or had you come following an appeal?
- A.14: I came voluntarily; I did not come because of any appeal.
- Q: I want to again ask for clarification. Who did you work with while listening to the radio?
- A.15: I worked on that all alone.
- Q: Did Mr. IENG Sary ever call you to meetings?
- A.16: He was very busy with the Upper Organization. He had no time to come meet with us.
- Q: Aside from Mr. IENG Sary, did you ever attend a meeting with anyone?
- A.17: No. Listening to the radio was a big job.
- Q: When you went to the meetings at the United Nations, what were the meetings about?
- A.18: I just accompanied, that's all. That was many years ago. I don't remember what they met about.

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- Q: While you were working at the Foreign Ministry, did you ever go to look around the countryside?
- A.19: As for other locations, I went once or twice. I went to Battambang with Mr. IENG Sary to watch rice farming. When we arrived they reported on the worksites, etc, but we did not go look at the worksites. One other time I went to Takeo Province and to Siemreap because foreign visitors were on trips.
- Q: When you went to the countryside, as you saw it, how did you see the living standards of the people?
- A.20: We saw what they wanted to show us. What they did not want to show us, we did not see. We saw canals. We did not learn about the living standards of the people in the cooperatives. We would have had to have lived inside the cooperatives to know the living standards of the people in the cooperatives.
- Q: Did Mr. IENG Sary ever go look at the Kampong Chhnang airfield construction worksite?
- A.21: I never went, and I don't know if Mr. IENG Sary ever went there or not.
- Q: During that era did Mr. NUON Chea, IENG Thirith, or KHIEU Samphan ever go to the Foreign Ministry?
- A.22: As for NUON Chea, as I remember, he never came to the Foreign Ministry. As from Mrs. IENG Thirith, she came once, but I don't remember the year. As for Khieu Samphan, I don't know whether he used to come or not. As for IENG Sary, he came to the Foreign Ministry once in a long while, because he had business with the Upper Organization, with the Party.
- Q: During that era they disseminated the *Revolutionary Flag* in the cooperatives and they made the biographies of each of the people. So at the Foreign Ministry did they disseminate them and make biographies?
- A.23: I never saw any *Revolutionary Flag* documents. That was for the persons that had rights (Party members); as for us, we had no rights. There was a mix of two elements at the Foreign Ministry: the Party members, and us, the outsiders.
- Q: Did the Foreign Ministry have branches?
- A.24: No one told me, but I think that there was Boeng Trabaek and there were sisters and brothers at Boeng Trabaek. I think that Mr. IENG Sary was responsible for Boeng Trabaek.
- Q: How did you learn that IENG Sary supervised Boeng Trabaek?
- A.25: That was a rumor. I thought that Mr. IENG Sary supervised Boeng Trabaek because he was responsible for the intellectuals. As for Chrang Chamreh (ប្រាំងចម្រេះ), I don't know.
- Q: Were there self-criticism meetings at the Foreign Ministry?

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- A.26: There were, but just for Party members. As for us, there weren't any.
- Q: What was the job of SAU Sè (頻 的)?
- A.27: I don't know. If you want to know, go ask him yourself!
- Q: I have a document (a Foreign Ministry report, ERN 00003760-00003912) which records a meeting and which I want you to look at. Have you ever seen this document?
- A.28: I was an outsider, and this document is new to me.
- Q: In the beginning, we heard you talk about the war between Cambodia and Vietnam. Please clarify that point further.
- A.29: They said that there was a war between Vietnam and Cambodia, that people were wounded and killed.
- O: When did that war begin? Do you know?
- A.30: That was a matter beyond my capacity. I did not know anything else. When I did learn anything, it was only through hearsay. Furthermore, I am a very self-disciplined person; I did not want to know their affairs.
- Q: Did IENG Sary ever speak about internal enemies during meetings?
- A.31: The Party members' meetings were their business. They were one family. As for me, I was oblivious. You might go ask those who are still alive to learn about these matters.
- Q: As for transferring staff in or out of the Foreign Ministry, who had the right to
- A.32: Back then, it was not like it is now. People came and left, but I did not ask anything at all. Sometimes we were in the same room, but were unable to question one another.
- Q: We have seen the Office S-21 confession documents of MEAK Touch (ម៉ាត មួច) and UK Ket (អ៊ីក កេត), former diplomats. Did you know about their arrests?
- A.33: UK Kēt was a diplomat along with me in Senegal. He had a French wife and two children. I separated from him in 1975. We were very close friends. As for MEAK Touch, I did not know him.
- O: When did UK Ket return to Cambodia?
- A.34: I do not know when UK Ket returned to Cambodia.

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- Q: There are confession documents which implicate, for instance, Mr. KEAT Chhuon, CHUON Prasith, and you, for example, but Mr. IENG Sary blocked the arrests. Did you know this?
- A.35: This is the first time I've heard of this matter, so I don't know how to answer you.
- Q: On the beginning pages you stated that you received visitors with Mr. IENG Sary. Who were those visitors? Where were they from? And where did you meet them?
- A.36: As I remember, the Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia came to visit Cambodia in that era, and the Head of State of Romania also visited. The meetings were at a house near the riverside near Watt Phnom. (Now CDC.)
- Q: When you met POL Pot in Beijing, what did POL Pot go there to do?
- A.37: As I remember, he led a Democratic Kampuchea delegation on an official visit to China.
- Q: You said that you met NUON Chea at the Ministry of Religious Affairs. Why did you go to the Ministry of Religious Affairs?
- A.38: I only accompanied.
- Q: You said that IENG Sary was busy with the Upper Organization. Who was the Upper Organization? And what was IENG Sary's job with the Upper Organization?
- A.39: It seems POL Pot was the Upper Organization. I don't know what the others did.
- O: Finally, do you have anything you want to add?
- A.40: I have nothing I want to add. My parents, siblings, and many relatives lost their lives in that era. I wish to tell the Judges and the Court to assess whether what I have said. Is it correct or is it not correct? I have nothing to hide or to say to you beyond this.
- X One copy of the Written Record was provided to the witness.
- X The Written Record was read out to the witness; the witness had no objections and signed it. [Signature/Thumbprint]
- ☐ After the Written Record was read out to the witness, the witness refused to sign it.

The interview was completed at 4:10 p.m. on the same day.

Witness Interpreter Investigators

[Thumbprint] [Signature]

CHAN Youran

Original KH: 00407725-00407734

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា មានទីតាំងស្ថិតនៅ ផ្លូវជាតិលេខ៤ សង្កាត់ ចោមចៅ ខណ្ឌ័ ដង្កោ ក្រុង ភ្នំពេញ ប្រអប់សំបុត្រលេខ៧១ ទូវស័ព្ទលេខ +៤៥៥(០)៦៣ ២១៤៩៤១ ទូវសាលេខ +៤៥៥(០)៦៣ ២១៤៩៤១។