



អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា

**Extraordinary Chambers in the
Courts of Cambodia**

ការិយាល័យសហចៅក្រមស៊ើបអង្កេត

Office of the Co-Investigating Judges

សំណុំរឿងព្រហ្មទណ្ឌ

Criminal Case File/Dossier pénal

លេខ/No: 002/14-08-2006

នេខស៊ើបសួរ/Investigation/Instruction

លេខ/No: 002/19-09-2007-ECCC-OCIJ

ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា

ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ

Kingdom of Cambodia

Nation-Religion-King

ឯកសារបកប្រែ

TRANSLATION/TRADUCTION

ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date): 28-Feb-2012, 08:45

CMS/CFO: Phok Chanthan

កំណត់ហេតុនៃការស្ទង់បច្ច័យសាក្សី

Written Record of Witness Interview

On the sixteenth of December two thousand and nine, at 1130 hours, at Thma Daekkeh (ថ្មដេកកេ) Village, Banteay Chhmar (បន្ទាយឆ្មារ) Commune, Thma Puok (ថ្មពួក) District, Banteay Meanchey (បន្ទាយមានជ័យ) Province,

We, NGUON Im (ងួន អ៊ឹម) and Christian BAUDESSON, Investigators of the Extraordinary Chambers, being assigned by the Rogatory Letter of the Co-Investigating Judges, dated 08 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,

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា មានទីតាំងស្ថិតនៅ ផ្លូវជាតិលេខ៤ សង្កាត់ ចោមចៅ ខណ្ឌ ដង្កោ ភ្នំពេញ ប្រអប់សំបុត្រលេខ៧១ 1
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Original KH: 00418517-00418523

☒ With Mr. UN Sam An (អ៊ុន សំអន), as sworn Interpreter of the Extraordinary Chambers,

Recorded the statements of MEAS Voeun (ម៉ាស វ៉ឺន), a witness, who provided the following information regarding his personal identity:

The undersigned MEAS Voeun, alias, SVAY Voeun (ស្វាយ វ៉ឺន), was born on 10 May 1944, in Srae Khlong (ស្រែខ្លុង) Village, Ou (អូរ) Commune, Phnum Sruoch (ភ្នំស្រួច) District, Kampong Speu (កំពង់ស្ពឺ) Province. He is of Cambodian nationality and a farmer. His father, SVAY Meas (ស្វាយ ម៉ាស), is deceased, and her mother, PÈN Im (ប៉ែន អ៊ឹម), is deceased.

Present Address: Thma Daekkeh Village, Banteay Chhmar Commune, Thma Puok District, Banteay Meanchey Province. He is married to NIM Yim (នីម យ៉ឹម), alive, and is father of seven children.

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 me that he is not in relation with 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: Please describe your history from 1970. What did you do and in which unit?

A1: In 1970, I was just a young boy, aged 18. I joined the Patriotic Youth League (ក្រុមយុវជនស្នេហាជាតិ) in struggling to liberate the country from colonization and capitalism. At that time, I became a bodyguard and escort of the cadres. In 1971, I

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became a soldier and was trained about military techniques from a Cambodian trainer named Châm (ច័ម). I was trained on how to use gun, in special squad and infantry. At that time, in the Southwest Zone, there was only one battalion with approximately 100 soldiers led by *Ta Mok* (តាម៉ុក). In 1972, I was promoted to a team leader. Later on, the Southwest Zone created three battalions, *Ta Soeung* (តាសៀង) both a medic and the person in charge of the military side. In 1973 the Southwest Zone increased to three regiments, and *Ta Soeung* was promoted to be the zone military commander. I was promoted to be the Battalion 136 commander in Regiment 16 of the Division 1.

Q: What and where did you do after 17 April 1975?
A2: I became a regiment commander in Division 1 and assistant to *Ta Soeung* who became the division commander of the Southwest Zone. When liberating Phnom Penh, Division 1 of the Southwest Zone was directed to enter Phnom Penh from the west (Pochentong (ពោធិ៍ចិនតុង), *Ou Baekka'am* (អូរប៉ែកក្អម) and *Stueng Meanchey* (ស្ទឹងមានជ័យ)).

Q: Did you know about the Khmer Rouge senior leaders' plan of evacuation of people from Phnom Penh?
A3: Before attacking into Phnom Penh, commanders of the military from the Eastern, Southwestern Zones and so on attended the meeting with the General Staff such as *Ta SON Sen* (តាសុន សេន) and *Ta NUON Chea* (តានួន ជា) who conducted the meeting with the division commanders from all zones, who conducted further meeting to disseminate the information to the regiment commanders. The aim at that time was to attack and completely liberate Phnom Penh on 18 April 1975 but it was liberated on 17 April 1975. The army who were tasked to open attacks into Phnom Penh were strictly instructed by the upper echelon not to counterattack the enemy who raised white flag to accept their defeat nor touch belongings and property in the city. I did not know about the plan to evacuate people from Phnom Penh until three days after the liberation that I saw people were evacuated from the city. Later on, all of my soldiers were withdrawn from Phnom Penh; only the division of the special zone was allowed to station there.

Q: If any unit commander of the Khmer Rouge opposed the evacuation of people from Phnom Penh. What would happen?
A4: No commander ever dared to oppose.

- Q: If any Phnom Penh people refused to leave, did the Khmer Rouge upper echelon instructed to shoot those people to dead?
- A5: No instruction to shoot people to dead.
- Q: After Phnom Penh was liberated, where were regiments and Division 1 stationed?
- A6: Later on, the division was transferred to be stationed and work in rice fields in Kampong Trach (កំពង់ត្រាច) District and Touk Meas (ទួកមាស) District, Kampot Province. Later on, the upper echelon transferred my regiment to be stationed in Koh Kong (កោះកុង) Province for three years, while a number of troops in Division 1 were stationed at Banteay Long Vêk (បន្ទាយលង្វែក), where Ta Soeung, the division commander, was located. I would like to clarify that probably in 1976, when I was stationed in Koh Kong Province; Division 1 of the Southwest Zone was integrated as Division 1 of the Western Zone. The chairman of the Western Zone at that time was named CHOU Chêt (ជួរ ជេត) alias Si (ស៊ី). Ta Soeung became the Division 1 commander and a member of the Zone Committee.
- Q: Which sectors were under the West Zone?
- A7: The West Zone included Kampong Speu Province aka Sector 31, Kampong Chhnang (កំពង់ឆ្នាំង) Province aka Sector 32, Koh Kong Province aka Sector 37; as for Kampot (កំពត) Province I do not recall. When I was working in Koh Kong Province, I became the deputy commander of Division 1. In Koh Kong Province, army had duty to protect sea and land territory. There, there was a fighting with Thai soldiers for one week consecutively because the Thai fishermen fished into the Cambodian sea.
- Q: Do you know a man named KIM Voeun (គឹម វឿន)?
- A8: I do not know him; but I know a man named Mut, who was Ta Mok’s son-in-law and a division commander stationed in Kampong Saom (កំពង់សោម) protecting Wai (វ៉ៃ) Island and Tang (តាង) Island.
- Q: How long were you stationed in Koh Kong Province?
- A9: I was stationed at Koh Kong Province until 1978 and later on I was transferred to Preah Vihear (ព្រះវិហារ) Province.

- Q: Why were you transferred by upper echelon to Preah Vihear Province?
- A10: Because Preah Vihear was the autonomous area directly controlled by the Central Committee. *Ta* NUON Chea and *Ta* KHIEU Samphan used to visit there. Only I was transferred to Preah Vihear with 10 of my bodyguards. I was assigned by *Ta* Soeung, the division commander, to control Preah Vihear while he was nominated by upper echelon as the chairman of the New North Zone in Siem Reap Province.
- Q: Were there any senior leaders attending the meeting of nominating *Ta* Soeung to the chairman of the New North Zone?
- A11: During the meeting in Siem Reap, there were *Ta* POL Pot, *Ta* Mok, *Ta* Sè (តាសែ) and *Ta* Soeung attending but I was not. After the meeting, *Ta* Soeung told me about the change of army commanders and the chairman of the North Zone while he was nominated to the chairman of the New North Zone in Siem Reap Province and I went to control Sector 103 in Preah Vihear Province.
- Q: When you went to control Preah Vihear, were any events happening? Was *Ta* Khim (តាឃឹម) the former sector committee still there?
- A12: The upper echelon instructed me to observe the living conditions of the people who faced starvation. At that time, *Ta* Khim, the then Sector 103 committee, was at the sector office in Rovieng (រវៀង) District with his wife. When I was observing the situation of the people, I saw them facing too much difficulty and starvation. Approximately 500 people were arrested and detained in the security centre in Rovieng District. When I was observing the situation in Preah Vihear Province for about two months *Ta* Mok ordered to remove *Ta* Khim from the Sector 103 by using his forces to transport *Ta* Khim from Preah Vihear Province.
- Q: When you observed the living conditions of the people in Preah Vihear Province, whom did you report to? How and how often did you report?
- A13: I reported to KHIEU Samphan by telegrams in which I wrote down the reports and my name and Sector 103 on paper for dispatch to KHIEU Samphan, then ordered men named Ol (អុល) and Euy (ឡើយ) to type and send them. When the situation became tense, I reported once a week and sometimes once a month. At that time, KHIEU Samphan was in Phnom Penh and the Chairman of the State Presidium. Nowadays, Ol lives in Siem Reap Province and is in army and Euy lives abroad.
- Q: At the beginning, what did you report to KHIEU Samphan?

A14: At the beginning, I reported about his older sister-in-law named Yiet (យ៉ែត) (now lives in Malai (ម៉ាឡេ)) who was detained at the security centre in Siem Reap Province. Then, I reported about the people in Preah Vihear, many of whom were facing starvation, and the arrests of the people and detention in the security office.

Q: Did you ever get reply from KHIEU Samphan?

A15: Never, because the situation at that time was complicated.

Q: What was the telegram office located?

A16: Previously, I was in Tunloap (ទន្លាប់) under the control of *Ta Khim* and *Ta Hàng* (តាហង់). However, when I became the sector committee, I moved it to Rovieng District. When I controlled Sector 103, *Ta KHIEU Samphan* and *Ta NUON Chea* never went there.

Q: When you saw that people were facing difficult living conditions and arrests, what measures you took to resolve the problems?

A17: I went to meetings with people in Chhaeb (ឆែប) District, Thala Barivat (ថាឡាបរវ៉ាត់) District, Kuleaen (កូលែន) District, Sangkum Thmei (សង្កមថ្មី) District. I told them not to worry about the arrest. When I was controlling there, I did not order arrest of any people at all.

Q: Why did you have to report to KHIEU Samphan? What did you report about?

A18: Because there was a telegram sent from KHIEU Samphan to me instructing that I had to report about any situation to him. The contents of the report were about how the living conditions of the people in the cooperative were; materials and cement were used and maintained properly; cloths, mosquito nets and blankets were provided to people; where people were arrested and sent to; where his brother/sister in-law(s) were arrested and sent to. I ordered to release all the 500 people detained at the security centre in Rovieng District in *Ta Khim's* time but I did not report to KHIEU Samphan.

Q: Did you report to *Ta POL Pot* or *Ta NUON Chea*?

A19: I reported to none of them because I did not become the full pledged sector chairman yet. I went to control sector in Preah Vihear in August 1978.

Q: Who release KHIEU Samphan's older sister-in-law named Yiet from the security centre in Siem Reap Province?

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A20: *Ta* Soeung went to meet and ordered her release.

Q: Please clarify the composition of the Sector 103. How many members were there? How about [that of] the New Northern Zone?

A21: I was alone without deputy and member because it was not arranged yet. For the New Northern Zone, I knew that only *Ta* Soeung was the zone chairman.

- ☒ One copy of the Written Record was provided to the witness.
 - ☒ The Written Record was printed out for the witness to read and correct by himself; the witness had no objections and signed on the corrected version.
 - ☐ After the Written Record was read out to the witness, the witness refused to sign it.
- End of the interview: at 1715 hours on the same day.

Witness	Interpreter	Investigators
Thumbprint	Signature	Signatures
MEAS Voeun	UN Sam An	NGUON Im, Christian BAUDESSON