

**Minutes of Meeting on Base Work
8 March 1976**

Composition: Comrade Secretary - Comrade Deputy Secretary - Comrade Hêm ហែម -
Comrade Doeun ឌឿន - Comrade Sreng ស្រីង -
Comrade Hâng ហង់ - Comrade Sot សុត - Comrade Touch តូច

Agenda: - The election of 20 March 76
- The situation in the North [Zone] [Sectors] 106 and 103

I. On the election of 20 March 76

The report of Comrade Hêm ហែម:

1. Comrade Hêm ហែម reported to the base regarding:

- The principles of the election of 20 March 76
- The objectives of the election
- The method of election
- Various characteristics to run for Representative
- The methods of education and propaganda, etc.

2. Further opinions and explanations of Angkar

A. The political meaning of the election:

- Previously there were two constitutions: The constitution of 1946 which

(Page 2)

was the constitution of the monarchy, and one other, the constitution of the traitor group.

- Now we have our own constitution, and now we set up an election to select the representatives of the people.

This is the final legal preparation to end the old regime. In fact, [illegible line] have a People's Assembly which is the legislative organization. This Assembly will set up the new government which is the executive organization.

Having made those preparations, the curtain falls completely on the old regime. This is the political meaning of the election, both inside and outside the country.

B. The method of carrying out the election:

We do not set up an election in the capitalist style. We use the dictatorship of our proletariat class. But we must set up the election well to prevent the enemy from seizing the opportunity of attack us. Furthermore, the world is waiting and watching us too. We want to show that we have won, but we are not wild and disorderly, that we act appropriately, both inside and outside the country.

Angkar clearly explained regarding:

- The tasks of the Committee which must set up the election.
- The qualities of the candidates who are standing for election which base cadres must grasp in order to explain and educate and make propaganda to the people.
- The election at the base will stand upon the major labor sites in rural areas.
- The election in the factories and in the Army. The military [soldiers] at the base, in the zones, sectors, and militias, are considered peasants. Therefore, so there will be no separate election organized for them. The Army Representatives must be selected at upper echelon.

C. The People's Representative Assembly:

- Does not have the characteristics of the old assembly. Our Representatives always live close to

(Page 3)

the people, work with the people, solve the livelihood of the people.

- When it comes time for a meeting once or twice a year or for a special meeting, then there will be an invitation for them to meet.
- At the same time, we set up the Standing Committee of our Assembly to carry out routine work in Phnom Penh.

D. Education and propaganda:

- If anyone asks, we must explain, not be wild and disorderly, do not let it be seen that we want to suppress. At the same time, do not speak playfully about the Assembly in front of the people to let them see that we are deceptive, and our Assembly is worthless. In fact, it still remains the task of the Party.

- We must educate the internal ranks to understand that [regarding] the Comrades coming to be Representatives, this is not a matter of rank or face. Do not have that idea. Do not break solidarity.

II. The situation at the base:

1. The situation in 303:

Comrade Sreng ស្រីង្គំ reported to Angkar on the activities of:

- A-Loeun's ល្បីង group and their associates, 34 persons, whom the Zone military have all already arrested.

- The group of A- Uk Moeun អ៊ុក ម៉ឺន alias Uk Hong អ៊ុក ហុង which attempted to flee to Southern Vietnam and four or five of their associates, and asked for instructions from Angkar.

2. The situation in 106:

Comrade Sot សុត reported to Angkar on the situation with the paddy dike system, on the rice harvest, on the livelihood of the people, and the enemy situation.

(Page 4)

In 106, there are 480,000 hectares of rice fields. According to projections, this year 30 percent will be worked.

The major work sites belong to the districts. Some work sites have made 300 hectares of dikes. Comrade Sot សុត brought up a number of matters:

A. The problems of many sick people in the work sites, a loss of 40 percent of the labor force. And there have been outbreaks of chickenpox អ៊ុតស្បាយ and cholera.

B. Enemy situation: Along the border, the Thais send spies deep into our territory, up to 16 kilometers. The ones we have captured all pure Thai, and they refused to speak. In the sectors, there are some bandits in groups of ten spying on our comrades offices. No clear roots of the events in Siemreap សៀមរាប on 24 February have been discovered.

3. The situation in 103:

Comrade Hâng ហង់ reported to Angkar similar to Comrade Sot សុត, explaining some matters, as follows:

- The area of rice fields in 103 is 14,000 hectares. The sector has the goal of further expansion after the dikes are set up.
- Many of brothers and sisters of the people in the work sites are ill and have fevers.
- Along the Thai border, especially at Prasat Preah Vihear ប្រាសាទ ព្រះវិហារ, there are no activities, but they send in spies, Thai nationals, whom we have captured.
- On the Lao border, there are some problems with groups at the border creeping in to look for fish and meat, and activities to expand villages close to us.
- As for the entire sector, there is no enemy activity, just groups fleeing in from different locations, like fleeing from 303, or from Kampong Chhnang កំពង់ឆ្នាំង. Since January almost 100 have been arrested.

(Page 5)

III. Opinions and instructions of Angkar regarding the base

1. Regarding the problems in 303: As measures:

- Must call in those named to question them to see what their responses are. We will not yet remove them from their positions.
- Next, call them in for further questioning in front of their accusers, and watch to see their reactions. Therefore, there are two stages. Question and keep them at one site, and report to upper echelon along with a case file.

2. Regarding the dike systems in 106 and 103:

Angkar had the following opinions:

A. General aspects:

According to reports, we have worked [the land] reaching 30 percent of the goal designated by the Party. Preparation of the forces to carry this out has been careful and in detail.

But, propose [we] get a further grasp on the amount of land. In experience each district grasps that, but not yet clearly. Only after standing upon the total amount can we make estimates. If we compare the areas, it seems that in year one they did not work 30 percent [of the land].

B. In 106:

The land is flat fields, with many good aspects. We are striving to work [the land] on both sides of Highway 6. As for the upper part, we work [the land] wherever there is a water source.

The goal of 106 in 1977 is to export for sale at least 100,000 tons of rice. Therefore, we must really calculate, and use all our possibilities. For example, the water in Baray បារាយន៍ is used for Puok ព្រែក District and Siemreap សៀមរាប. The water must be managed with all capability.

C. In 103:

There is very little land. The amount must be clearly grasped, and we must strive to expand it another

(Page 6)

10,000 hectares during the next two years.

Therefore, go ahead and make dikes, but forces to expand land must be set up. We go on the offensive to solve this problem because it is a core problem. If we can solve it, everything else can all be solved.

3. On the rice harvest:

Early year rice must be prepared, resolved immediately. By October and November we will have rice to eat. This is for 106. [We] must get mastery over the problem of the seed rice for the early year rice.

As for 103, previously, Angkar decided to take 1,000 tons. Now, only 500 tons will be taken. This amount is to be kept in at that location first, as a reserve in case there are shortages.

Propose the genuine/true amount of rice. Upper echelon need to know the amount so it can easily make arrangements, for one thing for solving the livelihood of the people, but for another to think about sale and exchange as well. We must arrange for the brothers and sisters to think, to plan, because we are not just producing for families, we have reached a stage of major production and cannot think just about small production.

4. On the livelihood of the people:

Today, we think much about the livelihood of the people, but expenditures for material purchases to solve the livelihood of the people are limited because we must purchase many other things as well, and our funds are few.

Therefore, we must understand concentrating on solving the livelihood of the people at the base to the maximum extent.

- Food supplies: More salted fish, fresh fish, and fermented fish must be prepared.

(Page 7)

As for rice, it should be two cans or a little more. Must be careful that in August and September at the end of the season when there are many shortages, those shortages will impact their health and labor strength. Must think and be masterful. Importantly, at least two cans [of rice per person per day].

5. The enemy situation:

Must concentrate on both the East and the West. But the comrades are involved only with the West. The West is not happy with us. There are two reasons:

- The first comes from the revolution, they fear us and they hate us.
- The second, they monitor us and see that operate independently and with mastery. We will act as examples for Southeast Asia and the world. It is this that makes them very afraid. They see that we have difficulties to some extent, but we can solve them. If they leave it for one or two more years, they will be in great difficulty, and the danger for them will get stronger.

Therefore, they continue to destroy us, attack us, send in spies, and conduct various activities strongly. We must be vigilant in our long term strategy 05 50 years, 100 years.

- They have fewer and fewer possibilities. Specifically, they can no longer gather up people and seek Cambodians to use, and that is why they use the Thais to come into our territory. But our vigilance must be even higher.

6. The Lao problem:

- Laos has open ideas, but cannot manage them. They are busy only with border defense on the West, leaving the East wide open. In the South, they do not have many forces. That is one problem.

(Page 8)

- Another problem: Laos in serious difficulty. Economically, they have no salt, no rice either. They are far shorter in clothing than we are. They can barely even care for Vientiane, so they have abandoned those in isolated places. This is why they come to look for this, look for that, looking for torch resin ໘໘, looking for fish on our side.

- Another thing: They are, objectively, in fact, in serious difficulty. Their enemies attack constantly, both in the North and the South. Laos is seriously in trouble.

Therefore, in Laos itself, there is nothing. We are vigilant of Vietnam, they are behind them, and are village, subdistrict, and district advisors. They incite. We won't fall into their trap.

We must say that: Kampuchea and Laos must respect one another and be in solidarity as brothers and sisters. At the same time, we must do politics with the people, using salt and cloth. If they come looking for torch resin or fish, we give them some to gain the emotions of their people. We do not want clashes with Laos. In fact, Laos needs us more than we need them. Therefore, Laos has no interest in making trouble with us.

7. Miscellaneous matters:

A. Foreign matters:

Wait for the Standing Committee to ponder this and make the decisions. But propose not letting them zoom around, not letting them see.

B. Propose reporting to the Standing Committee every week on the rice field dike situation. Send general reports, send reports through various spearheads. Propose short reports by telegram, [all this so] the Standing Committee knows the situation in order to provide timely instructions.