



អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា
Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia
Chambres Extraordinaires au sein des Tribunaux Cambodgiens

ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ

Kingdom of Cambodia
Nation Religion King
Royaume du Cambodge
Nation Religion Roi

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះសាលាដំបូង

Trial Chamber
Chambre de première instance

TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

PUBLIC

Case File N° 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC

4 June 2015
Trial Day 291

ឯកសារដើម
ORIGINAL/ORIGINAL
ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date): 27-Mar-2017, 13:51
CMS/CFO: Sann Rada

Before the Judges: NIL Nonn, Presiding
YA Sokhan
Claudia FENZ
Jean-Marc LAVERGNE
YOU Ottara
Martin KAROPKIN (Reserve)
THOU Mony (Reserve)

The Accused: NUON Chea
KHIEU Samphan

Lawyers for the Accused:
Victor KOPPE
LIV Sovanna
KONG Sam Onn
Anta GUISSÉ

Trial Chamber Greffiers/Legal Officers:
CHEA Sivhoang
Matthew McCARTHY

Lawyers for the Civil Parties:
Marie GUIRAUD
LOR Chunthy
CHET Vanly
HONG Kimsuon

For the Office of the Co-Prosecutors:
Dale LYSAK
SENG Leang
Andrew BOYLE

For Court Management Section:
UCH Arun

I N D E X

Ms. SOU Soeurn (2-TCW-887)

Questioning by The President.....	page 3
Questioning by Mr. LYSAK	page 6
Questioning by Mr. SENG Leang.....	page 55
Questioning by Ms. CHET Vanly	page 60
Questioning by Ms. GUIRAUD.....	page 72
Questioning by Judge FENZ.....	page 86
Questioning by Judge LAVERGNE.....	page 93

List of Speakers:

Language used unless specified otherwise in the transcript

Speaker	Language
Ms. CHET Vanly	Khmer
Judge FENZ	English
Ms. GUIRAUD	French
Mr. KOPPE	English
Mr. LYSAK	English
Judge LAVERGNE	French
The President (NIL Nonn)	Khmer
Mr. SENG Leang	Khmer
Ms. SOU Soeurn (2-TCW-887)	Khmer

1

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 (Court opens at 0901H)

3 MR. PRESIDENT:

4 Please be seated. The Court is now in session.

5 Today the Chamber hears the testimony of a witness, 2-TCW-887. We
6 also wish to inform the Parties that this witness requires the
7 support of a TPO staff during the testimony, and the Chamber
8 agrees to the request. And WESU is responsible for coordinating
9 the TPO staff.

10 Ms. Chea Sivhoang, please report the attendance of the Parties
11 and other individuals at today's proceedings.

12 [09.03.01]

13 THE GREFFIER:

14 Mr. President, for today's proceedings, all Parties to this case
15 are present.

16 Nuon Chea is present in the holding cell -- in the waiting room
17 downstairs as he waives to -- waives his direct presence in the
18 courtroom. His waiver has been delivered to the greffier.

19 The witness who is to testify today -- that is, 2-TCW-887,
20 confirms that to <her> knowledge <she> has no relationship by
21 blood or by law to any of the two Accused, that is Nuon Chea and
22 Khieu Samphan, or to any of the civil parties admitted in this
23 case. The witness took an oath before the Iron-Club statue this
24 morning, and there is no reserve witness today.

25 [09.04.02]

1 MR. PRESIDENT:

2 Thank you. And the Chamber now decides on the request by Nuon
3 Chea.

4 The Chamber has received a waiver from Nuon Chea, dated 4 June
5 2015, which states that due to his health -- that is headache,
6 back pain, he cannot sit or concentrate for long, and in order to
7 effectively participate in future hearings, he requests to waive
8 his rights to participate in and be present at the 4 June 2015
9 hearing. Having seen the medical report of Nuon Chea by the duty
10 doctor for the Accused at the ECCC, dated 4 June 2015, who notes
11 that Nuon Chea has a chronic back pain when he sits for long and
12 dizziness when he moves, and recommends that the Chamber so grant
13 him his request so that he can follow the proceedings remotely
14 from the holding cell downstairs.

15 Based on the above information and pursuant to Rule 81.5 of the
16 ECCC Internal Rules, the Chamber grants Nuon Chea his request to
17 follow the proceedings remotely from the holding cell downstairs
18 via an audio-visual means.

19 The AV unit personnel are instructed to link the proceedings to
20 the room downstairs so that Nuon Chea can follow the proceedings
21 remotely. That applies for the whole day.

22 Court officer, please usher the witness as well as the TPO staff
23 into the courtroom.

24 (Witness enters courtroom)

25 [09.07.54]

1 QUESTIONING BY THE PRESIDENT:

2 Good morning, Madam Witness. What is your name?

3 MS. SOU SOEURN:

4 A. My name is Sou Soeurn.

5 Q. Thank you, Madam Sou Soeurn. When were you born?

6 A. I cannot recall it.

7 Q. How old are you this year?

8 A. I am 79 years old.

9 Q. <Where> were you born?

10 [09.08.50]

11 A. I was born in Chhuk Khsach village, Chhuk Khsach commune,

12 Baray district, Kampong Thom province.

13 Q. <What> is your current address?

14 A. Currently, I live in Anlong Veang commune, Anlong Veang

15 district.

16 Q. What is your current occupation?

17 A. I don't have any job at the moment.

18 [09.09.33]

19 Q. What are the names of your parents?

20 A. My father is Lim Seb and my mother is Duch Thou.

21 Q. What is your husband's name and how many children do you have?

22 A. My husband is Ke Pauk. We have six children.

23 Q. Thank you, Madam Sou Soeurn. The greffier made an oral report

24 that to your best knowledge, you are not related by blood or by

25 law to any of the two Accused -- that is, Nuon Chea and Khieu

4

1 Samphan, or any of the civil parties admitted in this case; is
2 the information accurate?

3 A. I am not related to any of them.

4 Q. The greffier also said that you already took an oath before
5 your appearance this morning; is that true?

6 A. Yes.

7 [09.11.02]

8 Q. The Chamber now would like to inform you of your rights and
9 obligations as a witness. Madam Sou Soeur, as a witness in the
10 proceedings before the Chamber, you may refuse to respond to any
11 question or to make any comment which may incriminate you. And
12 that is your right against self-incrimination. And this means
13 that you may refuse to provide your response or make any comments
14 that could lead you to being prosecuted. And Madam Sou Soeur,
15 now on your obligations. As a witness in the proceedings before
16 the Chamber, you may respond to any questions by the Bench or
17 relevant Parties except where your response or comments to those
18 questions may incriminate you as the Chamber has just informed
19 you of your rights as a witness. Also as a witness, you must tell
20 the truth that you have known, heard, seen, remembered,
21 experienced or observed directly in relation to any event or
22 circumstance relevant to the question that the Bench or Parties
23 pose to you. And Madam Sou Soeur, have you been interviewed by
24 investigators of the Office of the Co-Investigating Judges? If
25 so, how many times, when and where?

1 [09.12.41]

2 A. I was interviewed once <in> Anlong Veang.

3 Q. And before you entered the courtroom, have you reviewed your
4 written records of your statement or you have it read out aloud
5 to you in order to refresh your memory?

6 A. I asked my younger sibling to read it aloud to me.

7 Q. And to your best knowledge, does the written record of your
8 interview reflect the statements you made before the OCIJ
9 investigators <in> Anlong Veang?

10 A. Now I tend to forget a lot. And in the past I can recall a lot
11 of things. <I may not be able to answer all the questions.>

12 Q. This is not what I meant. After you have your written record
13 of interview read aloud to you by your younger sibling -- that
14 is, regarding your interview <in> Anlong Veang, does that
15 written record reflect what you spoke to the investigators at the
16 time?

17 A. Yes, it reflects what I said, but now I tend to forget a lot.
18 <I also tend to forget what I have spoken myself.>

19 [09.14.48]

20 MR. PRESIDENT:

21 Pursuant to Rule 91bis of the ECCC Internal Rules, the Chamber
22 gives the floor to the Co-Prosecutors first to put question to
23 this witness. And the combined time for the Co-Prosecutors and
24 the Lead Co-Lawyers for civil party is three sessions. And the
25 Co-Prosecutor, you have the floor.

1 QUESTIONING BY MR. LYSAK:

2 Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, Your Honours, Counsel,
3 Madam Witness. I'll be putting questions to you this morning. My
4 name is Dale Lysak. I'm one of the prosecutors at the Court. I
5 want to start with some questions about your and your husband's
6 background. You stated in your OCIJ interview, document E3/5294,
7 that you were married to your husband, Ke Pauk, when you were 22
8 years old. By my calculation, if you are 79 today, you were born
9 around 1936, which would mean that you were married to your
10 husband around 1958; is that correct? Do you remember the year
11 when you and Ke Pauk were married?

12 [09.16.36]

13 MS. SOU SOEURN:

14 A. Allow me to respond. I had a child in 1962, and that was three
15 years after our marriage.

16 Q. Thank you. Can you tell us where you and Ke Pauk lived after
17 you were married? And also, can you tell us whether he was
18 already part of the revolution at the time you were married?

19 A. No, he did not <get involved in anything yet> at the time as
20 he was still engaged in rice farming.

21 Q. And where was it that you and your husband lived after you
22 were married in 1959?

23 A. I <lived> in Chhuk Khsach that <was> in Baray district,
24 Kampong Thom province.

25 [09.18.15]

7

1 Q. Madam Witness, your husband gave an interview before his death
2 which I'm going to read to you from time to time today to see if
3 that helps refresh your recollection on some matters. That
4 interview is document E3/2782, also E3/2783, just so the Parties
5 are aware that the same interview is in two different documents
6 and the French translation is only in the second document. That's
7 why I'll be referring to both E3 numbers.

8 The ERN reference I would like to read to you is at English,
9 00089708; Khmer, 00095547; and French, 00596203. In this
10 interview, Ke Pauk your husband starts by describing his
11 background as follows: "I joined the struggle since 1949 in the
12 Khmer Issarak period. After the Geneva Convention, I abandoned
13 the struggle and returned home. In 1957, Sieu Heng, the secretary
14 of the Party, contacted me and told me to rejoin the struggle. I
15 did so and enlisted into the Party in Svay Teab sub-district,
16 Chamkar Leu district." Continuing in the next paragraph: "In
17 1958, after I became a member of the Party, they assigned me to
18 conduct some activities in Chamkar Leu district, my birth place."
19 Let me ask you just a couple of things here. First of all, is it
20 correct that your husband came from Chamkar Leu district?

21 [09.20.36]

22 A. I am not sure on this point and I did not know when he <had>
23 joined the Revolution.

24 Q. Do you remember whether you moved to Chamkar Leu district at
25 some point after you and Ke Pauk were married?

1 A. After our marriage, we went to <earn a living> in Praeus Meas
2 village, Chamkar Leu, Chamkar Andoung district.

3 [09.21.28]

4 Q. The next page of your husband's interview, he describes some
5 events from the 1960s relating to the Communist Party of
6 Kampuchea. And he states: "In mid-1967, the Zone Committee was
7 composed of Koy Thuon as secretary and I the deputy secretary,
8 and Doeun, Sreng, Bra, Thaong, and (sic) Sam-At as members. At
9 that time, Brother Nuon was away to Prey Chhor to assign horses.
10 In 1968, I began working in the jungle."

11 First question; did you go with your husband to the jungle in
12 1968 or did you and your children live somewhere else at that
13 time?

14 A. At that time, I did not stay with him. We lived separately
15 since 1967.

16 Q. The statement from your husband that I just read refers to
17 Brother Nuon organising or assigning horses in Prey Chhor
18 district. Did you know Nuon Chea during this time period? And do
19 you remember the first time that you met Nuon Chea?

20 [09.23.22]

21 A. At that time, I did not know him yet. And I got to know him
22 only when I was in Phnom Penh.

23 Q. And when was it that you lived in Phnom Penh? And could you
24 tell us about how you got to know Nuon Chea when you were living
25 in Phnom Penh?

1 A. That was the time that I came to earn a living in Phnom Penh.
2 And I was called to be a cook. And I apologise if I cannot recall
3 the details of the event.

4 Q. You stated in the first answer of your OCIJ interview,
5 E3/5294, that you joined the Revolution in 1969, while you were
6 living in Phnom Penh. Can you tell us whether it was in
7 connection with joining the Revolution in Phnom Penh that you
8 first met Nuon Chea?

9 [09.25.03]

10 A. At that time, I was called to be a cook and that was the time
11 I got to know him. I met him and of course, they discussed about
12 the work. But I did not understand about the nature of the work,
13 so I <was assigned to>cook for them. <After I had cooked for them
14 for a while, I left him again.>

15 Q. And could you tell us, you were cooking for Nuon Chea and
16 other people -- can you tell us who it was that you were cooking
17 for at that time?

18 A. I did not see him. I cooked in the kitchen, and it was someone
19 else who took the food to him. <I did not know the number of
20 people or who they were, for I did not see them.>

21 Q. In the same answer, your first answer of your OCIJ interview,
22 you describe how you left Phnom Penh with your daughter to join
23 the marquis in October 1970, and how you were taken to a location
24 in the deep forest near the Stueng Chinit River, where you met
25 your husband. The location where you met your husband near the

10

1 Chinit River, was this a location where a number of Party leaders
2 were located? Was this a headquarters or base of the Party?

3 A. It was a military <headquarter>, and I did not see any senior
4 leaders there. I only saw military <commanders>.

5 [09.27.28]

6 Q. Who were the military commanders who were at that location?

7 A. It related to the work of my husband.

8 Q. Can you tell us a little bit about what your role -- what the
9 role or work of your husband was at the time you joined him in
10 the marquis?

11 A. At that time, his position was simply a cadre.

12 Q. When you went to live in the forest in 1970, did your son Ke
13 Pich Vannak, did he live in the same location as you?

14 A. <No>. Initially, my son lived in Kampong Cham, and I went to
15 that location along with my daughter.

16 Q. I want to read to you an excerpt from the interview of your
17 son. It's document E3/35, at Khmer, 00340560 - 61; English,
18 00346147; French, 00367718 - 719. And this is part of his first
19 answer in his OCIJ interview. He testified that between 1970 and
20 1973, he lived at a site in Stueng Trang district, Kampong Cham,
21 that was the Party centre headquarters; that during the day, he
22 was taught by Pol Pot's wife Khieu Ponnary, who he called
23 grandaunt Ry; and that at night, he would give massages to Pol
24 Pot, who he referred to as granduncle Sar alias granduncle Pol.
25 My question for you, Madam Witness, did you have regular contact

11

1 with Pol Pot and his wife, like your son, during the 1970 - '73
2 time periods?

3 [09.31.04]

4 A. Personally, I was not close to them. Although I -- we stayed
5 in the forest together, I was not close to him. And I did not
6 know how close my son was to them.

7 Q. Did you see Pol Pot and his wife from time to time during
8 those years?

9 A. I met them when I was living in the forest. I met them
10 sometimes, and they were referred to as "bong". When I was
11 allowed to go and meet them, I could go to see them, although we
12 lived in the same forest. <We did not live together.>

13 Q. In his OCIJ interview, again at Khmer, 00340561; English,
14 00346148; French, 00367719; your son testified that he also saw
15 Khieu Samphan at the Party headquarters in the forest when he
16 lived there between 1970 and 1973. He referred to Khieu Samphan
17 as granduncle Hem. My question for you; did you also see Khieu
18 Samphan at that location during those years?

19 [09.33.17]

20 A. I -- it <was more likely> that I did not meet him. As I
21 stated, my son was living in a separate place. <My son and I were
22 living in separate places. So if he met, I did not know about
23 that. I <could> have met him or those people once in a while.

24 Q. Do you remember, Madam Witness, the first time that you met
25 Khieu Samphan?

1 A. I do not recall it. I do not recall when I met him and where I
2 met him.

3 Q. I want to move now to the period beginning in 17 April 1975.

4 And I first want to ask you about what your husband's -- read you
5 an excerpt from your husband's interview. And this is again
6 E3/2782 and 2783, ERN references, Khmer, 00095550 - 51; English,
7 00089711 - 712; and French, 00596208. And in this document, your
8 husband states that after 17 April 1975, he became the secretary
9 of what was then the North Zone and what would later become the
10 Central Zone. And he also states that Koy Thuon who had been the
11 secretary of the zone was transferred to Phnom Penh, to the
12 Ministry of Commerce. My question for you; did your husband ever
13 tell you why he was promoted to zone secretary, and Koy Thuon was
14 sent to the Ministry of Commerce after the 17th of April 1975?

15 [09.36.35]

16 A. <>I <only> knew <> that my husband became the zone secretary,
17 <but> I did not know about the arrangement of his position. As I
18 stated, as a <woman>, I was not allowed to know the affairs in
19 detail.

20 Q. Do you remember how you first learned that your husband had
21 been appointed the North Zone secretary?

22 A. I do not know. From that time onwards, I heard people address
23 him as such. I asked him about that, and my husband told me that
24 I had to mind my own business. And others, they cared their own
25 business already. <And he asked me not question about other

1 people's business.>

2 [09.37.51]

3 Q. I now want to go through the positions that you held in the
4 Party through the Democratic Kampuchea regime. In your OCIJ
5 interview, E3/5294, at Khmer, 00348827; English, 00360111;
6 French, 00367803; you state that you were initially a village
7 chief during the 1970 - 75 period, and that at the start of the
8 Khmer Rouge regime; "When Phnom Penh was liberated, I stayed at
9 Preaek Prasab district of Kampong Cham. At that time, they made
10 me a member of the Preaek Prasab district committee. And I was
11 put in charge of receiving evacuees from Phnom Penh."

12 Madam Witness, during that time period, was Preaek Prasab
13 district part of a Sector 42 of the North Zone?

14 A. I do not -- I could not have the grasp of the information. <It
15 could have been the assignment, but I have forgotten the
16 details>.

17 MR. PRESIDENT:

18 Deputy <National> Co-Prosecutor<>, please verify the name. I
19 heard that the name was <pronounced> as Preaek <Prasat
20 (phonetic)>, but actually there was no Preaek <Prasat
21 (phonetic)>, there was only Preaek Prasab.

22 [09.40.20]

23 BY MR. LYSAK:

24 Thank you, Mr. President. Let me clarify. Perhaps, I mispronounce
25 it. Was the name of the district that you were appointed to in --

14

1 after April 1975 Preaek Prasab?

2 MS. SOU SOEURN:

3 A. Yes, it was <in the district of> Preaek Prasab.

4 Q. Let me see if I can refresh your recollection on this. This is
5 another excerpt from your husband's interview E3/2782 and 2783 at
6 Khmer, 0095551; English, 0089713; French, 00596210. Your husband
7 gave a description here of the structure of the Central or old
8 North Zone. He stated it was divided into three regions; Regions
9 41, 42, and 43. And in regards to Region 42, he said it consisted
10 of Tang Kok (phonetic), Baray, Stueng Trang, Chamkar Leu and
11 Preaek Prasab districts. Does that refresh your recollection,
12 Madam Witness, that there were five districts that formed Sector
13 42 including both Preaek Prasab and Chamkar Leu?

14 [09.42.27]

15 A. I do not recall it. I <only> remember <the districts of>
16 Preaek Prasab and Chamkar Leu<; the rest I cannot recall>. I
17 <>remembered <them before,> but I do not recall <them> now.

18 Q. Fair enough. Going back to the history of your positions, in
19 your interview -- OCIJ interview E3/5294, you say that you lived
20 in Preaek Prasab district for approximately half a year, at which
21 time you were sent to Chamkar Leu district and nominated on the
22 Chamkar Leu district committee in charge of women. Do I
23 understand correctly that it would have been in the latter part
24 of 1975, half a year after 17 April 1975, that you moved to
25 Chamkar Leu district and became a member of that district

1 committee?

2 A. It is correct. I stayed in Preaek Prasab district for half a
3 year and I was transferred to Chamkar Leu district after that
4 time. I worked <on the> Chamkar Leu <district committee> for one
5 year. <>. There <were five people on the committee, and I> was
6 <the> only <woman on the committee. The workload of the committee
7 was split among its members. I only remember that; and as for the
8 rest I cannot recall them at all.>

9 [09.44.34]

10 Q. And in regards to your assignment to Chamkar Leu district, you
11 stated, "I was appointed by the sector secretary. Tol was the
12 sector secretary." My question, Madam Witness, the person you
13 identify as the sector secretary, Tol, was he a cousin of your
14 husband?

15 A. No. He was not related to my husband. <Although, he came from>
16 the same province of my husband's<, he was actually from a
17 totally different district>. He and my husband were not related.

18 Q. How long had you known the sector secretary Tol? How long had
19 you and your husband known him?

20 A. I only came to know him when he became the <sector> chief<>.
21 And as for my husband, I did not know <from> when my husband <had
22 known> this individual.

23 [09.46.23]

24 Q. Thank you. You identify in your interview another person who
25 was also on the Chamkar Leu district committee, by the name of

16

1 Ban. Can you tell us who Ban was?

2 A. Ban was a villager <who lived along the> river<>. And <I
3 started to get to know this man by the time I was being assigned
4 by the sector to be a member of> the committee. <>.

5 Q. There is a person named Ban who has testified that he was on
6 the Chamkar Leu District Committee and that he was an in-law of
7 yours, the husband of one of your cousins. Was this the same Ban
8 who you were referring to; the person who is an in-law of yours
9 and who married one of your cousins?

10 A. No. He was a <local person,> and he <made his> living <along
11 the> river<. He> was not related <to me or husband either> by
12 blood or by law<>.

13 MR. LYSAK:

14 And Mr. President, with your leave, at this time, I'd like to
15 provide the witness statement of the individual I'm referring to.
16 It's document, E319/19.3.86. Let me repeat E319/19.3.86. I will
17 not say the full name of this person because he is a proposed
18 trial witness, 2-TCW-950. He's someone who indicates in his
19 statement that he is an in-law of the witness and that who served
20 on the Chamkar Leu district committee. I'd like to show the
21 statement to the witness.

22 [09.49.34]

23 MR. PRESIDENT:

24 I have been informed that the witness is illiterate. She <cannot>
25 read <or> write.

1 MR. LYSAK:

2 May I ask whether if she's unable to read the names that the --
3 perhaps, the TPO person could assist her in order to see if she
4 can identify this person.

5 MR. PRESIDENT:

6 Yes, you may do so. Court officer, please work on that matter.
7 You could whisper to the witness, Court officer.

8 [09.50.49]

9 BY MR. LYSAK:

10 Madam Witness, I don't want you to read the name of this person
11 -- the full name of this person out loud. I can tell you that
12 this person also used a number of aliases, revolutionary aliases,
13 one of which was Phos and another Ho. Do you remember a person
14 named Phos or Ho who served with you on the Chamkar Leu district
15 committee and who was an in-law of yours, someone who married one
16 of your cousins?

17 MS. SOU SOEURN:

18 A. First I heard the question about Ta Ban, but now <another man
19 by> the name <of Ta> Phos was mentioned to me. I knew this
20 individual's name and we were related. <The man is actually my
21 cousin, not a cousin of my late husband.>

22 Q. And is Phos someone who at some point served with you on the
23 Chamkar Leu district committee?

24 A. I do not remember it. I <remember that Ban worked> with me.
25 And for the remainder of my colleagues, I do not recall them.

1 [09.52.54]

2 Q. Let me ask you a general question about Chamkar Leu district.
3 Do you remember approximately how many people lived in that
4 district during the Democratic Kampuchea period?

5 A. You mean the population <of the district> or you mean members
6 of the committee?

7 Q. I mean the population. What was the population of Chamkar Leu
8 district?

9 A. I could not have the full grasp of the information because I
10 <did not know how to take any notes> <>. Everything <was taken
11 care by> the district secretary. I did not take note of the
12 population of that district.

13 Q. Well, let's talk about your position. You've testified that in
14 late 1975, you became a member of the Chamkar Leu district
15 committee. Did you later become the secretary of that district,
16 Chamkar Leu?

17 A. I remained a member of that committee <throughout the period>.
18 As I stated earlier, I was <a> member of <the Chamkar Leu
19 district> committee for <only> one year. Later on, I delivered a
20 baby and I was sick <so I could not go to work anymore. However,
21 I still remained as a member of the committee,> in charge of
22 female workers who worked at <> dam<and canal worksites>, but I
23 was not with <those female> workers <on a regular basis>.

24 [09.55.18]

25 Q. Madam Witness, I must tell you that a number of cadres close

1 to you have testified that in late 1977, you became the secretary
2 of Chamkar Leu district. Let me read to you one of those
3 references and it comes from the document I just provided you,
4 the testimony of your in-law, Ban or Phos. In answer 10 of his
5 OCIJ interview, E319/19.3.86, he testified as follows: "Sou
6 Soeurn was appointed Chamkar Leu district secretary later,
7 perhaps in late 1977. At that time, Oeun removed me from my
8 position as the Sector 42 commerce chairman and appointed me as
9 deputy to Sou Soeurn." He has said the same thing in a number of
10 interviews. Madam Witness, does this refresh your memory that you
11 became the secretary of Chamkar Leu district in late 1977, and
12 that Phos served as your deputy at that time?

13 A. I do not recall it well because I <did not usually go to the
14 office and work> with them. I may have forgotten it because it
15 has been long time ago<,> and <I have become very forgetful.>.
16 [09.57.32]

17 Q. In the quote I just read, your in-law Ban or Phos referred to
18 Oeun -- a person named Oeun, who was the Sector 42 secretary
19 after Tol. Was Oeun your biological brother? And is it correct
20 that he became sector secretary in 1977 after Tol?

21 A. Oeun was my younger sibling. He was my biological brother. <It
22 was in that year that he could have been> appointed <as the>
23 secretary of that sector. <I must have forgotten it. It was> a
24 brief period of time<,> and we did not work closely with others>.
25 <>I <cannot> recall it all.

1 Q. Madam Witness, do you remember a cadre named Chim (phonetic)
2 who came from Takeo in the Southwest Zone and who was brought to
3 the North Zone in 1977 and appointed chairman of the Chamkar
4 Andoung rubber plantation that was located in your district
5 Chamkar Leu? Do you remember Chim (phonetic), this person who was
6 brought in to be the head of the rubber plantation that was
7 located in your district?

8 [09.59.37]

9 A. I do not recall it. I do not remember all, even my relatives
10 and cousin. And how could I remember other people<?> And I did
11 not know <the person, and of> the arrangement of the position for
12 that particular individual.

13 Q. Let me turn to some questions relating to the 1st January Dam,
14 Madam Witness. And I'm going to start with your son, Ke Pich
15 Vannak's OCIJ interview, E3/35, at Khmer, 00340563; English,
16 00346149; French, 00367721. He describes how in 1976, he was sent
17 to study in Phnom Penh with a person named Pich Sokha and another
18 person he called Uncle Chhy alias Chham. Did you know these two
19 people that your son studied with in Phnom Penh named Chham and
20 Pich Sokha?

21 A. I <knew> the two individuals but they all deceased.

22 Q. Who was Chham?

23 A. Chham was the guy who worked with my husband.

24 Q. Is Chham someone who worked for your husband during the entire
25 Democratic Kampuchea regime?

1 A. He is deceased.

2 [10.02.27]

3 Q. I understand that he is deceased. My question to you is; is he
4 someone who was close to your husband and worked with him
5 throughout the entire Khmer Rouge regime?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And did Chham have a role in supervising the construction of
8 the 1st January Dam?

9 A. For this matter, I do not know. Chham was working <closely
10 with> my husband; he was with my husband all the time. So I did
11 not know about their business. <Moreover, he and I were living
12 separately. I was not aware of his business.> I am stating the
13 truth. I will not tell anything that I do not know.

14 [10.03.36]

15 Q. Continuing in your son's OCIJ interview on the same pages of
16 E3/35, this is what he testified that he did after he returned
17 from his studies in Phnom Penh.

18 Question: "After you finished your study, what did they have you
19 do?"

20 Answer: "I returned to Kampong Cham and accompanied my father to
21 prepare a plan to build the 1st January Dam."

22 Question: "In what year did they begin building the 1st January
23 Dam?"

24 Answer: "The plan was developed since mid-1976."

25 My question for you, Madam Witness, do you know whether your

1 husband had communications with and needed to obtain the approval
2 of the Party leaders in Phnom Penh in regards to the plan to
3 build the 1st January Dam?

4 A. I <did> not know <as to> when the construction of the dam
5 started and how long the construction lasted. <Women were usually
6 not engaged in this kind of business. More likely I engaged
7 cooperative members to build dams and canals.> I <did> not know
8 <of their business>.

9 Q. Let me ask you a general question about your husband. How
10 often would he go to Phnom Penh for meetings?

11 A. I sometimes knew about his trips. And as I said, <my house
12 was> in Chamkar Leu and he <was living> in Kampong Cham. When I
13 went to see him, I would know <of> his business. <However,> I
14 <seldom knew as to> when he went to <attend a> meeting <>. And as
15 I told the Court already, I sometimes did not meet him for a
16 period of three months.

17 [10.06.40]

18 Q. Did you ever accompany your husband on any of his trips to
19 Phnom Penh?

20 A. I never accompanied him to Phnom Penh. <In case I had to go to
21 Phnom Penh,> I went with other female cadres and as I stated, I
22 never went with him to Phnom Penh.

23 Q. I just want to clarify that last response. I'm not sure
24 whether this was translation. Are you saying that you went to
25 Phnom Penh once with a group of female cadres? Did I understand

1 you correctly?

2 A. I went with <other> female cadres <to work in Phnom Penh,> and
3 we <> met <with> Nuon Chea. <Otherwise, I would never have chance
4 to meet him>.

5 Q. Could you please tell us about this time that you went to
6 Phnom Penh with female cadres to meet with Nuon Chea? Tell us
7 what you remember about that.

8 [10.08.31]

9 A. I do not recall it<, for>it happened between 1970 and 1975. I
10 do not remember the month <and> year exactly. <I can only recall
11 going to meet with him>.

12 Q. What was the reason that you went with this group of female
13 cadres to meet Nuon Chea?

14 A. We went with a large group of cadres, hundreds of us <to meet
15 him>. We <went> there to attend <> political study sessions<, and
16 be taught of ways to lead cooperative people to increase rice
17 production to a certain quota per year, and work smoothly with
18 the cooperative people in order to increase rice production per
19 hectare and increase the number of harvest per year. That was
20 what he had instructed us, women>

21 Q. Thank you, Madam Witness. I may come back to this later. I was
22 going to turn to another subject now, Mr. President. Do you wish
23 me to continue or this is the time for our morning break?

24 MR. PRESIDENT:

25 Thank you. It is now the convenient time for a short break. And

24

1 the Chamber will take short break from now until <10.30 a.m.>
2 Court officers, please assist the witness during the break time
3 and please invite this witness and the TPO staff back to the
4 courtroom at <10.30 a.m.>

5 The Court is now in recess.

6 (Court recesses from 1011H to 1031H)

7 MR. PRESIDENT:

8 Please be seated. The Court is back in session.

9 And the floor is given to the International Deputy Co-Prosecutor
10 to resume his line of questioning to this witness.

11 [10.31.53]

12 BY MR. LYSAK:

13 Thank you, Mr. President. Madam Witness, I'd like to turn now to
14 a few questions about the assignment of workers to the 1st
15 January Dam. In your OCIJ statement, E3/5294, at Khmer, 00348834;
16 English, 00360117; French, 00367810; you gave the following
17 testimony.

18 Question: "Were people from your district sent to participate in
19 the construction of the 1st January Dam?"

20 Answer: "Yes, they were. Every district was requested to send its
21 people there."

22 Madam Witness, can you tell us in total how many workers from
23 Chamkar Leu district were sent to work at the 1st January Dam?

24 [10.33.07]

25 MS. SOU SOEURN:

1 A. I do not know about <certain number of> workers <to be> sent
2 to the 1st January Dam worksite, <due to the fact that workers
3 were sent to work there continuously and consecutively.> I <did>
4 not know either how many people were selected from those various
5 cooperatives and sent to the dam site <as> I was not <in charge
6 of> the <lists. It was the> secretary of the district <who> held
7 <the lists>.

8 Q. You have stated in your OCIJ interview though, that one of
9 your responsibilities in Chamkar Leu district was overseeing
10 workers who were constructing the dams; is that correct, Madam
11 Witness?

12 A. <I do not know what else to respond to your question as>I have
13 already given my response.

14 MR. PRESIDENT:

15 International Deputy Co-Prosecutor, please rephrase your question
16 because I heard Witness say that she already gave the statement
17 to you.

18 [10.35.01]

19 BY MR. LYSAK:

20 Let me refer you specifically to what you said. Again, this is
21 your OCIJ interview, E3/5294, the reference is at Khmer,
22 00348830; English, 00360113; and French, 00367806. You were
23 discussing your responsibilities and you said: "As for me, I only
24 led the cooperative to build dams and canals." So let me ask you
25 again. Is it not true that part of your responsibilities in

1 Chamkar Leu was leading people in relation to building dams and
2 canals?

3 MS. SOU SOEURN:

4 A. I already told the Court that I did not know about the numbers
5 of people <sent to work at> the dam site. I <only> selected
6 <>people from cooperatives and <sent them there. The District
7 Secretary was the one who had the list. For this reason,> I did
8 not know <the total number of> people <sent there>.

9 [10.36.45]

10 Q. Madam Witness, do you know who it was who supervised the
11 workers from Chamkar Leu district who were sent to work at the
12 1st January Dam?

13 A. <I knew that each> "sangkat" had its own chief, and the chief
14 would bring <his or her> people to the dam site. <However, I did>
15 not know the names of those sangkat chiefs. Some of them passed
16 away and some may have survived the period, but they perhaps are
17 living <far away. So, I did not know or remember their names.>

18 Q. Thank you. Also in your interview E3/5294 at Khmer, 00348835;
19 English, 00360117; French, 00367811; you gave the following
20 testimony about the people who were sent from your district to
21 the 1st January Dam.

22 Question: "Did any of your people sent to construct the dam
23 disappear?"

24 Answer: "Yes, they did. And not only the 17 April People
25 disappeared but also the Base People." How did you become aware,

1 Madam Witness, that people from your district Chamkar Leu who had
2 been sent to work at the 1st January Dam had disappeared? How did
3 you become aware of that?

4 A. <Concerning> disappearance <of people> at the 1st January Dam
5 site, <I only knew that> people were <being> taken away for study
6 sessions. That is what I knew at that time.

7 [10.39.35]

8 Q. How is it that you knew that people were taken away for study
9 sessions?

10 A. Each sangkat chief told me certain people <had been> taken
11 away for study <sessions>. But I did not know <as to> where they
12 were sent <for those study sessions>.

13 Q. And how did you know -- you said in your interview that it was
14 both 17 April People and Base People who disappeared. How did you
15 know that both 17 April and Base People from your district had
16 disappeared?

17 A. <I learnt it from those sangkat> chiefs<. They said> that
18 <those> people <had been removed and sent for> study <sessions.
19 That's what I learnt from them.>

20 Q. Were there any people whose relatives had gone to work at the
21 1st January Dam who came to tell you that their relatives had not
22 returned from the worksite, and to try to find out what had
23 happened to you -- what had happened to them? Excuse me.

24 [10.41.55]

25 A. I <did> not know <of this> because no one came to ask me about

1 <any> disappearance. And if <someone> came to ask me about their
2 relatives, I would <just> tell them <> the <same thing I was told
3 by their respective chiefs that those people had been sent> for
4 study <sessions>.

5 Q. I want to now ask you some questions about your visits to the
6 1st January Dam worksite. First of all, can you tell us how many
7 times you went to visit the 1st January Dam?

8 A. I went to the 1st January Dam site many times, but I <do> not
9 <recall how many time exactly>.

10 Q. What was the reason that you went to the 1st January Dam site
11 many times?

12 A. The <reasons> I went to the worksite many times, <first, I
13 visited> my husband, <who> was <working> there <>. <Second, I
14 accompanied>my<fellow> cadres <who went to visit their people
15 working at the site. Lastly, I visited my own people who were
16 working at the worksite in order to have a glimpse of their
17 livelihood and resolve their problems accordingly.>

18 Q. When you would visit the 1st January Dam site, how long would
19 you normally stay when you went there?

20 [10.44.39]

21 A. <>Sometimes, I would stay there for <two> days and sometimes
22 <I returned> to my place right away. <It varied.> I do not
23 remember when I was there.

24 Q. When you would stay there for a couple of nights or days,
25 where would you stay at night time, where did you sleep?

1 A. <There were camps on the worksite. Women could choose to sleep
2 either in the cooperative or at the> sleeping <quarters> with
3 workers. <Since we ate collectively, I could stay wherever
4 workers would stay. I did not mind at all>.

5 Q. Could you describe for us what the sleeping quarters were like
6 that you stayed at on the occasions where you stayed there
7 overnight?

8 A. <Frankly speaking, the> sleeping quarters <and living
9 condition> for workers at the site were proper. And they had
10 proper living condition. Their sleeping <quarters and> their
11 eating conditions were <adequate>.

12 [10.46.57]

13 Q. Can you be a little more specific what do you mean by proper?
14 What did you sleep on at the quarters that you stayed in?

15 A. I wanted to say that I could live <in the same condition
16 those> workers <were experiencing>. And workers had decent food
17 <to support their living. At that time, their food supply was
18 being provided by the Angkar. There was sufficient supply of food
19 and rice for workers. I just want to make sure of that point>.

20 Q. Let me ask you again. When you slept overnight in these
21 quarters, did you have a blanket or something to sleep on, or did
22 you sleep on the ground?

23 A. There were halls for workers who were working at the worksite.
24 Workers <did not> sleep on the ground. <They also had proper
25 communal eating halls.>

1 Q. If they didn't sleep on the ground, Madam Witness, what did
2 they sleep on?

3 A. Labourers <> slept in <the> long <halls that had been> built
4 for them. <Since there> were many workers, <sometimes they> had
5 to squeeze <among themselves> while sleeping. Some workers had
6 <blankets> and <mosquito nets. Through my observation, they could
7 have had those things as everything including sleeping quarters,
8 blankets and food was sufficiently provided by the Angkar to
9 those workers on the dam worksite. They would never allow our
10 people to sleep directly on the ground.>

11 [10.49.45]

12 Q. Were there beds in these halls or did the workers sleep on the
13 ground?

14 A. I gave my response already. <Long halls had been built with>
15 bamboo <floors> for workers to sleep on. <Workers slept together
16 in those halls. There were hundreds of those long halls> covered
17 with <available materials, including> tent <canvas>, or <coconut>
18 leaves<to give shade to workers> . There were no beds <for them>
19 at that time. There were only <floors made of bamboo, planks of
20 wood, and small trees>. And as I stated earlier, workers did not
21 sleep on the ground but they slept on the bamboo <floor, and the
22 halls had either canvas or coconut leave roof>. During the day
23 time, workers could come <and rest in those halls>. I stated many
24 times already <with this regard>.

25 Q. You said -- you also said that the workers received decent

1 food. Can you tell us how many meals the workers received each
2 day and what rations of food were given to them in each meal?

3 A. As for food ration, workers had <> two<> meals per day.
4 Sometimes, they had gruel and on other occasions, they had
5 <steamed> rice. It depended on the situation or on the reality.

6 [10.52.01]

7 Q. And where did people get water to drink at the 1st January Dam
8 site?

9 A. When they needed water, they could drink from the <stream> or
10 the canals. <At> that time, there was only water from the
11 streams, <canals> or <> wells. <The same source of water was for
12 bathing, drinking and cooking rice>.

13 Q. Where did workers at the site go to the bathroom when they had
14 to relieve themselves?

15 A. There were no toilets. We had to relieve ourselves in the
16 <bushes. There were no> toilets <> built.

17 Q. Were there a lot of flies at the worksite?

18 A. Yes, there were flies but not many of them. When <good>
19 hygiene <was enforced>, there were <no> flies. <However, when
20 they did not attend to the hygiene issue, of course, they were
21 flies.>

22 [10.54.10]

23 Q. Madam Witness, I'd like to read to you an excerpt from your
24 son's OCIJ interview, E3/35, at Khmer, 00340563 - 564; English,
25 00346150; French, 00367721 - 722. This is what your son testified

1 in regards to his visit to the 1st January Dam worksite.
2 "I visited the long halls in which the mobile unit was staying.
3 And I never saw or heard any people had been arrested and killed.
4 But there were complaints about food shortages. There was an
5 order from the committee to organise one group for cooking and
6 another group for gathering food. Obviously, there were food
7 shortages. I saw sick persons in each shelter and asked about
8 their condition. They said that they did not have any medicines
9 to take. I told those facts to my father who then ordered the
10 sectors to assign medics to help with the treatment of patients
11 in each shelter. But the sectors said they did not have
12 medicines. During the dam construction, I knew that there were
13 patients dying because of the lack of medicines."

14 Is it correct, Madam Witness, as a result of your visits to the
15 1st January Dam and the visits of your husband and son that you
16 were aware of food and medicine shortages at the worksite?

17 [10.56.39]

18 A. Sometimes I was aware of that. I was at the worksite once in a
19 while, so I <could> not have <observed> all the <aspects>.
20 Sometimes, I <went there by the time supply of food and medicine
21 was being provided to workers by the Angkar; thus, I noticed that
22 they were doing just fine. Again, since I only went there once in
23 a while, I was not fully aware of certain shortages>.

24 Q. Do you know whether anyone from the Party, either from the
25 zone, sectors, or the centre in Phnom Penh, was ever able to

1 supply medicine to that worksite other than a traditional
2 medicine that people have referred to as black pills or rabbit
3 drop medicine? Do you know whether sufficient medicine was ever
4 supplied to that worksite?

5 A. I do not remember it on this point. Sometimes, I did not know
6 <as when and how> medicines were <distributed> to the worksite. I
7 have no idea.

8 Q. I want to ask you now about another person who worked for your
9 husband. Again, I'm not going to identify him by his name as he
10 is a potential trial witness. Your Honours, this is pseudonym,
11 2-TCW-896. This is an individual who states that he was your
12 husband's nephew and driver, and that Ke Pauk was his father's
13 younger brother. With your leave, Mr. President, I'd like to do
14 the same as with the prior statement, which is provide it to the
15 witness so that -- and with the assistance of the TPO, to see if
16 she can identify and knows this person. The document is, E3/5264.
17 E3/5264.

18 [10.59.41]

19 MR. PRESIDENT:

20 You can do so.

21 BY MR. LYSAK:

22 Madam Witness, if you could either look at the name or it will be
23 read to you, please make sure to not state the name of this
24 person out loud. Do you know this person who indicates that he
25 was your and your husband's nephew and someone who worked as a

1 driver for your husband?

2 MS. SOU SOEURN:

3 A. I do not recall <the name that well.> I <only> knew that <the>
4 individual <had worked for my husband as a driver; moreover, he
5 was made his driver because he was a relative. That's all I know
6 about the man>.

7 [11.01.13]

8 Q. Let me read to you one excerpt from this interview, E3/5264,
9 the ERN reference is Khmer 00271382 - 383; English, 00283343; and
10 French, 00333976 - 977. This witness indicates that he drove your
11 husband to the 1st January Dam worksite, in his words, "regularly
12 almost every day". And this is the description that he provided
13 of what he observed at the worksite.

14 "At that time, there were tens of thousands of people working
15 there. They were working hard in harsh conditions. Especially the
16 women, when they were having a menstrual period, they didn't have
17 any water to clean up themselves. So their buttocks were followed
18 and surrounded by flies. At the worksite, there were too many
19 flies which looked like bees."

20 Madam Witness, does this refresh your memories about this
21 worksite? Did you observe difficult conditions faced by the
22 female workers at the site? And did you ever talk to your husband
23 about those conditions?

24 [11.03.15]

25 A. There were many workers. And of course, I couldn't go

1 everywhere to see the workers. In some locations, <good hygiene
2 was enforced>; and of course, there was plenty of water. <It was
3 not correct to say that there was no water as there were big
4 streams full of water. Of course, if sanitation was poor, there
5 could have been flies. It was not an issue in most places when
6 good hygiene was enforced. Again, it was not a single spot. As> I
7 said <there were tens of thousands of people.> <Therefore,> I
8 <was not able to> visit <all> locations. <I could only see
9 certain locations. I could not know everything at> the dam
10 construction site.

11 MR. PRESIDENT:

12 And Mr. Deputy Co-Prosecutor, please hold. Judge Lavergne, you
13 have the floor.

14 JUDGE LAVERGNE:

15 I would like the prosecutor to clarify something. It appears that
16 you are referring to the testimony of someone and you say that
17 person will perhaps be heard as a witness. <Yet, it is my
18 understanding - and <this> perhaps needs to be ascertained> -- <>
19 that this person may be <deceased; <which is> the reason <why>>
20 the name of the person may <not> be on the list of <witnesses>
21 who are scheduled to appear before this Chamber. <Could you
22 perhaps verify whether> that is the case<,> <since> that could
23 <slightly> change the situation<?> Let me specify that <I
24 believe> this information is in document E303/3/2. Or rather,
25 E307/3/2.

1 MR. LYSAK:

2 Judge Lavergne, I'm not sure whether there is a translation
3 issue, are you saying that there is information that this person
4 may be deceased?

5 JUDGE LAVERGNE:

6 That is what I have noted. <I noticed that> there is information
7 to the effect that, that person is deceased for which reason that
8 person wouldn't be proposed to appear before this Chamber as a
9 witness. So this <also perhaps> raises questions as to the
10 conditions under which <that person's> <statements> can be used.

11 [11.06.23]

12 MR. LYSAK:

13 I haven't seen. We did a research to see if there is any
14 information like that on the case file, we didn't see that, for
15 that reason I have been using his pseudonym out of caution. Until
16 it's confirmed whether this person is deceased, may I proceed
17 continuing not using by his name?

18 Q. Madam Witness, a second part of this person's interview,
19 E3/5264, that I would like to ask you about and this is at Khmer,
20 00271381; English, 00283342; French, 00333975-976. In describing
21 the period in which he was driving your husband to the 1st
22 January Dam worksite almost every day, he says that your husband
23 was staying at a personal work place called Office 71, which was
24 located in your district, which he described as follows, Office
25 71 was in Ta Prok sub-district, Chamkar Leu district, Kampong

1 Cham province. There were two or three persons only working there
2 to prepare meals for Ke Pauk and his guests. Sometimes there were
3 foreigners such as Japanese, Europeans and Africans, visiting
4 that place." End of quote.

5 He also testified that it was only a short drive, about six to
6 seven kilometres, from that office, office 71, to the 1st January
7 Dam. Madam Witness, do you remember this work place of your
8 husband that was located in Ta Prok commune, Chamkar Leu?

9 [11.08.57]

10 MS. SOU SOEURN:

11 A. <I never went to a> place <so-called> 71<. I just knew that it
12 was> a working office<. Although> I was <his> wife<,> I was not
13 entitled to go there.

14 Q. While we were talking about the offices in Chamkar Leu
15 district, can you tell us where the district office was located,
16 where you worked?

17 A. The Chamkar Leu district office was <located> at Thnal Baek in
18 an area called Tuol <Lov> (phonetic) <where there was> a pagoda.

19 Q. And where was the sector office located, was it close to the
20 district office?

21 A. The sector office <was> located near the national road<,
22 while> the district office was <located along> the way to -- <>
23 Chamkar Leu <or to> Stueng Trang<. In> my estimation<, they were
24 located about> between <one and two kilometres away from each
25 other>.

1 [11.11.03]

2 Q. I want to read on the same subject, a statement from the
3 person whom you identified earlier who was an in-law of yours,
4 Ban also used the alias Phos, and in his interview, E319/19.3.73
5 again E319/19.3.73, ERN Khmer, 00800955; English, 00841966;
6 French, 00841971 - 72. This is what he said about the district
7 office.

8 "Soeurn's office was approximately 500 metres northeast of Oeun's
9 office. She lived with her five-year-old daughter named Neat,
10 security guards and about 10 servants. Soeurn was in charge of
11 the districts political affairs, and I, as her deputy, was in
12 charge of the military and another member in charge of the
13 economy. Those in charge of the district's security were Hap and
14 Chuon. The district office was situated in Bos Khnaor. Soeurn
15 always held a meeting at her house with commune chiefs to give
16 them orders and instructions for implementation." Question: "Did
17 Ke Pauk live there with Soeurn?"

18 Answer: "No, he came here only occasionally, he only spent the
19 night when he came." End of quote.

20 Madam Witness, this testimony from your in-law, is this is an
21 accurate description of the sector office and the organisation
22 set up in Chamkar Leu district?

23 [11.13.45]

24 A. The description from the statement you read out is partially
25 incorrect. For instances, I did not have any meeting with the

1 chief of the security. <Although> I <knew> where the security
2 office was <located,> I did not <have> any meeting <or talk> with
3 the <security> chief. There are also other parts which <were
4 overstated; anyways, some parts are correct. Again, most parts
5 were overstated; for> instance<, it was stated that I had been>
6 in charge of political affairs <and a> district <chief, while in
7 fact, they were just shadow positions>. As I said, after I
8 delivered my baby I did not attend the <security> office
9 regularly or went to worksite that often anymore. <This is what I
10 want to tell you, Your Honour.>

11 Q. There may have been a translation issue, the statement I read
12 did not state that you met with the security chief. It only
13 indicated that you participated in meetings with the commune
14 chiefs. Is it correct, that you did participate in meeting with
15 the commune chiefs in Chamkar Leu district?

16 A. Yes, <I did have meetings> with the commune chiefs <who came
17 along with reports> on <the progress within their respective
18 cooperatives, and important issues regarding> the building of <>
19 dams, or canals or rice production<. At the meetings> with those
20 chiefs of<> communes <or sangkat, the district chief would raise
21 the issues regarding rice> production <> and on agriculture and
22 on the work plan of three <harvests> per <year> and <certain>
23 tonnes <of> rice yield per hectare.

24 [11.16.06]

25 Q. I want to ask you now some questions about another event you

1 mentioned in your OCIJ interview, this is at E3/5294, Khmer,
2 00348833 - 34; English, 00360116; French, 00367809 - 810. You
3 were asked about a visit of a female delegation from Laos and
4 this is what you said.

5 "A delegation of Laotian women -- Laotian ladies came to Chamkar
6 Leu district. At that time Mrs. Ieng Thirith and I, took the
7 delegation on a tour." End of quote. My first question, did the
8 tour on which you and Ieng Thirith took the female delegation
9 from Laos, did that tour include a visit to the 1st January Dam?

10 [11.17.15]

11 A. They came to visit Chamkar Leu and their tour was limited to
12 the visit to the dams and the canals to see how people <in the
13 cooperatives> worked <> and how <many tonnes> of rice produce
14 that we achieved per <year> and <how canals and dams were built.
15 However, their> visit was <limited to only> Chamkar Leu. As for
16 the visit to the 1st January Dam worksite, it was organised by
17 the other individuals and I did not know how far they went <on
18 their> tour <, for I did not accompany them>.

19 Q. Just so I am clear, do I understand that you were only with
20 the delegation and Ieng Thirith when they were visiting places
21 within Chamkar Leu and you did not go with them to the 1st
22 January Dam, do I understand you correctly?

23 A. Yes, <it> is correct <that their visit> was limited to Chamkar
24 Leu <district; however, she and> I did not accompany them to the
25 <1st January> dam worksite.

1 MR. LYSAK:

2 Mr. President, I would like to provide to the witness a -- two
3 photographs E3/3282 and E3/3283, these are photos that were
4 identified as photographs of the visit of Laotian delegation.
5 With your leave I would like to show them to the witness to see
6 if she can identify either the location or any of the people in
7 the photograph.

8 MR. PRESIDENT:

9 Yes, you may do so.

10 [11.19.57]

11 BY MR. LYSAK:

12 Q. Madam Witness, I have given you -- I have presented to you two
13 photographs, E3/3282, and E3/3283. Can you look at those
14 photographs and tell me whether you recognise the location of the
15 photographs and whether you recognise any of the people in the
16 photos?

17 MS. SOU SOEURN:

18 A. The location in the photo is <so-called> Tuol <Lov> (phonetic)
19 <through which a canal from> Svay Teab <village to> Boeng <L'vea>
20 (phonetic) <in> Lvea Leu (phonetic) <village ran>. I do not
21 recognise the people in the photo and the photo is not that clear
22 to me. I even find it difficult to identify myself.

23 [11.21.12]

24 Q. The location you just described, can tell us what district
25 that was in?

1 A. It was in Chamkar Leu district and the <>site <where the dam
2 was being built> was <called> Tuol <Lov> (phonetic) <located>
3 along the way to Spueu<; and the> canal <ran> straight from Tuol
4 <Lov> (phonetic) to Spueu, and <the canal> on the left<> was
5 running to Lvea Leu village, that's all I know.

6 Q. Can you take a close look at the photo; particularly the
7 second photo and tell us whether you see yourself anywhere in
8 this photograph.

9 A. No, it is not clear to me and I do not recognise anyone in
10 this photo. I refer to the second photo and the same thing I can
11 say for the first photo in terms of people in that photo.

12 Q. In your OCIJ interview, E3/5294, at Khmer, 00348834; English,
13 00360117; French, 00367810; you were asked whether you remembered
14 other senior leaders coming to visit in addition to Ieng Thirith
15 and this is what you stated. "I remember Nuon Chea came to visit
16 the 1st January Dam." End of quote. Can you tell us what you
17 remember about Nuon Chea's visit to the 1st January Dam?

18 A. I cannot remember the details.

19 [11.24.00]

20 Q. Do you remember whether Nuon Chea came by himself or whether
21 he came as part of a group of people?

22 A. I didn't know at that time that he visited the location or how
23 many people actually went along with him.

24 Q. Were you present when Nuon Chea visited the 1st January Dam or
25 did you just hear about the visit from someone?

1 A. I didn't go to the actual location where he visited as I was
2 busy with my young baby and that is from my recollection of the
3 event.

4 [11.25.14]

5 Q. And who was it told you, or how did you know that Nuon Chea
6 had gone to the 1st January Dam worksite?

7 A. From what I know, <> commune <chiefs> took some people to the
8 worksite and later on when <they> returned I was told that Nuon
9 Chea <had> visited the <1st January Dam> worksite on that day.

10 Q. Do you know whether, when Nuon Chea came to Kampong Cham on
11 the 1st January Dam, do you know whether he met with your
12 husband?

13 A. I <did> not know <with this regard> as I was <living in>
14 Chamkar Leu<. Thus, I was not aware of his visit to> Kampong Cham
15 and <to the 1st January Dam. That> is the truth.

16 Q. What about Pol Pot, Madam Witness, did Pol Pot come to visit
17 the 1st January Dam?

18 A. I didn't know at all whether Pol Pot <had> made <any> visit to
19 the worksite. Usually I heard of those visits through the commune
20 chiefs <due to the fact that> they <were the ones who would
21 accompany people to see the worksite. I would not have learnt of
22 any visit if those commune chiefs had not told me as such.>

23 Q. In your OCIJ interview, Madam Witness, you state that you were
24 invited whenever a celebration event was held at the 1st January
25 Dam and you also make reference to a Chinese delegation that was

1 led by Chen Yonggui, who visited the dam during one of those
2 inauguration ceremonies. Were you present at the inauguration
3 ceremony that was attended by Chen Yonggui and the Chinese
4 delegation?

5 A. Yes, I attended that big ceremony. I was together with some
6 female cadres. We also went to greet the Chinese delegation.

7 [11.28.27]

8 Q. I would like to read to you a report that was broadcast on the
9 Democratic Kampuchea radio on 7th December 1977. This report is
10 in document E3/1339, E3/1339, at English, 00168335 - 36; and it
11 is only available in English at this time. The report, Madam
12 Witness, is titled "Chen Yonggui visits central region 6
13 December", and it is dated the next day in 1977. I quote: "On the
14 morning of 6th December, comrade Chen Yonggui, member of the
15 political bureau of the Chinese political party central committee
16 and other Chinese guests visited cotton and rice fields in Veal
17 Spoe in the company of comrades Pol Pot, Vorn Vet, Thiounn
18 Thioeunn, minister of public health, Pauk, secretary of the CPK
19 central committee and An, deputy secretary." Continuing below,
20 "In the afternoon our fraternal Chinese guests visited rice
21 fields in the Baray area and Muoy Makara dam. Thousands of cadres
22 and people filled with profound revolutionary brotherhood were
23 also on hand to warmly welcome the visitors." End of quote.
24 Does this refresh your recollection, Madam Witness, that at the
25 1st January Dam inauguration event attended by Chen Yonggui,

1 which you were at, that Pol Pot, Vorn Vet, your husband and his
2 deputy Ta An, accompanied Chen Yonggui.

3 [11.31.04]

4 A. I cannot remember that. I attended the opening inauguration
5 ceremony but I did not attend the closing ceremony of the
6 worksite <as I was sick on the day. Thus,> I did not know how
7 many senior people <were> attending the <ceremony>. And <as> I
8 said earlier usually I was informed by <my children or> the
9 commune chiefs <who attended> such <an> event <on my behalf. I
10 myself did not attend the event as I was severely sick at that
11 time.>

12 Q. I just want to make sure that I understand you correctly. Your
13 testimony then is that the inauguration ceremony that you
14 attended was the opening inauguration and not the closing
15 inauguration that would have occurred at the end of 1977, do I
16 understand you correctly?

17 A. Yes, I like to clarify that I attended the opening
18 inauguration ceremony but from my recollection I did not attend
19 the closing ceremony when the Chinese delegation attended that
20 ceremony. At that time I was sick<, and could make it to the
21 event>.

22 MR. LYSAK:

23 Mr. President, I'm about to change to a different subject, if
24 this is a convenient breaking time.

25 MR. PRESIDENT:

1 Thank you. It is now time to have a break. We'll take a break now
2 and resume at 1.30.

3 Court officer please arrange the waiting room for the witness and
4 invite her, as well as the TPO staff, back into the courtroom at
5 1.30 this afternoon.

6 Security personnel you are instructed to take Khieu Samphan to
7 the waiting room downstairs and have him return to attend the
8 proceedings this afternoon before 1.30.

9 The Court is now in recess.

10 (Court recesses from 1133H to 1331H)

11 MR. PRESIDENT:

12 Please be seated.

13 The Court is back in session and the floor is given to the Deputy
14 Co-Prosecutor to put questions to this witness.

15 Please wait, Co-Prosecutor; you may now proceed, Mr. Koppe.

16 MR. KOPPE:

17 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Your Honours. We have a
18 request; we would like to make some oral submissions either at
19 the end of this afternoon or tomorrow morning before we continue
20 with this witness or at the end of her testimony in relation to
21 the very recent disclosure of new statements that was notified to
22 us two or three hours ago, and also in relation to the upcoming
23 hearings at Supreme Court Chamber. I leave it to your wisdom as
24 to what would be the appropriate moment, but I just would like to
25 inform you that we have that request.

1 JUDGE FENZ:

2 Can I just ask you a question for clarification; this has nothing
3 to do with this witness? No.

4 (Judges deliberate)

5 [13.33.25]

6 MR. PRESIDENT:

7 The Chamber grants your request and you can make oral submission
8 at the end of today's -- before the end of the day.

9 You may now proceed, <International> Deputy Co-Prosecutor.

10 BY MR. LYSAK:

11 Thank you, Mr. President. Let me just update you on where we are.

12 I'll finish -- we will finish our questioning at 2 o'clock today.

13 The civil parties -- I hope to finish in 40 minutes -- if it's

14 possible, they tell me that they may need an additional 15

15 minutes. I hope that that won't be a problem since we have today

16 and tomorrow to finish the witness. I'd rather that we just

17 proceed until -- see if we finish by the break rather than

18 deliberate on this now but I wanted to alert you on that.

19 [13.34.20]

20 Q. Madam Witness, I have one follow up regarding what you told us

21 this morning about the 1st January Dam, you told us that there

22 were some occasions where you would spend the night and sleep at

23 the 1st January Dam worksite. My question to you is: On those

24 occasions, did your husband sleep at the same place as you and if

25 not where was it that your husband would stay on those nights?

1 MS. SOU SOEURN:

2 A. At that time my husband did not come to stay with me<. He was
3 staying in a separate house, and I was staying in a separate
4 house in a different cooperative>.

5 Q. The last subject that I want to cover with you today concerns
6 the purge of the Central or North Zone. We talked earlier today
7 about one of the Party cadres who served with your husband on the
8 North Zone committee, Tol, the secretary of Sector 42, who was
9 the one who appointed you to Chamkar Leu -- to the Chamkar Leu
10 district Committee. Can you please tell the Court what happened
11 to Tol during the Khmer Rouge regime?

12 A. <Frankly speaking,> I did not know <as to> what happened to
13 him at that time.

14 [13.36.25]

15 Q. Did Tol -- was Tol arrested or did he disappear at some point
16 in 1977?

17 A. <Yes, he disappeared after he got arrested>. I did not
18 <really> know <this. I have forgotten as to what year> he was
19 arrested <> and what happened to him.

20 Q. For the record, Your Honours, document E3/2956 is a prisoner
21 list from S-21, titled: "List of Persons from the North Zone";
22 Number 42 on that list is Chan Mol alias Tol, sector 42 chairman,
23 who entered S-21 on 19th February 1977.

24 Madam Witness, were there other cadres from the old North Zone
25 who also disappeared in 1977?

1 A. It seems that I do not recall it. I do not recall <as to
2 which> cadres <came> from <which> Zones. <I completely forget
3 it.>

4 [13.38.23]

5 Q. Let me see if I can refresh your recollection, Madam Witness.
6 I realise that you are unable to read so I will just describe to
7 you that there are documents from S-21 that record the arrest and
8 execution of hundreds of cadres from your zone in 1977 -- E3/2956
9 -- and the list I just mentioned that includes Tol, identifies a
10 total of 94 North Zone cadres, mostly people from the zone,
11 district and sector level who were arrested and sent to S-21
12 between mid-February and end of March 1977, and document E3/3861
13 is an S-21 execution list, titled: "List of Prisoners Smashed on
14 8th July 1977, North Zone." It identifies 173 prisoners from your
15 zone who were killed at S-21 on a single day, the 8th of July
16 1977.

17 Madam Witness, did you not notice in 1977 that virtually every
18 North Zone cadre at the zone and sector and district level
19 disappeared and was replaced by people from the Southwest Zone?

20 MR. PRESIDENT:

21 Please hold on Witness. You may now proceed, Mr. Koppe.

22 [13.40.18]

23 MR. KOPPE:

24 Thank you, Mr. President. I object to the word "disappeared";
25 that word is being used all the time, sometimes appropriately,

1 sometimes inappropriately. The Prosecution has just read out a
2 list of arrests and alleged list of executions, hence these
3 people didn't disappear, so I would like the Prosecution to
4 rephrase the question and not use the word "disappear".

5 BY MR. LYSAK:

6 I'm happy to rephrase, Mr. President.

7 Madam Witness, were you not aware in 1977 that virtually every
8 single cadre at the zone, sector and district level was taken
9 away, killed, and replaced by people from the Southwest Zone?

10 MS. SOU SOEURN:

11 A. I may not have known <of this>; <however, with this regard>, I
12 noticed <that> people <had disappeared>, but I did not know <as
13 to> where they <had been taken>. I knew only <some of them>, and
14 for the rest, I <had> no idea. <I knew Mr. Tol clearly.>

15 [13.41.42]

16 Q. Let me read to you what a couple of people close to you had to
17 say about this. In OCIJ interview E3/375, English, ERN 00360752;
18 Khmer, 00348791; French, 00369914; the in-law that we talked
19 about of yours -- Ban or Phos -- who served with you on the
20 Chamkar Leu district Committee, testified as follows - quote:
21 "After purges were conducted at the Central Zone, only four main
22 people survived: Ke Pauk, Ieng Chham, Oeun and me; all others
23 were smashed. Sou Soeurn, my older sibling in-law and Ke Pauk's
24 wife, was the committee of Chamkar Leu district." End of quote.
25 And this is what your husband had to say in his interview --

1 E3/2782 and 2783 -- ERN English, 00089713 through 714; Khmer,
2 00095552; French, 00596211; I quote your husband: "In June 1977,
3 the first stage of capturing was over. By that time only me
4 remained and the Central Zone had no cadres left. The upper
5 brothers decided to transfer cadres from the Southwest Zone to
6 fill the unoccupied positions. They sent about 200 cadres from
7 that zone." End of quote.

8 Madam Witness, do you remember the arrival of cadres of Southwest
9 Zone who came to take over and replace the old North Zone cadres?

10 A. I <could> not recall it.

11 [13.44.30]

12 Q. Do you know how your husband felt about the old North Zone
13 cadres being purged and replaced by cadres from the Southwest?

14 A. I <did> not really understand <>that <as well>; as I said, he
15 had <his own> business to <care> and I <also> had <to care mine.
16 I had no idea of what decisions he had to make in relation to his
17 business.>

18 Q. Well, let's talk about someone that was in your district,
19 Madam Witness, Number 6803 on the OCP revised S-21 prisoner list.
20 This is document E3/342 at 00329891, Number 6803 on that list is
21 a person named Nuon Roeun alias Tieng, who was identified as the
22 Chamkar Leu district secretary and Sector 42 deputy secretary who
23 entered S-21 on the 1st October 1977. Do you remember a cadre,
24 Tieng, who served as Chamkar Leu district secretary?

25 A. I heard of the name <of> Tieng, but I <> never met him

1 <>personally.

2 Q. Was this person not the secretary of Chamkar Leu district?

3 A. <By the time> I was a member <on> that district committee, I
4 never noticed that <individual; or I could have forgotten all
5 about the person>. <However,> I <can only remember> Ban <and
6 myself; however, I have forgotten the names of the> three other
7 members of the committee>.

8 [13.47.31]

9 Q. Let me try few other names from Chamkar Leu district, Madam
10 Witness. The S-21 list I mentioned earlier -- E3/2956, Number 70,
11 71, and 72 on E3/2956 -- are all cadres from Chamkar Leu district
12 who were sent to S-21 in March 1977. The three names I will read
13 for you: Mak Heang, Eng Ho alias Sin, and Sok Phal alias Saem.
14 Did you know any of those people, Madam Witness?

15 A. I only knew the individual by the name <of> Saem; <but I do
16 not know> the rest.

17 Q. What happened to Saem in--

18 MR. PRESIDENT:

19 Please wait, Co-Prosecutor; you may now proceed, Mr. Koppe.

20 MR. KOPPE:

21 A remark in regard to previous question about Tieng; I cannot
22 reproduce it right now but we have information that he might have
23 been a cadre in Tang Kok (phonetic) district rather than Chamkar
24 Leu district.

25 [13.49.15]

1 BY MR. LYSAK:

2 Mr. President, I'm not going to respond to that, there are other
3 sources we can have this discussion and debate it another time.

4 Q. Saem, you mentioned that you knew Saem; can you tell us what
5 happened to Saem in March 1977?

6 MS. SOU SOEURN:

7 A. I did not know the reason <of his departure; however, after he
8 had left me, we did not hear a single piece of news about him. I
9 did not know as to where he had gone>.

10 Q. Madam Witness, do you know whether it was your husband, zone
11 secretary, who decided to arrest the North Zone cadres or whether
12 it was the Party leaders in Phnom Penh who made that decision?
13 Are you able to tell us that, who is responsible for making
14 decisions about the arrests of cadres?

15 A. Allow me to inform the Court that I <did> not have the full
16 grasp of the <situation>. My husband had different <tasks> to
17 perform and I had my own <tasks> to do. I <had> no idea <of> his
18 business and <tasks>. What he was doing at that time <> was <>his
19 <own> responsibility<>, <although> I was his wife, I did not know
20 <or get> involved in <any of the arrests> or <purges. I was not
21 aware of those things.>

22 [13.51.35]

23 Q. Let me read to you what your husband had to say on this
24 subject. Again this is from E3/2782 and 2783; ERN references
25 Khmer, 00095552; English, 00089713; and French, 00596211; this is

1 what your husband said in his interview - quote:

2 "When I was conducting an assembly in Region 41, a messenger from
3 Phnom Penh arrived telling me to get prepared for inspection
4 mission in various locations. However, as I arrived in Phnom
5 Penh, I met Pol Pot and Brother Nuon Chea, they showed me
6 documents of all regions and ministries. Furthermore, the answer
7 was too clear to correct." Continuing below: "I said, it is
8 difficult to say because all comrades are life and death friends.
9 However, if Angkar has decided already, I do not have any
10 complaints. Some soldiers served me since 1968, but they were
11 accused of being CIAs. I did not know what to do except telling
12 them, I just put them forward for the higher level upper
13 brothers." End of quote.

14 [13.53.24]

15 Madam Witness, I realise this is a difficult subject to discuss,
16 however you were a member of the district committee, your husband
17 was the zone secretary, your brother was the sector chairman. Did
18 your husband ever talk to you about his meeting with Pol Pot and
19 Nuon Chea and the instructions he received about the arrest and
20 purge of cadres in the North Zone?

21 A. I repeatedly told the Court that my husband <minded> his <own>
22 business and I minded <mine; thus,> I did not know <as to how he
23 had communicated to the Angkar or the upper echelon>.

24 MR. LYSAK:

25 Thank you, Madam Witness. My national colleague just has a few

1 questions for you to follow up.

2 [13.55.09]

3 QUESTIONING BY MR. SENG LEANG:

4 Good afternoon, Mr. President, Parties, everyone in and around
5 the courtroom. My name is Seng Leang, I am <a National> Deputy
6 Co-Prosecutor<>.

7 Q. Due to the time <constraint>, I have <only> several questions
8 to put to you, Madam Witness. This morning you stated that you
9 selected and chose people from cooperatives in order to send them
10 to work at the 1st January Dam site. You stated this at around
11 <10.36 a.m>. I would like to seek your clarification on this
12 matter. Could you elaborate on the selection of people to work at
13 the 1st January Dam site<? How> did you select people?

14 MS. SOU SOEURN:

15 A. <Regarding the selection of> people from cooperatives to work
16 at the 1st January Dam site<, > I was not -- I did not personally
17 <select those> people<. The> "sangkat" chiefs were the ones who
18 selected the people <based on their capability and health> from
19 their <respective> "sangkat". <Those "sangkat" chiefs had the
20 authority to select workers. Again, I had no idea of the number
21 of people selected.>

22 [13.57.02]

23 Q. Could you clarify for the Court whether <the term you were
24 referring to as> "sangkat" was the same as <a> commune?

25 A. <During> the <regime, the current term "commune" was then

1 being referred to as "sangkat". That was the term used during my
2 time. It was the sangkat who was in charge of people in each
3 cooperative.>

4 Q. Could you tell the Court how many "sangkats" were there in
5 Chamkar Leu district?

6 A. I do not remember how many "sangkats" <and people> there
7 <were> in Chamkar Leu district <as> it has been a long time
8 <now>. I was about 40 or 50 years old at that time<and now I am
9 79 years old; thus,> I could not recall it.

10 Q. Thank you<, Madam Witness. Regarding the selection of> people,
11 <did you know as to> how many people were selected from each
12 "sangkat"?

13 A. People were selected first <by the "sangkat"> from <various
14 cooperatives. And as to how many people were to be selected from
15 each cooperative, it varied;> and the list was held by the
16 district <chief>. For example, <20 or 30 people were selected
17 from> one "sangkat"<; and the list of those people had to be
18 submitted to the district office. As> I stated I was illiterate<;
19 thus,> I was not <in charge of the lists>.

20 [13.59.34]

21 Q. You stated also this morning that you were in charge of
22 leading<> and bringing <people> to work <at> the 1st January Dam
23 site. Could you clarify for the Court <whether> you <were
24 constantly with the workers> at the 1st January Dam site<>?

25 A. I was not there constantly with the people but I went there

1 once in a while to visit my workers. I was not there constantly
2 or always with the workers. Sometimes I would go to visit my
3 workers <once a month or once every other month and for only> one
4 or two days <before> I would return <> to my place.

5 Q. <Thank you, Madam. Since> you didn't go to the worksite
6 frequently, did you assign any of your immediate subordinate to
7 regularly stay with the workers at the 1st January Dam worksite?

8 A. <As for> the forces from the <cooperatives, a chief from each
9 commune or Sangkat was in charge of his or her workers from the
10 cooperative at the worksite. The management of workers on site
11 was done accordingly by those respective Sangkat chiefs.

12 Personally>, I didn't go there to <supervise their work directly>
13 at the worksite<; I only paid a visit to the worksite once in a
14 while.>

15 [14.01.33]

16 Q. <Since> you did not go there regularly, <to whom did those>
17 commune <chiefs> report<? Or> did they <still have to> report
18 <to> you<>?

19 A. <They had to report> to the district chief <due to the fact
20 that it was the district chief who held the list and knew the
21 number of workers sent to work on the worksite>.

22 Q. Did you ever receive any report <regarding the work
23 performance and> the working condition at the 1st January Dam
24 worksite from any of your subordinates?

25 A. They had their own respective chiefs <in place. And in case of

1 food shortage or hard tasks, the issues were dealt with
2 accordingly by those respective> commune chiefs <on site.
3 Usually, I received verbal reports on what those workers were in
4 need of; and I told those relevant> commune <chiefs to get the
5 supply from their respective cooperatives to be delivered workers
6 at the worksite>. However, <it was likely that they were not
7 short of anything as> there was sufficient <supply from the>
8 Angkar<>.

9 Q. <When> you received a report on <a case of> difficulty -- or
10 the difficult situation at the worksite, what did you do <in
11 order to communicate that> to the upper level?

12 A. Once I received such a report, I discussed the matter with the
13 district committee and the district <secretary> then reported to
14 the sector. <That was how I understood.>

15 [14.04.15]

16 Q. And when you received a work plan from the upper level, <>how
17 <did> you <communicate> such <a work plan to those> cooperative
18 workforces at the 1st January Dam worksite?

19 A. <Having received a> work plan from the upper level, the
20 district committee held a meeting <before assigning> workforces
21 to the 1st January Dam worksite. And frankly speaking, the
22 district itself or myself did not remain directly to supervise or
23 to lead <> workers <to work> at the 1st January Dam worksite
24 <because at the district, I> also had to lead people to work at
25 various other work -- other dams and canals <>worksites<; on the

1 other hand, people had already been assigned to supervise work
2 and work at the 1st January Dam worksite. I had my own
3 responsibility in Chamkar Leu district where I had to lead people
4 to build dams and canals. I was in charge of the workforce here,
5 not there. Thus, I had no idea of how a work plan was
6 communicated among workers> at the 1st January Dam worksite. <I
7 went there as a guest and just for a visit. I am telling the
8 court the truth.>

9 [14.05.48]

10 Q. In the interest of time, I <would like to put> my last
11 question to you. <Since you> were <> responsible for sending
12 workers to the 1st January Dam worksite, what kind of tools and
13 equipment <did> you provide to <workers at the 1st January Dam
14 worksite>?

15 A. I didn't send any tools or equipment as there were sufficient
16 tools and equipment, including hoes, axes and earth carrying
17 baskets at the worksite. <Tools and equipment were made available
18 for distribution when the workforces arrived>.

19 Q. So from what you said, those workers only utilised hoes and
20 <baskets and with no other tools> for the construction of the
21 dam, am I correct in saying so and they didn't have any access to
22 other equipment or tools?

23 A. <At my time,> workers <at> the 1st January Dam worksite only
24 <used their pure labour and baskets, and hoes to work> and knives
25 <for clearing bushes. Whenever> they had sufficient food, <> they

60

1 <would have the energy> to carry the dirt.

2 MR. SENG LEANG:

3 Thank you, Mr. President, I don't have any more questions, I
4 would like to hand the floor to the Lead Co-Lawyer for civil
5 parties.

6 MR. PRESIDENT:

7 Thank you. The Chamber now hands the floor to the Lead Co-Lawyers
8 for civil parties to put questions to this witness. You may
9 proceed, Counsel.

10 [14.07.54]

11 MS. GUIRAUD:

12 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon everyone. Before giving
13 the floor to my colleague Chet Vanly, may I inform you, Mr.
14 President, that we would like to be given 20 additional minutes
15 in order for us to be able to put all the questions we would like
16 to put to the witness. It's already 2.10 now and that is the
17 motion we're now making and I now give the floor to my colleague.

18 MR. PRESIDENT:

19 Yes, the Chamber allows that and the assigned counsel, you have
20 the floor.

21 [14.08.42]

22 QUESTIONING BY MS. CHET VANLY:

23 Good afternoon, Mr. President, Your Honours, and everyone in the
24 courtroom and good afternoon Madam Sou Soeurn. My name is Chet
25 Vanly, I'm <a> lawyer for civil parties.

1 Q. This morning you testified and clarified some points before
2 this Court. However, I have some additional points that I seek
3 your clarification. You are the wife of Ke Pauk who was a zone
4 secretary, and besides his role as a zone secretary, did your
5 husband hold any other positions?

6 MS. SOU SOEURN:

7 A. <Besides his> duties at the zone, his other main task was to
8 lead workers to work at the 1st January Dam worksite and that's
9 about all.

10 [14.10.12]

11 Q. This morning you testified that sometimes you came to Phnom
12 Penh to visit your husband; did your husband have any specific
13 role or function in Phnom Penh?

14 A. I did not say that I came to visit my husband in Phnom Penh<;>
15 that is from my recollection<.> <>There was no requirement for my
16 husband to stay <>in Phnom Penh as his work involved mainly at
17 the Central Zone at the time. <If I had wanted to see him, I
18 would have gone to meet him in Kampong Cham. That's about all.>

19 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> This morning you said that you came to
20 Phnom Penh and you met Pol Pot. Did you meet him in a personal
21 capacity or was it a formal meeting where you had to meet him to
22 receive instructions?

23 A. I did not come to Phnom Penh for a personal reason, <and> only
24 when I was called by Angkar to come <did I come>. It was all
25 related to my work and it <was> not a personal affair.

1 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> You said that it was all related to work,
2 what kind of work <was it>?

3 A. For instance, I was called by Angkar to attend the meeting to
4 receive the work plan for various districts and communes and I
5 did not go there alone<. There> were thousands of <people with>
6 similar capacity <went> to attend the meeting to receive
7 instructions regarding work plan and work distribution for each
8 district, commune or cooperative respectively, and what we had to
9 do to resolve the issues with the people. That was the kind of
10 work I referred to.

11 [14.12.49]

12 Q. As a wife of Ke Pauk, <did> you <know as to> who were his
13 superiors?

14 A. I only knew that Pol Pot, Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan; besides
15 them, I <did> not know who else.

16 Q. Did you know how he communicated with the upper level, for
17 example, via his personal messenger or via telegram?

18 A. At that time, telegram was not used<;> to my knowledge and the
19 communication went through his messenger. The messenger would go
20 between Kampong Cham and Phnom Penh to relay messages<. And> of
21 course at that time<> there was no telephone or mobile phone
22 <like these days. They could use> telegram <>and telephone<>only
23 when there was such explicit instruction from the upper Angkar,
24 otherwise <a> messenger <would go personally by either a car or a
25 motorbike to fetch the message>.

1 Q. <Thank you, Madam>. Besides attending <> meetings, what other
2 means of communication <did> your husband <use> in order to
3 report to his upper echelon?

4 A. I did not know the details of his work or the process of any
5 other communication.

6 [14.15.10]

7 Q. I'd like now to touch upon the 1st January Dam worksite. Does
8 the name <of> Sao ring a bell to you?

9 A. No, <it> doesn't ring a bell.

10 Q. What about Chham and Sokha?

11 A. I know Chham as we used to stay <close to each other>; he was
12 <actually my husband's> messenger, and I cannot recall the name
13 of the other person.

14 Q. It's Sokha.

15 A. I cannot recall who Sokha <was>; I forgot about this name.

16 Q. Can you tell the Court who was responsible for the
17 construction of the dam, was it Chham, was it Sokha, or was it
18 another person?

19 A. For such detail, I did not have a full grasp. I only knew that
20 the 1st January Dam was organised by Angkar.

21 [14.17.25]

22 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> Please tell us if you can, why the dam was
23 so-called the 1st January Dam and what was the purpose of its
24 construction?

25 A. To my understanding, the 1st January Dam was organised by

1 Angkar for the purpose of blocking the water for the irrigational
2 purposes for the people living in the area, <and through> Baray
3 <district>. That is all I understand about its purpose.

4 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> Can you also tell the Chamber whether you
5 were present on the day of its <> inauguration ceremony?

6 A. I was there attending the inauguration ceremony.

7 Q. How was the ceremony organised? For instance, was a speech
8 given and who were the dignitaries in that inauguration ceremony?

9 A. It has been a long time and I cannot recall the details, I
10 cannot recall who made the speeches at the time.

11 [14.19.14]

12 Q. Could you please try to recall at least names of senior
13 leaders who were present there on that day -- that is, attending
14 the inauguration?

15 A. I only recall my husband and I cannot recall the rest since I
16 have bad memory these days. Of course there were <many> senior
17 leaders and there were also cadres at my level, but most of them
18 have died.

19 Q. What was the process of the inauguration -- that is, from your
20 personal observation?

21 A. I was there but I cannot give you any detailed description of
22 the entire process.

23 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> This morning you testified that you went
24 to the 1st January Dam worksite, and a while ago in response to
25 the Co-Prosecutor question, you said that you also visited the

1 1st January Dam worksite. My question to you is the following:
2 During your trip or your visit to the work site -- and allow me
3 to say that <this morning you also mentioned that all the>
4 workers there slept on a proper floor and the food was sufficient
5 and you also made your comment on sanitation that there was no
6 proper latrines and there were flies as people relieved
7 themselves in the open. Can you tell the Chamber the total number
8 of workers at the worksite?

9 [14.21.41]

10 A. As I stated this morning, at the 1st January Dam worksite,
11 workers slept on a floor, it was not a kind of proper floor made
12 from bamboo but the floor was made from small trees or branches
13 of trees and <in> my estimation, there were between <20,000 and>
14 30,000 workers working in total at the 1st January Dam worksite.
15 And probably that is a very modest estimation, there could be up
16 to 40,000 workers. And in terms of sanitation or people relieving
17 themselves, you can make personal imagination, even in your
18 family of three or four members, sometimes sanitation is an issue
19 <let alone tens of thousands of> workers, so people resorted
20 themselves to relieving themselves in the <bushes. However, at
21 the 1st January Dam, there was plenty of water, so the sanitation
22 issue would be based on those individuals themselves. That's what
23 I can respond to your answer>.
24 Q. Did you make any observation regarding number of workers who
25 fell ill?

1 A. From my observation, there were some people who were ill due
2 to the number -- the excessive number of workers at the worksite
3 and due to the sanitary issues and large number of flies. The
4 medicine at the time was merely enough as we only just came out
5 of the struggle and we only liberated the country not for long;<
6 thus, there was shortage of medicines. However, there were
7 medical staff who took care of the sick>.

8 [14.24.05]

9 Q. <In cases where> workers who were seriously ill, were they
10 treated on the spot or were they referred to <a> hospital?

11 A. For seriously ill workers, they were sent to <Kampong Cham>
12 hospital for treatment<>. There was a state hospital in Kampong
13 Cham.

14 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> This morning you also testified <before
15 the Chamber> that in your capacity as a member of the Chamkar Leu
16 district <committee>, you <had> sent people or workers to the 1st
17 January Dam worksite. Were those workers composed of both male
18 and female and can you also tell the Court the kind of people you
19 sent, <what average age they were, and whether they were dynamic
20 workforces or regular work forces>?

21 [14.25.23]

22 A. As for the forces <selected> to the worksite, I already said
23 this morning it was the cooperative chief and the commune chiefs
24 who recruited those workers. They were the regular force workers,
25 meaning that they were at the range of age between 20 <and> 30

1 years old. However, sometimes there were also younger people <who
2 were> around <18 years of> age<>. People older than that would
3 remain at the <cooperatives>.

4 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> Regarding tools and equipment, and you
5 said this morning that Angkar supplied the workers with those
6 tools and equipment. What about food, did Angkar resolve the food
7 issue or did you yourself at the district level made your own
8 decision in terms of food distribution and what about clothing?
9 <Were clothes distributed to workers by the Angkar? Or did
10 workers have to bring along their own clothes?>

11 A. As for clothing, it was the state who distributed it and
12 people had sufficient clothes to wear<. Although the clothing was
13 available only in black, not any other colours, each worker had>
14 at least had one set or two sets or sometimes three sets of
15 clothes<. And> Angkar had a responsibility to assist with the
16 food supply, but I cannot tell you the details of how it was
17 organised. <I was not sure whether these things came through the
18 zone.>

19 [14.27.18]

20 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> As for the workers who were sent to work
21 at the worksite, was there a mechanism for rotation <of
22 workforce>, for example 50 workers were sent there and later on
23 another group of 50 workers would be sent to replace them? <Or
24 those 50 workers remained working there throughout the
25 construction period?>

1 A. Yes, there was a rotation process. For example, workers had to
2 work there for a limited number of months <before> they were
3 replaced <by another batch>. For instance, <a group of
4 middle-aged> workers <were replaced by a teenage group who were
5 between 17 and 18 years of> age <> after certain period of months
6 working there<. On some occasions, workers from the 1st January
7 Dam worksite were> transferred to work at another worksite
8 dealing with dam or canal construction at the district level<.>

9 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> This morning you also testified <before
10 the Chamber> that at that worksite, people <had> disappeared,
11 including both the Base People and the 17 April People. <I would
12 like to know whether any of> the workers <who had been sent> from
13 your district, <disappeared> amongst those workers?

14 A. There were disappearances of both Base People and <New> People
15 and when I asked about their disappearance, I was told that they
16 <had been> sent for <study sessions>.

17 Q. And did <any of> those whom you were told that they <had been>
18 sent for <study sessions> ever return?

19 A. <Some> of <those who had been sent for study sessions>
20 returned<,> while <some> others were said to be sent to live in
21 <other districts>.

22 [14.29.43]

23 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> While you were at the worksite, what was
24 your observation <on> the general situation of the workers<? For>
25 example, were the workers enthusiastic <about> doing their work,

1 <or> were they smiling while they were working<? And> what was
2 their health condition?

3 A. They were neither skinny nor fat as they <were working hard.
4 They had steamed rice and gruel along with plenty of fish
5 supplied> from <the> Tonle Sap, but you cannot compare the food
6 condition to the food we are eating these days. <Of course, they
7 were not provided with any fruits.> They were also given some
8 <sugar, which they could prepare whatever they wanted to, rice,>
9 and <dried-fish. That> was my observation when I went to the
10 worksite <once in a while>. Of course I cannot describe every
11 aspect of the food condition at the worksite.

12 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> And <> again, <while> you were at the
13 worksite, did you observe any use of heavy machinery to add in
14 the <workforce>, <or was it done merely by human labour>?

15 A. As I said I did not stay regularly at the worksite<; I went
16 there only once in a while>. However, there <was not any unit of>
17 heavy <machinery including> tractor<; the work was merely done
18 with the shoulders of those cooperative people with all their
19 might to> carry the dirt<. And> only later on <did units of>
20 heavy <machinery became available>.

21 [14.31.50]

22 Q. <Thank you, Madam.> Can you also tell the Court <of> the
23 working hours<? What time> did <they> start <work,> and <what
24 time> did <they finish work? And> were <they given anytime to
25 take a break> in between?

1 A. In the morning, sometimes they ate some food; however,
2 sometimes they had to start working early and since we did not
3 have a watch, I could not say exactly what time they started
4 working<. It could have been> around 7 o'clock in the morning
5 <when they started work,> and they <finished work> at around 5
6 o'clock in the afternoon.

7 Q. After <they had finished> work, <were> livelihood <meetings
8 held among those> respective <working groups or> units?

9 A. <>I could not recall it <whether those meetings were held>.
10 After they completed <their work,> they went back to their
11 places<. Anyways,> I <did> not <really get hold of this;
12 moreover,> it has been a long time <now>. As I stated, I have <a
13 poor> memory<. I just noticed that> after the meetings, workers
14 went back to their places. <I had no idea what happened next.>
15 [14.33.43]

16 Q. Thank you, Madam Witness. I would like to seek your
17 clarification <on> the plan of work, or work quota <for each
18 worker>. What was the work quota <set by the Angkar>? How many --
19 what <was> the work quota <in cubic metre; or> how <many cubic
20 metres of earth was <a worker> required <>to <accomplish per
21 day>?

22 A. I <did not get hold> of <such detail. I did> not know whether
23 <a certain amount of earth in cubic metre> was assigned to <each>
24 worker<; or a worker just did whatever he or she could finish. I
25 did> not know how <many cubic metres> was <a worker> required

1 <>to <accomplish due to the fact that I did not go there on a
2 regular basis>.

3 Q. Thank you, Madam Witness. I would like to move on to another
4 topic. Before I do that I would like to read a statement <you
5 have given to the Co-Investigating Judges. It is> --<Khmer,> ERN
6 00348832; <in English, 00360115; and>in French, 00367808; <in
7 which> you stated, "At that time I saw that pagoda was turned
8 into a hospital and monks were disrobed and forced to leave the
9 pagoda." <I would like you to clarify as to where the monks who
10 had been defrocked were sent? And why> did Khmer Rouge <eradicate
11 religions>?

12 A. I was <living> in the forest at that time<,> not <> in the
13 district yet<.> I do not recall when it was. <That was the
14 situation I got caught in.> When I arrived, I saw that <there
15 were> no <> monks <in the pagoda, and I had no idea of as to
16 where those defrocked> monks <>were sent<>. <I also had no
17 knowledge of the monks who had been forced out of the pagoda.> As
18 I stated, I was living in the forest at that time, <> not <> in
19 the district yet.

20 [14.36.22]

21 MS. CHET VANLY:

22 Thank you very much, Madam Witness. <In> the interest of <> time,
23 I would like now to cede the floor <to> the international
24 colleague.

25 MR. PRESIDENT:

1 Thank you. You may now proceed, International Lead Co-Lawyer.

2 [14.36.41]

3 QUESTIONING BY MS. GUIRAUD:

4 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, <Madam> Witness. My
5 name is Marie Guiraud and I am the lawyer representing the
6 <consolidated group> of civil parties in this trial. I have a few
7 <> brief follow-up questions to put to you with regard to the 1st
8 January Dam and then I'll have a few questions with regard to
9 marriages during the Democratic Kampuchea regime.

10 Q. With regard to the workers on the 1st January Dam worksite,
11 you explained to my colleague a little earlier on the rotation
12 system and you said that it was the commune chiefs who would
13 choose the workers who would go to the worksite, then after a few
14 months these workers would come back to be assigned to other
15 tasks. So I wanted to know if at times workers could come back
16 outside of these rotation cycles. Did you see back then workers
17 coming back to the village outside of the rotation cycles that
18 you described a little bit earlier on this afternoon?

19 MS. SOU SOEURN:

20 A. The <workforce was removed, replaced, and reserved. Before a
21 replacement of a workforce was about to take place, they
22 recruited and reserved new> workers to replace those who had been
23 working at the 1st January Dam site<. And> those who <had been>
24 removed from the 1st January Dam site were sent to build <dams
25 in> Chamkar Leu district.

1 [14.38.32]

2 Q. So if I understood you well, the people who were taken off the
3 1st January Dam site went to work on another work site, did I
4 understand you clearly?

5 A. Yes, they were sent to Chamkar Leu to build <dams and> dig
6 <twin> canals <in order to irrigate the area for people to
7 cultivate paddy and crops>.

8 Q. Thank you. People who would become ill, would they go back to
9 the village <to rest> or would they be sent to the hospital?

10 A. I <did> not know about it. <I just knew that> sick <people> in
11 my district <> were sent to a hospital. I <did> not <get hold of
12 as to where> the sick at the 1st January Dam site <> were sent<>.

13 Q. And back then, when you were at the district, did you
14 sometimes see sick people who were at the worksite and who would
15 return to the different villages or communes of your district; is
16 this something that you remember?

17 A. <To my memory>, sick people at the 1st January Dam site were
18 <returned their respective cooperatives after they had been
19 hospitalised>.

20 [14.40.50]

21 Q. Thank you. The reason I am asking you this question is that we
22 heard a little earlier on this week a civil party who had worked
23 for three months on the 1st January Dam and who came from Preaek
24 Prasab district, which is a district that is different from
25 yours, and she explained that people who were ill would go back

74

1 to their villages to rest. In any case, that's what was told to
2 the workers. So if I understand what you're saying today, in your
3 district, people would not go back to their villages to rest but
4 were sent to the hospital; did I <correctly> understand your
5 <testimony this afternoon>?

6 A. Yes, <it is correct. Those> seriously ill <people> were
7 referred to Kampong Cham hospital; and after they <had>
8 recovered, they <were sent> back <to> work in <their respective>
9 cooperatives. This is my recollection.

10 MR. PRESIDENT:

11 Thank you. It is now convenient time for the break. But before we
12 take the break I would like to ask Mr. Koppe <how much time you
13 need for your oral submission concerning the disclosure of
14 document request by the International Co-prosecutor this morning
15 and the appeal against the judgement of 002/01.> We would like to
16 be informed so that we could arrange <an> opportune time for your
17 submission <in the last session of today's hearing>.

18 [14.42.55]

19 MR. KOPPE:

20 I suppose it's only, Mr. President, a few minutes. It's just
21 expressing our concern in respect of the latest disclosures,
22 specifically the upcoming segment -- the Kampong Chhnang Airport
23 -- and I see this particular prosecutor is in the courtroom so
24 I'm sure that he'll be able to answer all kinds of questions. But
25 I think five minutes should be enough.

1 MR. PRESIDENT:

2 Thank you once again. It is now convenient time for a short break
3 and the Chamber will take the break from now until 3.00 p.m.

4 Court officer, please facilitate a proper place for this witness
5 and TPO during the break time and please invite them back to the
6 courtroom at 3.00 p.m.

7 The Court is now in recess

8 (Court recesses from 1443H to 1501H)

9 MR. PRESIDENT:

10 Please be seated.

11 The Court is back in session, and again the floor is given to the
12 Lead Co-Lawyer for civil parties to continue putting questions to
13 this witness. You may proceed.

14 BY MS. GUIRAUD:

15 Thank you, Mr. President.

16 Q. Good afternoon again, Witness. When we broke up a while ago,
17 we were talking of the problem of sick workers and hospitals, and
18 you said workers who were sick on the worksite were not sent back
19 to the village, as we heard earlier in the hearing, <but> they
20 were sent to the hospital<>. I would like you to react to the
21 testimony of someone we heard earlier. That person was a civil
22 party, a woman from Baray, and who described a hospital. And I
23 would like you to tell us whether that description tallies with
24 what you knew of hospitals in your district. It is the transcript
25 of 27 May 2015, and it is Ms. Hun Sethany, the civil party, and

1 it is <at> 09.59.44.

2 [15.03.02]

3 Ms. Hun Sethany describes a hospital in which her brother was
4 hospitalized and <where> <he> died three days later. And this is
5 what she states: "The hospital was a former school. That hospital
6 was in a poor condition. It had not been built in bricks, and
7 people who were sick were sent from Baray to that hospital. The
8 sick who were sent to that hospital, as well as the patients and
9 <nurses>, were very thin. They were in very poor health." And she
10 says at 10.01.18: "At the time, it was a <school> built <of
11 wooden> planks<>. The roof was thatched, as well as the walls. It
12 was in very bad shape. There were only a few beds for several
13 patients and those who did not have any beds had to sleep on the
14 floor."

15 Madam Witness, having listened to my description, <does it>
16 correspond to the situation of hospitals in <your> district at
17 the time?

18 [15.04.16]

19 MS. SOU SOEURN:

20 A. <As for> the Baray area, I had no knowledge <of their
21 situation>. However, for my area, people who were sick <while
22 working at> the 1st January Dam worksite would be sent to a
23 hospital in Kampong Cham, and the hospital was a two-storey or
24 three-storey concrete <> building. <Our medical staff were doing
25 their best, but because of the war, we were short of medicines.

1 This is what I know.>

2 Q. Thank you. Before the Co-Investigating Judge's investigators,
3 you were more specific when you talked about hospitals in your
4 district, and I am referring to document E3/5294. The ERN in
5 Khmer is 00348834; ERN in English, 00360117; ERN in French,
6 00367810; and you explained specifically that there was a
7 hospital in the district, and hospitals in each of the communes.
8 Did the communal hospitals differ from the district hospital you
9 have just referred to?

10 A. The district hospital had some <medicines> for the treatment
11 of patients. Although <medicines were> not abundant, <we could
12 treat our people>. As for other hospitals at the communes or at
13 the cooperatives, we had to assess the condition of the patients.
14 If they could be treated at that level, they would be treated
15 there. If their condition was serious, they would be sent to the
16 district. And if <their condition had become more severe, they>
17 would <be referred> to the hospital in Kampong Cham.

18 [15.06.55]

19 Q. Thank you. You mentioned a little earlier, in answer to a
20 question put by my colleague, a hospital <housed> in a pagoda,
21 and <I just> referred to <an example of> a hospital <housed in a>
22 school. Regarding other communal district hospitals, were <they
23 set up in the same manner, meaning:> <in other
24 words><,><were><they> housed in buildings that had not been
25 originally designed to be used as hospitals?

1 A. For the hospital in my district, it was not built in the
2 pagoda. It was actually located in <one of communes> under the
3 district, and not in the pagoda. And as I said, hospitals existed
4 at the district and at the commune or "sangkat" level. And
5 <usually the one at the district> level <was of better standard,
6 while the one at the commune level was of less standard.
7 However,> if the condition of <a patient> became <severe, he or
8 she> would be referred from the <commune> hospital to the
9 district hospital. And if it continued to <get worse and worse,
10 the patient> would be referred to the provincial hospital <in
11 Kampong Cham>.

12 [15.07.50]

13 Q. Thank you. How would you react to what I read out to you
14 earlier, describing the hospital as that civil party had done?
15 And that person said that both the patients and <nurses> were
16 very thin, and in very poor health. Is that what you observed at
17 the time in district or communal hospitals <that> you've just
18 referred to?

19 A. At my district, I didn't experience such seriousness as we
20 <had sufficient food> in Chamkar Leu area. <It was unlikely that
21 the cooperatives were short of food. We had plenty of bananas.
22 Again, I am only talking of the actual situation in my district,
23 not other districts>. And here I can only testify about the
24 conditions <of cooperatives> in my district<>.

25 Q. Thank you. When you were interviewed by the Co-Investigating

1 Judges, you referred to the visit by Ieng Thirith. You referred
2 to that <earlier> this morning, and it's explained in the same
3 document, E3/5294, same ERNs as those I read out earlier; you
4 stated that you visited hospitals with Ieng Thirith. And the
5 following question was put to you:

6 "Was Mrs. Ieng Thirith aware of the shortage of medicines in the
7 hospitals?"

8 And you answered, saying: "Yes, she was aware of that. And upon
9 her return, she sent us medicines and other materials."

10 Can you explain to the Chamber what kinds of medicines were in
11 short supply in the hospitals? Can you please be more specific on
12 this point?

13 [15.10.30]

14 A. Regarding the medicines, I do not know <many> of them. Mainly
15 we stocked medicines for the treatment of fever and malaria <in
16 the countryside. Besides, I did not know what they were, for I
17 did not know the names of medicines>.

18 Q. Thank you. To the best of your recollection, did many people
19 die in the district and communal hospitals? Was that a frequent
20 phenomenon?

21 A. In certain cases we could not save the life of the patients.
22 And in other situations, where we could save their lives, we
23 would do our best at our hospital. And if we could not, then we
24 would send them to the provincial hospital.

25 [15.11.52]

1 Q. Thank you. I'll stop <at> this question and move into another
2 line of questioning. I would like to put questions to you
3 regarding marriages celebrated during the Democratic Kampuchea
4 regime in your district while you held positions in the district
5 committee. Did you receive <> rules from the upper echelon
6 regarding the organisation of marriages during that period?

7 A. At that time, marriages were organized, and the chief of the
8 commune or "sangkat" would ask the opinion of the men and women,
9 whether they consented to the proposed marriage. And if they
10 agreed, then the ceremony would be organized. It was not a big
11 ceremony, but it was a modest one <with little feast>. And then
12 the chief of the <district> would give a speech, and then the
13 individuals themselves who were the couples, would also make a
14 speech regarding their commitment to one another.

15 [15.13.11]

16 Q. Was the district involved in that procedure?

17 A. In certain cases, people from the district made the
18 arrangements and, however, if the ceremony was to be organized
19 and held by the commune, then only the commune level would make
20 such an arrangement. And in other cases, the district chief would
21 attend such a ceremony.

22 Q. Thank you. I would like you to react to testimonies we heard
23 earlier in this trial by persons who held similar positions in
24 another district -- that is, Tram Kak district. And those persons
25 were either secretaries or members of the district committee,

1 <and> they made a <certain> number of statements before the
2 Chamber regarding the organization of marriages. I would like to
3 quote what was stated, and have you react to what they said, and
4 tell us whether that is how things happened in your own district.

5 MR. PRESIDENT:

6 Witness, please hold on. And Counsel Koppe, you have the floor.

7 [15.15.04]

8 MR. KOPPE:

9 Thank you, Mr. President. I object to this line of questioning.
10 The Civil Party Lead Co-Lawyer is going to present testimony from
11 a completely different zone. This witness can only testify to
12 what happened in her district, possibly what happened in the
13 zone. But she cannot give any relevant testimony as to what
14 happened on the district or commune level in Tram Kak, in the
15 Southwest Zone.

16 MS. GUIRAUD:

17 Mr. President, the idea is <of course> not to have the witness
18 react to what happened elsewhere, but what happened in her own
19 district. <You> are <seized> of the policy <of marriages and> of
20 forced marriages at national level. It is <seems> essential <that
21 at some point> <we should> ask the <question in order to>
22 ascertain whether such <practice> was homogenous <or
23 heterogeneous> <from one> district <to another><>. So the purpose
24 of <line of questioning> is to have the witness tell us whether
25 in her district, the district <in which she had duties and>

1 responsibilities, <the situation was similar to or> different
2 <from that of> Tram Kak <district> <which we have> already
3 <discussed in this trial>. <Therefore,> this line of questioning
4 is --<in my opinion>-- very relevant and essential, as we
5 consider facts relating to these matters today.

6 (Judges deliberate)

7 [15.17.38]

8 MR. PRESIDENT:

9 The Chamber noticed that the objection by the defence counsel for
10 Nuon Chea to the question by the Lead Co-Lawyer for civil parties
11 is rather too soon, as the Chamber has not heard the question
12 yet. Let us hear the question first, and the Chamber will decide
13 whether it is appropriate or it should be prohibited. Therefore,
14 the Lead Co-Lawyer for civil parties, you may proceed with your
15 question.

16 BY MS. GUIRAUD:

17 Q. This is a question, but I intend to quote a passage from the
18 statement of a witness we heard a few months ago in this
19 courtroom. And that person had responsibilities in Tram Kak
20 district, and I quote the transcript, E1/291.1. It is the
21 <transcript> of 23 April 2015. It is 09.08 in the morning, and
22 Pech Chim is the witness I'm referring to, and he is talking of
23 the regulation of marriages in his district. And this is what he
24 stated:

25 <> "In fact we discussed at the level of districts, rules

1 regarding marriages, and directives from the zone were taken into
2 account. According to what I was able to observe, there were
3 weaknesses in the practices. People did not all agree to get
4 married. I knew that. We were so occupied at the level of the
5 district that we had to delegate some authority to the unit
6 heads." <>

7 [15.19.34]

8 My question now, Mr. President: <Madam> Witness, I've read out to
9 you the excerpt of a statement given by someone who had similar
10 functions in another district. In Preaek Prasab district, did
11 things happen in the same way as regards marriages?

12 MS. SOU SOEURN:

13 A. I was not at Preaek Prasab district. I only stayed there
14 initially, <however, I didn't arrange any marriage. And> I moved
15 to <live in> Chamkar Leu district <for one year during which
16 marriages were discussed at district level, but the> marriage
17 <ceremonies> were <organized> at <those respective communes.
18 Actually, each> commune itself had the authority to organize <>
19 marriage <ceremonies> within its own commune. And that is my
20 understanding, and that's what happened in my district and
21 <communes>. And I cannot say about what happened in other
22 communes or districts. <Those were the instructions communicated
23 to my district committee from the upper echelon. We just followed
24 the instructions.>

25 [15.20.56]

1 Q. Thank you. And when you sat in the district committee, did you
2 sometimes receive lists from communes, lists of persons who had
3 to be married?

4 A. Lists of those who were proposed to get married, and as I
5 said, I am illiterate. I cannot read or write, and it was up to
6 the district chief who <would> decide whether to agree to the
7 proposal of those on the list. And I was told about <those
8 marriages> during <> meetings<. Concerning> the number of people
9 who were proposed on that list <, for> instance, five couples or
10 three couples, I was told about it, since I could not read, <and>
11 I did not see the list itself.

12 Q. So, if I understand correctly, they talked about a list but
13 you didn't read the list because you didn't know how to read at
14 that time. Was it authorized at the time to organize marriages
15 between New People and Base People?

16 A. I can say in some cases. And also, it happened in my district.
17 If a commune made such a proposal to the district, and if the
18 district considered that they were good people, then the district
19 would approve the marriage. Although this kind of request or
20 proposal <was> not many.

21 [15.22.58]

22 Q. Were you aware of instructions from the upper echelon not to
23 favour or authorize marriages between New People and Base People?
24 Did you receive any such instructions?

25 A. No, that's not the case. Regarding the Base People and the New

1 People in the <cooperatives>, if they worked together and they
2 had a relationship, it was up to the chief, their chief, to see
3 whether it was reasonable to organize their marriage. And of
4 course the upper echelon did not <hand down any instruction on
5 the prohibition of marriage between the Base People and the New
6 People>. <We did not receive any of such instructions. We only
7 received good instructions; for example, those who worked hard
8 were eligible to have their marriage organized>.

9 [15.23.58]

10 Q. Thank you. I have one last question, Mr. President. And
11 Witness, I will read out to you again an extract of the record of
12 interview of Pech Chim, <who had similar duties to yours> as a
13 member of <another> district committee. And he was asked whether
14 there were rules from the upper echelon. And it is transcript
15 E1/291.1, and it's still 23 April 2015, and it's still the
16 morning, shortly before 09.08. And the question put to Pech Chim
17 at the time was as follows:

18 "Did you know the rules regarding marriages?"

19 And the witness answered as follows: <> "Regarding marriages,
20 yes. As a matter of fact, I knew that there were rules, and I was
21 aware of them. However, these rules did not exist in the form of
22 laws and articles. It was common practice applied from the upper
23 echelon right down to the <> grassroots <level>."

24 At the time, Madam Witness, were you aware of these regulations,
25 rules and practices regarding marriages, which were <passed> down

1 by the upper echelon?

2 A. Regarding instructions on marriages -- and I <am referring> to
3 the zone as the upper level in this instance -- if we wanted to
4 organize the weddings for our people, or the number of couples
5 that we proposed to get married, <and how the ceremonies would be
6 held. Of course, there were such instructions from the upper
7 level to the sector level, and from the sector level to the
8 district level, and eventually from the district level to the
9 Sangkat level. The instructions were handed down from the upper
10 level to the ground level. To my recollection, this is how it
11 worked>.

12 [15.26.33]

13 MS. GUIRAUD:

14 Thank you. Mr. President, I believe I have run out of time. I
15 will stop here.

16 Thank you, <Madam> Witness, for answering my questions.

17 MR. PRESIDENT:

18 My fellow Judges, do you have any questions you wish to put to
19 the witness? Judge Fenz, you have the floor.

20 QUESTIONING BY JUDGE FENZ:

21 Q. Thank you. Madam Witness, you mentioned that workers at the
22 dam were rotated every three months. Can you tell me why?

23 MS. SOU SOEURN:

24 A. <I would like to inform Your Honour> that the rotation <of
25 workers> was <applied> because <workers> at the dam worksite

1 began to get tired, so they were <replaced by a new workforce>.
2 Although they were rotated to return to the cooperative, they
3 would not be sitting idle. They would be engaged in other
4 <tasks>, including <rice paddy cultivation, growing vegetables
5 within their respective cooperatives, while the new and fresh
6 workforce was sent to work at the 1st January Dam.>

7 [15.28.18]

8 Q. So, the rotation was between difficult work or heavy work, and
9 easier work?

10 A. Yes, the rotation was meant for those workers who were tired
11 from <hard labour work including digging and carrying dirt> at
12 the 1st January Dam worksite, and replaced by new <and fresh
13 workforce>. Then the old <workforce> would be returned to the
14 cooperative to engage in a kind of a lighter work <including>
15 working in <> rice <fields, on farms>, or digging canals, but in
16 a lighter form of labour. And due to the limited workforce in the
17 cooperatives, the rotation was needed. <However, there seemed to
18 be sufficient food in my area.>

19 [15.29.24]

20 Q. Thank you. My next question is to your presence at the dam.
21 You mentioned that you were there -- at the worksite, I mean --
22 you mentioned you were there frequently, sometimes a couple of
23 days in a row. Now, in an average month, how many days did you go
24 to the worksite? Can you give me an idea?

25 A. I didn't go that often to the 1st January Dam worksite. I only

1 went there once every two or three months, as my main duty was
2 involved with the supervision of the <cooperative people> at the
3 district<; moreover, I could not stay long>. And I usually would
4 remain at the dam site for only one night or two, and return to
5 my district.

6 Q. Okay. My next question is to the selection process. You said
7 workers were selected -- workers for the dam were selected. Now,
8 I want to know: Could those who were selected say, "No, I don't
9 want to work there"?

10 A. No one actually refused the selection process. Once the
11 district organized the workforce, the people in the district did
12 not refuse, even if it was for the rotation force. And of course,
13 <>those workers <were willing to go and> work <>at the dam
14 site<,> and <when they> were replaced, <>they <were also happy
15 to> return to the district <as they would be doing lighter work.
16 Again, nobody ever refused>.

17 [15.31.43]

18 Q. Given that they were obviously not very happy to work at the
19 dam site, why did nobody refuse to work there when they were
20 selected?

21 A. The thing is that that was the organization by the district,
22 so they did not refuse. If <> five or six of them <were selected>
23 to go<,> they went, and after they had been rotated, they
24 returned>, none of them refused, <for we, the district had
25 instructed them to work> hard, <and> to adhere to work

1 <disciplines> and regulations <which were applicable both at dam
2 worksite and at the district.>

3 Q. Were people ever told that they would be punished if they
4 refused to work, or to accept the selection?

5 A. We <did> not <tell them so. We merely informed them> to
6 respect the discipline<, such as> working times specifically for
7 workers: the time that we had to start work, have meals and
8 resume work in the afternoon. That's what <they> were instructed.

9 [15.33.50]

10 Q. Once workers were selected, and working at the worksite, were
11 they free to say, "I don't want to work any longer. I'd rather go
12 home now and not come back"?

13 A. No one dared to refuse. <When someone was assigned by the
14 State> or "sangkat"<to do something, he or she had to get> that
15 assignment <done>. No one dared to say, "I <want> to go back home
16 <or I do> not want to go to work". No one dared to say like this.

17 Q. And why did nobody dare say this?

18 A. <We had instructed them> to work hard <in order to> solve
19 people's problems<; and that we needed to work hard together to
20 make sure that everyone had enough to eat,> and <>to build the
21 country. <They understood the instructions well.> No one
22 threatened <them>. Workers <went to work> voluntarily<>.

23 [15.35.28]

24 Q. Now, you have described the situation at the dam, and I think
25 if I sum up your description, one could say these were very

1 difficult working conditions. We have heard even more extreme
2 descriptions. Now my question is, given these very difficult
3 circumstances, do you remember any incident where a worker
4 actually tried to simply run away?

5 A. <I did not really get hold of this, but it was likely that no>
6 one fled from <the worksite>. <I heard that> no one fled from
7 their workplace.

8 Q. And why did nobody flee?

9 A. <>I <did> not know the matter in detail. <Through my personal
10 observation>, no one evaded work. They <remained> at work,
11 <although> they were exhausted and <hungry>.

12 Q. Now, you told us at one point you basically supervised the
13 workforce at the dam. That's what I wrote down. So I am asking
14 you, were there any orders or directives from your superiors on
15 what to do if people didn't want to be recruited, or selected, or
16 if people ran away? Was there any directive or any order?

17 A. <Concerning the supervision of the>workforces at the 1st
18 January Dam site, as I stated repeatedly, I was not <the one who
19 in charge> there<. My duty> was <limited to> the district<. I was
20 working at my district. I did not supervise workers at the 1st
21 January Dam. Since> I was a <woman with> small children at that
22 time<,> I was not there constantly with workers. <It could have
23 been my fellow district cadres or my subordinates who worked
24 closely with people. However, I was informed what had been done,
25 and what should be done and so on in my district. Of course, I

1 was aware of the on-going progress within the cooperatives, dam
2 and canal construction; moreover, I was on the district committee
3 for> only one year.

4 [15.39.27]

5 Q. My last question is to these instructions. You told us earlier
6 that you went to Phnom Penh occasionally, among other things to
7 get these instructions. Now, were these regular trips? I mean,
8 once a month? Or were these random trips, meaning when you were
9 summoned, you came? Or was it a fixed date? Every -- I don't know
10 -- first Monday per month, we go to Phnom Penh and get our
11 instructions?

12 A. I would like to inform the Chamber that <only> when Angkar
13 invited me, asked me to come to Phnom Penh to join the study
14 session <did> I <>come. As I stated, I came with many of my
15 <fellow> cadres <by a truck or two>. And we came to receive the
16 assignments to be implemented and enforced in our respective
17 districts.<We were also instructed on how to distribute the
18 assignments accordingly among the communes or Sangkats within our
19 district. That's all I can tell you, Your Honour.>

20 [15.41.04]

21 Q. I didn't hear the translation of quite a long bit. I heard the
22 witness talking and didn't get the translation. Okay.
23 My question to you then is: In the year in which you were in
24 charge, how often did you go to Phnom Penh on such trips? On
25 trips where you got information and instructions on work?

1 <A.> Sometimes I <stayed>in Phnom Penh for two or three days
2 <before I returned; it varied. It was not that long, as on some
3 occasions, I stayed only> one or two nights to receive
4 assignments.

5 Q. And how many trips did you make in this, I think you said,
6 year?

7 A. <To the best of> my recollection, I <did come to Phnom Penh,
8 but I did> not recall <as to> how <often> per year I <did that.>
9 Again, I recall <coming> to Phnom Penh to receive
10 <instruction>from the upper echelon.

11 [15.43.05]

12 Q. Let me try again. Are we talking two or three times, or are we
13 talking 10 or 20 times? I don't expect an exact number, but I
14 would like to have an idea of the frequency.

15 A. I do not <recall how often per month or year> I came to Phnom
16 Penh<. Since I have a poor memory, I could not think through. I
17 had a good memory> in the past, but <as for these days, I could
18 not even remember what stated a moment ago. I assume that I could
19 have come> to Phnom Penh once every two or three months, or once
20 a month to receive the assignments and tasks <from the upper
21 echelon. Anyways, the assumption could even go beyond the truth.>
22 I, once again, would like to tell the Court that I do not recall
23 it.

24 JUDGE FENZ:

25 Thank you. That concludes my questions.

1 MR. PRESIDENT:

2 You may proceed, Judge Lavergne.

3 [15.44.43]

4 QUESTIONING BY JUDGE LAVERGNE:

5 Yes, thank you, Mr. President.

6 Q. Madam Witness, I have a question to put to you <>. What were
7 you told in Phnom Penh? What were you exactly told in Phnom Penh?

8 And whom would you meet? You said that you had met Nuon Chea<>.

9 Can you confirm that?

10 MS. SOU SOEURN:

11 A. Yes, I met him. He <went to organized> workforces <in the>
12 district <in order to send them to worksites. He came to the
13 district to> instruct <people on> how to dig canals, <work paddy,
14 do farming, build dams, and organize workforces among>
15 cooperatives<. I received> these <> instructions <from him when>
16 I <met> him.

17 Q. Did he speak about the class struggle? Did he speak about <>
18 enemies? Did he speak about the CIA and KGB agents?

19 A. <Regarding his teaching and instructions, no such things were
20 mentioned. He made no mention of> the class struggle or <the CIA
21 networks>. I did not receive any <of these instructions from
22 him>.

23 [15.46.35]

24 Q. So, what did <his> instructions consist of with regard to the
25 organization of the labour force? You said that you would go

1 <there> once every two or three months. So, each time you went
2 there, would you meet Nuon Chea? Or would you meet other leaders?

3 A. I did not meet any other leaders<.> I <met with him the most
4 as he> was in charge of <educating, instructing, and leading
5 people on how to run> cooperatives<. However, in my capacity as a
6 district member, my meeting with him was limited to only things
7 regarding leading people in the cooperatives to work, in
8 particular, to increase the number of rice harvests per year, and
9 resolving livelihood-related issues of the people. That's all I
10 know>.

11 Q. Would Nuon Chea <enquire about> the situation on the <ground>?
12 Did he try to get to know if there was enough food, for example?
13 If people were complaining regarding <the crop yields> that were
14 <different from> what the Party might have expected?

15 A. He asked about it; <and> most of the time, he <asked> how
16 <well> the cooperatives were <being run , whether> the livelihood
17 of the people <had improved>, and what <> the health <condition>
18 of people <was like. He did ask about these things>.

19 [15.49.05]

20 Q. Madam Witness, when you were <> at the district committee, did
21 you ever receive any complaints from the cooperative leaders
22 stating that the <harvests> <were> not plentiful enough, and that
23 there were <food> problems? Did you receive any complaints of
24 that kind?

25 A. In Chamkar Leu district, allow me to tell the Court <that,>

1 the yield was good, so the living condition <of the people> was
2 better<; however, there were still several cases that> people
3 <had produced a lot of rice, but they could not> have three
4 <meals> per day. <I acknowledge the existence of such cases>.

5 Q. Madam Witness, I'm going to read <out> your testimony before
6 the Co-Investigating Judges. It's document E3/5294; French, ERN
7 00367805 to 06; English, 00360113 to14; Khmer, <ERN, without
8 prejudice,> 00348831:

9 Question: "Did you receive any complaints or <> requests from
10 your subordinates?"

11 Answer: "Yes, I did. The head of the cooperative and the team
12 leader challenged the fact that the rice yield was high, whereas
13 the people did not have enough food. I also forwarded this
14 complaint to the district committee and the district committee
15 forwarded <it> to their superiors, who never responded <to the
16 complaint>. The paddy was also exported abroad." <>

17 So, can you confirm what I <have> just <read>?

18 [15.51.52]

19 A. The statement is correct. I <actually> made a request to the
20 upper echelon <after> people in <the> "sangkats" <reported to me>
21 that there <had been> a high yield <but their> people <still had>
22 not <had> enough food to eat<. Such requests came> from
23 "sangkats" <to the district>, and the requests were also
24 forwarded <from> the district <to the sector; however>, there
25 were no replies.

1 Q. Madam Witness, when the cooperative leader complained of
2 <>food <shortages>, in your opinion was he <telling> the truth,
3 or was he lying?

4 A. Cooperative chiefs never told lies; they spoke the truth, and
5 made requests to the upper echelons for resolution. But <>food
6 <shortage> did not exist in all "sangkats"<. Only some>
7 "sangkats" <were short of> food. <Through my observation, the
8 upper echelon had the impression that> Chamkar Leu district <was
9 producing abundant food; thus, I had no idea as to where rice
10 produced in the district was sent>.

11 [15.53.55]

12 Q. Why did the higher echelon never respond to these reports that
13 you would forward to it?

14 A. I <had> no idea<, to be honest>. There was <simply> no
15 response, so <> I <have nothing to say with this regard>.

16 Q. Why was the paddy rice exported if the people did not have
17 enough food to eat?

18 A. I <did> not really understand <this> either. <Since> I was not
19 a senior cadre <myself>, <>to speak <it frankly>, I did not
20 <dare> to question this. The <reports came from the
21 cooperatives>, and <they were> forwarded to <the> sector, and
22 upward, but there were no responses. I <did> not understand
23 <either as to why there were no replies>.

24 Q. According to you, <madam>, who decided on the production
25 quotas that had to be sent abroad? Was it the district? Was it

1 the sector? Or was it a higher echelon, even?

2 A. <Although,> I was not the one who held the list; "sangkat"
3 <chiefs themselves told> me that some food, <and> rice <were> for
4 <the> cooperatives, <while a certain amount of rice was for
5 feeding> soldiers, not for abroad. That's what I was told at that
6 time. <I did not really know as to how they actually dealt with
7 the issue.>

8 [15.56.33]

9 Q. According to you, madam, was the food situation on the 1st
10 January Dam <worksite,> better than in the cooperatives?

11 A. <Well, the worksite received sufficient supply of food from
12 the State. Cooperatives in Chamkar Leu were not short of food
13 either>. I am not mentioning other districts <as I did not visit
14 any>. I am mentioning the situation in my district<only. Members
15 of> district committee<, not me,> visited <all the> cooperatives
16 <within the district. And those respective "sangkat" chiefs
17 themselves also reported to us that they had abundant food
18 supply. So> I do not really understand <either when I am asked of
19 food shortage>.

20 Q. Madam, I don't understand either. You're telling me that the
21 cooperative leaders would not lie when they said that there
22 <were> <> food <shortages>. And now you're saying the contrary
23 that you don't understand. So, what don't you understand? You
24 don't understand if they're telling the truth or if they're
25 lying?

1 A. <Your Honour,> I would like to <explain to you> that <> I
2 <did> not really understand <the situation as well due to the
3 fact that the yield of rice was high and a certain amount was
4 taken to the sector, and the people themselves claimed to have
5 plenty to eat, and it was confirmed by the Sangkat chiefs that
6 they had plenty of food supply; but in the meantime, those
7 workers at canal and dam worksites were complaining that they did
8 not have enough to eat. Through my field observation, it was
9 likely that there was still rice stock in each cooperative>.

10 [15.58.58]

11 Q. So, according to you, <madam,> the cooperative leaders were
12 lying? If you are saying that you went on site, and you saw that
13 there was rice <on site>, when you would receive therefore
14 reports saying that there <were> <> food <shortages>, there's
15 obviously someone there who's lying.

16 A. <That could not have been the case. In fact, there could have
17 been cases where some cooperatives were trying to appear more
18 superior or capable than the others. In> some cooperatives, <they
19 did not have sufficient supply as> there were many people<, while
20 there were fewer people in certain cooperatives, but their yield
21 of rice was higher. And as a matter of fact, the rice yield in a
22 cooperative was distributed to only people within the
23 cooperative>. And as for the reports <on food shortage,> I <did>
24 not <believe them as well>. I visited only a few cooperatives,
25 and that is what I saw, and I told the Court already.

1 Q. According to you, who provided the rice needed for the feeding
2 of workers on the 1st January Dam worksite? Was it the
3 cooperatives, the upper echelon, the district, the sector, or the
4 national level <that would> send rice <>?

5 [16.00.36]

6 A. I only had certain knowledge on this issue. I did not know
7 <how it was communicated at the upper> levels<; however, it was>
8 the zone <that> was <in charge of the workforce in terms of
9 supervision and food supply. My knowledge on this is limited, in
10 particular, the actual and daily operation at the> 1st January
11 Dam worksite <as I was not part of the dam's management. I just
12 knew that it was the zone that was in charge of the workforce at
13 the dam> in terms of <supervision,> food <supply> and <welfare>
14 of <> workers<. That's all I can tell you, Your Honour>.

15 Q. This is my last question, madam. From what you were able to
16 see with your own eyes on the 1st January Dam worksite, did
17 people eat to their fill or not?

18 [16.02.02]

19 A. As I said, there were tens of thousands of workers, and I only
20 could say for <a> portion of those workers from my point of view,
21 as I did not go everywhere to observe the living condition. And
22 <as> for the groups of workers whom I observed, they had
23 sufficient food to eat. <Since each group was observed to enjoy
24 abundant food, it implied that workers, in general, in the whole
25 worksite had plenty to eat as well.> There was an abundance of

100

1 <dried> fish <> from Tonle Sap <sent> to those workers. <Thus,>
2 there was no lack of food <among> the people whom I observed. And
3 when I was there, <I saw them having steamed> rice, and I <also>
4 joined them<; again,> I could not go everywhere to observe the
5 living conditions of all the workers at the dam site.

6 JUDGE LAVERGNE:

7 I believe <that, given the time,> we'll have to stop here <>.

8 [16.03.19]

9 MR. PRESIDENT:

10 Thank you. Today's hearing comes to an adjournment now. We will
11 adjourn for today and resume tomorrow -- that is, Friday, 5 June
12 2015, starting from 9 o'clock in the morning. Tomorrow the
13 Chamber continues to hear the testimony of this witness, Sou
14 Soeurn. This information is for the Parties and the public.
15 And Madam Sou Soeurn, the Chamber is grateful of your presence
16 and testimony as a witness. However, it is not yet concluded, and
17 you are therefore invited to return tomorrow. And Madam Chhay
18 Marideth, the TPO staff, the Chamber is grateful <for> your
19 support during the testimony of this witness so that she is able
20 to focus on her testimony, and again, you are invited to continue
21 your role here in this Court.
22 And Court officer, in collaboration with WESU, please make the
23 necessary transportation for Madam Sou Soeurn to return to her
24 place of stay, and have her returned to attend the proceedings in
25 this courtroom tomorrow at 9 o'clock.

101

1 Security personnel, you are instructed to take the two Accused
2 back to the ECCC detention facility, and have them returned to
3 attend the proceedings tomorrow before 9 o'clock in the morning.

4 The Court is now adjourned.

5 (Court adjourns at 1604H)

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25