

អត្ថិ ស្តី ស្ត្រះ ទិសា មញ្ញុ អូ ខត្តិ សា អារ អង្គ បា

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

្សិត សាសស ព្រះឧសាដ្យខ្មែ ទាំត សាសស ព្រះឧសាដ្យខ្មែ

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

អគ្គដ៏ឆ្នុំ៩ម្រះសាលាដ៏មុខ

Trial Chamber Chambre de première instance

TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS - KAING GUEK EAV "DUCH" PUBLIC

Case File Nº 001/18-07-2007-ECCC/TC

25 November 2009, 0901H Trial Day 75

Before the Judges: NIL Nonn, Presiding

Silvia CARTWRIGHT

YA Sokhan

Jean-Marc LAVERGNE

THOU Mony

YOU Ottara (Reserve) Claudia FENZ (Reserve)

Trial Chamber Greffiers/Legal Officers:

SE Kolvuthy DUCH Phary

LIM Suy Hong

Natacha WEXELS-RISER

Matteo CRIPPA

For the Office of the Co-Prosecutors:

CHEA Leang William SMITH

The Accused: KAING Guek Eav

Lawyers for the Accused: KAR Savuth

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List of Speakers:

Language used unless specified otherwise in the transcript

Speaker	Language
MR. KAR SAVUTH	Khmer
MR. ROUX	French
MR. SMITH	English
THE ACCUSED	Khmer
THE PRESIDENT (NIL NONN, Presiding)	Khmer

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- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 (Judges enter courtroom)
- 3 [09.01.43]
- 4 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 5 Please be seated. The Court is now in session.
- 6 Mrs. Se Kolvuthy is now instructed to report on the attendance of
- 7 the parties to the proceedings during today's session.
- 8 THE GREFFIER:
- 9 Mr. President, the parties to the proceedings today are all
- 10 present.
- 11 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 12 The security personnel are now instructed to take the accused to
- 13 the dock.
- 14 We would like now to give the floor to the international
- 15 Co-Prosecutor to make his final closing statement. You may now
- 16 proceed.
- 17 MR. SMITH:
- 18 Mr. President, Your Honours, yesterday we completed our
- 19 submission on the evidence in relation to the crimes and the
- 20 jurisdiction of the crimes charged and in relation to the
- 21 evidence on the accused's participation in those crimes. To
- 22 finalise our submission today, we would like to now address you
- 23 on two areas.
- 24 First, how the accused's participation in the crimes can be
- 25 legally characterized in terms of the accused's individual

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- 1 criminal responsibility under Article 29 of the ECCC Law. And
- 2 second, we would like to address Your Honours on what factors
- 3 should be taken into account when considering a sentence.
- 4 Your Honours, given the unplanned breaks yesterday, I believe the
- 5 prosecution has about an hour and 25 minutes left of their
- 6 allotted five hours, and I will finish well within that time
- 7 allotted.
- 8 Briefly, before I commence, I'd like to make two corrections to
- 9 yesterday's submission -- well, one correction. First, in
- 10 relation to the evidence of the accused's physical mistreatment
- 11 of detainees at S-21, I referred to him beating prisoners with
- 12 sticks in 1977. I sourced this incident to the evidence of Lach
- 13 Mean, Chhun Phal and Nhem En. The evidence reference, in fact,
- 14 should just be to Nhem En, which I can refer Your Honours to at
- 15 trial day 4th of August 2009, the English transcript at page 119
- 16 to 120 and 128.
- 17 [09.06.00]
- 18 Your Honours, the accused is charged in the indictment under
- 19 Article 29 of the law as a planner, instigator, orderer, aider
- 20 and abetter, and a person who committed the crimes at S-21. Put
- 21 simply, if we bear in mind the accused's role in the
- 22 establishment of S-21 right up until the managing and its final
- 23 day, the evidence clearly establishes that he undertook all of
- 24 those forms of participation as identified in the indictment.
- 25 He had to act in these different ways to commit the crimes, due

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- 1 to the fact that he was involved in the establishment of the
- 2 prison, the sheer size of the prison and the staff at S-21 and
- 3 S-24, as well as because of the fact of the length of the
- 4 operation of the prison and the accused's hands-on management
- 5 role. Although this makes common sense, we have detailed the law
- 6 and applied the facts to it; how his participation fulfils each
- 7 mode of this liability in our written brief, which we filed two
- 8 weeks ago with Your Honours, and we refer Your Honours to that
- 9 for further submissions.
- 10 Your Honours, the accused is also charged as a superior who
- 11 failed to prevent or punish his subordinates from committing the
- 12 crimes. Again, there is no doubt that he had absolute control
- 13 over his staff at S-21 and S-24, and that he was well aware that
- 14 the crimes were occurring and he failed to prevent or punish
- 15 them. This is obvious, of course, because he wanted his
- 16 subordinates to commit them.
- 17 I will now discuss more specifically the accused's responsibility
- 18 for the crimes under the mode of liability called commission. We
- 19 have asked you to reflect in your judgement the full scope of the
- 20 accused's criminal activity by finding him guilty for his crimes
- 21 at S-21 as part of a Joint Criminal Enterprise. This form of
- 22 liability, as you are well aware, has been determined by
- 23 international tribunals to be a form of commission.
- 24 [09.08.52]
- 25 And why is it important? Simply because in such a case as this

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- 1 it more accurately reflects the facts and captures the essence of
- 2 the accused's criminal responsibility. The accused did not act
- 3 alone, nor could S-21 have achieved its horrific efficiency had
- 4 the entire enterprise not involved the accused planning and
- 5 working together with his immediate superiors and his immediate
- 6 subordinates. Your Honours, this was an enterprise of an
- 7 enormous scale, criminal to its core.
- 8 The legal recognition of commission of crimes by participation in
- 9 a criminal plan or enterprise has been a part of international
- 10 criminal law since the Nuremberg trials. It has been applicable
- 11 before both the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former
- 12 Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the
- 13 Special Panel for Serious Crimes in East Timor, the State Court
- 14 of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Special Court of Sierra Leone,
- 15 whose statutes refer to the same modes of liability as Article 29
- 16 of the ECCC Law.
- 17 By following the language of these statutes and on this issue,
- 18 the drafters of the ECCC Law clearly intended the provision to be
- 19 interpreted and applied consistently with the law of
- 20 international tribunals.
- 21 Applying commission by a Joint Criminal Enterprise to this case
- 22 is consistent with international criminal standards as practiced
- 23 before international courts. In fact, given the facts of this
- 24 case, refusing to apply this mode of liability would place this
- 25 Court at odds with every international criminal court and would

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- 1 amount to an error in the application of the law.
- 2 The essence of committing a crime via JCE is that individuals in
- 3 positions of power must be held accountable for the full extent
- 4 of their criminal responsibility. The gravity of their
- 5 criminality comes from their grand criminal vision. It comes
- 6 from the abuse of their power and authority through which they
- 7 employ others as tools to achieve their criminal objectives.
- 8 [09.11.41]
- 9 Being a form of criminal responsibility that arises out of a
- 10 systemic criminal enterprise is far more serious than the sum of
- 11 individual criminal orders and individual crimes. The
- 12 application of JCE, or Joint Criminal Enterprise, in this case is
- 13 appropriate because it perfectly captures the scope of the crimes
- 14 committed by the accused. It also captures the evolution of
- 15 these crimes and the ways in which the accused developed and
- 16 refined the criminal plan over time to identify the enemies and
- 17 to smash them.
- 18 The defence cannot complain about lack of notice on this issue.
- 19 The Co-Prosecutors have pleaded the existence of this Joint
- 20 Criminal Enterprise since its final submission prior to the
- 21 indictment being issued in 2008. When the Co-Prosecutors
- 22 appealed the indictment last year as it did not include the
- 23 charges of national crime nor the mode of liability of Joint
- 24 Criminal Enterprise, the accused in their response said such an
- 25 appeal was not necessary as the prosecution could raise the issue

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- 1 at trial.
- 2 At the opening of this trial, the Co-Prosecutors raised the issue
- 3 of Joint Criminal Enterprise and it has been thoroughly argued in
- 4 written briefs before this Chamber. We respectfully disagree
- 5 with the Pre-Trial Chamber's findings on the issue of Joint
- 6 Criminal Enterprise and invite Your Honours to find the accused
- 7 guilty of the crimes through participation of a Joint Criminal
- 8 Enterprise and, consequently, because of this notice from 2008,
- 9 the accused cannot argue that they have had lack of notice of
- 10 this mode of liability.
- 11 Your Honours, with regards to the accused's physical commission
- 12 of crimes, it's limited to a relatively small but significant
- 13 number of acts. I have referred Your Honours both today and in
- 14 our written briefs to the evidence that clearly proves his
- 15 personal mistreatment and torture of prisoners when he slapped,
- 16 beat and kicked them, as well as ordering prisoners to beat each
- 17 other. Consequently, for these acts, he should be found quilty
- 18 under the mode of physical commission.
- 19 [09.14.28]
- 20 We therefore, Your Honours, ask that you find the accused guilty
- 21 on all counts for committing, planning, instigating and ordering
- 22 the crimes, as well as for failing to prevent or punish his
- 23 subordinates as a superior. Although the accused's actions would
- 24 clearly qualify his participation under the form of aiding and
- 25 abetting the crimes, we submit that the other modes of liability

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- 1 better reflect the seriousness of his acts.
- 2 For all the reasons I have mentioned, we wish to submit that the
- 3 prosecution has proved beyond reasonable doubt that the accused
- 4 bears criminal responsibility for the following offences: crimes
- 5 against humanity, namely murder, extermination, enslavement,
- 6 rape, imprisonment, torture, persecutions on political and racial
- 7 grounds, and other inhumane acts; in relation to grave breaches
- 8 of the Geneva Conventions against the Vietnamese civilians and
- 9 military prisoners of war, namely wilful killing, torture and
- 10 inhumane treatment, wilfully causing great suffering or serious
- 11 bodily injury, wilfully depriving a prisoner of war or civilian
- 12 the right to a fair and regular trial, and unlawful confinement
- 13 of a civilian; and torture and homicide contrary to the Cambodian
- 14 Penal Code of 1956.
- 15 [09.16.21]
- 16 Your Honours, I will now turn to the second part of our
- 17 submission today. The issue is sentencing.
- 18 Your judgement on these crimes will be unprecedented in Cambodian
- 19 judicial history. There are no guiding principles in national
- 20 law, in particular for crimes against humanity and grave breaches
- 21 of the Geneva Conventions. And apart from the minimum and
- 22 maximum penalties prescribed under the ECCC law, five years to
- 23 life imprisonment, this law, the agreement and the Internal Rules
- 24 do not provide any additional assistance. Therefore, this
- 25 Chamber is bound to examine the sentencing principles found in

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- 1 other international criminal tribunals dealing with similar
- 2 crimes. I will now deal with each principle in turn.
- 3 It's widely accepted that the most important consideration in
- 4 determining a sentence is the gravity or the seriousness of the
- 5 crime. The sentence must reflect the inherent gravity or
- 6 totality of the criminal conduct of the accused. Gravity of the
- 7 crime is, therefore, the starting point for the Chamber's
- 8 deliberations upon the appropriate sentencing range.
- 9 Under international jurisprudence the gravity of a crime is to be
- 10 assessed by considering at least three factors: one, the nature
- 11 of the crimes and the means by which they are committed; two, the
- 12 extent of impact upon the victims; and three, the degree of
- 13 participation of the accused. I will now examine these factors
- 14 separately.
- 15 Regarding the nature of the crimes and the means by which they
- 16 were committed, there is no doubt that the crimes at S-21 were of
- 17 the utmost gravity both in number and type. More than 12,000
- 18 human lives were destroyed. A large percentage of these victims
- 19 were brutally tortured. All suffered unspeakable conditions.
- 20 Most significantly, these crimes were not a collection of
- 21 individual random acts of brutality that occurred sporadically or
- 22 without design, they occurred daily, systematically and
- 23 deliberately within the 41-month life of the prison. These acts
- 24 are heinous and shocking.
- 25 [09.19.03]

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- 1 Now, regarding the impact of the crimes on the victims and
- 2 witnesses, particular consideration is given to the long-term
- 3 physical and psychological effects suffered. This impact extends
- 4 to the family and friends of the victims as well as the wider
- 5 community.
- 6 As we know, for a prisoner, S-21 was a place of no return. Only
- 7 a handful survived. Three survivors who testified are
- 8 permanently scarred, mentally and physically, from their
- 9 imprisonment and mistreatment. These men have testified in
- 10 graphic detail of their suffering which has caused them to endure
- 11 it to this very day. They have suffered emotional instability,
- 12 anguish, anxiety, nightmares, knowing their survival was but pure
- 13 chance.
- 14 For the victims of S-21 who did not survive, a network of
- 15 traumatized family members and friends extends across not only
- 16 Cambodia, but across the entire world. Civil parties have
- 17 testified that the murder of their loved ones has ripped their
- 18 families apart. Evidence has been heard that such suffering has
- 19 led them or some family members to commit suicide as the only way
- 20 to deal with their grief. The number of these relatives and
- 21 friends directly affected by the loss at S-21 is unknown, but
- 22 almost certainly reaches to the tens, if not hundreds, of
- thousands.
- 24 There also should not be forgotten that there were many
- 25 lower-ranking staff members at S-21, most from poor, peasant

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- 1 backgrounds who were forced to participate in the crimes against
- 2 their will. These staff, recruited by the accused, will suffer
- 3 today from what they saw and what they were ordered to do.
- 4 Clearly, the costs and consequences of the crimes at S-21 for the
- 5 wider community are still being felt today. For example, Dr.
- 6 Chim Sotheara testified at length about the country-wide,
- 7 post-traumatic stress disorder suffered by the victims of the CPK
- 8 crimes. The crimes at S-21 form an integral part of these crimes
- 9 which have left a legacy of trauma, violence, depression,
- 10 separation and destruction of familial, cultural and societal
- 11 identity.
- 12 [09.21.54]
- 13 Your Honours, the extent of the accused's participation must also
- 14 be considered in determining the sentence. Under international
- 15 criminal law, cases often fall into two categories; one, where
- 16 the accused inflicts pain and suffering upon the victims with his
- 17 own hands; and two, where the accused, because of his superior
- 18 position, was able to inflict his pain and suffering through
- 19 others. When an accused is both a superior and an active
- 20 participant in the crimes, he becomes more culpable. Similarly,
- 21 where an accused displays enthusiasm while he participates in the
- 22 crime, the crime is viewed as more serious. The same is true
- 23 when the accused commits the crime voluntarily, willingly,
- 24 knowingly and with premeditation.
- 25 As we've explained earlier, the accused voluntarily joined and

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- 1 stayed with the CPK in full knowledge of the violence with which
- 2 it sought to achieve it's aims. Over the course of his
- 3 involvement, he worked his way up the CPK hierarchy, becoming a
- 4 highly reliable and trusted security expert working in close
- 5 co-operation with the very highest leaders of the party.
- 6 In committing these crimes, the accused exhibited great zeal and
- 7 enthusiasm. He was a committed teacher who relished transforming
- 8 individuals into torturers and killers. He was a perfectionist
- 9 who took pleasure in assuring the proper administration of S-21
- 10 whether it be by choosing locations, training staff, devising
- 11 questions or ordering interrogation and torture techniques. In
- 12 his role as Chairman, the accused was significantly responsible
- 13 for the widening net of torture, terror and suffering in
- 14 Cambodia. Because of his analysis of confessions and subsequent
- 15 recommendations, thousands were arrested, tortured and ultimately
- 16 executed.
- 17 [09.24.10]
- 18 Within S-21, he ordered his subordinates to interrogate and kill.
- 19 By his own admission, he toured interrogations cells. He
- 20 personally kicked and hit prisoners and caused prisoners to beat
- 21 each other. His faith in the CPK was unqualified. It allowed
- 22 him to remain absolutely committed to his role in the system and
- 23 indifferent to the suffering of the victims or their pleas for
- 24 mercy. Taken as a whole, his extensive participation in the
- 25 crimes made him one of the most effective tools of the CPK's

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- 1 policy by seeking out, arresting and killing its perceived
- 2 enemies. The crimes committed by the accused at S-21 are rarely
- 3 matched in modern history in terms of their combined barbarity,
- 4 scope, duration, premeditation and callousness.
- 5 I would now like to turn to the circumstance of the accused as a
- 6 factor to be considered in sentencing. Particularly relevant are
- 7 his age and education at the time that he joined S-21. Unlike
- 8 most of the staff he employed, the accused was highly educated,
- 9 intelligent and exceptionally logical. It is clear that he had
- 10 the ability to move towards the CPK or away from it, and he made
- 11 his choice. When he started at S-21 in his early 30s, he was not
- 12 naïve and impressionable like most of the staff he personally
- 13 employed and indoctrinated.
- 14 Having spent four years as the Chairman of M-13, he knew what was
- 15 expected of him. Although perhaps less sophisticated in its
- 16 operations than S-21, M-13 had the same purpose and method of
- 17 operation; its goal was to arrest, detain, interrogate, torture
- 18 and execute CPK's enemies. From his experience, the accused was
- 19 not just well versed in the ordering of interrogation, torture
- 20 and killing, he had personally tortured many times himself.
- 21 Therefore, from the moment he was asked to establish S-21, his
- 22 second interrogation, torture and killing centre, the accused
- 23 understood the exact nature of the undertaking and he was ready
- 24 and willing to accept it. The fact that he was an intelligent
- 25 man who had undergone extensive education when he made his free

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- 1 choice is a relevant matter that the Chamber should consider in
- 2 sentencing.
- 3 [09.27.11]
- 4 Having dealt with the gravity of the offence, degree of the
- 5 accused's participation and his circumstances, I will now turn to
- 6 factors that international criminal courts consider as
- 7 aggravating in the consideration of an appropriate sentence.
- 8 Three particular recognized aggravating factors are relevant in
- 9 this case. First, the accused's abuse of power, second the
- 10 particular cruelty inflicted and, third, the defencelessness of
- 11 the victims.
- 12 Abuse of power. Although the mere fact that an accused holds a
- 13 position of authority is not an aggravating factor; the manner in
- 14 which that authority is exercised may be. The accused, as a
- 15 prison warden, had legal and moral obligations to protect the
- 16 rights of its detainees, yet, in reality, he presided over the
- 17 systematic mistreatment, torture and murder of those under his
- 18 care.
- 19 At no point during his chairmanship could it be said that he had
- 20 any intention or felt any duty to protect the welfare of the
- 21 prisoners. The accused did and thought the exact opposite. The
- 22 purpose of his role was not to protect but, in fact, to degrade,
- 23 torture and kill those who otherwise should have expected his
- 24 protection.
- 25 Second, turning to the cruelty, the particular cruelty, for which

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- 1 the crimes were committed. International jurisprudence holds
- 2 that the infliction of unusual pain and suffering should be seen
- 3 as aggravating in sentencing. Such pain and suffering must go
- 4 beyond the normal commission of the crime and display a
- 5 particularly savage, sadistic or ruthless quality. And cruelty
- 6 can be considered to be psychological or physical.
- 7 [09.29.32]
- 8 The catalogue of brutality employed by guards and interrogators
- 9 at S-21 was truly grotesque. The prisoners were subjected to
- 10 savage beatings which left them with bloody, exposed wounds.
- 11 Their toenails and fingernails were ripped out with pliers. They
- 12 were humiliated and forced to pay homage to images of dogs and to
- 13 physical objects. Some prisoners were electrocuted to the point
- 14 of unconsciousness; others were nearly drowned. Particularly
- 15 cruel was the force feeding of excrement. Prisoners also
- 16 suffered the horrors of being surgically operated on whilst alive
- 17 and having their blood drawn resulting in a slow, agonizing
- 18 death.
- 19 The brutality of S-21 was particularly unbearable
- 20 psychologically. The terror, shock, fear and utter confusion
- 21 endured by the prisoners is beyond our imagination. These
- 22 prisoners were held in cells, aware of the torture and suffering
- 23 that surrounded them, seeing wounds and moans of the victims that
- 24 foreshadowed their own fate.
- 25 The degrading and humiliating unsanitary conditions in the cells

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- 1 made many prisoners fall sick. Some prisoners died in these
- 2 conditions, their corpses often remaining in the communal leg
- 3 irons for hours or, at times, overnight, before they were taken
- 4 away. Imagine what each prisoner would have felt, lying in those
- 5 shackles, when fellow prisoners disappeared, wondering when their
- 6 name would be called. It's no wonder prisoners committed suicide
- 7 or attempted; believing that ending their pain was better than
- 8 enduring it whilst they lived. Again, from this distance, we
- 9 cannot even begin to understand the extreme psychological effects
- 10 of being subjected to multiple interrogation and torture sessions
- 11 with the savage violence these prisoners endured.
- 12 [09.31.57]
- 13 The final act of cruelty committed against each prisoner came at
- 14 Choeung Ek. Blindfolded and handcuffed, the prisoners were
- 15 forced to kneel down in the dark next to their own burial pits.
- 16 There they waited until the blow of a shovel or cart axle broke
- 17 the back of their heads and, if that did not kill them, their
- 18 throats were slit before they were kicked into their grave.
- 19 Your Honours, the third and final factor we submit for
- 20 consideration as an aggravating factor relates to the particular
- 21 defencelessness of the victims. These prisoners had no
- 22 protection. Starved, shackled, tortured, with no ability to
- 23 defend themselves, they were helpless.
- 24 Yours Honours, we submit that, in this case, all three
- 25 aggravating factors -- abuse of power, particular cruelty in the

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- 1 crimes, and the defencelessness of the victims -- are directly
- 2 relevant and must be taken into account in determining the
- 3 accused's sentence.
- 4 Your Honours, just as you should take into account the
- 5 aggravating factors when determining your sentence, you should
- 6 also take into account any mitigating factors that may be
- 7 present. The defence may argue that the accused committed his
- 8 crimes under duress and because he was acting under superior
- 9 orders. In addition, they may request that you take into account
- 10 his co-operation, his de facto guilty plea, remorse and the
- 11 consequent effect these factors may have on national
- 12 reconciliation in Cambodia.
- 13 [09.33.57]
- 14 I will first discuss duress. As we've explained at length, the
- 15 accused claims he hated his work and committed these crimes under
- 16 duress out of fear that he would be killed if he disobeyed his
- 17 orders and, as I've said it earlier, the evidence does not
- 18 support this interpretation of the facts. The assertion the
- 19 accused was both a hostage and a prisoner of the CPK, even at an
- 20 early stage of his involvement in the criminal activities, is
- 21 contradicted by recollections from François Bizot, his prisoner
- 22 and confidante at M-13. Bizot writes:
- 23 "Terror from that moment became all powerful. It seduced him by
- 24 putting on the face of morality and order."
- 25 Bizot did not see a man in terror, but rather a man of terror.

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- 1 The accused's assertion that he was in fear throughout S-21's
- 2 operations is contradicted by his own statements to the
- 3 Investigating Judges. He told them, and I quote:
- 4 "I was particularly affected after seeing the mass arrest of
- 5 cadre from the Northern Zone on the 31st of January 1977 because
- 6 I felt a lot of sympathy for them. I was terrified. And after
- 7 the arrest of Nget You alias Hong on the 13th of March 1978 and
- 8 Vorn Vet on the 2nd of November 1978, I began to fear for my
- 9 life."
- 10 Therefore, in his own words, he began to fear for his life in
- 11 1978. This is likely to be closer to the truth and conforms with
- 12 the analysis of Dr. Chandler.
- 13 [09.36.16]
- 14 In arguing their claim of duress, the defence contend that the
- 15 fear which motivated the accused emanated from a climate of
- 16 terror that gripped Democratic Kampuchea. The existence of such
- 17 a claim is undoubtedly true and has been established by both
- 18 witness and expert testimonies at trial; that is, the existence
- 19 of a climate of terror. But what the defence have not
- 20 established is that the accused was subject to that terror. In
- 21 fact, the evidence demonstrates that he was unaffected. It
- 22 demonstrates that he was not a victim of terror, but its cause.
- 23 The accused, as protector of the CPK party centre, was entrusted
- 24 with intelligence gathering and state security. His position
- 25 also made him -- in the words of Elizabeth Becker -- "one of the

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- 1 half dozen most important leaders in the country".
- 2 Taken together, the evidence does not show a fearful man. To the
- 3 contrary, it demonstrates a confident man who spreads terror
- 4 across Cambodia through his work at S-21; a man who was
- 5 irreplaceable in his position.
- 6 It's well recognized that totalitarian regimes that maintain
- 7 control through terror -- that they do maintain control through
- 8 terror. It's also accepted that these terror systems often turn
- 9 on their creators. As the philosopher and Holocaust survivor,
- 10 Hannah Arendt states:
- 11 "Terror turns not only against its enemies but against its
- 12 friends and supporters as well. The climax of terror is reached
- 13 when the police state begins to devour its own children; when
- 14 yesterday's executioner becomes today's victim."
- 15 [09.38.26]
- 16 Given the all consuming terror that existed in Democratic
- 17 Kampuchea, it's not surprising that the accused and the other
- 18 senior leaders eventually felt fear. It would be far more
- 19 surprising if they didn't. Ultimately, the fact that the accused
- 20 may have felt fear in 1978 does not overshadow the fact that he
- 21 freely and willingly designed a system of terror or that he was
- 22 once an enthusiastic and willing participant in these crimes.
- 23 Your Honours, the accused should not be able to hide behind the
- 24 effects of the terror that he, in fact, created. Furthermore, he
- 25 cannot be credited for fear he says he may have felt in 1978 when

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- 1 the vast majority of crimes had already been committed.
- 2 The presence of duress is closely linked to the mitigating factor
- 3 of committing crimes pursuant to superior orders. Under Article
- 4 29, it leaves open the possibility that acting pursuant to a
- 5 superior order, at the discretion of this Court, may mitigate
- 6 punishment, although the presence of them cannot be a basis to
- 7 extinguish criminal responsibility. Under international criminal
- 8 law, a subordinate attempting to rely on a superior's orders as a
- 9 mitigating circumstance must show that the orders had an
- 10 influence on his or her behaviour. If the subordinate was
- 11 already prepared to carry out the criminal conduct, no such
- 12 mitigating circumstance can be said to exist.
- 13 This, Your Honours, we submit is a situation in the case of the
- 14 accused. As we've already shown, it was the accused's own desire
- 15 to advance the revolution and smash its enemies and not his
- 16 superiors' specific orders which caused him to participate in the
- 17 crimes in the way he did. He believed in the validity of the
- 18 orders and, in fact, supplied recommendations which in many cases
- 19 led to those orders being issued. For these reasons, we submit
- 20 that the mitigating circumstances of both duress and superior
- 21 orders do not apply in this case.
- 22 I will now turn to four other interrelated mitigating
- 23 circumstances that you may be requested by the accused to take
- 24 into account in determining his sentence. These four are
- 25 co-operation, guilty plea, remorse, and the consequent effect

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- 1 these factors may have on national reconciliation in Cambodia.
- 2 International jurisprudence clearly recognize that an accused's
- 3 co-operation with a prosecutor is a mitigating factor to be taken
- 4 into account in sentencing. Actual credit depends on the quality
- 5 and quantity of the information provided and whether it was given
- 6 voluntarily and selflessly without asking for anything in return.
- 7 When co-operation makes the trial more efficient, substantial
- 8 credit can be given. Consequently, early co-operation in the
- 9 process will have a greater value.
- 10 [09.41.59]
- 11 An accused can also co-operate by testifying against others in a
- 12 subsequent trial. The information by the accused must strengthen
- 13 known facts and, therefore, save resources during trial or the
- 14 investigation. If the information provided is limited or if it
- 15 is not wholly true, the giving of that information is
- 16 insufficient mitigation. Your Honours, I will suggest that in
- 17 this case the easiest way to assess the accused's co-operation is
- 18 by looking at his actions prior to his arrest and through to his
- 19 investigation and trial.
- 20 After the accused committed his crimes at S-21, he made a choice
- 21 not to surrender himself to the authorities. In fact, he missed
- 22 every opportunity to do so from 1979 until his discovery and
- 23 arrest in 1999. For 20 years he lived as a fugitive; for the
- 24 first 15 with the former senior leaders of the CPK.
- 25 The accused and his work colleagues testified that in the 1990s

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- 1 he concealed his past by changing his name and not revealing his
- 2 role as chief torturer and executioner of S-21. He said he
- 3 changed his name particularly to avoid being located by
- 4 investigative journalists. This, of course, would have
- 5 jeopardized his freedom.
- 6 One of those investigative journalists, Nic Dunlop, tracked him
- 7 down in 1999 and that ultimately led to his arrest. It was only
- 8 after he was confronted by Dunlop with evidence of his
- 9 involvement in S-21 that the accused considered it impossible to
- 10 deny the truth.
- 11 He also made it clear in these proceedings that had he not been
- 12 found by Dunlop it was unlikely he would be on trial. He stated
- 13 that, "Everything was compromised when Nic Dunlop found me".
- 14 It's on the 2nd of September, page 55 and 56.
- 15 [09.44.30]
- 16 Years after his arrest, it appeared that the perseverance of
- 17 Dunlop infuriated the accused. Whilst the accused was in
- 18 custody, Dunlop records in his book asking his lawyer, Mr. Kar
- 19 Savuth, how the accused felt about being arrested when so many
- 20 others were walking free. Mr. Kar Savuth told him that the
- 21 accused was angry, saying "It was because of you that he was put
- 22 in jail".
- 23 However, Your Honours, while in custody and over time, after
- 24 receiving legal advice the accused has come to accept that he
- 25 does bear individual responsibility for the crimes at S-21; that

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- 1 he cannot just blame the policies of the senior CPK leaders for
- 2 his actions. After this realization, he has provided evidence to
- 3 the Investigating Judges and prosecution on the inner workings of
- 4 S-21, and he's provided evidence on the structure and policies of
- 5 the CPK and the implementation of those criminal policies during
- 6 the DK period. And he's also provided information which is of
- 7 significant value in the prosecution of other senior leaders.
- 8 That said -- and we welcome that and he should be given some
- 9 credit for that -- but that said, with regard to his own
- 10 responsibility, as we have submitted he has only admitted part of
- 11 the truth. Despite accepting general overall responsibility for
- 12 the crimes he is, in effect, telling the Court, "I did terrible
- 13 things but it's not really my fault. It's the fault of my
- 14 superiors." It should also be recalled that he has mostly
- 15 admitted crimes that are undoubtedly established by the
- 16 documentary evidence and not more.
- 17 Your Honours, the accused's lack of co-operation with the Court
- 18 in deciding to only admit a limited responsibility for the crimes
- 19 to minimize his sentence is further demonstrated in the defence
- 20 strategy at Trial. The defence have continually tried to limit
- 21 the scope of the evidence and the ability of this Trial Chamber
- 22 to review the relevant facts of this case. This has been done
- 23 through a number of legal challenges. If you look at the
- 24 cumulative effect of these challenges, it's clear that they've
- 25 been designed to reduce the impact of the crimes and his personal

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- 1 responsibility. I will briefly outline some aspects of this
- 2 strategy.
- 3 [09.47.35]
- 4 First, at the outset of this case in their opening, the defence
- 5 were effectively asking you to find that there was little
- 6 evidence to support the personal jurisdiction requirement
- 7 necessary to prosecute the accused arguing, on the one hand, that
- 8 this jurisdictional element is not made out and yet, on the other
- 9 hand, stating that the accused has been completely co-operative
- 10 with the Court, and yet still trying to undermine the case
- 11 against him. I'm referring to the jurisdictional requirement
- 12 that the accused was either a senior leader or most responsible
- 13 for the crimes in Democratic Kampuchea.
- 14 Second, the defence's objection to the admission of any evidence
- 15 or testimony concerning the accused's prior conduct and prior
- 16 behaviour occurring for four years at the M-13 security centre
- 17 was clearly designed to reduce the ability of this Trial Chamber
- 18 to determine his motive and intent for committing the crimes at
- 19 S-21.
- 20 By trying to restrict Your Honours from hearing this evidence,
- 21 Your Honours would have had less ability to address the key issue
- 22 in this case as the accused's willingness to commit the crimes at
- 23 S-21. They did not want you to take into account the fact that
- 24 he was an experienced, hardened torturer and killer well before
- 25 arriving at S-21. Yet the defence were more than happy for Your

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- 1 Honours to hear of his good character in his early years as a
- 2 student and teacher before arriving at S-21.
- 3 [09.49.35]
- 4 Third, the defence objection to the submission by the prosecution
- 5 of detailed witness summaries of every key witness statement in
- 6 this case to the Trial Chamber was clearly motivated to ensure
- 7 that the impact of the crimes and the role of the accused was
- 8 less easily discovered. The practice of providing comprehensive
- 9 summaries of large amounts of evidence, particularly witness
- 10 statements, is common at other international criminal courts.
- 11 This is to ensure that the focus is kept on the key issues so
- 12 that all parties, including the Chamber, do not become lost in a
- 13 sea of evidence. In effect, these tools are a road map to assist
- 14 the Trial Chamber and the parties to understand the key issues of
- 15 the case more quickly. The purpose of the objections was clear.
- 16 Less clarity in the case would lead to less clarity as to the
- 17 role of the accused and the impact of the crimes.
- 18 Fourth, the defence clearly attempted to inhibit the flow of
- 19 evidence to this Chamber by objecting to a proposed reserve
- 20 witness list. A reserve witness list was put forward by the
- 21 prosecutors to fill potential evidentiary gaps that may have been
- 22 left if the scheduled witnesses suffered memory loss or were
- 23 reluctant to tell the truth. Due to the fact that the parties
- 24 were not able to assess the reliability of a witness by meeting
- 25 them prior to the trial, it submitted that the reserve list

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- 1 proposal was reasonable. In this case particularly, there was a
- 2 reasonable risk to take into account, bearing in mind most
- 3 witnesses who survived were the staff at S-21.
- 4 [09.51.32]
- 5 To put it mildly, it was reasonable to expect that these
- 6 witnesses would have been less than enthusiastic about testifying
- 7 due to feelings of personal guilt and embarrassment of having
- 8 participated in the crimes at S-21. With the first S-21 staff
- 9 witness, these predictions proved to be true.
- 10 As these witnesses continued to come, it was evident that there
- 11 was a general reluctance by most of them to talk freely,
- 12 especially in public and in the presence of their former chief.
- 13 Luckily, most of them gave prior statements in the judicial
- 14 investigation, allowing them at the least to be firmly guided
- 15 back to a truer account of events.
- 16 Fifth, and unfortunately for this case, the defence decided to
- 17 energetically take over the Court's role of advising the first
- 18 S-21 interrogator witness that if he testified it was quite
- 19 possible he would be prosecuted for crimes he may have committed
- 20 at S-21 in the national courts. Despite the fact that this
- 21 possibility on any account was less than remote, the effect of
- 22 raising that fear by the defence in the manner that it did in the
- 23 mind of the first S-21 witness, sent a message through the media
- 24 to all the remaining S-21 witnesses that testifying was a risky
- 25 business.

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- 1 These early warnings, beyond the defence's mandate, done in
- 2 public, based on dubious legal reasoning no doubt put fear into
- 3 every S-21 witness into fully disclosing what they knew about the
- 4 crimes and the accused's role at S-21. We can only speculate
- 5 what effect these unsolicited warnings had on the witnesses, but
- 6 we can certainly say the warnings of the defence did not
- 7 encourage the witnesses to tell the truth.
- 8 [09.53.41]
- 9 Amazingly, when witnesses like Mam Nai clearly did not tell the
- 10 truth, the defence appeared to take great satisfaction about such
- 11 failure. Here's an actual quote from the defence counsel
- 12 following Mam Nai's testimony:
- 13 "Mr. Prosecutor, I'd like to thank you. If you have any other
- 14 witnesses like this one, please do not hesitate to call them."
- 15 This remark by the defence was particularly disturbing, bearing
- 16 in mind Mam Nai was the very witness they warned of the dangers
- 17 of testifying in this Court.
- 18 Your Honours, the accused and the defence may submit to this
- 19 Court, "We are co-operating and want to admit full responsibility
- 20 and have told the truth about S-21 to assist in this country's
- 21 reconciliation process". It's difficult to see how taking such
- 22 great satisfaction from witnesses not telling the truth in this
- 23 assists that process.
- 24 Finally, the defence have also attempted to limit the flow of
- 25 documentary evidence to the Chamber which would otherwise assist

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- 1 it in resolving the factual issues in this case. For example,
- 2 the documents supporting Craig Etcheson's expert report, the
- 3 armed conflict documents and documents containing annotations of
- 4 the accused's handwriting were all challenged by the defence on
- 5 the basis that they were unnecessary and repetitive. This led to
- 6 time-consuming and unnecessary argument before the Chamber about
- 7 the relevance and probative value of such documents.
- 8 So, Your Honours, to sum up. What is the overall effect of the
- 9 accused's co-operation with this Court? It should be judged at
- 10 two levels. At one level, he has co-operated by providing
- 11 evidence that has given the Court a better understanding of the
- 12 CPK regime, its criminal policies, its structure and
- 13 communication methods, as well as the inner workings of S-21. At
- 14 the same time, he has assisted in providing valuable information
- 15 which will assist the prosecution of other suspects. Therefore,
- 16 he has provided valuable information to the prosecution.
- 17 [09.56.05]
- 18 However, at another level, he has been unco-operative and not
- 19 truthful about his role at S-21. He has sought to shift
- 20 responsibility for his crimes elsewhere and in a number of cases
- 21 where he has given truthful answers, it was largely because he
- 22 found it difficult to maintain the falsehood, particularly when
- 23 he was less conscious of maintaining his defence.
- 24 As I've illustrated, through his defence the accused has been
- 25 less than co-operative by attempting to limit the evidence flow

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- 1 and clarity of the evidence so as to reduce this Chamber's
- 2 ability to understand the full gravity and impact of the crimes
- 3 and the accused's role in them. Of course, these challenges and
- 4 objections are within their rights. However, you cannot heavily
- 5 challenge the trial process at every stage and then claim at the
- 6 end that you are co-operating.
- 7 I will now move to two interrelated mitigating factors, the
- 8 entering of a guilty plea and expression of remorse. Both of
- 9 these acts require a level of sincerity and honesty on the part
- 10 of the accused. Although there is no concept of guilty plea
- 11 under ECCC and Cambodian law, Your Honours are required to
- 12 evaluate the accused's admissions when considering the
- 13 appropriate sentence. Full admissions of responsibility and
- 14 unequivocal guilty pleas can be particularly beneficial for
- 15 victims and play an important role in reconciliation and
- 16 establishment of an historical record.
- 17 [09.57.53]
- 18 I will not repeat our arguments about the fact that the accused
- 19 has not been truthful about his willing role in carrying out the
- 20 crimes at S-21, but will simply ask Your Honours to take them
- 21 into account. No one should make the mistake of believing that
- 22 this case is equal to an unqualified guilty plea before an
- 23 international tribunal. It should be recalled that significant
- 24 differences remain between the prosecution and the defence in
- 25 relation to the issue of the accused's voluntary and active

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- 1 involvement in the crimes.
- 2 We acknowledge that as these proceedings have continued, the
- 3 accused has appeared to make more concessions about this role.
- 4 This was also the case with the Investigating Judges. We accept
- 5 that even this qualified acceptance of responsibility may have
- 6 helped some of the victims' families, corroborated the available
- 7 evidence and facilitated, to some extent, the shortening of this
- 8 first Trial. And yet it should be recalled that whenever pressed
- 9 on his own involvement, the accused has been consistently
- 10 recalcitrant and in our view, dishonest.
- 11 As an example, I would refer Your Honours to Judge Cartwright's
- 12 questioning of the accused on the issue of his character, in the
- 13 final stages of the Trial. Despite Her Honour putting to him
- 14 evidence which showed that his behaviour at S-21 far exceeded
- 15 that of someone who acted under threat or otherwise unwillingly,
- 16 he failed to make one concession. This was the accused's
- 17 opportunity to speak candidly and openly to the Chamber and he
- 18 abandoned it.
- 19 What are we left with? Essentially, the accused's claim that he
- 20 was forced to torture and kill against his will unless, of
- 21 course, he now chooses to take us up on the offer we made earlier
- 22 and confirms the brief statement he made when questioned by his
- 23 counsel. The accused must accept the reality that unless he
- 24 faces up to the truth and admits that he committed his crimes as
- 25 a devoted man with the enthusiasm and zeal of an ardent

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- 1 revolutionary, he has not accepted full responsibility for the
- 2 crimes in this Court.
- 3 [10.00.17]
- 4 Your Honours, as with admissions of guilt, the Trial Chamber must
- 5 evaluate whether an expression of remorse is genuine. It's fair
- 6 to observe that the accused's expressions of remorse have been
- 7 numerous. Yet that remorse is clearly limited by the
- 8 considerations of denial of responsibility to which I have just
- 9 referred. The evidence from the psychologists is that the
- 10 accused has an inability to empathize but the psychologists have
- 11 also said, in effect, he's a pragmatist. They suggested that
- 12 that he converted to Christianity because he took the view that
- 13 Communism was a spent force.
- 14 To the extent that the accused has expressed remorse openly in
- 15 these public proceedings, it is a relevant consideration for this
- 16 Chamber. However, in light of his failing to admit his full
- 17 responsibility in the crimes and his limited ability to empathize
- 18 with the victims, this consideration should be limited.
- 19 Finally, the defence have argued that the accused's co-operation
- 20 and remorse will contribute to national reconciliation and that
- 21 that will be best achieved by a sizeable reduction in his
- 22 sentence. In our view, while national reconciliation is a
- 23 legitimate consideration for this Court, the accused's behaviour
- 24 has not added significantly to it. The central purpose of this
- 25 trial is to ascertain the truth, impose a just and proportionate

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- 1 sentence and end impunity.
- 2 [10.02.06]
- 3 To the extent that that process will contribute to national
- 4 reconciliation, we submit that a heavily reduced sentence will,
- 5 in fact, hamper and not help the attainment of national
- 6 reconciliation in Cambodia. But first it must be said that
- 7 national reconciliation is a by-product of a criminal trial, not
- 8 its purpose. As much as the defence would prefer a truth and
- 9 reconciliation process that simply lays out the facts, Cambodia
- 10 and the international community chose instead a court of law that
- 11 applies imprisonment as punishment if convictions are found. It
- 12 should be recalled that before this trial, he opted to stay with
- 13 the Khmer Rouge until only a few years before his arrest. His
- 14 current qualified co-operation, admissions and remorse, while
- 15 helpful, confirming that the Khmer Rouge committed international
- 16 crimes, cannot claim to have any discernable impact on peace in
- 17 Cambodia or in the minds of the victims.
- 18 More significantly, the defence have failed to show how a lighter
- 19 sentence would have any effect on national reconciliation. For
- 20 example, would there be public disapproval and unrest were the
- 21 accused to receive a sentence of long-term imprisonment? Our
- 22 understanding of the facts and sentiments in the Cambodian
- 23 community is quite the contrary. We believe that to take the
- 24 first step in righting the wrongs of S-21, humanity must be made
- 25 whole by sternly punishing one of its own for ignoring it so

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- 1 gravely. Doing so will do far more for humanity, and even the
- 2 accused's humanity, than giving in to a misguided notion that a
- 3 disproportionately low sentence somehow facilitates
- 4 reconciliation.
- 5 [10.04.17]
- 6 Your Honours, the next factor I'll turn to in favour of the
- 7 accused is the time that he's previously spent awaiting trial in
- 8 custody. This Chamber has already ruled that, upon conviction,
- 9 he's entitled credit for time served in detention of the ECCC
- 10 since the 31st of July 2007 and for the eight years, two months
- 11 and 20 days he was detained under the orders of the Cambodian
- 12 military court prior to his transfer to the ECCC.
- 13 Your Honours have also ruled that the accused is entitled to an
- 14 additional remedy to compensate him for the serious violation of
- 15 his rights in being detained contrary to applicable law. The
- 16 case law of other international tribunals suggests that such a
- 17 remedy would require a specific reduction in sentence. The ICTR
- 18 cases of Barayagwiza and Kajelijeli are particularly relevant.
- 19 In these two cases, the accused received reductions of their
- 20 sentence of life imprisonment to sentences of 35 and 45 years,
- 21 respectively, due to the violation of their rights and being
- 22 unlawfully detained.
- 23 The Co-Prosecutors recognize that the violations of the accused's
- 24 rights in this case are more serious than in either of those two
- 25 cases. The maximum length of a pre-trial detention under

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- 1 Cambodian law for the offences with which the accused was charged
- 2 is three years. It follows that at least the additional five
- 3 years, two months and twenty days of his pre-trial detention by
- 4 the military court were unlawful. The Chamber has pointed out
- 5 to other irregularities in the accused's detention by the
- 6 military court, including a failure on the part of the
- 7 authorities to carry out a substantial and systematic
- 8 investigation into the allegations against him.
- 9 [10.06.29]
- 10 Here before the ECCC, as before every properly constituted court
- in the world, the rule of law must be applied. The principals of
- 12 fair trial and due process must be applied. Therefore, when an
- 13 accused is not brought to trial within a reasonable period of
- 14 time or is held in pre-trial detention without proper
- 15 justification, such violations must be remedied. And because the
- 16 violations of the accused's rights are so substantial, the only
- 17 reasonable response is to grant a remedy that would affect the
- 18 ultimate sentence he must serve for these crimes.
- 19 In a case such as this, given the gravity of the crimes and the
- 20 extensive aggravating circumstances, the starting point for
- 21 considering a sentence must be life imprisonment. However, the
- 22 clear principals established by international jurisprudence
- 23 require the Trial Chamber to take this breach into account.
- 24 The Co-Prosecutors submit that the fair and appropriate course
- 25 for the Trial Chamber would be to commute the sentence of life

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- 1 which would have otherwise have been imposed to a determinate
- 2 sentence, such reduction to be an express and measurable remedy
- 3 for the breach of the accused's rights. And this leads me to my
- 4 conclusion.
- 5 Let's recall that unlike his prisoners at S-21 to whom this
- 6 accused denied even the slightest shred of humanity, he has been
- 7 met with open even-handed justice in this Court. He has received
- 8 a fair trial in accordance with the law and a bench of
- 9 independent and impartial judges. If convicted, he will be
- 10 sentenced to a punishment proportionate to those crimes.
- 11 Although he belonged to one of the most murderous and barbarous
- 12 regimes in the history of mankind, he will be sentenced only for
- 13 the crimes he committed.
- 14 [10.09.03]
- 15 At S-21, prisoners never received such treatment. They were
- 16 falsely accused and arbitrarily punished. No counsel argued
- 17 their case, no opportunity to confront their accusers at a public
- 18 trial, no ability to challenge the verdict and sentence in a
- 19 higher court. On the contrary, the accused insured they were
- 20 treated as animals. To him, they were enemies of the state who
- 21 deserved no mercy and no compassion.
- 22 Of course, Your Honours, nothing can justify the brutality and
- 23 humanity at S-21 and yet this accused clearly believed the
- 24 unthinkable acts perpetrated on the victims were not only
- 25 justified but necessary. Nothing shook that misguided belief

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- 1 throughout the years during which he engineered, perfected and
- 2 meticulously managed the CPK's most effective killing machine.
- 3 As we've illustrated, he worked tirelessly to identify, arrest
- 4 and smash perceived enemies. He created the very multiplier
- 5 effect which spread the web of S-21 throughout Cambodia.
- 6 The accused's repeated apologies and his tears at Choeung Ek when
- 7 confronted with the skulls of thousands of his victims, will be
- 8 held up to Your Honours as evidence of his contrition. We do
- 9 acknowledge that he's admitted the majority of the underlying
- 10 crimes at S-21 and his responsibility as Chairman and yet, you
- 11 must view his alleged remorse in the context of his continued
- 12 refusal to admit his active and enthusiastic participation in the
- 13 crimes.
- 14 Clearly, Your Honours, any denial of the base crimes at S-21
- 15 would have been futile in the face of the physical, testimonial
- 16 and expert evidence before this Court, but wherever possible, the
- 17 accused has adamantly sought to minimize his role. He accepts
- 18 responsibility only on his own terms where he attempts to paint a
- 19 picture of himself as an unwilling participant caught up in a
- 20 machine he could not escape; trapped by secrecy and terror. You
- 21 must not allow him to hide behind these false claims. You must
- 22 recall that he was not a victim of the system, but its loyal and
- 23 dedicated agent.
- 24 [10.11.59]
- 25 Mr. President, allow me to refer to a quote which encapsulates

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- 1 the dilemma that human dignity would have put before the accused
- 2 when he perpetrated these crimes. William Shawcross, the leading
- 3 British prosecutor at the Nuremburg War Crimes Trial, said:
- 4 "There comes a point when a man must refuse to answer to his
- 5 leader if he is also to answer to his own conscience."
- 6 Your Honours, in committing these crimes, the accused abandoned
- 7 his conscience. In fact, he abandoned every duty we, as human
- 8 beings, owe to one another.
- 9 The primary focus of this trial must be the gravity of the
- 10 crimes, their impact on the victims, and the accused's role in
- 11 the infliction of that suffering. The sentence must, therefore,
- 12 properly reflect the destruction the accused perpetrated so
- 13 willingly and enthusiastically. It must reflect his conscious
- 14 and free choice to abandon all respect for human life and his
- 15 choice of abuse of power over conscience.
- 16 In ordinary circumstances, in case of conviction, the only
- 17 appropriate punishment for the accused would be a life sentence
- 18 of imprisonment. In this case, however, specific factors warrant
- 19 a reduction from life imprisonment to a fixed number of years.
- 20 First, we submit that the conversion of a life sentence to 45
- 21 years would provide an express, measurable and appropriate remedy
- 22 for the accused's prior unlawful detention.
- 23 [10.14.06]
- 24 Second, we ask that a further reduction of five years be granted
- 25 for his general co-operation, limited acceptance of

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- 1 responsibility, his conditional remorse, and the possible affect
- 2 it may have on national reconciliation.
- 3 We submit, therefore, that the sentence to be imposed by this
- 4 Trial Chamber should be 40 years imprisonment.
- 5 Your Honours, we ask you to remember the stories of the thousands
- 6 of those victims who suffered at S-21. Your Honours should be
- 7 mindful of the dreams and opportunities that were denied. Also,
- 8 keep in mind the S-21's unrelenting brutality that was meted out
- 9 with no mercy to all prisoners, including hundreds of children,
- 10 the most defenceless of victims.
- 11 Finally, bear in mind the loss and suffering of the families of
- 12 those victims who are still suffering to this very day. Not just
- 13 the victims and their families, but the whole of humanity demands
- 14 a just and proportionate response to these crimes and this Court
- 15 must speak on behalf of that humanity. It must punish the
- 16 accused justly and send a clear message that crimes like these
- 17 must never be perpetrated again.
- 18 Cambodians have come to this Court from their towns and villages
- 19 from around the country. Many have come from overseas and
- 20 millions of others are watching intently on TV. They are waiting
- 21 for a justice that tells us how humanity will be protected. They
- 22 are waiting for a justice that tells them and tells those distant
- 23 voices from S-21 that this justice was done in their name, every
- 24 single one of them.
- 25 [10.16.44]

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- 1 Mr. President, Your Honours, let your judgement speak for justice
- 2 in finding this accused guilty and imposing the sentence we have
- 3 recommended; a sentence which reflects criminal responsibility
- 4 for more than 12,000 crimes. In imposing this penalty, you are
- 5 not taking away the accused's humanity, but you are giving it
- 6 back; back to the victims of S-21.
- 7 That concludes the prosecution's final statement, Your Honours.
- 8 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 9 The floor will be then given to the defence counsel to make their
- 10 oral closing statement, however, since it is now an appropriate
- 11 time to take an adjournment and we do not wish to interrupt mid
- 12 of their submission, so it would be appropriate to take the
- 13 adjournment for 20 minutes. The session will be resumed by
- 14 twenty to eleven.
- 15 (Judges exit courtroom)
- 16 (Court recesses from 1018H to 1040H)
- 17 (Judges enter courtroom)
- 18 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 19 Please be seated. The Court is now in session.
- 20 In a moment, we are going to hear the remarks from defence
- 21 counsel and the accused who will be presenting their closing
- 22 statements. The Chamber would like to remind the accused and his
- 23 counsel that you will have seven hours-and-a-half all together
- 24 for the counsel and the accused.
- 25 And the Chamber would like to be informed from the defence

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- 1 counsel whether the counsel would wish to make the closing
- 2 statement first or would it wish to give the floor to the accused
- 3 to make such remarks?
- 4 [10.41.55]
- 5 MR. KAR SAVUTH:
- 6 Mr. President, may it please the Court, the accused is allowed to
- 7 make his final remarks first.
- 8 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 9 The accused, you may now proceed with your closing remarks. You
- 10 can do that while you are still on your feet. It would be good.
- 11 THE ACCUSED:
- 12 Mr. President and Your Honours, I am very grateful to you for
- 13 giving me this opportunity to make my final remarks.
- 14 To begin with, I would like to read the statement I prepared
- 15 which is about the continuous killing by the Communist Party of
- 16 Kampuchea, CPK. The objective is to ascertain the general aspect
- 17 from which a particular aspect can be derived in accordance with
- 18 the general and particular principle, both being usual
- 19 contributors.
- 20 The general aspect in this case refers to the killing carried out
- 21 by the CPK during its entire history, whereas the particular
- 22 aspect refers to the crimes committed from the 17th of April 1975
- 23 to the 6th of January 1979 at S-21 in particular.
- 24 Killings before the 17th of April 1975.
- 25 1. The CPK began to kill people as soon as it began to carve out

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- 1 a liberated sector.
- 2 2. The misleading slogan used to conceal the CPK's crimes was to
- 3 destroy infiltrators in order to protect the revolutionary force.
- 4 3. The most publicized song at the supporting base was entitled
- 5 "The Malicious Infiltrator".
- 6 People who entered from the Lon Nol Sector.
- 7 4. During that time, people in the territory occupied by Lon Nol
- 8 forces who entered the liberated sector would definitely be
- 9 arrested and sent to the police office.
- 10 5. The police office had to be ready to receive the arrested
- 11 people so as to have them detained, interrogated and smashed.
- 12 Smashing the enemy was the policy adopted by the Party.
- 13 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 14 The accused, could you please hold on? You now may be seated
- 15 while reading your document but, number two, could you please be
- 16 reminded that you have been rather fast, and for the good record
- 17 could you please repeat point number 5 so that the interpreters
- 18 could well catch up with what you are saying?
- 19 THE ACCUSED:
- 20 People in the liberated sector.
- 21 7. Having read and analyzed the text in the Revolutionary Flag
- 22 magazine, the second semester issue of the 1971, particularly the
- 23 text on the experience acquired in the suppression of the Khut
- 24 Oudomvong Ratana and rebellion, I am convinced that there were
- 25 arrests and executions of people in the liberated sector as from

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- 1 the beginning. The sector armed force was deployed to oppose
- 2 those who engaged in armed rebellion against them. Suspects were
- 3 arrested and sent to the police office.
- 4 [10.47.45]
- 5 III. The people in the supporting base.
- 6 8. Amleang Commune in Thpong District, Kampong Speu province,
- 7 was the supporting base. Widespread and systematic arrests of
- 8 the children of Amleang villagers were carried out after the B-52
- 9 bombs had been dropped on Kraing Thkov village which was a zone
- 10 office location. There were human casualties.
- 11 Next I would like to report on the actual situation. A day after
- 12 the bombardment Ung Choeun, alias Mok, ordered the arrest of
- 13 three Chinese who he suspected and had them sent to M-13. Mok
- 14 ordered Chou Chet alias Sy, to observe this interrogation closely
- 15 in order to ensure that the problem was solved in good time.
- 16 When suspicions and arrests proliferated, two people arrived
- 17 separately in Amleang in order to live there. Other people, the
- 18 children of Amleang villagers, each sought refuge in sight in
- 19 turn. A while later they left.
- 20 [10.49.16]
- 21 The four of them were arrested by the zone and sent to M-13.
- 22 Three confessed that they were asked to infiltrate the area. The
- 23 fourth person who was a middle-aged man with a full-grown
- 24 daughter had abducted his best friend's wife to Udong. He
- 25 confessed that Colonel Hang Yiv and Lieutenant Colonel Sary Say

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- 1 had discharged approximately 200 rifles and had them brought into
- 2 the liberated sector already. Mok and Sy were convinced that the
- 3 confessions were true because both of them fully grasped this
- 4 person's personal biography. It was a fortunate coincidence that
- 5 Mok was indeed in need of weapons to build up military forces to
- 6 fight Phnom Penh.
- 7 Mok ordered me to find the weapons mentioned in the confession.
- 8 To the best of my recollection hereforth (sic) Sy required me to
- 9 report regularly to him on the matter. Sy helped determine the
- 10 objective thought in interrogating some individuals as well as
- 11 the methods of torture to be used. I worked very hard for about
- 12 six months, searching for the weapons, but none was found.
- 13 During that time, about 50 Amleang villagers died in terrible
- 14 conditions. The cause of death was a combination of the fact
- 15 that they were under suspicion and had been implicated by other
- 16 people's confessions. As a result, the inhabitants of Peam
- 17 village lost more lives than those of surrounding villages. Peam
- 18 village was a former public gathering place of Thpong district
- 19 during the Sihanouk and Lon Nol regimes.
- 20 10. Sy called those who perished the feudalists and capitalist.
- 21 This characterization is intended to convey contempt. A
- 22 medium-level cadre, the son of a villager who was part of the
- 23 supporting base, had blamed the villagers for a change of heart.
- 24 He said that in 1971 we had been "chet muoy" or one of heart,
- 25 however, in 1972 our heart broke into two. That is "chet pi" or

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- 1 two hearts.
- 2 [10.52.03]
- 3 I was completely terrified at this destruction, but I just did
- 4 not know what I could do about it. The only opinion available to
- 5 me was to devise a proper interrogation tactic. I brought
- 6 Comrade Pon to interrogate an old bachelor who once worked as a
- 7 newspaper reporter. As his interrogation progressed, we learned
- 8 on the job. It took us more than a month to complete that
- 9 interrogation.
- 10 13. My commitment and the skill Pon and I developed had plunged
- 11 us both deep into a criminal act. We were made to work
- 12 endlessly. The work we were assigned was criminal.
- 13 Internal purge. Party cadres were arrested even before the 17th
- 14 of April 1975.
- 15 14. I still remember two Party lines concerning the internal
- 16 purge. First, the 10 criteria for selecting a cadre were based
- 17 on a principle characterized by the organizational policy to
- 18 demote and promote Party members and cadres at the behest of the
- 19 Party. The sincerity of the Party member no longer satisfied the
- 20 criteria set forth in the Party's statute of 1960.
- 21 A second line was the theoretical principle on whose basis the
- 22 Party could carry out purges. That theory was whose class the
- 23 line belongs, the cadre shall be from within that class. The
- 24 notion was propounded in the Revolutionary Flag magazine in 1973.
- 25 Note, the Party statues of 1960 and 1971 and the Revolutionary

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- 1 Flag magazine of 1973 were never published. However, the 10
- 2 criteria appeared in Article 5, chapter 2 of the Party statute of
- 3 1976.
- 4 [10.54.31]
- 5 15. Anyone the Party identified as an enemy had to be smashed.
- 6 The Chief of Police Office had no right to challenge such a
- 7 decision.
- 8 Now, I would like to recall the events of 1973. That year, a
- 9 platoon secretary accused his deputy secretary of attempting to
- 10 shoot while he was asleep. Luckily, the bullet pierced his
- 11 mosquito net and hammock. Mok had great trust in that person who
- 12 was reporting the incident. He gave me firm orders to be hard on
- 13 him.
- 14 Meanwhile, Mok let me meet the complainant to obtain more
- 15 information from him and to examine the exhibits, the mosquito
- 16 net and the hammock. I analyzed them and observed him, including
- 17 his facial expression. I reported my finding to Mok through Vorn
- 18 Vet, as I did not wish to upset him. According to the finding,
- 19 it was the comrade secretary of the platoon himself who had fired
- 20 the bullet. As a result, no-one dared release the defendant. I
- 21 learned through Vorn Vet that Mok told Pol Pot he found it
- 22 difficult to employ me. In 1976, Son Sen advised me that
- 23 politics govern technique.
- 24 16. I now turn to the event of the internal purge in the former
- 25 Southwest Zone which, according to my recollection, occurred as

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- 1 follows. As from 1968, Mok started to destroy the intellectual
- 2 and petit bourgeois cadres. Within 24 hours, he expelled four
- 3 cadres from the Southwest Zone. They were all former primary and
- 4 high school teachers.
- 5 In July 1971, Mok had basically accomplished his plan to destroy
- 6 people. The Special Zone created in July 1971 was the place
- 7 where people gathered. The elements expelled by Mok were seen
- 8 working in the surrounding office of the zone. In the former
- 9 Southwest Zone, no intellectual or petit bourgeois cadre could be
- 10 appointed chief of a subdistrict, district or military unit.
- 11 Between 1971 and 17th of April 1975, Mok ordered the smashing of
- 12 some important cadres.
- 13 [10.57.18]
- 14 17. At that time, I was not yet critical thinker. The only
- 15 thing that stuck in my mind was that I was afraid of being
- 16 removed. "The movement sought people" was the common phrase used
- 17 at the time. In other words, the movement renounced people.
- 18 Even now, I am still convinced that I owe my survival in part to
- 19 the fact that I have followed Vorn Vet's advice, which is do not
- 20 make any decision to arrest people, do not touch the spoils of
- 21 war, do not get into moral misconduct with women.
- 22 18. I am not going to describe the event of the internal purge
- 23 within other zones as I have no supporting documents.
- 24 19. Before the 17th of April 1975, the characteristics of the
- 25 killing were, firstly, collective. People were killed regardless

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- 1 whether they were from Lon Nol's territory, were living in the
- 2 newly liberated sector, were of the supporting base or
- 3 combatants, Party members or cadres.
- 4 Secondly, non-scientific. People were killed because they were
- 5 suspected by the leaders of the zone or because they were
- 6 implicated by confessions extracted at the Police Office. It can
- 7 be said that they ordered the killing of the people for the
- 8 short- and long-term economic and political gains of their
- 9 groups.
- 10 The implementation line of the Police Office. The Chief of the
- 11 Police Office had no right to make arrests; the Party made such
- 12 decisions. Note, the term "Party" in this context refers to the
- 13 secretary and under-secretary of the zone, or deputy secretary of
- 14 the zone.
- 15 [10.59.14]
- 16 21. Physical torture was a method they made us use. Most often
- 17 it was inevitable. Note, I received instructions from Chhay Kim
- 18 Huor regarding the torture at M-13. Later on, I received the
- 19 instructions from Vorn Vet.
- 20 22. The policy to smash who were called infiltrators or the
- 21 traitors of the revolution was adopted by the Party. In
- 22 practical terms, when someone was arrested and sent by the Party
- 23 to the police, the police had to interrogate him or her and then
- 24 smash the person. As regards my leadership and working
- 25 behaviour, I knew how to control and manage myself. I did not

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- 1 want to be criticized by a Khmer proverb which goes:
- 2 "They offer you a chance to take the lead but you do not know how
- 3 to swing your arms while walking. They ask you to walk behind
- 4 the others but you do not know how to carry things."
- 5 Killing after the 17th of April 1975. For the period from the 17
- 6 April 1975 until the 30th of March 1976, the evacuation of the
- 7 population and the expulsion of the foreigners from Cambodia was
- 8 a CPK plan which was known as the plan to prepare for victory.
- 9 The study session conducted from 24th of June 1975 to the 27th of
- 10 June 1975 reflects its essence and can be found in document 2,
- 11 entitled "The Vision on the Current Situation of Our Revolution
- 12 and Some of Our Measures."
- 13 25. During these orders military force was used. The military
- 14 was ordered to use violence as well as barbaric rhetoric to
- 15 terrify and expel people, first by making them leave their homes,
- 16 then the cities. And finally they were taken to the countryside.
- 17 During the mass evacuation the military was ordered to arrest
- 18 high-ranking soldiers, police, civil servants and senior
- 19 religious leaders so that they could be smashed secretly. The
- 20 names and personal biographies of the people who reached the
- 21 countryside were registered by the base cadres who were appointed
- 22 by the zone Angkar. This was done to screen for elements to be
- 23 smashed. In the Southwest Zone, which was to the north of the
- 24 National Road Number 4, Sy, the deputy secretary of the zone, was
- 25 the one who bore the greatest responsibility of this killing.

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- 1 [11.02.17]
- 2 All across Cambodia, those who were enjoyed full power and were
- 3 most responsible for crimes during the first period were Pol Pot,
- 4 First Party Secretary; Nuon Chea, Deputy Secretary; Sao Phim,
- 5 Secretary of the East Zone; Mok, Secretary of Southwest Zone,
- 6 former and new; Vorn Vet, Secretary of the Special Zone; Son Sen,
- 7 Deputy Secretary of the Special Zone; Koy Thuon, Secretary of the
- 8 North Zone; Ke Pauk, Deputy Secretary of the North zone; Sy,
- 9 Deputy Secretary of Former Southwest Zone and Secretary of the
- 10 West Zone; Nhim, Secretary of the Northwest Zone.
- 11 Note, before and after the 17th of April '75, all divisions of
- 12 the army belonged to the zone. And from the 17th of April, all
- 13 Cambodian territory except Phnom Penh belonged to the zone. The
- 14 forces including party members, the youth league and progressive
- 15 people belonged to the zone. The old people were also under the
- 16 zone. Therefore, the millions of evacuated people were managed
- 17 by these 10 individuals. They decided who was to be killed and
- 18 who was to be spared. I do not have any supporting documents in
- 19 regard to the number of those who were killed during this first
- 20 phase. However, I believe that the number could be as high as
- 21 several thousand. In May 1975, Cheng An was ordered by the Party
- 22 to collect workers who were evacuated out of Phnom Penh to get
- 23 back to the factories.
- 24 Separate note: Since I had wished to escape the police work, I
- 25 pleaded with Cheng An to make me work with him in the fields of

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- 1 industry. Cheng An was pleased with my plea, but Son Sen
- 2 rejected it.
- 3 [11.04.28]
- 4 On an unidentified date soon after the 17th of April, the Special
- 5 Zone was dissolved. The territory within Sector 15, including
- 6 Ang Snuol, Kandal Steung, Ponhea Leu, and Dangkao was placed
- 7 under Sy's authority. The Party renamed it the West Zone. The
- 8 territory within Sector 25, S'ang, Koh Thom, Loerk Daek, Kien
- 9 Svay was placed under Mok's authority. It renamed the new
- 10 Southwest Zone.
- 11 According to the information I obtained, the committee of Sector
- 12 25 was completely dissolved by the Party. Practically the entire
- 13 force under Kuy Thuon, plus himself, were removed from the North
- 14 to be scattered in the ministries. Kuy Thuon himself was in the
- 15 Commerce section. The majority of the people in the section were
- 16 from the North. Other ministries such as Energy and Water,
- 17 Transportation were staffed by people from the North. Soeu Vasu,
- 18 alias Doeun, was ordered by the Party to work at 870 and Chea
- 19 Chhan, alias Sreng, was left to work at the base as Deputy
- 20 Secretary to Ke Pauk.
- 21 The military personnel of the four zones which attacked Phnom
- 22 Penh were recruited as the centre military which was under the
- 23 direct supervision of Son Sen. The offices and ministries
- 24 surrounding 870 were put to use soon after the 17th of April.
- 25 However, the committees of these offices and ministries were

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- 1 gradually modified until there was a meeting of the Standing
- 2 Committee on 19th, 20th and 21st of April 1976 when it was
- 3 officially appointed.
- 4 Meanwhile, alongside the organizational arrangement of the centre
- 5 of military offices and ministries surrounding 870, the
- 6 commanders and soldiers, chiefs of police, the chiefs of civil
- 7 servants were searched and arrested, some of whom were sent to
- 8 S-21. The blood of the Cambodian people, both in the rural areas
- 9 and Phnom Penh, kept shedding endlessly.
- 10 [11.07.03]
- 11 Document of the 30th of March 1976 was the document decided and
- 12 determined when the CPK had appointed the zones for overseeing
- 13 rural bases across the country, had appointed the offices and
- 14 ministries for the functioning of state activities, had appointed
- 15 the independent zone, due to its unique geography, had appointed
- 16 the centre army to be under supervision of the Chief of the
- 17 General Staff. Note: Document of the 30th of March 1976 was
- 18 known to me at the ECCC.
- 19 Through this document, the power to make a decision to smash was
- 20 given to four groups of people as follows: the Standing
- 21 Committee of the Zone, the Committee of the Central Office --
- 22 Standing Committee here refers to the Central Standing Committee
- 23 -- the General Staff. There were 11 individuals who were
- 24 nominated in the groups. One, Pol Pot, Nuon Chea, Sao Phim, Mok,
- 25 Son Sen, Khieu Samphan, Ya, Ros Nhim, Ke Pauk, Sy and, 11, Se.

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- 1 The policy of power sharing was the strictest one. Apart from
- 2 the 11 people, no-one else had such right. For example, Kuy
- 3 Thuon, the full-fledged member of the Centre, but in his capacity
- 4 as the minister, the right to decide to smash was not vested in
- 5 him. Nath, former secretary of S-21, received the tough measure
- 6 from the Party because he subjectively made a decision to arrest
- 7 people.
- 8 [11.09.01]
- 9 The second purpose of the first paragraph of the document about
- 10 the rights to smash states that it was in order to strengthen our
- 11 democratic socialism. Democratic socialism, or centralized
- 12 democracy, means that the collective rule, which each individual
- 13 is responsible individually. Collective is the entire Party
- 14 which was represented by the Party Secretary, who was Pol Pot.
- 15 Individuals and the framework of the right to smash were each of
- 16 the zone secretaries, the Chief of the Central Office and the
- 17 Chief of the General Staff. This means that if an individual
- 18 failed to respect the leadership of the collective, he or she had
- 19 to be punished. For example, Kang Chap, alias Sae, secretary of
- 20 the North Zone, had the right to smash people according to the
- 21 Party line. However, when Se went to arrest the relatives of
- 22 Khieu Samphan's wife, he was arrested on the order of Pol Pot and
- 23 sent to S-21. Khieu Samphan's wife's relatives were released on
- 24 the order of Pol Pot.
- 25 Note: Sy, the secretary of the West, experienced the same

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- 1 problem. To put it simply, they never allowed a knife to cut its
- 2 own handle.
- 3 Soon after the 30th of March 1976, the internal purge of people
- 4 in the Party's rank held sway. The purge swept through all zones
- 5 starting from each zone. The purge was carried out across all
- 6 ministries; each minister at a time. The purge was conducted in
- 7 all divisions, one at a time.
- 8 It can be said that the internal purge started from the April
- 9 1976 and stemmed from two main events: first, a grenade attack
- 10 behind the palace on the 2nd of April 1976; second, Koy Thuon was
- 11 placed under house arrest from the 8th of April 1976.
- 12 Thanks to the confession of the person who was behind the grenade
- 13 attack, Chann Chakrei, was arrested on the 19th of May 1976. His
- 14 arrest and Suos Noeu's arrest were the stepping stone leading to
- 15 the subsequent purge in the East Zone.
- 16 [11.11.40]
- 17 People within Koy Thuon's network could have been arrested much
- 18 earlier. The delay was due to the fact that they were waiting
- 19 until Koy Thuon's confession was extracted. I would like to note
- 20 that on the 25th of January 1977, Thuon was sent to S-21. On the
- 21 29th of January 1977, Thuon wrote and completed his first
- 22 confession. On the 31st of January 1977, people in Thuon's
- 23 network in Phnom Penh and the North Zone who were implicated by
- 24 him in his confession were all arrested and sent to S-21.
- 25 The purge of Koy Thuon's network terrified me again for the

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- 1 second time. This time it was most shocking. I wondered why the
- 2 North peasants had to die. Why most peasants were always on the
- 3 right side and more prosperous. I had known many of the people
- 4 who were sent here. Some used to be in jail in Prey Sar with me;
- 5 some used to pay visits to my parents' home. It was very
- 6 distressing. I couldn't help feeling that the revolutionaries
- 7 who had been doing everything for the people had now ended up
- 8 being treated as the Party's traitors and were detained and I, as
- 9 the child of the North, could do nothing to help.
- 10 I still recall the instance in which I was trying to express my
- 11 views concerning a comrade while on the phone with Son Sen only
- 12 to hear him threatening me at the other end of the line. He
- 13 said, "Hey Duch, that was Khuon's confession." Khuon was the
- 14 revolutionary name of Koy Thuon. Later, during the course of
- 15 conversation, I would hear him talking about the expression,
- 16 "Keeping you is no gain, losing you is no loss."
- 17 Mok second son-in-law was appointed to oversee Division 450 after
- 18 the North people had been arrested. People from Kampot, for
- 19 example, were employed to work as Secretary of Staung District
- 20 replacing Kampong Cham people. Mok's son was given control of
- 21 Kampong Cham Commune, my village, replacing the former staff who
- 22 were the children of the local villagers of Kampong Cham.
- 23 [11.14.26]
- 24 Based on my analysis, I am convinced that the killing of people
- 25 of other groups was meant to remove them by having them replaced

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- 1 by Mok's people. This is characteristic of the purge during that
- 2 time. I believe that was the theory of the super cultural
- 3 revolutionaries; destroying all humankind, creating a new one.
- 4 The CPK regarded Mok and his people as the top people who could
- 5 solve every problem. I would like to quote from Pol Pot's speech
- 6 during the 17th of April 1978 and it was read as follows:
- 7 "Nothing can be more scientific than the peasants who are
- 8 experienced in rice transplanting and the warriors who have
- 9 known how to win a battle."
- 10 I'd like to unearth the truth as follows. First, Kampot people
- 11 who were assigned the post of the Secretary of Staung District
- 12 forced peasants to look for a kind of rattan to tie rice bags.
- 13 It was not very easy to find such rattan in my village. It was
- 14 very inconvenient. Second, when I reported to Son Sen that
- 15 people were deprived of their food, he replied to me by phone
- 16 right away that this could happened because enemies had not been
- 17 all arrested. Later, I once again reported to him based on the
- 18 information I received from my mother to the effect that the
- 19 Southwest people had also deprived villagers of their food. This
- 20 time Son Sen was silent.
- 21 I believe that assigning cadres from other places as the
- 22 secretaries of the co-operatives was proved to be a grave
- 23 mistake. On the one hand, the Party's line was criminal in
- 24 nature already; on the other hand, it was even more destructive
- 25 to have people from distant locations to break the local people.

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- 1 This led to more destruction in all fields; in particular, the
- 2 souls of more than 1,000,000 vanished.
- 3 [11.16.40]
- 4 According to my analysis and conclusion, people of every village
- 5 experienced the same thing as what happened in my village.
- 6 The purge was carried out further into the West Zone after the
- 7 zone or the Central Zone had been purged. First, they just
- 8 wanted to request Sy to give them some people who could be the
- 9 sources to arrest Sy, such as the brother-in-law and the chief of
- 10 the zone police who could be the sources to the arrest of Sy.
- 11 They maintained the notion that before you harvest the bamboo,
- 12 you must trim off its thorns.
- 13 Note: Sy was hungry to kill people and so were Pauk and Mok;
- 14 however, Sy made them feel uncomfortable because he had an
- 15 attempt to reshuffle Phal's force. Phal was the Secretary of the
- 16 West Zone. He was very trusted by Pol Pot and Nuon Chea.
- 17 Sy was arrested just after April 1978 -- the 17th of April. Mok
- 18 was appointed as the Secretary of the West Zone on top of his
- 19 current rank. Phal remained the Deputy Secretary. The remaining
- 20 of Sy's force was reshuffled.
- 21 After Sy had been arrested, Nhim, too, was arrested. Nhim was
- 22 arrested, perhaps, in May 1978. Nhim was arrested when Mok was
- 23 appointed to be the Secretary of the Northwest Zone; an
- 24 additional position on to -- of his current ones. Mok, himself,
- 25 made it clear by saying that he wished to become the patriarch of

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- 1 as many pagodas as he could.
- 2 [11.18.33]
- 3 Someone from the West Zone was made the Deputy Secretary while
- 4 its members were those from the Southwest Zone. The local cadres
- 5 from the community level were surely the people from the
- 6 Southwest and the West Zone.
- 7 The purge was conducted at the East Zone in June 1978. The purge
- 8 of the East Zone was carried out in an unprecedented large-scale
- 9 fashion. Approximately, 300 East Zone combatants were sent to
- 10 S-21 and smashed without being interrogated. The cadres of the
- 11 sectors, zones, military cadres were all sent to be smashed.
- 12 Interrogation was no longer needed.
- 13 As for Sao Phim who did not expect that Pol Pot would make a
- 14 decision to smash him asked somebody to comply or to accompany to
- 15 see Pol Pot. I heard that when Pol Pot learned of the news that
- 16 Sao Phim was committing or coming to see him, he ordered his
- 17 force to arrest him. Finally, Sao Phim shot himself.
- 18 11 October '78, Kang Chab alias Se was arrested and sent to S-21
- 19 and on the 2nd of November 1978, Vorn Vet was arrested and sent
- 20 to S-21. As of the 2nd of November 1978, the organizational
- 21 nature had changed in all sections. The Central Standing
- 22 Committee changed. The members of the central changed. The
- 23 committees of zone, sector, districts, sub-districts also
- 24 changed. The committees of the ministry offices changed. The
- 25 Central Army changed. The Standing Committee's meeting that

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- 1 apppointed the general assembly of 1976 which included the seven
- 2 people: Pol Pot, the secretary; Nuon Chea, the first secretary;
- 3 Sao Phim, the second deputy secretary; Ung Choeun alias Mok, the
- 4 fourth deputy secretary; Ieng Sary, the full-fledged Standing
- 5 Committee member; Vorn Vet, the candidate member for the Standing
- 6 Committee; Son Sen, also the candidate for the Standing
- 7 Committee.
- 8 In that general assembly of 1978, the decision was made as
- 9 follows. Pol Pot was appointed as the secretary; Nuon Chea, the
- 10 first secretary; Ung Chouen, the second deputy secretary; Ieng
- 11 Sary -- I have no idea whether he was promoted to the third
- 12 secretary or the full-right -- or still remained as the
- 13 full-rights member. Son Sen was, I don't know, promoted to the
- 14 full-rights member or still be the candidate member. Khieu
- 15 Samphan was promoted to be the full-rights member or the
- 16 candidate member but I'm not quite sure.
- 17 [11.21.58]
- 18 The Standing Committee or the office of the 870 changed
- 19 significantly including that of the industry, energy, et cetera.
- 20 The committee of the zones, the sector, the districts, the
- 21 sub-districts have completely changed into its roots, including
- 22 those at the Kampong Cham area, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, Pursat and
- 23 Battambang.
- 24 The central military so far as I remember, only Division 164
- 25 remained. Division 503 and Division 801. Even Division 703,

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- 1 appreciated fully by Pol Pot during the Standing Committee's
- 2 meeting on the 9 of 1975, disappeared. The name of division
- 3 disappeared and the secretary was nowhere to be found. Regarding
- 4 other divisions, for example Division 310, 450, 170, 290, was
- 5 disarmed and the combatants and cadres were used to work at the
- 6 Kampong Chhnang airfields and later on they were arrested and
- 7 smashed en masse before the 6th of January 1978.
- 8 Cambodian people were arrested and were put to work very hard,
- 9 and there were only two classes -- the peasant and the worker
- 10 classes. Pol Pot used these classes as official classes from the
- 11 6th of January 1978.
- 12 The recollection of the events. On the 20th of July 1962, Tou
- 13 Samouth disappeared. End of February 1963, the general assembly,
- 14 the Extraordinary one, rubberstamped Pol Pot as the secretary of
- 15 the Party replacing Nuon Chea. In 1968, Ma Mang died. Mok
- 16 became the secretary of the Southwest Zone.
- 17 In 1974, Pol Pot abandoned Ke Pauk. I thought that it was the
- 18 trick of Mok. In 1974 and 1985, Pol Pot did not allow Son Sen to
- 19 maintain his current position and I thought that this was the
- 20 trick of Mok again.
- 21 [11.25.00]
- 22 In 1997, Pol Pot smashed Son Sen and his whole family. This is
- 23 the last event Pol Pot tried to order the execution of people. I
- 24 believe that this was the conflict or the dispute between Pol Pot
- 25 and Son Sen. I think that during the meeting, Mok ordered the

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- 1 killing of Saroeun San and Mok declared the war in order to save
- 2 his criminal regime.
- 3 63. If we talk about Pol Pot, and Tou Samouth disappeared, he
- 4 was the highest person. He really designed the theory and the
- 5 line to destroy, to kill people heinously. And the ten criteria
- 6 for selecting cadres, if you look at this notion, it was
- 7 flexible, humble, but in reality it was very cruel. It was a
- 8 selfish policy.
- 9 However, I believe that Pol Pot used a kind of trick used by
- 10 Stalin when he killed Trotsky in order to kill Haing Ngor and me
- 11 and my wife. Luckily, I survived. Unfortunately, my wife died.
- 12 Haing Ngor was killed because he appeared in the film "The
- 13 Killing Fields" and they wished to kill me and my wife in order
- 14 to shut us up. Although these three people were not able to kill
- 15 them, but they tried their best.
- 16 64. The details of the events, the recollecting events that I
- 17 wish to address before the Court is to tell the Court that the
- 18 Khmer Rouge regime would like to use the killing as the mechanism
- 19 to build their dynasty in Cambodia and to fulfill their ambition.
- 20 I already made it clear before the Chamber already that Pol Pot
- 21 was a criminal person.
- 22 Pol Pot really wanted to become a king, a so-called king, and he
- 23 regarded Mok as his force who was supporting him both in the
- 24 military and economically. Pol Pot wished to become the
- 25 so-called king under his revolutionary class policy in which he

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- 1 said the pure class -- from the 17th of April 1975 to the 6th of
- 2 January 1979.
- 3 [11.28.22]
- 4 Throughout the entirety of the 17th of April 1975 until the 6th
- 5 of January '79, it was the period the CPK had the full control
- 6 over the complete territory of Cambodia. First, the party tried
- 7 its best to change the people into the collective peasants, the
- 8 collective workers, and those who rejected or challenged such
- 9 policy ended up being smashed.
- 10 Number 2. Within the Party. The Party purged and destroyed
- 11 other forces and put their own forces to replace the positions.
- 12 The people who had the full-fledge right according to the essence
- 13 of the document on the 30th of March 1976 were as follows. Pol
- 14 Pot, Nuon Chea, Sao Phim, Ung Chouen alias Mok, Vorn Vet, Son
- 15 Sen, Khieu Samphan, Kuy Thuon, Men Ya, Ros Nhim, Ke Pauk, Chou
- 16 Chet alias Sy, Kâng Chap alias Se.
- 17 About the Santebal of the CPK or the Democratic Kampuchea. There
- 18 were at least -- I would like to repeat -- there were at least
- 19 Santebal offices, 196 offices.
- 20 1. The general aspect of all Santebal offices about the
- 21 organizational mechanism. Each Santebal was under the clear
- 22 supervision of the Party. For example, the district Santebal
- 23 offices were under the direct supervision of the secretary of the
- 24 district. It was not under the supervision of the committee of
- 25 the district.

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- 1 71. The confession from the Santebal office was the very
- 2 confidential document and it has to be given directly and in
- 3 person to the superior. It was the superior who assigned someone
- 4 to pick up the documents. Santebal offices at the rural area was
- 5 under the supervision of the district secretary -- or under the
- 6 supervision of the secretary of the sector or the zone. Any
- 7 confession had to be sent through such organizational arrangement
- 8 to Pol Pot. This is the principle which could not be violated.
- 9 For example, on the 5th of September '07 I reported to the
- 10 Co-Investigating Judges already about the confession from Sector
- 11 32, D16.2, document D58/2, which was the confession from the
- 12 Santebal office of Sector 21 of the east. Document E52/4.62, Mok
- 13 annotated in person on the cover of that confession to be sent to
- 14 Pol Pot. D32/4 or D43/4, the accompanied letter sent to Se, Kang
- 15 Chap.
- 16 [11.32.20]
- 17 The secretary of the North Zone or 801, New, sent the confession
- 18 to Eap, alias Khon, and Saey, alias Phang to Pol Pot. Note,
- 19 these four documents reached Pol Pot so that Pol Pot could
- 20 manage.
- 21 Regarding S-21, it was under the supervision of Son Sen. The
- 22 confessions Son Sen was interested would be -- he would be
- 23 annotated on them and have them sent to Pol Pot to examine and
- 24 make the final decision. For example, document E3/20, the
- 25 confession of Heng Pich, alias Chhorn; D93/3, the confession of

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- 1 Long Muy, alias Chuon. Note, E3/86, Son Sen annotated for the
- 2 decision made by Nuon Chea, so he sought a decision from Nuon
- 3 Chea. At that time Nuon Chea was the minister, the acting
- 4 minister. Or, in other words, he was the acting secretary of the
- 5 Party.
- 6 The Party valued the confession. S-21 was under the supervision
- 7 of Son Sen, who was the Standing Committee's member. Actually
- 8 Son Sen was the seventh individual; Sao Phim the third
- 9 individual; Mok the fourth one. All Santebal offices were equal
- 10 before the Party. Now look at document D32/4 or D43/4. The
- 11 Party was interested particularly in the Say's letter sent along
- 12 on the 17th of April 1978. Nuon Chea read it on the 19th of
- 13 April 1978.
- 14 [11.34.46]
- 15 E3/416 was a document of S-21 which was interested by Pol Pot
- 16 very much. The confession that derived or that was from the
- 17 Santebal office of Sector 32, the West Zone, Pol Pot was also
- 18 interested in those confessions. That's why he asked or
- 19 instructed Son Sen to advise S-21. At that time Nath was the
- 20 chairman and I was not. D16/2 was the reference document.
- 21 The right to smash. The Santebal office had no right to smash.
- 22 To put it simply, the chief of the Santebal office, whoever he
- 23 was, had no authority to issue any subjective order to arrest
- 24 anyone. Document dated on the 30th of March '76 was the nature
- 25 and essence of such policy.

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- 1 Who violated such measures of the Party would be punished. For
- 2 example, Nath, the secretary of S-21, was a practical example.
- 3 According to the meeting of the Standing Committee on the 19th --
- 4 or 20 and 21 of April 1976, they prohibited Nath to control any
- 5 forces. Note, if we use the term "arrest" in the eye of the
- 6 history it was to be done clearly by the order and it was real.
- 7 Santebal office had to wait to receive people who were arrested
- 8 and sent to them. The people who were superior had to send the
- 9 people to them to be interrogated and smashed at the end.
- 10 Important people who were being interrogated and who were smashed
- 11 accidentally were -- those who were responsible of the smash of
- 12 those people would be considered to be violating the rule.
- 13 [11.37.18]
- 14 Now, the torture, the physical torture during interrogation.
- 15 Physical torture was inevitable. It was the tactic allowed by
- 16 the Party. It was well known by the Party. Document D43/4,
- 17 which was dated on the 26th of October 1977 under ERN 00173920,
- 18 the interrogator indicated that he inflicted torture to extract
- 19 this confession to be sent to the Central Office. Document
- 20 number -- in Case File 002 -- D43/4, document dated 28th of
- 21 October '77 under page ERN 00174762, the interrogator indicated
- 22 that torture was used and the confessions were sent to the
- 23 Northwest Zone; Case File 002.
- 24 Therefore torture or physical torture was employed at all
- 25 Santebal offices. Otherwise the Party would not inform the S-21

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- 1 to employ such techniques. The interrogator had the same
- 2 privilege. During Sihanouk/Lon Nol regime the interrogation work
- 3 was the work of the inspectors, the police inspectors. In the
- 4 Khmer Rouge regime it was the work of the interrogator. When I
- 5 was in jail I was never seen -- or I never saw any colonel or the
- 6 person who ranked lower than the colonel came to visit me. The
- 7 Chief of the Santebal of the Khmer Rouge altogether, including
- 8 them and I, believed that no-one would be maintaining the ruling
- 9 position.
- 10 The aspect of S-21 is unique from other Santebal offices. Office
- 11 S-21 was unique because the members of the Standing Committee all
- 12 were detained and interrogated and smashed here and this is true.
- 13 The other reason is that Pol Pot regarded these people as the
- 14 thorns in his eyes which have to be monitored, observed, and
- 15 measures had to be taken; for example, Kuy Thuon, 25th of January
- 16 '77, Thuon was sent to S-21.
- 17 On the 29th of January 1977, Thuon completed his confession. On
- 18 the 31st of January 1977, the purge of Thuon's network was
- 19 conducted according to the implication in his confession.
- 20 However, the more than 195 Santebal offices all across the
- 21 country -- I don't know whether any of the members of the
- 22 Standing Committee was ever sent there and smashed. So this is
- 23 true, I think. They were not sent there. Actually, according to
- 24 my analysis, the Santebal office -- all Santebal offices received
- 25 orders to smash people from the zone. And those people were the

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- 1 innocent, the clean, the very honest people and there were more
- 2 than 1 million of them who perished.
- 3 I don't believe that the more than one million people who were
- 4 killed had committed any wrongdoing as accused by the Central
- 5 Committee members of the Party including Pol Pot. Having
- 6 considered or having looked into this matter, I am still very
- 7 terrified.
- 8 [11.41.56]
- 9 So all the people of the zone -- most of them have been sent to
- 10 S-21. They included the chief from Santebal offices. And it is
- 11 true because Pol Pot wanted to understand, to grasp the
- 12 information of the zones. To put it simply, it was to monitor
- 13 the secretaries of the zone whom Pol Pot did not trust.
- 14 People who were sent from the zone -- some were sent by Pol Pot
- 15 through the -- and through the confessions at S-21.
- 16 So from this power, I can conclude that when KW-30 was sent to
- 17 M-13 for awhile, he was regarded as a semi-prisoner. I was
- 18 interested that maybe at the rural level the Party would use this
- 19 kind of policy to replicate the phenomenon happened at S-24.
- 20 I would like to recall some of the events of S-21 crimes. On the
- 21 15th of August 1975, Son Sen presented and suggested the
- 22 establishment of S-21. On October 1975, I worked at S-21 as the
- 23 Deputy Chief. On the 3rd of 1976, I became the Chairman of S-21.
- 24 From the 15th of August 1975 to October 1975, my core role was to
- 25 collect evidence from the senior officials' houses and public

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- 1 buildings -- those who were working for the Lon Nol regime -- and
- 2 to examine confessions sent from 703. Document E5/2.2 could be
- 3 used as the reference.
- 4 From October 1975 to the 3rd of '76, when Nat was the Chief, I
- 5 was the Deputy Chief. There were two points I would like to
- 6 clarify. He asked that I would go to the sector 25 to arrest
- 7 some people. It was not part of my capacity or my role to arrest
- 8 people and Nat had no right to make such order or decision.
- 9 [11.44.50]
- 10 But at M-13, it was the same. No one allowed or the Party did
- 11 not allow us to communicate with the base. According to the
- 12 document, I can conclude that the Party was interested in the
- 13 crimes.
- 14 The crimes onto the more than 12,380 people, I still am
- 15 responsible and I will forever be liable for the crimes.
- 16 86. Other aspects of the crimes at S-21 and in Phnom Penh and at
- 17 Prey Sar and Choeung Ek that have already been well debated in
- 18 this Chamber.
- 19 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 20 The Accused, could you please slow down a little bit for the good
- 21 record?
- 22 THE ACCUSED:
- 23 About my position and behaviour.
- 24 1. For Cambodian people throughout the country. Before its
- 25 victory day, the Communist Party of Kampuchea had solemnly

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- 1 declared that it would only prosecute the seven super traitors,
- 2 but in reality the Party forcibly evacuated the people, many
- 3 hundreds of thousands of whom were executed. They were innocent.
- 4 Those people did not commit any crimes after the 17th of April
- 5 1975.
- 6 The killing went on. More and more people were put to death --
- 7 endlessly -- until more than one million souls perished. Among
- 8 them, people who were outside the ranks, those who did not wish
- 9 to become peasants or workers -- sometimes simply because they
- 10 were not able to do so -- were executed.
- 11 [11.47.27]
- 12 Within the ranks, Party members who were associated with groups
- 13 other than theirs were arrested and killed so that their people
- 14 would be deployed to fill in their places. This monumental
- 15 destruction both within and outside the ranks is solely the crime
- 16 committed by the Communist Party of Kampuchea.
- 17 I still -- honestly -- stand by the statement I made earlier in
- 18 the hearing in which I attested that Pol Pot was overjoyed and
- 19 dared impose such an extremely criminal line due to the fact that
- 20 he enjoyed the support of his force especially the Party's force
- 21 which are comprised of hundreds of thousands of Party members who
- 22 abided by his order.
- 23 I still acknowledge that I was a member of the Pol Pot's force.
- 24 Accordingly, I am psychologically accountable to the entire
- 25 Cambodian population for the souls of those who perished during

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- 1 the period from the 17th of April 1975 until the 6th of January
- 2 1979.
- 3 I am deeply remorseful of and profoundly affected by destruction
- 4 on such a mind-boggling scale. I clearly understand that any
- 5 theory or ideology which mentions love for the people in a
- 6 class-based concept and class struggle is definitely driving us
- 7 into endless tragedy and misery. I still maintain that a
- 8 decision to choose which path to walk is made in a matter of
- 9 seconds. However, its repercussion with its wrong choice will
- 10 result in a lifelong remorse.
- 11 [11.49.19]
- 12 Instead of being convinced that I could be contributed to
- 13 liberation of the nation and its people and having hoped that I
- 14 would be serving my people, I instead had devoted myself, my
- 15 strength, my heart, my intelligence and everything including my
- 16 preparedness to sacrifice my own life for the nation and the
- 17 people. I found I had ended up serving a criminal organization
- 18 which destroys its own people in an outrageous fashion.
- 19 I could not withdraw from it. I was just like a cog in a running
- 20 machine. For the victims of S-21 and their families, I still
- 21 claim that I am solely and individually liable for the loss of at
- 22 least 12,380 lives. These people, before their deaths, had
- 23 endured a great and prolonging suffering and countless inhumane
- 24 conditions. I still and forever wish to most respectfully and
- 25 humbly apologize to the dead souls.

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- 1 I have worshipped God to honour the dead. To the survivors, I
- 2 stand by my acknowledgment of all crimes which were inflicted on
- 3 you at S-21. I acknowledge them both in the legal and moral
- 4 context.
- 5 As for the families of the victims, my wish is that I will always
- 6 maintain my humble and respectful behaviour by asking you to
- 7 kindly leave your door open for me to make my apologies. May I
- 8 plead with you to allow me to share your immense and enduring
- 9 sorrow any time? In order to express my excruciating remorse, I
- 10 have fully and sincerely co-operated with the Court any time the
- 11 Court has needed me. I have been assisting the Courts for 10
- 12 years and 17 days, including during the investigation phase as
- 13 well as in the interrogation at the Military Court and at this
- 14 Court.
- 15 [11.51.32]
- 16 Finally, I have made my genuine proposal to psychological and
- 17 psychiatric experts to help me with the ideas on what I shall do
- 18 to make people recognize me again as part of humankind,
- 19 contribute to relieve the great sorrow of Cambodian people. I
- 20 promise I will do everything for my people, should they need me,
- 21 in whatever circumstance in the future. I pray the Court to
- 22 consider this additional matter. November 23rd, 2009. Kaing
- 23 Guek Eav, alias Duch.
- 24 Mr. President, Your Honours, I have only read the entire text.
- 25 In my text there are footnotes. There are 34 footnotes that I

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- 1 may wish to read one by one.
- 2 Footnote number 1. The military forces and the militias at the
- 3 front line.
- 4 2. The eight people were arrested by Vorn Vet because he
- 5 believed that they were no enemy.
- 6 3. Moeng Samnang controlled Sector 25 and Tang Khet, alias Khan,
- 7 conquered the Southwest Santebal office, or police office.
- 8 4. The supporting base people here referred to the people who
- 9 supported the revolution long before the 18th of March coup
- 10 d'état.
- 11 5. The number of the people who died was not clear.
- 12 6. These people implicated in their confession. The reference
- is E2/2.5 and E2/2.29 for further information.
- 14 [11.54.00]
- 15 7. Before the coup d'état of the 18th of March 1970, Serei Soy,
- 16 the commander, and who was the district chief.
- 17 8. Before the coup d'état this person lived on gambling. This
- 18 person's wife paid a visit to the person's house and she was the
- 19 infiltrator.
- 20 9. This confession made the superior satisfied. However, I
- 21 believe that the confession was drew up only 50 percent; for
- 22 example, the killing of the person by injection into the blood
- 23 vein.
- 24 10. The annex of D21 chapter 4, section 5 and section 6.
- 25 11. This person was not interrogated by me. He died before the

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- 1 17th of April because of
- 2 malnutrition.
- 3 12. Annex D24. Please read section 6.4, ERN 00146679.
- 4 13. Annex D21. Please read section 5 on the point about the
- 5 Southwest, ERN 00146678.
- 6 14. Annex D21. Section 5, ERN 00146678.
- 7 15. D11/9, ERN 00146481 in Khmer.
- 8 16. In the written notebook Mam Nai, ERN 00077661 through
- 9 00078056. I would like to repeat the ERN number: ERN 00077661
- 10 through 00078056.
- 11 [11.57.20]
- 12 17. Sim Mel, alias Man. He was the member of S-21 who reported
- 13 about his personal political life view through study session in
- 14 1975.
- 15 18. This confession or speech was quoted from Khim Pin, the
- 16 secretary of 703.
- 17 20. I met Cheng An at his wife's house in Tonle Squuot, Sector
- 18 15. Cheng An was pleased and he promised on the 31st of May 1975
- 19 we would meet. On that day he asked his messenger to tell me
- 20 that the Angkar didn't agree or approve of my plea.
- 21 21. Norng Suon alias Chey, the secretary, was removed by the
- 22 Party to now conquer the cash warehouse. Sok Butchamroeun and
- 23 Huot Se were sent by Mok to the nokobal or the police in the
- 24 Southwest.
- 25 22. Nob Moeun, alias Rith, was the secretary. Later on Chhay

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- 1 Kim Huor, alias Hok, was the Secretary of Energy.
- 2 23. Dr. Roth Kot, the Professor Tit Mom, Police Inspector Chhit
- 3 Iv, alias Chat, Song Hak, who were the base cadres, were confused
- 4 or was mistaken for Song Sak, the head of the former Phnom Penh
- 5 bank.
- 6 24. The Standing Committee of the zone here referred to the
- 7 secretary of the zone. Ya, Nuon Chea was in charge. The East
- 8 Zone was under the supervision of Phim. The Southwest, New
- 9 Southwest, Mok; Sy, the West. After Sy was arrested in April
- 10 1978, Mok became the secretary of the Southwest and the West.
- 11 [12.00.21]
- 12 Northwest, Nhim. North New, Se, after he was arrested on the
- 13 11th of October '78, Mok was the secretary of the Southwest, the
- 14 West and the Northwest and the New North.
- 15 25. D45, page 5. The record of the interview of Khieu Samphan,
- 16 14th of December 2007, Case File 002.
- 17 26. The Chief of the Zone Office, who was the in-law of Sy,
- 18 alias Suon, the person named Suon I don't remember his full
- 19 name. Sy's intention to reshuffle Phal's force made it clear
- 20 that he intended to destroy the forces. Sy said in his final
- 21 report that he did not wish to see that nepotism was part of the
- 22 working process. In the Revolutionary Flag it was a reference to
- 23 this point.
- 24 28. When Nhum was arrested, Kung Sophal, alias Keu, was not yet
- 25 arrested. I just received the information that the member of the

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- 1 Northwest Zone were armed to fight in the battle. I only took
- 2 note of this information.
- 3 29. Sok Knol, alias Peam, the Chief of Peam office, came to S-21
- 4 on the 5th of June 1978.
- 5 30. According to the speech of Comrade Lin Islam, the committee
- 6 of S-71.
- 7 31. The Statute of the Party of 1976 and Article 21 and 22.
- 8 32. Referring to my understanding, according to the interview
- 9 with Ieng Sary by Steve Heder, page 54.
- 10 33. The name of the Standing Committee I have ever heard of were
- 11 Khieu Samphan, Pauk, Phal, Saroeun, Sambath, Meas Muth, Sou Met
- 12 and Suon.
- 13 Mr. President, I have already completed reading the document, but
- 14 I would like to request for the submission of this document
- 15 before the Chamber, or to the President.
- 16 THE PRESIDENT:
- 17 The Chamber now accepts the written remarks by the accused which
- 18 has already been made before the Chamber, including the footnotes
- 19 and attached documents herewith.
- 20 Mr. Phary, could you please go and fetch the documents and have
- 21 them placed in the case file.
- 22 It is now an appropriate time to take a lunch adjournment. The
- 23 chamber will take the adjournment and resume the session at 1.30
- 24 p.m.
- 25 The security personnel are now instructed to take the accused to

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- 1 the waiting room and return him to the courtroom by 1.30 p.m.
- 2 (Judges exit courtroom)
- 3 (Court recesses from 1205H to 1332H)
- 4 (Judges enter courtroom)
- 5 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 6 Please be seated. The Court is now in session.
- 7 In a moment we are going to hear the oral closing statement by
- 8 the defence counsel, so you may now proceed.
- 9 MR. KAR SAVUTH:
- 10 Mr. President, Your Honours, the Trial Chambers, we, the counsel
- 11 for the accused Kaing Guek Eav alias Duch, who is charged with
- 12 crimes against humanity and grave breaches of the Geneva
- 13 Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the violations of Cambodian
- 14 Penal Code of 1956.
- 15 [13.33.56]
- 16 As the phrase "grave breach of Geneva Conventions of 12 August
- 17 1949 and the violations of the Cambodian Penal Code of 1956", as
- 18 it is a long phrase and I have to use this phrase very often,
- 19 thus I would like to seek leave from the President to use a short
- 20 expression as saying "grave breach of national and international
- 21 law".
- 22 From the outset, I would like to take leave from the Court to
- 23 address to my fellow Cambodians for their information,
- 24 understandings and indulgence to work with the defence counsel
- 25 since our obligations to defend the accused do not serve the

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- 1 interests and the demand of the fellow Cambodians whose
- 2 grandparents, brothers, sisters, children, relatives, who have
- 3 unjustly and tragically lost their lives during the DK regime.
- 4 The fellow Cambodians, please grant your understandings and
- 5 indulgence to us as the defence counsel for the accused. And I
- 6 would like to humbly share my most condolence and may the souls
- 7 of those victims rest in peace and great happiness.
- 8 The Trial Chamber. After its historical victory of 17th April
- 9 1979 (sic), it must have been the Cambodian people to take
- 10 control of their country, no more imperialists, no new or old
- 11 colony, no expansionism to take control over the country on their
- 12 behalf.
- 13 This victory, the Cambodians hope that they will live in peace,
- 14 independent and freedom to reconstruct their country which used
- 15 to be a civilized nation, especially those people who were in
- 16 Phnom Penh who waved the white flag to congratulate the victims
- 17 with a smiling face and hope that the Cambodian stops the
- 18 bleeding of -- Cambodians have a good solidarity in the Angkor
- 19 motherland of their own.
- 20 [13.37.22]
- 21 Few minutes later, the hopes were completely faded because at
- 22 that time the whole Cambodia became the great outdoor prisons.
- 23 The Khmer Rouge evacuated the people from the cities, the towns,
- 24 and moved them to the rural area. At each co-operative, there
- 25 was no religious practice, no school, no hospital, no market, et

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- 1 cetera. There were only forced labours, starvation, terror,
- 2 tragedy, destruction, murder. Brothers killed brothers. The
- 3 children killed their parents mercilessly, which cannot be
- 4 thinkable during this 20th century. The real evidence of their
- 5 crimes remain until today, including 388 killing sites including
- 6 the mass graves, 19,733.
- 7 In the Kingdom of Cambodia, there were 170 districts and each of
- 8 those districts contained mass graves. The memorials storing the
- 9 victims' bones and ash built by the surviving people, there was
- 10 81 of them. Security or prison was the place to smash people.
- 11 There were 196 of them including S-21. I would like to take
- 12 opportunity to tell the Court that the researcher did not find
- 13 all of the security offices as far as I know in Prey Veng
- 14 province. We cannot find on the report information regarding
- 15 Baphnum district security, such as Kok Chruol as a Chruol prison.
- 16 And I could not find one of the prisons on Chheu Kach Mountain.
- 17 So during the DK period from the 17th of April 1975 through the
- 18 6th January 1979, approximately 1.7 million Cambodians were
- 19 murdered during the period. During that period, the Khmer Rouge
- 20 established the detention centre (prison), hundreds of them,
- 21 which were organized in the similar structure. First, the
- 22 arrest; second, detention, torture, interrogation; thirdly,
- 23 execution. Every prison had a similar nature. The Trial Chamber
- 24 of the ECCC arrested one of the Khmer Rouge cadre, Kaing Guek Eav
- 25 alias Duch, who was the former Chairman of S-21 for trial.

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- 1 Among those hundreds of prisons, S-21 was the biggest and killed
- 2 the most people than other. That bring the chairman of this
- 3 prison for prosecution. The chairmen of other prisons are living
- 4 peacefully and happily with their families. Some of the other
- 5 prisons killed much more people than S-21. Why the chairmen of
- 6 those prisons were living free? Each prison used the same
- 7 torture, the same murder under the same order from Angkar. Why
- 8 those chairmen are free?
- 9 [13.42.46]
- 10 It's only Duch, by himself, who killed very few people and he is
- 11 brought for trial to get the situation of a scapegoat. Is this
- 12 justice for the standard of Cambodia tribunal? The Trial
- 13 Chambers, Your Honours, after my consideration of the case file,
- 14 after listening carefully to the witnesses and experts and after
- 15 listening carefully to the final submission by the civil parties'
- 16 lawyers and the final submissions by the Co-Prosecutors, the
- 17 defence counsel would like to address a number of arguments to
- 18 the Trial Chambers for its consideration, assessment and seeking
- 19 for the justice under the law.
- 20 Legal matter. I would like to address the preliminary
- 21 objections. Pursuant to Rule 89.1(b), the defence counsel wishes
- 22 to raise a preliminary objection concerning the termination (sic)
- 23 of the prosecution. The accused is charged with the mistaken
- 24 offence for violation of the 1956 Penal Code for the commission
- 25 of murder, Articles 501 and 506; Torture, Article 500 and other

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- 1 offences defined and punishable and Articles 3(new), 29(new) and
- 2 39(new) of the Law on the Establishment of the Extraordinary
- 3 Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia for the prosecution of crimes
- 4 committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea.
- 5 THE PRESIDENT:
- 6 Mr. Kar Savuth, could you please repeat the final paragraph
- 7 because that paragraph was not communicated and then you can
- 8 proceed.
- 9 MR. SAVUTH:
- 10 Defined and punishable under Articles 3(new), 29(new) and 39(new)
- 11 of the Law on the Establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers in
- 12 the Courts of Cambodia for the prosecution of crimes committed
- 13 during the period of Democratic Kampuchea.
- 14 [13.46.47]
- 15 The defence counsel notes that Article 3 of the Law on the
- 16 Establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Court of
- 17 Cambodia states that the Statute of Limitations set forth in the
- 18 1956 Penal Code shall be extended for an additional 30 years for
- 19 the crimes enumerated about which are within the jurisdiction of
- 20 the Extraordinary Chamber.
- 21 However, the defence also notes that pursuant to Article 109 of
- 22 the1956 Penal Code, the limitation period for such crimes is 10
- 23 years. Accordingly, the defence counsel considers, on the basis
- 24 of Article 109 of the 1956 Penal Code that when the Law on the
- 25 Establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Court of

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- 1 Cambodia was promulgated on the 27 October 2004, the limitation
- 2 period for the crimes alleged committed during the period of
- 3 Democratic Kampuchea during the period from 17 April 1979 to the
- 4 6th of January 1979 had already expired for the period of 15
- 5 years 9 months and 14 days. I would like to add, further, that
- 6 the defence file its missions to the Trial Chamber. Please
- 7 consider our submission in due course.
- 8 On the other hand, we believe that the elements of the crime
- 9 under the national law, Article 500, defines torture. Article
- 10 401 and 406 defines murder and in the ECCC law, it defines about
- 11 the crimes against humanity at Article 5(new) also defined murder
- 12 and torture. Therefore, the offences and the crimes against
- 13 humanity have the same elements overlapping that define the
- 14 torture and the same murder.
- 15 They signify that when you prosecute a person for crimes against
- 16 humanity you don't need to prosecute him for crimes under the
- 17 national law. Therefore, may it please the Court, consider and
- 18 make decisions based on that.
- 19 In conclusion, the defence counsel submits that Kaing Guek Eav,
- 20 alias Duch, cannot be prosecuted under national law. Any
- 21 decision to the contrary would violate the mandatory rule of law
- 22 and fundamental principle of non-retroactivity of the criminal
- 23 law because the limitation period under the Penal Code of 1956
- 24 was expired for 15 years nine months 14 days. For this reason
- 25 the defence counsel requests the Trial Chamber to adjudicate and

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- 1 declare that the prosecution of the crimes of murder and torture
- 2 under Articles 500, 501 and 506 of the 1956 Penal Code is
- 3 time-barred.
- 4 [13.52.29]
- 5 In section B the defence counsel would like to address about the
- 6 prosecution under the international law, crimes against humanity.
- 7 The defence counsel believes that the Government of Democratic
- 8 Kampuchea and the Government of Socialist Republic of Vietnam
- 9 were solely responsible for the military violence between the
- 10 armed forces of Democratic Kampuchea and those of the Socialist
- 11 Republic of Vietnam. The conflict was between them and it was
- 12 not Kaing Guek Eav, alias Duch, who started it.
- 13 It was the Communist Party of Kampuchea and the Government of
- 14 Democratic Kampuchea who made the decision to send Vietnamese
- 15 soldiers and civilians to be smashed at S-21. Kaing Guek Eav,
- 16 alias Duch, did not have the authority to make such a decision.
- 17 The defence recalls that Duch has not denied the existence of the
- 18 armed conflict between DK government and the Republic of Vietnam.
- 19 In relation to the specific dates of the commencements of the
- 20 international conflict between the Democratic Kampuchea and
- 21 Vietnam, the defence counsels solely rely on the wisdom of the
- 22 Trial Chamber. However, the defence counsel would like to
- 23 address that.
- 24 There is uncertainty in relation to the existence of the armed
- 25 conflict before late 1977. Related to the same topics, the

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- 1 defence counsel would like to address that. The expert Nayan
- 2 Chanda, based on his interviews with Vietnamese leaders, he
- 3 indicated during his testimony before the Trial Chamber as the
- 4 following.
- 5 In 1977 Hanoi government has no intent to start any war at all.
- 6 The Hanoi government just to give a signal to the Khmer Rouge.
- 7 It is only in late 1977 the Vietnamese government concludes that
- 8 it is not a misunderstanding or a problem of the controversials
- 9 at the border area. In response to the question by Judge
- 10 Cartwright, Mr. Nayan Chanda has also confirmed that the
- 11 bombardment, a large-scale offensive of Vietnamese armed forces,
- 12 had just occurred during June or July 1978, after the declaration
- 13 to break diplomatic relationship on the 31st of December 1977.
- 14 [13.56.35]
- 15 However, the defence counsel believes that the accused had just
- 16 received the information about the armed conflicts between the DK
- 17 regime and Vietnam after the declaration of cutting diplomatic
- 18 relationship on the 31st of December 1977. The defence counsel
- 19 would like to address that under international law the admission
- 20 of the facts indicating the existence of the armed conflict, it
- 21 is necessary to identify criminal responsibility for the war
- 22 crimes.
- 23 The defence counsel would like to submit that in his statement
- 24 before the Co-Investigating Judges and before the Trial Chamber,
- 25 Duch indicated that he had never known about the border conflict

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- 1 between Cambodia and Vietnam before the 31st of December 1977.
- 2 The existence of such conflict in Mondulkiri in relation to
- 3 Brévié line was confirmed by Nayan Chanda as existed. He also
- 4 addressed that that conflict was just only an ordinary raiding
- 5 between the two countries, but it was not an armed conflict --
- 6 international armed conflict -- in the meaning defined under the
- 7 Geneva Convention of 1949.
- 8 On top of that, the defence counsel is of the opinion that the
- 9 speech by Duch was very convincing, if you pay attention to the
- 10 very strict implementation of the CPK's policy, and it is also
- 11 very convincing that when we talk about the relationship between
- 12 Cambodia and Vietnam, and furthermore the statements by Duch are
- 13 very consistent with that of Suos Thy, the witness. At that time
- 14 Suos Thy was the registrar, the person who kept register of the
- 15 prisoners who entered S-21. Suos Thy said in 1976 or 1978 there
- 16 was no Vietnamese prisoners of war. Only after the armed
- 17 conflicted started that he saw incoming Vietnamese prisoners of
- 18 war.
- 19 [14.00.18]
- 20 This statement is plausible and is consistent with the prisoners
- 21 list at S-21. They were described as the Vietnamese soldiers at
- 22 S-21. The list was already included in the case file by the
- 23 Office of Co-Prosecutor; E68 Annex 28. So the statement proves
- 24 that it's most likely there would have been only two Vietnamese
- 25 soldiers who were ever arrested and detained at S-21 before the

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- 1 31st of December 1977.
- 2 The defence counsel therefore -- having analyzed the confidential
- 3 policy of the Democratic Kampuchea and observed the silence of
- 4 Cambodia and Vietnam in relation to the hostility and the
- 5 characteristic of the intensity of the dispute between the two
- 6 countries at S-21 before the 31st of December 1977 -- the defence
- 7 counsel submits that the Co-Prosecutors have failed to prove
- 8 beyond the reasonable doubt that Duch has any knowledge of the
- 9 armed conflict between the two countries before the 31st of
- 10 December 1977.
- 11 [14.02.11]
- 12 Regarding the violations or the grave breaches of the Geneva
- 13 Convention dated on the 12th of August 1949, the Communist Party
- 14 of Kampuchea was the violator of the Convention. It was not
- 15 Kaing Guek Eav, alias Duch, because he was led, ordered and
- 16 instructed by the Party. He just obeyed the order.
- 17 Concerning the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of
- 18 Kampuchea and the members of this committee, there are still
- 19 three surviving people now including Nuon Chea, Ieng Sary, and
- 20 Khieu Samphan. And the government, the people in the government
- 21 of the DK, are also still alive, which includes Ieng Sary who was
- 22 the deputy prime minister in charge of foreign affairs.
- 23 Defence therefore submits that these armed conflict matters shall
- 24 not be concluded in this Case File 001 but instead it should be
- 25 referred to Case File 002 instead, which is more appropriate.

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- 1 I would like now to touch upon the responsibility, the agreement
- 2 between the United Nations and the Royal Government of Cambodia
- 3 and the Law on the Establishment of the ECCC.
- 4 Article 1 of the agreement between the United Nations and the
- 5 Royal Government of Cambodia dated 6th June 2003 states that the
- 6 purpose of the present agreement is to regulate the co-operation
- 7 between the United Nations and the Royal Government of Cambodia
- 8 in bringing to trial senior leaders of Democratic Kampuchea and
- 9 those who were most responsible for the crime and serious
- 10 violations of Cambodian penal law, international humanitarian
- 11 law, and custom and international conventions recognized by
- 12 Cambodia that were committed during the period from the 17th of
- 13 April 1975 to the 6th of January 1979.
- 14 [14.04.50]
- 15 According to Article 1 of the Law on the Establishment of the
- 16 ECCC dated on the 27th of October 2004, or known as the ECCC Law,
- 17 it states that:
- 18 "The purpose of this law is to bring to trial senior leaders of
- 19 Democratic Kampuchea and those who were most responsible for the
- 20 crimes and serious violations of Cambodian penal law,
- 21 international humanitarian law and custom and international
- 22 conventions recognized by Cambodia that were committed during the
- 23 period from the 17th of April 1975 to the 6th of January 1979."
- 24 So I would like to emphasize strongly that the laws to bring to
- 25 trial those Khmer Rouge leaders are only having the jurisdiction

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- 1 to try these two categories of people -- the senior leaders of
- 2 Democratic Kampuchea. So who were the senior leaders of
- 3 Democratic Kampuchea? And if they are identified then the
- 4 Co-Prosecutors should have prosecuted them all.
- 5 And the other category of those who are to be on trial were those
- 6 who were most responsible for the crimes. So those who were most
- 7 responsible for the crimes have to be punished. Otherwise the
- 8 office of Co-Prosecutor has to terminate the criminal action.
- 9 But so far the Office of Co-Prosecutor has failed to fulfil its
- 10 mission and on top of that it even fails to list even one single
- 11 individual who is classified as the most senior leaders of the
- 12 Khmer Rouge regime or the most responsible people.
- 13 [14.07.31]
- 14 So none of them has ever been listed in the list of the
- 15 Co-Prosecutors as those who were to be liable for such crimes.
- 16 So without knowing any name and that the Office of Co-Prosecutor
- 17 arbitrarily implicating other people as senior leaders or those
- 18 most responsible people for the crimes, it would not be
- 19 appropriate.
- 20 The trial of the senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge. The Royal
- 21 Government of Cambodia has three main purposes. First, to find
- 22 justice for the souls, the dead souls, those who perished during
- 23 the Democratic Kampuchea regime, and the survivors of the regime.
- 24 So regarding this first purpose, it is the more than one million
- 25 dead souls, those who perished in more than 196 prisons, could

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- 1 only be put to rest if the proceedings are seen to be just and
- 2 that only the people who have been classified in these two
- 3 categories are being brought on trial. Otherwise, justice will
- 4 never be done or will never be seen to be done.
- 5 On top of that, the position of the Government of Cambodia is to
- 6 maintain security, political stability and national sovereignty
- 7 and that to ensure such crimes will never re-occur on the
- 8 territory of Cambodia. And number three, that the Khmer
- 9 sovereignty shall be respected.
- 10 I would like now to move to the senior leaders of Democratic
- 11 Kampuchea who were actually the senior leaders of Democratic
- 12 Kampuchea. Paragraph 129 at page 54 of the Co-Investigating
- 13 Judge closing order dated 8th August 2008 expressly states that
- 14 the judicial investigation demonstrated that while Duch was not a
- 15 senior leader of Democratic Kampuchea, therefore under Article 1
- 16 (new) and 2 (new) of the Law on the Establishment of the ECCC.
- 17 Duch was not a senior leader of Democratic Kampuchea. The
- 18 following seven persons were the senior leaders of Democratic
- 19 Kampuchea: one, Pol Pot, Party Secretary; Nuon Chea, First
- 20 Deputy Party Secretary; Sao Yann alias Phim, Second Deputy Party
- 21 Secretary, Ung Choeun alias Mok, Third Deputy Party Secretary,
- 22 Ieng Sary, alias Brother One, full-rights member of the Standing
- 23 Committee, Vorn Vet alias Vorn, candidate member of the Standing
- 24 Committee and Son Sen alias Khieu, candidate member of the
- 25 Standing Committee.

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- 1 I would like to also address the Court that -- why these seven
- 2 people were the senior people of the Democratic Kampuchea.
- 3 During the Khmer Rouge regime, it was the Party -- it was the
- 4 Standing Committee that was vested with power to make all
- 5 decisions so no other person was allowed to make any such
- 6 decision. So other than these people, no other people, at all,
- 7 who were regarded as the senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge
- 8 regime.
- 9 So these seven people -- if you look carefully does not list
- 10 Kaing Guek Eav among them.
- 11 [14.12.26]
- 12 And according to the documents by the Co-Investigating Judges and
- 13 Office of Co-Prosecutor and that the documents have already been
- 14 confirmed that the most senior people of the Democratic Kampuchea
- 15 comprised only these seven people. There's none document,
- 16 whatsoever, to prove that Kaing Guek Eav alias Duch was the
- 17 senior leader of the Democratic Kampuchea.
- 18 The Standing Committee or the senior leader of the Democratic
- 19 Kampuchea or the Central Committee of the Standing Committee was
- 20 the sole mastermind of the crime and there were only seven of
- 21 them. And until 1997 -- and according to the DC-Cam documented
- 22 archive, until 1977 two additional or three additional people
- 23 were added; Ke Pok, Ros Nhim and another person; however, these
- 24 three names did not include Kaing Guek Eav alias Duch as the
- 25 senior leader of the Democratic Kampuchea. So on what count

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- 1 which was used by the respective chamber to charge Duch as the
- 2 most senior or the senior leader of the Democratic Kampuchea.
- 3 In relation to the violations of the national and international
- 4 laws so who were those who were most responsible for the
- 5 violations? Those who were most responsible were classified into
- 6 two categories and two phases. The first phase starts from the
- 7 17 of April 1975 to the 13th of March 1976. So this is the first
- 8 stage as I may call.
- 9 [14.14.55]
- 10 On the 17 of April 1975 when the Khmer Rouge entered Phnom Penh
- 11 crimes were committed overtly with the people being forcibly
- 12 evacuated and covertly by secretly executing people. These
- 13 crimes were committed with the explicit objective of enslaving
- 14 the entire Cambodian population by placing them in co-operatives
- 15 according to a preconceived plan as indicated at paragraphs 15
- 16 and 16 of the Co-Prosecutors final submission dated 18 July 2008
- 17 and paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Co-Investigating Judges Closing
- 18 Order dated 8th of August 2008 in which it is expressly indicated
- 19 that the CPK exercised effective authority. The Co-Prosecutors
- 20 confirmed it and the Office of Co-Investigating Judges also
- 21 confirmed this statement. It was not Duch who made such order.
- 22 I would be touching upon who put the order in tomorrow's
- 23 session.
- 24 Moreover, paragraph 12 of the Co-Investigating Judges Closing
- 25 Order dated 8th of August 2008 unequivocally states that

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- 1 politically motivated extra-judicial executions were committed
- 2 from the outset by military units. So it is very clear that
- 3 extra-judicial executions were committed by the military units
- 4 and Duch worked in the fields of the police so Duch was no way
- 5 involved in such extra-judicial killing.
- 6 And not long before and after the 17th of April 1975, military
- 7 units of each division and local authorities of each zone were
- 8 placed under the command of the zone secretary and deputy
- 9 secretary. In other words, they were in the possession of the
- 10 zone secretary and deputy secretary so each zone had its owner.
- 11 So the secretary of the zone had its own military so if they wish
- 12 to order any arrest or execution or smash then they would be
- 13 ready to do that.
- 14 The zones whose forces were combined to attack and take control
- of Phnom Penh were the East Zone with Sao Yann alias Phim as
- 16 Secretary, the special zone under Vorn Vet and Son Sen, the old
- 17 Southwest Zone under Ung Choeun alias Mok and Chou Chet alias Sy
- 18 and four, the old North Zone under Koy Thuon and Ke Pauk.
- 19 [14.18.44]
- 20 Ros Nhim, the Secretary of the Northwest Zone attacked Battambang
- 21 alone with his unit so only Phnom Penh that was not yet fully
- 22 conquered. The other zones were already liberated so these zones
- 23 were jointly attacking Phnom Penh. But Ros Nhim alone only
- 24 conducted or led the force to attack Battambang. So altogether,
- 25 they worked to attack Phnom Penh and there were 10 people who

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- 1 were responsible for such attacks: Pol Pot, Nuon Chea, Sao Yann,
- 2 Vorn Vet, Son Sen, Koy Thuon, Ros Nhim, Chou Chet, Ros Nhim and
- 3 Duch was not included.
- 4 So these 10 people after having control the power, they started
- 5 to really implement their criminal plan. They therefore are
- 6 those who are most responsible for the crimes and serious
- 7 violations of Cambodian and International Law during the period
- 8 from the 17th of April 1975 to the 30th of March 1976.
- 9 During the first stage from the 17th of April 1975 to the 30th of
- 10 March 1976, Kaing Guek Eav alias Duch, was not amongst those who
- 11 were most responsible for the crimes and serious violations of
- 12 Cambodian and international law.
- 13 First, from the 17th of April '75 and after the people were
- 14 evacuated and executed, the executions were conducted by the
- 15 military unit, according the indictment. Duch worked in the
- 16 police section, so he did not work in the military unit. So he
- 17 was not involved in such execution before the 17th -- during that
- 18 time because, as the police, he should have been spared from
- 19 being prosecuted.
- 20 Number two, when people were evacuated out from Phnom Penh to the
- 21 countryside, people were already executed but Duch was stationed
- 22 at Amleang in Thpong district. He as not part in the evacuation
- 23 because he was working there. So it is a kind of
- 24 misunderstanding to prosecute him on that account. And the
- 25 secretaries of the zones who were in charge of attacking Phnom

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- 1 Penh and Battambang and who were behind the evacuation and the
- 2 execution of the people, were those 10 people and that Duch was
- 3 not amongst them.
- 4 [14.22.21]
- 5 And after the 17th of April 1975 until the 30th of March 1976,
- 6 Duch had been the Deputy Chairman of S-21. The Chairman was In
- 7 Lorn, alias Nat. He was the deputy. He was not the one who was
- 8 most responsible for S-21 at that time, so the person who was
- 9 fully in charge was Nat. So even we had to call those chiefs of
- 10 prisons during that period of time, it was far beyond Duch's
- 11 ability to be involved in such crimes. So Duch was not involved.
- 12 So the crimes committed from the 17th of April 1975 to the 30th
- 13 of March 1976 and those who were most responsible for the crimes
- 14 were those 10 people as I have already indicated and it is clear,
- 15 obviously, that Duch is not included. So during the first stage,
- 16 Duch is free from being prosecuted as he was the Deputy Chairman
- 17 of S-21 while In Lorn was the Chairman.
- 18 I would like now to talk about the second stage, starting from
- 19 the 30th of March 1976 to the 6th of January 1979. According to
- 20 paragraph 35 of the Co-Investigating Judges' Closing Order dated
- 21 8th of August 2008, it is acknowledged that the Party had
- 22 clarified authority to execute, so in this paragraph 35 the
- 23 Co-Investigating Judges made it already clear that the Party had
- 24 clarified the framework, the authority to execute. Therefore,
- 25 who actually had the authority to execute or smash? Those who

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- 1 were vested with such power were those who were most responsible
- 2 for the crimes and the violations of both domestic and
- 3 international law.
- 4 [14.25.14]
- 5 The Party delegated power and rights to these groups of people
- 6 and I will touch upon how many groups of people who were
- 7 entitled to smash, to kill, to spare anyone's life during such
- 8 regime. So let's bear with me to see whether Duch is included in
- 9 the group. If he comes in the group, then I would be very
- 10 disappointed anyway but I hope he will not be in that statement.
- 11 According to a Central Committee decision dated 30th of March
- 12 1976, the Party, or Angkar, vested authority to smash within and
- 13 outside the ranks in the following four groups of people. I can
- 14 say that the organization assigned four groups of people to smash
- 15 within and outside the ranks, so these four groups of people were
- 16 assigned. Was Duch included in the groups?
- 17 First group, in the base framework, the zone standing committee.
- 18 This means that the secretary of the zone who was the one to make
- 19 such decision. The surrounding the Centre Office, the offices
- 20 surrounding Phnom Penh, the Central Office Committee was the one
- 21 who made the decision. Within independent sectors, the Standing
- 22 Committee, it was Pol Pot. The Centre military, the general
- 23 staff. So please bear with me to the following statement who
- 24 were included in these four groups of people.
- 25 So by this decision, the Central Committee expressly vested in

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- 1 the aforementioned four groups of people the authority to smash,
- 2 to eliminate millions of people within and outside the ranks. So
- 3 these four groups of persons were, therefore, those who were most
- 4 responsible for the crimes and serious violations of Cambodian
- 5 and international law due to the fact that they were the ones
- 6 vested with the power of life and death over everyone.
- 7 [14.27.51]
- 8 And according to these very well deliberate decisions by the
- 9 standing committee, the rights, the power, the authority was
- 10 given to the standing committee of the zone. So the standing
- 11 committee of the zone had the authority to smash anyone within
- 12 and outside the rank in its base framework.
- 13 So there were seven zones during the period. The Northeast Zone
- 14 -- Rattanakiri, Mondulkiri and Stung Treng -- Men San alias Ya,
- 15 was the secretary and who was the authority to make any decision
- 16 to smash anyone. So he could spare anyone's life if he would
- 17 wish to do so. The East Zone, Sao Yann alias Phim, the zone
- 18 secretary, had the power to decide on smashing.
- 19 Three, in the Southeast Zone including Takeo, Kampot, Kampong
- 20 Speu, S'ang, Koh Thom, Leuk Daek, Dangkao, Kandal Steung, Ung
- 21 Choeun alias Mok, the secretary, had the power to decide on
- 22 smashing.
- 23 Four, in the West Zone north of Kampong Speu, Kampong Chhnang,
- 24 Koh Kong, Chou Chet alias Se was the zone secretary and had the
- 25 power to smash.

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- 1 Five, in the Northwest Zone -- Pursat, Battambang -- during that
- 2 time Battambang included Pailin and Banteay Meanchey. Ros Nhim,
- 3 the in-law of Nuon Chea, was in charge.
- 4 Six, in the Central Zone -- Kampong Thom, Kampong Cham -- there
- 5 was Ke Pauk alias Ker Vin, the zone secretary who had the power
- 6 to decide on smashing.
- 7 Seven, in the new North Zone in Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey,
- 8 Stung Treng, it was Kâng Chap alias Sae, the zone secretary who
- 9 had the power to decide on smashing.
- 10 [14.30.30]
- 11 I would like to also emphasize that after Chou Chet, alias Sy,
- 12 was arrested Mok was promoted to be the Secretary of the Central
- 13 Zone, replacing him. And later on he was promoted to be the
- 14 Secretary of the Northwest, replacing Ya. Later he was promoted
- 15 to be the North Zone secretary, so he later on became the
- 16 secretary of four zones.
- 17 So those who were most responsible for the crimes and violations
- 18 of the national and international law from the 30th of March 1976
- 19 to the 6th of January 1979 were comprising of these people. And
- 20 according to the decision of the Central Committee, the power to
- 21 smash people inside and outside the ranks was vested in the
- 22 Central Office Committee.
- 23 So the Centre Office Committee had the right to smash people who
- 24 were surrounding the offices. So Khieu Samphan -- it was Khieu
- 25 Samphan who decided on smashing, as he was the Chairman of the

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- 1 Centre Office Committee also known as Office 870. So Khieu
- 2 Samphan was among the most responsible people for the crimes and
- 3 violations committed from the 30th of March 1976 until the 6th of
- 4 January 1979.
- 5 [14.32.37]
- 6 And according to the same document under the same Central
- 7 Committee decision, authority to smash inside and outside the
- 8 ranks was delegated to the independent sectors or autonomous
- 9 sectors which includes Siem Reap, Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear,
- 10 and Kampong Som, or Sihanouk province.
- 11 So these sectors are independent and the Standing Committee with
- 12 Pol Pot as the secretary had the authority to smash anyone in
- 13 these autonomous zones or sectors. And at that time it was Pol
- 14 Pot who made such decision to smash because the secretaries of
- 15 the sectors were not the full-rights members of the Standing
- 16 Committee and without such title no one was allowed to make such
- 17 decision.
- 18 That's why in these autonomous sectors it was the Standing
- 19 Committee that was vested in such a power to smash, and it was
- 20 Pol Pot among the other people who were most responsible for the
- 21 crimes and violations of national and international laws.
- 22 Four, the fourth group within the army. In the decision by the
- 23 Standing Committee dated 30th of March 1976, the right or the
- 24 authority was given to smash within the military rank. So it was
- 25 the General Staff who was given such authority and it is

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- 1 obviously clear that it was Son Sen, who was the most responsible
- 2 person among the other most responsible people for the crimes and
- 3 violations of national and international laws.
- 4 [14.34.58]
- 5 I would like to also indicate that according to the documents of
- 6 the Standing Committee meeting dated on the 9th of October 1975,
- 7 it states that:
- 8 "2. Comrade Deputy Secretary, Party Affairs, Social Affairs,
- 9 Culture, Propaganda and Education."
- 10 So this signifies that besides Party affairs, Nuon Chea was also
- 11 responsible for four ministries, namely Social Affairs, Culture,
- 12 Propaganda, and Education. So he was responsible for all affairs
- 13 under these ministries, especially internal screening inside the
- 14 ministries, since none of the four ministries was a member of the
- 15 Centre. Only members of the Centre had the authority to make
- 16 decision to smash. So Nuon Chea was the one who was in charge.
- 17 None of the members of the ministry was the full-rights member of
- 18 the Standing Committee, so it was Pol Pot who was given the right
- 19 and here, referring to this ministry, since there was none who
- 20 was member of the Standing Committee, it was Nuon Chea who was
- 21 given the authority to smash. And Duch was not a member of the
- 22 Centre. So it can be drawn from this conclusion that only the
- 23 members of the Standing Committee had the right to smash people.
- 24 So the question is, was Duch given such authority to smash
- 25 because he was not the member of the Centre? Of course not. And

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- 1 Nuon Chea was also appointed to the additional position of
- 2 secretary of the Northeast and East zones after the previous zone
- 3 secretaries had been arrested by decision of the Standing
- 4 Committee. To that effect, and to the two instances mentioned
- 5 above, Nuon Chea supervised the ministers of the four ministries
- 6 and was also secretary of two zones.
- 7 [14.36.21]
- 8 This provides additional confirmation that Nuon Chea was one of
- 9 those who were most responsible for crimes and serious violations
- 10 of Cambodian and international law.
- 11 Mr. President, could we take an adjournment now?
- 12 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 13 Since it is an appropriate time to take an adjournment, then we
- 14 will take 20 minutes adjournment. We will resume at 3 p.m.
- 15 (Judges exit courtroom)
- 16 (Court recesses from 1438H to 1501H)
- 17 (Judges enter courtroom)
- 18 THE PRESIDENT:
- 19 Please be seated. The Trial Chamber is back in session and the
- 20 defence counsel may take the floor to continue your final
- 21 submission, please. The floor is yours.
- 22 MR. KAR SAVUTH:
- 23 I would like now to start.
- 24 In conclusion, those who were most responsible for the crimes and
- 25 serious violation of the Cambodian and international law during

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- 1 the period from 17 April 1975 to 6 January 1979 including eleven
- 2 of them: One, Pol Pot; Nuon Chea; Sao Yann alias Phim; Ung
- 3 Choeun, alias Mok; five, Son Sen; six, Khieu Samphan; Men San
- 4 alias Ya; Chou Chet alias Sy; Ros Nhim; Ke Pauk; and Kang Chap
- 5 alias Sae.
- 6 [15.02.41]
- 7 I have just addressed to the Court about the stages of the purges
- 8 and I would like now to start from the 17 April 1975 to 6 January
- 9 1979. Those who were responsible most responsible for the
- 10 crimes and international law during the period of 17 April 1975
- 11 to 6 January 1979: Pol Pot, Nuon Chea, Sao Yann, Ung Choeun,
- 12 Khieu Samphan, Koy Thuon, Men San alias Ya, Ke Pauk, Chou Chet
- 13 alias Sy, Ros Nhim, Kang Chap alias Sae.
- 14 In conclusion, among those who were most responsible for the
- 15 crimes and serious violations of the Cambodian and international
- 16 law during the period from 17 April 1975 to the 6th of January
- 17 1979 and Kaing Guek Eav alias Duch was not one of the 13 persons
- 18 named about. Under Article 1 of the ECCC law, it does not
- 19 include Duch because he was not a senior leader of the Democratic
- 20 Kampuchea and he was not those who was responsible for the crimes
- 21 and serious violation of the national and international law from
- 22 the 17 of April 1975 to the 6th January 1979.
- 23 In conclusion, who were senior leaders of the Democratic
- 24 Kampuchea and those who were most responsible for the crimes and
- 25 serious violations of Cambodian and international law from 17

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- 1 April 1975 to 6 January 1979? And I would like to combine
- 2 together of the senior leader of the DK and those who were most
- 3 responsible all together, but in this case, some of the people
- 4 played two roles. Who was the senior leaders and also the ones
- 5 who were most responsible? Some of them just the senior leader
- 6 and some of them were just those who were most responsible for
- 7 the crimes.
- 8 [15.06.29]
- 9 So those who were the senior leader of the Democratic Kampuchea
- 10 and those who were most responsible for the crimes, all together
- 11 there were only fourteen of them -- fourteen of them. On the
- 12 top, he is the most senior leader and the most responsible person
- 13 for the crimes and the Cambodian law and international law.
- 14 There were only nine of them so those who played two roles, only
- 15 nine of them: One, Pol Pot; two, Nuon Chea; three, Sao Yann
- 16 alias Phim; four, Ung Choeun alias Mok or Chhit Choeun; five,
- 17 Vorn Vet; six, Son Sen. So I would like to address to the Court
- 18 that seven, eight and nine the three last people based on the
- 19 history document of DC-Cam, there was the seven, Khieu Samphan,
- 20 Ke Pauk and nine, Ros Nhim.
- 21 Secondly, those who were senior leaders, he was not the one who
- 22 is most responsible for the crime, he was Ieng Sary.
- 23 So those who were most responsible for all the crimes, all
- 24 together, I may now conclude that there were four of them who
- 25 were not senior leaders, but they were those who were responsible

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- 1 for the crimes: number one, Koy Thuon; Men San alias Ya; Chou
- 2 Chet alias Sy; Kang Chap alias Sae. So these fourteen
- 3 individuals, eight were executed or smashed before the 6 of
- 4 January 1979 so seven out of fourteen died before the 6 of
- 5 January 1979. They include Sao Yann alias Phim, committed
- 6 suicide in 1978; Vorn Vet alias Penh Thuok, arrested on the 2nd
- 7 of November 1978 and smashed in the same year; three, Koy Thuon,
- 8 arrested on the 25th of January '77; four, Men San, alias Ya,
- 9 arrested the 20th of September '76; five, Chou Chet alias Sy,
- 10 arrested the 17th April 1978; six, Ros Nhim alias Moul Un alias
- 11 Sambath, smashed 1978; seven, Kang Chap, alias Sae, alias Chan
- 12 Sam was arrested and smashed on the 31st of October, 1978. They
- 13 were executed or died after the 6th of January 1979. There were
- 14 four of them including Pol Pot who died in 1998; two, Choeun,
- 15 alias Mok died in 2006; Son Sen, number 3, was smashed by Pol Pot
- 16 in 1997; four, Ke Pauk died in 2002. So among these 14 people,
- 17 11 of whom died, three remain to be brought to trial -- number
- 18 one, Nuon Chea, the senior leader of the Democratic Kampuchea as
- 19 the first secretary and the most responsible person for the crime
- 20 and serious violations of the domestic and international law, as
- 21 Nuon Chea was the one who oversaw the implementation of the
- 22 policies and decisions rendered by Pol Pot.
- 23 He was monitoring the ministers of four main ministries including
- 24 the purges of the four ministries including the secretary of the
- 25 east and whose secretary was purged earlier.

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- 1 Number two, Khieu Samphan, was the most responsible person for
- 2 the crimes and violations of the domestic and international law.
- 3 Khieu Samphan was the secretary of Office 870 who had the
- 4 authority to smash anyone surrounding the Central Office.
- 5 [15.12.22]
- 6 Khieu Samphan became the Standing Committee member in 1977 so he
- 7 was part of the system.
- 8 Number three, Ieng Sary, who was the most senior leaders of the
- 9 Democratic Kampuchea because he was the Deputy Prime Minister in
- 10 charge of Foreign Affairs.
- 11 Duch was not the senior leader of the Democratic Kampuchea nor
- 12 was he classified in the category of those who were most
- 13 responsible for crimes and serious violations of domestic and
- 14 international law because the senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge
- 15 regime, the Democratic Kampuchea comprised only those people and
- 16 that Duch had not been included.
- 17 The three additional members of the Standing Committee were
- 18 included and Duch was never been included.
- 19 Regarding those who were most responsible for the crimes and
- 20 serious violations of the domestic and international law, I can
- 21 conclude there were only 13 people. Among them Duch was not
- 22 listed. In thousands of pages of documents in the case file,
- 23 there is no document indicating that Duch as the senior leader or
- 24 those who were most responsible for the crimes.
- 25 [15.14.29]

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- 1 Duch only was mostly responsible for the crimes at S-21 so those
- 2 who were sent to S-21 were under the supervision of Duch and this
- 3 authority could only be exercised in the confinement area of
- 4 S-21.
- 5 So Duch's responsibilities was to hold the prisoners and not to
- 6 allow any of them to escape, to torture them, to extract their
- 7 confessions, to determine whether they were genuinely obtained,
- 8 otherwise he would be in big trouble. And to determine whether
- 9 they were CIA, KGB agents or Yuon spies, whoever it is, not to
- 10 let them die, and confessions cut off.
- 11 If anyone was found to have tortured the victims -- at that time
- 12 they were called as detainees -- and if they died and their
- 13 confessions were cut off then Duch would be responsible for that.
- 14 Duch was responsible to send the prisoners or the victims who
- 15 were already interrogated to be smashed but never executed those
- 16 people in person. So to smash the prisoners for them means to
- 17 smash as ordered by Angkar whose leader was Pol Pot, the top
- 18 leader who issued orders to Nuon Chea and Son Sen who then issued
- 19 orders to Duch who, in turn, issued order to the smashing squad.
- 20 This confirms that Duch was not one of those who were most
- 21 responsible as Duch received orders from his superiors who had
- 22 the authority to make decisions on smashing as well as the
- 23 authority to order the smashing accordingly. So it is they who
- 24 were most responsible. A person who received orders and executed
- 25 them is not one of those who were most responsible as in fact he

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- 1 was ordered from above. So someone ordered from his above.
- 2 [15.17.26]
- 3 So Duch would have been one of those who were most responsible if
- 4 he were vested with the authority to order other people to make
- 5 arrests and smash those who were arrested. And since he had no
- 6 authority to smash and he had nothing to choose but to obey the
- 7 order, otherwise to kill or be killed.
- 8 Whether the Chairman of S-21 was regarded as the senior or those
- 9 who were most responsible for the crimes and serious violations
- 10 of international and domestic law is still in question so in the
- 11 Khmer Rouge regime there were 196 prisons and there were 196
- 12 prison chiefs. So Duch alone shall not be tried if the other
- 13 prisoner chiefs still enjoy the impunity.
- 14 So in conclusion, it would be fair enough if all these people are
- 15 arrested and brought to trial and according to the Constitution
- 16 of Article 31 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the
- 17 Article clearly states that every Khmer citizen shall be equal
- 18 before the law, enjoying the same rights, freedoms and fulfilling
- 19 the same obligations regardless of their race, colour, sex,
- 20 language, religious belief, political tendency. Is the equality
- 21 here? Is Article 31 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of
- 22 Cambodia being respected when amongst the 196 prison chairmen,
- 23 only the S-21 prison chairman is being prosecuted?
- 24 The other 195 prison chairmen remain free. Each prison received
- 25 the same orders from the same Angkar and each prison implemented

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- 1 the same system of torture and killing. Why Duch the only one
- 2 being prosecuted? Is justice being done by the ECCC with the
- 3 involvement of the United Nations?
- 4 More concretely, only 64 of the 196 prisons have statistic
- 5 showing the number of people who died. S-21 ranks number 10 out
- 6 of those 64 prisons in terms of the number of people who were
- 7 killed. By comparison, in Chong Chroy Prison, located in Chheu
- 8 Trach village, Kouk Banteay subdistrict, Rolea B'ier district in
- 9 Kampong Chhnang province, the number of people killed was
- 10 significantly higher than the number of those killed at S-21.
- 11 Despite all that, the chairman of that prison has not been
- 12 prosecuted. So the number of people killed at S-21 was far less
- 13 than those people who died -- who were killed at the Chong Chroy
- 14 Prison. So why the prison chief who ordered the execution of
- 15 12,000 victims is being brought to justice? I know the
- 16 Co-Prosecutor would wish that justice is done but the defence
- 17 counsel wants justice to be done to the accused too.
- 18 I'm now talking about the damages and by comparing the number of
- 19 prisoners who were killed at that prison and those who were
- 20 killed at S-21 so you can see the lives, the number of lives who
- 21 perished. But please, I would like to apologize to everyone that
- 22 I'm not really downgrading the dignity of those dead souls of the
- 23 more than 12,000 people who died at S-21 among the 12,280
- 24 prisoners died as compared with the 150,000 prisoners who were
- 25 killed at the Chong Chroy Prison and the chief of that prison

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- 1 still enjoys freedom of the impunity.
- 2 [15.22.46]
- 3 So if that chief of the prison remains at large, then Duch should
- 4 also remain at large because they were the chiefs of the prisons.
- 5 If they were to be prosecuted then everyone shall be equally
- 6 prosecuted. Why some chiefs of prisons were prosecuted while the
- 7 others were not? So how can we call this justice and how can
- 8 justice be done and seen to be done?
- 9 This is the role of the Co-Prosecutors. At the beginning of the
- 10 hearing on the 30th of March 2009, the first hearing, I asked the
- 11 Co-Prosecutor to indicate clearly the reason why the
- 12 Co-Prosecutor failed to prosecute the other prisoners (sic) of
- 13 other prisons, because only having prosecuted those people that
- 14 the victims of the regime are satisfied or are informed or rely,
- 15 having heard it, because those perpetrators finally ended up
- 16 being prosecuted.
- 17 The second point is in relation to the purpose of the Royal
- 18 Government of Cambodia. The government intends to make sure that
- 19 the Court is established so that to stop such crime from
- 20 occurring again. So the question is if people who killed more
- 21 victims are still at large but people who killed less are
- 22 prosecuted, is it a good message to the public that the purpose
- 23 of seeking justice by the government is served? And if the
- 24 accused is prosecuted then it would be a violation to the
- 25 Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia Article 31 and also the

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- 1 Law of the ECCC itself.
- 2 [15.25.18]
- 3 And if Duch, as the Chairman of S-21, were regarded as the person
- 4 who was most responsible or senior people, or responsible for the
- 5 crimes, then the chiefs of the 195 prisons are also regarded as
- 6 the people who were most responsible for the crimes and the
- 7 serious violations of the national and international law equally,
- 8 and they have to all be prosecuted and brought before this Court.
- 9 Only by doing so that justice is done.
- 10 In the contrary, if the chiefs of the other 195 prisons are not
- 11 included in the category of those who were most responsible for
- 12 the crimes, then the Chairman of S-21 shall not be included in
- 13 such category and should be spared from being prosecuted. I
- 14 therefore request for the exemption of such prosecution against
- 15 my client, Kaing Guek Eav, alias Duch.
- 16 I would like now to reiterate that the chiefs of the 195 or 196
- 17 prisons, none of them had the authority to make any arrest,
- 18 interrogate and smash. They received orders from the four
- 19 groups, as I already indicated. They received orders from those
- 20 four groups of people. Why he was now -- or why he receives the
- 21 falling stone onto his head? So the Court should also consider
- 22 whether they now expel the prosecution, or exempt the prosecution
- 23 of Duch or otherwise prosecute other chiefs of prisons.
- 24 The law states clearly that only the senior leaders of the Khmer
- 25 Rouge regime and those who were most responsible would be brought

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- 1 to trial, and those who are not included in these categories
- 2 would be free, regardless of their having committed such crimes,
- 3 having killed hundreds of people. This law is very special. It
- 4 is very extraordinary, I may say, because it is contradictory to
- 5 the code, the domestic code which is about the accomplices, the
- 6 perpetrators and those who were aiding and abetting the crimes
- 7 all have to be prosecuted. Now the law only allows us the
- 8 prosecution of those who were most responsible for the crimes and
- 9 the senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge regime.
- 10 [15.29.11]
- 11 If you look at the situation of Duch, Duch was the Chairman at
- 12 S-21. He did not kill people in person. He had his subordinates
- 13 smash those people and the chiefs of his subordinates, who were
- 14 the direct perpetrators, are not prosecuted. They're only
- 15 prosecuting the senior, the most senior one. So the lower cadre,
- 16 lower-level cadre, would not be prosecuted, as the law says.
- 17 So if the prosecutors indicate or determine Duch -- or put Duch
- 18 into any categories of these two groups of people, then the
- 19 prosecutors should now tell the Court clearly how we can really
- 20 identify the status of the most responsible people for the crimes
- 21 and the senior leaders. So without doing so, the question --
- 22 there would never be justice and that if --- it makes my client
- 23 fall victim as a loyal servant of the regime. And he is not
- 24 clear as to what kind of status he should be classified in, and,
- 25 therefore, the Co-Prosecutors shall have the position to clearly

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- 1 indicate who were those most responsible people and senior
- 2 leaders.
- 3 Other cadres, the former cadres of the Khmer Rouge regime have
- 4 been living with this kind of uncertainty. During Khmer Rouge
- 5 regime, when the people were arrested and sent to S-21, no-one
- 6 would be spared regardless of the arrest that was made by
- 7 mistake. The Angkar would say that killing someone by mistake is
- 8 better than releasing someone wrongfully, or to keep you is no
- 9 gain or to lose you is no loss, as such.
- 10 So it can be concluded that S-21 had no authority to make any
- 11 decision to arrest or to release anyone. S-21 killed people and
- 12 the photos of the dead bodies had to be taken and sent to Pol Pot
- 13 to make sure that he believed those were killed. Pol Pot did not
- 14 trust anyone easily.
- 15 [15.23.39]
- 16 So my client just obeyed the order of the Angkar. If he failed
- 17 to do so he would have been implicated as the enemy of the
- 18 Angkar. So he had to do his best to survive by respecting the
- 19 order. Of course, it is no doubt that at S-21 there was
- 20 execution, but those who directly killed the prisoners were the
- 21 guards in which Khim Vak alias Hor who was in charge of the unit.
- 22 So Duch never killed, never smashed, any prisoner in person.
- 23 The most responsible people, those who were most responsible for
- 24 crimes all across the country were those who made the decision to
- 25 arrest and smash. So who made such decision? Who made the

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- 1 decision to smash? There were the committee of the steering
- 2 committee in which Pol Pot was the secretary; it was not Duch.
- 3 I, therefore, submit that Duch did not commit the crimes against
- 4 humanity or the war crime as being charged.
- 5 The ECCC Law states that only those who were most responsible for
- 6 the crimes and senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge regime are to be
- 7 prosecuted. And no medium- or low- level cadres would be
- 8 prosecuted because they just exercised -- they just obeyed their
- 9 superiors and they had no choice but to obey it. During the
- 10 Khmer Rouge regime, those who had come across the regime could
- 11 have been quite familiar with the situation.
- 12 Killing anyone at S-21 is no different from killing other people
- 13 all across the country. This killing was conducted by the
- 14 Communist Party of Kampuchea led by Pol Pot, not by my client,
- 15 Duch. So it is a mistake to prosecute my client now. It is good
- 16 that the real senior and most responsible people for the crimes
- 17 are prosecuted.
- 18 [15.35.51]
- 19 It is too bad that these people could never stand trial; they
- 20 died too early. Ung Chouen alias Mok arrested Pol Pot and that
- 21 he died and people started to realize that they should now put
- 22 the rest of the people on trial. So according to the history,
- 23 the prosecution of the Hitler's group and also the President of
- 24 Chile and also the President Mr. Slobodhan Milosevic, these
- 25 people were the real most responsible people for the crimes.

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- 1 Now, the Court should have been quite informed already who were
- 2 the senior leaders and most responsible for the crimes. Who were
- 3 the masterminds of the lines, the criminal lines? And they were
- 4 Pol Pot and his people. And I think prosecuting just Pol Pot
- 5 alone would be significant already as he was the real mastermind.
- 6 According to the Penal Code of 1956, the crimes Duch committed --
- 7 or the crimes that had been committed at S-21 are not included in
- 8 that Penal Code because the Article states that:
- 9 "It cannot be regarded as the criminal offences if the crimes
- 10 were committed based upon the order of the superior."
- 11 And in the rule of law, we should stick to this rule, and
- 12 according to the law during the Khmer Rouge, the Pol Pot's rule
- 13 and law when people were sent to S-21, it was the Party -- it was
- 14 the Angkar who made the decision to smash or to execute them. At
- 15 that time, the Party was the court. The speech of the Party was
- 16 equivalent to the final judgement of current court. No one could
- 17 contest.
- 18 [15.38.52]
- 19 Whatever order rendered by the party, everyone had to be abided
- 20 by it. Only after the Khmer Rouge regime that people could
- 21 challenge. People could never do that in the Khmer Rouge regime.
- 22 And I wish they could do so in that regime if they would wish to
- 23 do so and I believe that would end up being smashed if they did
- 24 so. So if the Angkar asked someone to be smashed, then they have
- 25 to be smashed. If they opposed, then they would be regarded as

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- 1 enemies and enemies had to be smashed.
- 2 It was in the proceedings that the witnesses who talked about the
- 3 parents who came to see the children. And the children were
- 4 happy to see their parents coming home, but the children was
- 5 proud to tell the parent that according to Angkar you were my
- 6 parent, but then killing parent was no different. And who orders
- 7 such execution? It was Son Sen. It was Son Sen. On top of Son
- 8 Sen was Nuon Chea. On top of Nuon Chea was Pol Pot, and so on
- 9 and so forth.
- 10 So Son Sen, Nuon Chea and Pol Pot were the legal authority of the
- 11 Democratic Kampuchea because during that time Democratic
- 12 Kampuchea was the legal state recognized by the United Nations.
- 13 The United Nations still recognized the Democratic Kampuchea as a
- 14 state, the legal legitimate state, long after the collapse of the
- 15 regime.
- 16 So we can see that the Democratic Kampuchea was the legitimate
- 17 country recognized by China, France, and allowed Pol Pot to have
- 18 a seat at the United Nations. So Pol Pot's hand was stained with
- 19 blood but still the United Nations allowed him to have a seat, a
- 20 place in such internationalized body.
- 21 We, the defence counsel, admit that the crimes at S-21, like the
- 22 crimes committed at other prisons, existed. You cannot cover an
- 23 elephant with a rice basket. The accused has repeatedly made it
- 24 clear two leaves of tamarind could never be used to cover the
- 25 dead elephant. So who are to be accountable for the crimes?

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- 1 [15.42.22]
- 2 According to our ancient practices it was those who ordered the
- 3 killing would be brought to trial. Article 238 of the Penal Code
- 4 states that if the criminal only obeyed his superior under
- 5 duress, for example like Duch -- he had to really obey Son Sen's
- 6 orders. So in such a case the prosecution could only be brought
- 7 against the superior; the superior who ordered such execution.
- 8 So Rule 238 can be a good reference for this. So if the boss
- 9 ordered to commit such crimes then the boss shall be prosecuted
- 10 for the commission. Even in the United States there was an
- 11 execution of the person who set the house on fire.
- 12 During the Sangkum Reastr Niyum, Preap In was executed; Mak Thura
- 13 was also executed. Those who were allowed to execute those
- 14 people were not prosecuted because they were allowed by law. So
- 15 those who just obeyed the superior order would be spared from
- 16 being prosecuted, and my client falls in that category.
- 17 The defence counsel have examined and found out that Duch should
- 18 be free from being prosecuted because if he failed to abide by
- 19 the order he would have been prosecuted by the Penal Code of 1956
- 20 because if he failed to respect the order, according to that
- 21 Article. In the Khmer Rouge regime, if Duch failed to obey the
- 22 orders he would have been smashed already, long ago.
- 23 Only in the case when the Chamber has found out that Duch has
- 24 exercised his authority or abused his power, or he did more than
- 25 what he was ordered to do, that he would be prosecuted according

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- 1 to Article 240 of the Penal Code of 1956. So only in that case
- 2 that Duch could be prosecuted.
- 3 [15.46.14]
- 4 According to Article 5 on the outlaw of the Khmer Rouge, the
- 5 Article states clearly that this law allows, six months after it
- 6 comes into existence or in force, the forces who were in the
- 7 Democratic Kampuchea to return or to surrender, to be integrated
- 8 under the supervision of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Those who
- 9 could turn in within this period of time would be exempt from
- 10 being prosecuted.
- 11 So those people who were the members of the political group or
- 12 who belonged to the Democratic Kampuchea and who came or
- 13 integrated into the society with the Royal Government of Cambodia
- 14 before the 7th of January 1995 were not charged or prosecuted
- 15 under this law.
- 16 So having considered this law, my client has genuinely been free
- 17 from being prosecuted already. And he came to join the
- 18 government long before such law established. He came two years
- 19 six months before the law was adopted. So whatever crimes he
- 20 could have committed, he shall not be prosecuted based on these
- 21 articles of the law.
- 22 As the Court is already informed that according to the law on the
- 23 outlaw of the Khmer Rouge and from the date this law came into
- 24 force, which was 1995, so if any individual who was the member of
- 25 the political organization or in the military of the Democratic

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- 1 Kampuchea who failed to integrate into the Royal Government of
- 2 Cambodia and who continued to exercise its execution or killing
- 3 of people, then the law can be used to prosecute those people.
- 4 And of course they have violated this article.
- 5 [15.49.28]
- 6 But so far, and in 1997, Pol Pot arrested Son Sen, Yun Yat, and
- 7 the whole family -- 11 people -- and had them shot at. And they
- 8 were lying down on the road while the tank was seen rolling on
- 9 them and it was a very heinous crime and these people could have
- 10 been prosecuted for such crime but who could prosecute Pol Pot at
- 11 that time? At that time only Ta Mok. He conducted a meeting and
- 12 arrested Pol Pot and placed him under a house arrest, and to
- 13 inflict him the harsh condition and put him in the room which was
- 14 so stuffy and hot to make sure that Pol Pot died sooner. So this
- is a crime. Pol Pot died; Ta Mok was free.
- 16 I therefore submit that Duch is not guilty and he shall be free
- 17 from being prosecuted. From 1995 Duch has never violated this
- 18 law, and according to the same law one article states that those
- 19 senior leaders of the Democratic Kampuchea are not pardoned. So
- 20 the law states that according to this conclusion Duch was not
- 21 among the most responsible people or senior leaders. If we refer
- 22 to the appeal of the Royal Government of Cambodia, the appeal
- 23 signed by Samdech Krom Preah, the first prime minister, and the
- 24 second prime minister, Mr. Hun Sen, signed in 1994 to appeal to
- 25 the people, the soldiers who were still under the supervision of

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- 1 Khmer Rouge to surrender, to integrate in the society. The
- 2 government at that time promised not only to pardon them but to
- 3 maintain their previous rank and status.
- 4 [15.53.09]
- 5 Now, at the Ministry of Defence there are still some former Khmer
- 6 Rouge soldiers with the same ranks. Unfortunately Duch, who came
- 7 to live under the supervision of the government long before the
- 8 Khmer Rouge outlaw law adopted, ends up being prosecuted. So
- 9 this is a clear message that Duch is not a person who is stubborn
- 10 or violates the law, because he even came to live with the
- 11 government long before the law was adopted or before he heard the
- 12 appeal. So Duch came very early already. He should have been
- 13 appreciated and he did not commit any crimes for that certain
- 14 reason, so he should be free and the Court may consider this case
- 15 as well.
- 16 And according to the Paris Peace Accord of the 23rd of October
- 17 1991 concerning Cambodia, Article 1 -- rather, Article 21 of that
- 18 agreement, it states that the release of the prisoners and
- 19 detained prisoners are to be determined in due course -- as soon
- 20 as possible. There were factions, there were troops, there were
- 21 civilians who were trapped in the -- and then when UNTAC came
- 22 they were released and people could come to sit at the table at
- 23 Jakarta, for example, at New York, and these people were equal
- 24 before the law and all past crimes or matters were forgotten.
- 25 And according to this period, Annex 5 of this agreement states

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- 1 clearly that the institution prohibits any execution of the
- 2 criminal law on the crimes that are committed in the past. So in
- 3 1991, the Paris agreement which established United Nations
- 4 Transitional Authority in Cambodia, or UNTAC, in 1973 has
- 5 pardoned and recognized the Khmer Rouge as a party in the
- 6 election, because if they were regarded as the convicts then they
- 7 would not be allowed to take part in such elections.
- 8 [15.56.44]
- 9 At that time the Khmer Rouge were allowed to take part but they
- 10 boycotted such election and Duch was not a part of any leaders,
- 11 of the Khmer Rouge leaders, so there has no more remaining
- 12 offences to be left and that he shall not be prosecuted. I
- 13 therefore request that the Trial Chamber accept the motion of the
- 14 defence concerning the termination of the criminal action as
- 15 prescribed or pursuant to Article 500, 501 and 506 of the Penal
- 16 Code of 1956 or declare that the armed conflict which led to the
- 17 war crime which violated the Geneva Convention dated on the 12th
- 18 of August 1949 was the part of the Government of Democratic
- 19 Kampuchea and those of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.
- 20 The conflict was between them and it was not Kaing Guek Eav,
- 21 alias Duch, who started it. It was the Communist Party of
- 22 Kampuchea and the Government of Democratic Kampuchea who made the
- 23 decision to send Vietnamese soldiers and civilians to be smashed
- 24 at S-21. Kaing Guek Eav, alias Duch, did not have authority to
- 25 make such decision. Therefore it is not Kaing Guek Eav, alias

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- 1 Duch, personally but the Communist Party of Kampuchea and the
- 2 Government of Democratic Kampuchea who violated the Geneva
- 3 Convention of the 12 August 1944 (sic). So I request that Duch
- 4 is now free from being prosecuted.
- 5 Thank you, Your Honour. I would like to share the floor with my
- 6 co-counsel.
- 7 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 8 Mr. François Roux, you may now proceed with your final closing
- 9 statement.
- 10 MR. ROUX:
- 11 Thank you, Mr. President. Given the time, I would prefer to
- 12 begin tomorrow morning so that I will not be interrupted, if the
- 13 Chamber is so inclined. I don't think I'd like to do my
- 14 introduction now and continue with the rest of my pleadings
- 15 tomorrow morning.
- 16 [16.00.03]
- 17 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 18 As requested by the defence counsel and due to the time limit,
- 19 because we only have 15 minutes left for the session to end, so
- 20 we now grant the defence counsel such a request and that he shall
- 21 be making his pleading tomorrow's session.
- 22 We will now adjourn the afternoon session by now and we will
- 23 resume the session by 9 a.m. tomorrow.
- 24 The security personnel are now instructed to take the accused
- 25 back to the detention facility and return him to the courtroom by

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1	9 a.m. The Court is adjourned.
2	(Judges exit courtroom)
3	(Court adjourns at 1601H)
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