KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA NATION RELIGION KING



Phnom Penh, April 02, 2019

REQUEST LETTER

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CMS/CEO. Sann Rada

To

HE Judge Nil Nonn President of the Trial Chamber National Road 4, Chaom Chau, Porsenchey, PO Box 71, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Your Excellency,

This letter is to seek information as to when the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum can expect to receive the return of the remaining photos and documents from S-21 which Mr. Walter Heynowski and Mr. Gerhard Scheumann took from the Museum in 1979 or soon after, to support the production of their film "Die Angkar", which was released in 1981.

As you will be aware, one part of these documents was already transferred to the Museum, but we are anxious to receive the remaining part of the donation, as it was the expressed desire of Mr. Heynowski that they should be given back to the Museum.

These historic documents from S-21 (which had been with Mr. Heynowski for too many years) appear to include unique information that is currently not accessible to us or to other researchers. This would seem to be the case most especially for the orange logbook, while other documents and photos will need to be cross—checked with the documents still at TSGM to see if they are duplicates or not – a process that is now becoming quite feasible as our existing archives are being digitised under a UNESCO Memory of the World projectö funded by KOICA.

We can assure you that this valuable Heynowski collection will be stored under high security and in good preservation conditions in the archive room of the Museum, as provided today for the thousands of other similar documents and photos emanating from S-21 in our custody.

We are currently preparing detailed reports on the preservation condition of every S-21 document held in our Museum and taking remedial conservation action where deemed necessary, and we will be pleased to add the Heynowski documents to this process. An expert paper conservator is expected to be working with us in the coming months on recommending action in cases of extreme fragility, and it would appear that this collection will fit into that category for emergency conservation measures.

We understand that, as they have been admitted into Evidence in Case 002/02, there may be a need by the Parties to consult the originals of these documents during the ongoing judicial process, and we can assure such access.

We would appreciate receiving the remainder of these documents and photos as soon as possible, not only to begin the process of evaluation and conservation as soon as possible, but also because they may contain information of value in our current work on preparing an exhibition 40 years: Remembering the victims of S-21 (working title). This exhibition will be opened on 19 August, of course an event you will be most welcome to join; an invitation will follow in a timely manner.

Please feel free to contact our responsible staff member, Mr. SONG Pheaktra, Head of archive TSGM, regarding this request.

Email: pheaktrasong'3@gmail.com and pheaktra@tuolsleng.gov.kh

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In conclusion, may I express our deepest appreciation for the efforts of the ECCC Trial Chamber in determining the truth and providing justice for the victims of crimes committed during Democratic Kampuchea, and our thanks for your support for Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum's work in furthering knowledge and documentation of the workings of S-21.

Sincerely,

CHHAY VISOTH