



ឯកសារបកប្រែ
TRANSLATION/TRADUCTION
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ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ
Kingdom of Cambodia
Nation Religion King

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា
Extraordinary Chambers in the
Courts of Cambodia

ការិយាល័យសហចៅក្រមស៊ើបអង្កេត
Office of the Co-Investigating Judges
Bureau des Co-juges d'instruction
សំណុំរឿងព្រហ្មទណ្ឌ
Criminal Case File /Dossier pénal
លេខ/No: 002/14-08-2006

កំណត់ហេតុនៃការស្តាប់បង្ហាញសាក្សី
Written Record of Witness Interview

Investigation
លេខ/No: 002/19-09-2007-ECCC-OCIJ

On the thirtieth day of June in the year two thousand and nine, at 1000 hours at Thnàl Kèng ផ្ទះលំកែង (Village 105) Village, Phlav ផ្លូវ Subdistrict, Trapèang Prasat ត្រពាំងប្រាសាទ District, Uddor Mean Chey ឧត្តរមានជ័យ Province,

We, **SIM Sorya សឹម សុរិយ៉ា** and **Thomas Grange Morrow**, Investigators of the Extraordinary Chambers, having been assigned by the Rogatory Letter of the Co-Investigating Judges dated 11 June 2009,

Noting the Law on the Establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers, dated 27 October 2004,

Noting Rules 24, 28, and 60 of the Internal Rules of the Extraordinary Chambers,

With Mr. **Nil SAMORN និល សាម៉ន**, sworn interpreter of the Extraordinary Chambers,

Recorded the statements of **SAO Sarun សៅ សារុន**, a witness, who provided the following information regarding his identity:

The undersigned SAO Sarun សៅ សារុន, alias (none), age 77, was born at Koh Ma-yeul កោះម៉ាយើល Village, Peam Chimiet ពាមជីមៀត Subdistrict, Koh Nhêk កោះញែក District, Mondulkiri មណ្ឌលគិរី Province. He is of Cambodian nationality, and is a soldier. His father Nou នូ is deceased, and his mother Prâng ប្រង is deceased. His current residence is at Thnàl Kèng ថ្នល់កែង Village, Phlav ផ្លាវ Subdistrict, Trapěang Prasat ត្រពាំងប្រាសាទ District, Uddor Mean Chey ឧត្តរមានជ័យ Province. His wife Yun យ៉ន is living. He is the father of six children.

The witness has no criminal record.

- The witness declared that he can read, write, and understand the Khmer language.
 - The witness declared that he cannot read or write any other languages.
- Therefore, the original of this Written Record is written in the Khmer language.

- We advised the witness that an audio or video recording was being made of this Interview.
- The witness told us that he is not related to either the Charged Persons or to any of the Civil Parties.
- The witness took an oath, in accordance with Rule 24 of the ECCC Internal Rules.
- We notified the witness of his right against self-incrimination, in accordance with Rule 28 of the ECCC Internal Rules.

Question – Answer:

Q: Please read this document (00017027). What is your understanding?
A: I already explained this once yesterday afternoon.

SIM Sorya and Thomas Grange Morrow: Our Written Record dated 29 June 2009, Interview of Witness SAO Sarun.

Q: We want to ask more on Point 3. You reported that Sot (សុត) appeared in the responses of Chuon (ជួន). Who was Chuon, and how did you know that Sot appeared in Chuon’s responses?

A: That Chuon, the Chuon in charge of Sector Commerce work, had another name, PHAN Khôn (ផាន ហែន).

Q: Have you ever read the confessions of Chuon?
A: I have never read them.

Q: If you never read them, how did you know?

A: I learned from POL Pot sending a telegram directly to me saying that Sot had appeared in the responses of Chuon. That was about ten days before I detained Sot.

Q: Did you write this telegram immediately on the same day you detained Sot, or after the release?

A: I wrote this telegram on the same day.

Q: What else did you continue to do that led to Sot's release?

A: I questioned Sot and saw that he not done anything seriously wrong or betrayed the Party. So, I sent a telegram to tell POL Pot, and POL Pot sent a telegram back to release him.

Q: In what cases did you have the right to release on your own?

A: Cases related to minor insignificant killings, like fights or arguments in the base area, and cases not related to politics or betraying the Party.

Q: What does political cases or cases of betraying the Party mean?

A: For instance, persons collaborating with the aggressor Yuon or the enemy, meaning the Yuon enemy. Today, for example, the enemy territorial aggressors are the Thai.

Q: What do know about Chuon, whom this telegram called "the contemptible traitor Chuon"?

A: I received a telegram directly from POL Pot telling me that ten days earlier, Chuon had been called in for reeducation and correction in Phnom Penh; he had been called there from Kratie.

Q: Did you ever receive the confessions of PHAN Khôn from POL Pot?

A: Never.

Q: Did POL Pot's telegram about Chuon happen before or after the telegram about Sot?

A: Chuon's case occurred before Sot's case, but I don't know how long before.

Q: Where is Sot now?

A: He died in late 1979, when he fled into the forests.

Q: Why did Sot fall in love that girl and then get arrested?

A: Because Sot already had a wife.

Q: What was the policy on marriage?

A: I went to a meeting with POL Pot (I don't remember when), and he said to marry them in couples, two or three couples could be married, to not make it too difficult. But in actuality, a single couple could also be married. The parents or relatives that lived in different cooperatives or different Sectors could attend, and the bride and groom had to rise to make a resolution announcing their biographies and their loyalty to one another.

Q: Please read this telegram (00017027). Who was “Brother (ប្រុស)”?

A: As I recall, in this telegram “Brother” meant “POL Pot”.

Q: In this same telegram, what does “290 *khtuong* (២៩០ ខ្នង)” mean?

A: I do not understand. Only a telegraph operator would understand.

Q: Did you write this telegram by hand, or did you read it aloud for a typist to type?

A: I wrote it by hand and gave it to an encoder to put it into numbers. Next, the encoder took it to a typist.

Q: Do you remember, related to the fighting along the Vietnamese border, after you reported that the Vietnamese were coming, did you receive any instructions from POL Pot, NUON Chea, or anyone, to do anything?

A: I do not remember. Just to continue monitoring.

Q: And how about in Point 2 of Telegram 54?

A: In POL Pot’s instructions in response were that after issuing arms, we were to monitor and then commence combat at once when encountering the Vietnamese.

Q: What events occurred before the disarming?

A: In 1977, when I was working in Pech Da District, I heard that personnel of Office K-16 (ក-១៦) had fled. Before that flight, some weapons had been removed because the district was peaceful, but after that flight, all weapons were removed.

Q: In the border combat, the communications between the Sector or the Zone Coms., were they able to communicate with one another, or did they have to wait for orders from the Center?

A: We had to wait for orders from the Center. As for economic and commercial matters, we could assign cadres to replace one another, for instance on rice seed and other matters.

Q: Written on the bottom of Telegram 54 is “Copies to Uncle, Uncle Nuon, Uncle Vǎn, Uncle Vorn, Office, Documents.” Did you ever write that?

A: I never wrote that. After the closing salutation, I placed my name and the date.

Q: And the annotation above saying “Uncle Nuon”, did you write that, or what?

A: I did not write it. The encoder or the typist did not write that either. I do not know who wrote that. But the content in Points 1, 2, and 3 and my name, I think they are correct as I have explained. This is a telegram that I sent.

Q: Please read Telegram 55 (00003521). Can you explain it?

A: I wrote this telegram, but in Point 1, I reported according what the Division had reported to the Center and what was reported to me. On Point 2: I had personally seen the situation. On Point 3: I made the request following the vehicle mechanics. As for the annotations on the top and the copies to be sent in the last line, I do not know.

Q: In your responses (00251437) when you talked about setting up the cooperatives, was communal dining, storing rice collectively, and working the rice fields communally spoken about?

A: Yes, that was actually spoken about.

Q: Did they talk about driving all of the Yuon from Cambodia?

A: That was said, and the speaker was POL Pot. Later on, I heard my lower-level cadres say that trucks transported the Vietnamese from the provinces of Kampong Cham and Kratie back to their country.

Q: Did they talk about closing schools and closing hospitals?

A: That was not spoken about.

Q: In that same meeting, did they ever speak about killing the great traitors, LON Nol soldiers, or killing the branch-and-stem LON Nol soldiers?

A: I did not hear that.

Q: In your responses (00251439) you talked about the case of Sauphea (ស្រីកា). Did you ever read or receive the confessions of Sauphea (00230436-00230458)?

A: I never read them, and never received them.

Q: And the responses of Chuon (00229693-00229758)?

A: I did not know (him), and do not recognize Chuon's writing.

Q: Did you ever know SIM Bav (ស៊ីម បាវ) from Division 207?

A: No.

Q: Do you clearly remember any telegram that reached you that was an order from POL Pot or NUON Chea or anyone else?

A: I do not remember.

Q: The evacuations from one Zone to another Zone, or inside Mondulkiri Province: did you know?

A: I never knew.

Q: Did you know Moeun (ម៉ៃន), the husband of Thau (ថៃ): the husband had been ambassador to China?

A: Never knew him.

Q: Did you have a relationship with Han (ហាន) or SOVĀN Han (សុវ៉ាន់ ហាន), the child of Ta Laing (តាឡាំង)?

A: She is my younger sister in law. Her husband, BUT Chhi (ប៊ុត ឈី), is my youngest brother. In the Khmer Rouge era, BUT Chhi worked as a vehicle mechanic. Once during that era, after Ta Laing died, I requested that my sister in law (Han) go back to work along with her husband in Mondulkiri. I made a request to POL Pot saying that she was a girl working with the Uncles, but I did not know in which ministry. That is, I requested that she go back to work with her husband.

Q: Was that request related to guaranteeing freedom from arrest or any suspicion?

A: I don't know.

Q: Who initiated the idea of that request for her to go back to work with her husband?

A: Her husband made the request to me. There was no other reason.

Q: In the earlier responses (00251435), during that meeting, IENG Thirith also attended. During any of her attendance, did IENG Thirith ever raise any opinions?

A: Never.

- One copy of the written statement was provided to this witness.
- The Written Record was read out to the witness; the witness had no objections and signed it.

The interview ended at 1310 hours on the same date.

Witness

Interpreter

Investigators

[Thumbprint]

[Signature]

[Signatures]

Sarun សារុន