

ឯកសារទទួល
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ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date of receipt/Date de reception):
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មន្ត្រីទទួលបន្ទុកសំណុំរឿង/Case File Officer/L'agent chargé du dossier:..... Ratanak

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ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា

ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ

Kingdom of Cambodia

Nation-Religion-King

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា
Extraordinary Chambers in the
Courts of Cambodia

ឯកសារច្បាប់ត្រឹមត្រូវតាមច្បាប់ដើម
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..... 12 / 01 / 2010

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ការិយាល័យសហចៅក្រមស៊ើបអង្កេត
Office of the Co-Investigating Judges

សំណុំរឿងព្រហ្មទណ្ឌ
Criminal Case File/Dossier Pénal
លេខ/No: 002/14-08-2006

កំណត់ហេតុនៃការស្តាប់បម្លើយសាក្សី

Written Record of Witness Interview

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

On the eighth of December two thousand and nine, at 14.50 a.m., at Kampong Krabei (កំពង់ក្របី) village, Svay Pao commune (ស្វាយប៉ោ), Battambang district, Battambang province.

We, Paolo Pastore Stocchi, Investigator of the Extraordinary Chambers, being assigned by the Rogatory Letter of the Co-Investigating Judges, dated 24 July 2009,

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

Noting Rules 24, 28 and 60 of the ECCC Internal Rules,

With LENG Heng An, as sworn Interpreter of the Extraordinary Chambers,

Recorded the statements of **SOKH Chhin (សុខ ឈីន)**, a witness, who provided the

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Original KH: 00414450-00414455

following information regarding his personal identity:

The undersigned SOKH Chhin, no alias/revolutionary name, born on 09 December 1945 in Kear (កែវ) village, Kear commune, Moug Ruessei (មោងឫស្សី) district, Battambang province. He is of Cambodian nationality, and is a retiree. His father, SOKH Suk (សុខ ស៊ុក), is deceased, and his mother, YIN Nuon (យិន នួន), is deceased. His present address: House Number 13, Group 32, Kampong Krabei village, Svay Pao commune, Battambang district, Battambang province. His wife, KRUCH Saroeuy (ក្រុច សារឿយ), is alive; he is the father of five 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 can read or write other languages.
- Therefore, the original of this Written Record is written in the Khmer language.

- We instructed 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 her right against self-incrimination, in accordance with Rule 28 of the ECCC Internal Rules.

Questions and answers:

Q: When did you join the state-owned railway company?

A1: I joined in 1967

Q: What was your job within the company?

A2: I was a train ticket seller, and I was based in Moug Ruessei (មោងឫស្សី) Station in Battambang province.

Q: Do you remember when the Democratic Kampuchea or Khmer Rouge regime took power?

A3: In 1975

Q: What happened to you after the Khmer Rouge regime took power?

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A4: The Khmer Rouge banned ticket selling, and I was re-assigned to repair the railways in Battambang province.

Q: What was the name of the state-owned railway company during the Khmer Rouge regime?

A5: I do not remember.

Q: What was the name before the Khmer Rouge regime?

A6: It was called the Royal Railway of Cambodia.

Q: During the Khmer Rouge regime, who was in charge of the railway company?

A7: During the Khmer Rouge regime, I was transferred from Serei Saophoan (សិរីសោភ័ណ) to work in Pursat. Ta Maum (ម៉ូម) was in charge of the railway station; he controlled thousands of people including children. I worked at Sangkat (commune សង្កាត់) Trapeang Chornng (ត្រពាំងជ័ង) and my group was comprised of 18 people, and we were responsible for 21 kilometres of the railway; if the train had derailed, we would have been responsible, and they would have taken us for execution. The supervisor of my group was called Ta Meak (តាម៉ាក់).

Q: How long did you work there?

A8: I worked until the end of the Khmer Rouge regime in 1979.

Q: Are Ta Maum and Ta Meak still alive?

A9: I never met them again; perhaps they are dead now. Ta Maum was born in Ou Sralau (អូរស្រឡៅ) village, Sangke (សង្កែ) district. Ta Meak was from Pursat province, but I do not know from which village. Ta Maum and Ta Meak were both Khmer Rouge cadres. Ta Meak held the same position as UM Proeung who, during the Khmer Rouge regime, was the Chairman of the Technical Work, but he did not supervise workers because the newly appointed Khmer Rouge needed UM Proeung's skills.

Q: Who was above Ta Maum?

A10: He held the highest position at the Train Unit in Pursat province

Q: Did Ta Maum report directly to the Train Unit in Phnom Penh, or did he get directives from the Sector?

A11: Ta Maum was a member of the Communist Party of Kampuchea and reported directly to the Train Unit in Phnom Penh. Since he was a party member, Ta Maum attended study sessions in Phnom Penh.

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Q: Do you remember the names of other newly appointed Khmer Rouge cadres in Pursat?

A12: *Ta Maum* remained until 1977 or 1978; then a person named *Ta Chăn* (ចាន់) replaced him. *Ta Maum* was transferred to work at the railway sector in Battambang province. From Phnom Penh to Poipet, there were four Sectors; Sector 1 was from Phnom Penh to Romeas (រមែង); Sector 2 was from Romeas to Pursat; Sector 3 was from Pursat to Battambang, and Sector 4 was from Battambang to Poipet. The place I worked was supervised by the *Sangkat* Chairman called *Ta Meäk*.

Q: Do you remember the names of the sector chairmen?

A13: I do not know their names; at that time I did not dare to ask; the Khmer Rouge maintained secrecy, and I did not dare to talk because I was afraid of being taken to be executed. There were self-criticism meetings within our group, and *Ta Meäk* chaired those meetings. The meetings took place every day after finishing main work; after doing the railway work, we did socialism work; then we attended self-criticism meetings. The socialism work means growing vegetables and doing agricultural production.

Forcible Transfer

Q: The Khmer Rouge transferred people from different areas in Cambodia; do you recall having seen the people being transported by train? When was it?

A14: When I was working in Pursat, I saw people being transported by train, and I was told that they were transferred from Phnom Penh and dropped in several stations such as Svay Sisophon (ស្វាយស៊ីសុផុន), Battambang, Thma Koul (ថ្មគោល) and Phnom Tauch (ភ្នំតូច).

Q: How often did you see the train?

A15: I saw trains twice a week; the train had 20 to 25 wagons normally for transporting goods, and each wagon transported from 40 to 50 people. There were two stages of transportation; the first one was after April 1975, in October, November and December; people were transported from Phnom Penh. The second stage was in around 1978 before the Vietnamese attacked to enter Cambodia; the Khmer Rouge evacuated people from the East Zone, which means from Svay Rieng province and Prey Veng province to the north to various stations such as Moug Ruessei, Battambang and Svay Sisophon. When the Vietnamese entered Phnom Penh, the Khmer Rouge transported people in their group consisting of such as medics and soldiers from Phnom Penh to the north.

Q: Talking about the transfer of civilians from 1975 to 1978, what did you see? Did

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you see children, women and the elderly being transferred?

A16: I saw young people, the elderly, men, women and children, and I also saw that these people had their belongings with them.

Q: Did these people look happy?

A17: No, they did not

Q: Could they leave the train?

A18: POL Pot armed soldiers guarded them in the train, and they would tell when and where to leave the train at the different locations.

Q: Where would you exactly see the train?

A19: In Pursat Province, and sometimes the train would stop on the road to Leach (ណាជ) in Pursat province. In Leach, people would remain one week, waiting to be transported in military and civilian trucks to other places. No one could leave as they were guarded, and those who were sick would die there.

Q: Did you get an impression that the operation was planned and organized by the Khmer Rouge at high level?

A20: People were not provided with food and water; they needed to wait on the road and at the rice fields to be transported further to other cooperatives in Pursat province. I do not know whether those transfers were planned by the high level.

Q: Were there local, Khmer Rouge cadres coordinating the transfers?

A21: I did not know who coordinated everything; I know that people were transported to different co-operatives in trucks by soldiers and militiamen of POL Pot.

Q: What else do you remember of the two stages of the transfers?

A22: I do not recall more; I recall that some of the people were forced to leave the train while others continued their trip towards Battambang province. The train would return to Phnom Penh to get other people and would return.

Q: Were the people transferred only from Phnom Penh or also from other locations?

A23: What I know is that people came from the direction of Phnom Penh. The people were evacuated to other provinces, and once they arrived at the provinces, their biographies were made. According to their personal history, they were transferred to different locations. I know that from my younger brother named SOK Soeung (សុខ សៀង) who was from Kampong Speu province, and he is currently living in Prey Kvav (ប្រៃក្វាវ) Village, Roka Koah (រកាកោ) Commune, Kong Pisei (គងពិសី) District, Kampong Speu Province.

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Q: Were the transfers of the people announced in advance?

A24: No, I did not know about that

Q: Do you know the names of your former colleagues who were working in other locations during the Khmer Rouge regime?

A25: *Ta Nhăgh* (ញាញ់) was working with me in Pursat province; I am not sure whether he is still alive; he was working with me under *Ta Meăk*.

Q: Who was the station manager at the Pursat Train Station?

A26: There were three persons in charge of telephones, but I do not recall their names; they were all Khmer Rouge soldiers, and they were armed.

Q: Do you remember the name of the District Chairman in Pursat during the Khmer Rouge regime?

A27: No, I do not know except for the two names I have already told.

Q: Did NUON Chea (នួន ជា), IENG Sary (អៀង សារី) and KHIEU Samphan (ខៀវ សំផន) ever travel to the areas you worked in?

A28: I did not know that.

- One copy of the Written Record was provided to the witness.
- The Written Record was read out to the witness; the witness had no objections and signed it.
- After the Written Record was read out to the witness, the witness refused to sign it.

End of the interview: at 1705 hours on the same date.

Witness	Interpreter	Investigator
[Thumbprint]	[Signature]	[Signature]
SOKH Chhin		

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