

អតិវន្សំភូមិ៖ខ្លួសាតយ៉ាដំចម៉លាងអង់គំព

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Chambres Extraordinaires au sein des Tribunaux Cambodgiens E3/64/Corr-1

Request for Correction

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Q: Could you describe your background prior to 1975 please?

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A: I studied at the Revieng Elementary School in Preah Vihea province. After I had graduated elementary school, I continued my education at the Kampong Thom (កំពង់ធំ) High School. I studied up to the 3 level 3 (during the old regime) or 10th grade. I studied at the school until LON Nol (លិន់ នល់) made the coup d'etat in 1970. After the coup d'etat, I quitted school and went back to Rovieng district. At that time Rovieng district was a liberated district under the Khmer Rouge. KEO Ly (កៅ លី), who was then in charge of the district education section, appointed me to be a teacher to teach the Kuoy (ក្រុយ) minority in Sâmroang Daun Ma (សំរោងដូនម៉ា) in the Rovieng district. After I taught there for 2 years, I was transferred back to Rovieng district my birth place. I taught in Roevieng district for 1 year until 1973. In 1973, the committee of Sector Preah Vihear named Hâng (ហិង់) appointed me to work at the Party Central Committee called B-17 (ប-១៧), which was a tempering place whose work included food production, growing vegetables, planting banana and potatoes. B-17 located in Bet Thnou (បិតម្នា) village, and probably in Châmkar Leu (ចំពារលើ) or Stung Trâng (ស្វីងំព្រង់) district in Kampong Cham (កំពង់បារ) province.

Q: At that time who was the chairman of B-17?

A: The chairman of B-17 named Dim (au) (deceased). After I was tempered at B-17 for a half year, I was transferred to Angkar location in the forests, but I did not know where it was exactly. At the Angkar in the forests they taught me how to translate telegram. Pon (is), the group chairman, was my teacher. There were 4 to 5 persons in the telegram translation group, included Pon, Thē (iii), Srach (iiii) and others whose names I do not recall.

O: Did you ever see any senior-leaders at B-17?

A: I met POL Pot (ប៉ុល ពត), and saw NUON Chea (ន្ទុន ជា) (occasionally).

Q: Did you ever see IENG Sary (អៀង សារី) and IENG Thirih (អៀង ធីវិទ្ធ) when you were at Angkar?

A: Never saw.

Q: At that time did you ever hear about B-20 (ህ-២០)?

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A: B-20 was near B-17 and B-18 (1996). B-17 was about 1 kilometer away from B-18; and the distance from B-17 to B-20 was 2 kilometers.

Original KH: 00328022-00328048

Q: Where did the children whom you taught come from?

A: Those children were from a good class background. They were recruited from the poor peasant class in provinces.

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Q: How many children at that time?

A: About 40 children. I taught only one course in 1976, and the course was divided up into two levels, the low level and high level, with one level was taught in the morning and another in the afternoon.

Q: Did you ever see the parents of those children?

A: I never saw any of them because they were brought there by the provincial from the provinces by their leaders. They were first brought to a place near the river bank, but I did not know where exactly it was. I did not know much about this [process] because Angkar assigned me to teach only, so my role was exclusively teaching.

Q: Were those children forced to come or did they come voluntarily?

A: They were happy to be sent to Phnom Penh because Phnom Penh was a city. Also, at that time the country had been liberated.

O: After you had taught those children, where were they sent to?

A: Some of them were sent back to the bases, some were sent to work at the telegram unit, and some others stayed with me until the Vietnamese arrived.

O: How many children stayed with you until the Vietnamese captured Phnom Penh? A: There were about 10 persons, but only four to five of them were capable to work then. Some of those who stayed with me then are now still alive. They include Sân (fuß), who is now a policeman in Au Ânluok; Sokha (ዃይበ), a rice farmer in Sâmpov Loun (សំពៅលុន); Chorn (ជន) a business man in Malai (ម៉ាំឡៃ); and Chhieng (ល្បើង), who is KHIEU Samphan (ខៀវ សំផន) son in-law, is now in Pailin (វ៉ៃប៉លិន).

Q: How old were the children at that time?

A: They were bout 10 to 12 years-old and mostly boys. As for the girls, they were sent back to the bases after they had finished the training.

Q: Can you tell us the location of K-1 ($\mathfrak{H}-9$)?

A: In the Tunle Bassac area, near It was a two 2-story tallies buildings (Building) in the Tunle Bassac area. K-1 was a place where POL Pot worked, and Ken (ins) (dead) was overall in charge of it. After Ken died from a liver disease, Tan (MS), who was the deputy, took over.

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Original KH: 00328022-00328048

A: There was K-7 (n-n) which was a place for sending regular mails to countrywide. It located north of the royal palace on the river bank. The chairman of K-7 named Prum (n). There were two translator groups in my translator section, one was the inside group and another was the outside group. I was the chairman of the outside translator group, and Pon and The were inside.

Q: Can you explain to us about the work relation between the radio communication group at the old American embassy and the messenger group called K-7 and then the translator group at K-7? And what did the radio communication do?

A: The radio communication group at the old American embassy received and transmitted telegrams.

Q: Can you explain to us when they received or transmitted a telegram, how did they do first?

A: At first a message was sent out from the Committee 870. Then it was sent to the translator group who used code numbers to code its text. After it was coded, the message was sent to the radio communication group at the old American embassy so that they transmitted out in code numbers. As for receiving telegram recipients s from a province and zone, the messages, in code numbers, were first received at the old American embassy, and then were sent to the translation section at K-1. Next step they were sent to the typist group, and then sent on to the Standing Committee (Committee 870). After that Pon and Thē annotated on the telegrams whom these telegrams would be sent to.

Q: Did Pon, The or Pang write the adnotation on the telegrams?

A: It was Pon's annotation. Pon and The were in charge of telegram section. Pang did not have the task and right to write on these telegrams.

Q: Because you are busy, I would like to pause this interview for now and will resume it tomorrow at 1 pm in this same place, do you agree?

A: Yes, I agree.

Q: Which K was the school you taught children under? **A:** It was under the supervision of K-1.

(The interview paused at 11:15 am on 18 February 2009)

(The interview resumed at 13:15 hours on 19 February 2009)

Q: Can you specify further about the radio communication unit at the old American embassy, your unit at K-1, and the messenger unit K-7?

A: The messenger unit K-7 located north of the royal palace, and Prum was the chairman. The role of K-7 was to receive domestic guests from provinces and to deliver general mails to every place. When any guests wanted to contact K-1, they must first contact K-7. I do not recall who the deputy of K-1 was Prum was the chairman of K-7 until the Vietnamese arrived.

Original KH: 00328022-00328048

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After it was coded, the message was given to my personal messenger or the messenger at K-1 to take to the radio communication at the old American embassy. Yos, who was in charge of the radio communication unit there, would manage to get the message to be transmitted to its respective destination. The message that was sent out by the radio communication unit was in code numbers since its text had been coded by the translator group, and the receiver unit would receive it in code numbers format.

O: Was Khoeun only your messenger?

A: There was not only Khoeun alone. There were many children staying with me, so I used whoever was available. But Khoeun was my trusted person. I trusted that he would not lose my message.

O: Who were the messengers at K-1?

A: There were many but I do not recall their names. Srach was also in there.

Q: Was the messenger group at K-1 Sâm's group?

A: Sâm's group could deliver messages also.

Q: You said that the receiver unit usually received the telegrams in code numbers, so who created the code numbers?

A: The code numbers were from me and Pon. For example, when sending [a message] to the East Zone, they did not say that it was sent to the East zone, but they used the number A75 instead for the East Zone. This code number was assigned to them by my group. The numbers were sent to the persons respectively so that they knew that what number represented them. The code numbers were not changed often. But they would be changed if [the status] of the secret documents changed.

Q: Do you recall what the substances of the messages you sent out at that time were about?

A: The important substances to be transmitted through coded telegram were the internal matters. For example, any problems with the people or the army or the problems along the borders had to be reported from the low rank to the upper rank and vice versa. The telegrams I used to translate were mostly contained various directives, different protective measures, for example, are there any measures in place to deal with the enemy pushing in from the East Zone, the trips forth and back of the cadres and their work plan, and the distribution of various materials to the people.

Q: What did the trip forth and back of the cadres mean?

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A: It meant like when the cadres were invited to attend a meeting like the one in <u>Borei Keila (ឬរីកីឡា)the Olympic Stadium</u> where the nationwide meeting of cadres was held.

Q: If it was a secret meeting, where did they hold it?

A: I did not know. But when they came to the meeting at K-1, they rode in the cars.

Those included IENG Sary (អៀង សារី) and SON Sen (សុខ សេន) whom I saw and knew.

A: There was no message [from him] given to me to translate; and so was from IENG Thirith.

Q: What about KHIEU Samphan?

A: There used to be his messages which talked about what amount of salt, rice grain, cloths, clothing, shoes, and other materials to be sent to this and that unit for distribution to the people. He was the manager who managed and distributed various produced materials to the people. I did not received messages from KHIEU Samphan messages periodically regularly. Besides that, I used to translate KHIEU Samphan message, in the form of directive, regarding to various national ceremonies, for example.

Q: Were there any other messages which KHIEU Samphan gave you to translate? A: No, there were not any other messages.

Q: What kinds were NUON Chea messages about mostly?

Section 1

A: The messages were the directives telling the people how to solve food problems; and sometimes there were messages inviting people on behalf of the Committee 870 to the meetings.

Q: Did you ever receive and translate any messages from SON Sen?

A: Never saw any. He was the Commander in Chief of the National Armed Forces, so he had his own working place.

Q: How did they send messages to the Committee 870?

A: It was the same for incoming and outgoing mails. There were telegrams from various Zones and autonomous Sectors. There were also messages from the Commander in Chief SON Sen. There was no message from IENG Sary and IENG Thirith because they were in Phnom Penh. So it was not necessary for them to send telegrams, they just came in person. As for KHIEU Samphan, he sent messages in hand writing through the K-1 messengers whose chairman was Sâm; Sâm then delivered KHIEU Samphan message to K-1. Sometimes KHIEU Samphan phoned me and had me take note of his substance on phone; and told me where to send that message to. That substance was taken to be coded and then was transmitted out.

Q: Did this mean that KHIEU Samphan had a right to use your telegram unit also? A: Yes, when the substance was about sending out materials or when they were the directives for various national ceremonies.

Q: So, this meant that there were messages from SON Sen, the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, and from various Zones, sent to the radio communication unit at the old American embassy. Were the substance received in code numbers or in text?

A: SON Sen had a telegraph for communicating directly with Yos place. His telegram came out in code number forms, so Yos, after receiving it, just delivered it directly to

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Q: When you said that sometimes there were unusual events or problems, why during that time such things were still be known if at that time news was well kept?

A: In 1978-79 there were subversions in the city, causing security problems and concerns.

Q: During 1975 to 79, was the telegram transmitting and receiving managed properly? A: I did not know about the management issues because I was under their supervision.

Q: Did Pon and Thē follow the instructions seriously?A: I did not know about that because they worked inside and I worked outside.

Q: I now have some telegrams which I want to ask you about. They related to the 'copied to' and 'sent to'. This is telegram number 15 and its document [ERN] number is 0008494, dated 30 November 1975. What do you think?

A: This telegram was not assigned to me. It might be Pon who translated it.

Q: Did you ever make this telegram? A: Yes, I did.

Q: Can you read this telegram number 15 please?

A: "Respectfully sent to Beloved Comrade Brother Pol (ប៉ុល), I would like to report about the removal of the people from the East Zone to the North Zone. There were problems with some disagreements and noncompliance with the Angkar instructions on the receiving points. The facts are as follows: On 30.11 [430] November] both parties agreed on the points to receive the people from the East Zone which were at Stung Trâng (ប្រើប្រវេញ). The Preah Prasâp will receive the people from

Chhlaung (គ្នុង) district, and Stung Trang will receive the people from Peam Chileang (៣មជិលាំង) and Krach Chhmar (ក្រច្ឆារ) districts. The Sectors and districts have gathered the total number of people to be removed from Sector 21 and transported them to the other side [of the river]. Those points absolutely refused to take the Islam people, and took only pure Khmers. So the situation of the people who were removed on this day, the 30th, became very chaos. I instructed the Sectors and districts to temporarily pause it, waiting for your and the North Zone ideas [before we can continue]. Regarding to this problem, may be Comrade Pauk does not know. I instructed the Sectors and districts to take the Islam people back to their original villages. Based on the decision of the meeting, it was decided that our brothers must not send the Islam people to Kratie

([fite:). As for the Northwest and the North Zones, they must receive them in order to separate the Islam people from the Mekong river so that the atmosphere in the area became relax. But, on the contrary, our brothers refused to take them. I would like to ask for your decision on this matter. In principle, the Zone has to remove fifty thousands people to give to the North Zone. So, over one hundred thousands Islam people still

Q: Was the work they put in the report true or not?

A: I could not know that because I worked in my office only, so I did not know whether it was true or not.

Q: Please read this telegram, what did the annotation and 'Copied to' mean?
A: "Grand uncle Nuon" referred to NUON Chea. Copied to: "Grand uncle" referred to POL Pot, "Grand uncle Nuon" was NUON Chea, "Grand uncle Vann" was IENG Sary, "Grand uncle Vorn (18)" referred to VORN Vet (18 115) who was the Minister of Finance. "Office" referred to Office 870, and "Document" was to be kept in the archive. The Office place was different from the Document place. For the Office, it was kept in the Office 870, but for the Document, it was kept at the translation place. This annotation was The handwriting.

Q: I would like to show you another telegram containing ERN 00278325-00278326. Please read this telegram. Please read and then tell us whose handwriting was this?

A: "Brother Hèm (TITH)" referred to KHIEU Samphan. This telegram related to commerce, so it was copied to KHIEU Samphan. I used to receive KHIEU Samphan telegram which regarded to the distribution of salt, rice, and fish paste.

Q: Can you read sentence number 6 in this telegram?

A: "would like to send you 5% of the sample of the white rice, so that comrade can contact Mr. William Leon of the MION (មីញ៉ីង) Company to tell him that in response to his purchase order, we can sell him five thousand tons (5,000) of this type of rice to begin with. For the cost, if it was made with CIF Hong Kong, we can transport it with the Yong Khang ship, but if it was made with FOB Kampong Som (កំពង់សោម), we will let him rent a ship from Yan Ko Company that used to dock at Kampong Som Port previously. After receiving this information, please reply via a telegram immediately". Sentence number 7 "would like to send two (2) kilograms of black pepper sample so that [you] can send it to the INTRACO Company in Singapore in response to the request from that Company. With Fraternally and Warmly Revolution. FEUTRA FORTRA (ហ៊ីត្រា) Phnom Penh". This telegram was not sent to me to translate because it was not a confidential telegram.

Q: Was this telegram about selling rice?

A: Yes, it was Ta Rith, the Minister of Commerce stationing in Hong Kong, who had sent it. This telegram might be sent through the fax, or through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or through their embassy in Cambodia.

Q: The embassy of what country?

A: It might be the China embassy in because this was from Hong Kong.

Q: Is this a telegram, a fax, or a regular letter?

A: It might be a letter because there is no CC.

O: What does "FEUTRA-FORTRA Phnom Penh" mean?

A: It might be the name of a company.

Q: I would like to show you another telegram. Can you read it please?
A: "Telegram 20, compound numbers 448, dated 26-04-1978". After I read it, this telegram was a confidential telegram of the Commander in Chief SON Sen. This is based on this code number 47 which represented SON Sen.

Q: We received some telegrams which had been also sent from SON Sen. But the code number was not 47. Did he sometimes change his code number 47 to another number? A: It could be changed.

Q: Why do you dare confirm that 47 was SON Sen?

A: Because at that time he was in charge of the armed forces, leading the East Zone military at the Cambodia-Vietnam border during the border conflict between the Khmer and the Vietnamese.

Q: Here it was written on the top "To the Respected and Beloved Brother", who was that Brother?

A: "Brother" referred to POL Pot.

Q: Could it be that "Brother" referred to SON Sen and 47 was POL Pot?

A: It could not be like that because the receiving place was Pon's place, which was the Centre place, K-1. As for reporting about the armed forces, no one had the right to report about it except Mr. SON Sen.

O: Can you tell us whose hand writing is this?

A: This handwriting reads "Brother Wann", which meant to. This annotation is Pon's because I recognize his writing which I often decoded. It was sented to IENG Sary. Copied to "Grand uncle" who was POL Pot, "Grand uncle Nuon" was NUON Chea, "Grand uncle Vann" was IENG Sary, "Grand uncle Vorn" was VORN Vet, and Office and Document were the ones to be kept in Office 870 and in the translation place.

Q: What did the line under CC mean?go

A: It did not mean anything. It was just a regular line.

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O: Why did this need to be sent to NUON Chea, IENG Sary and VORN Vet?

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A: Because this matter was related to the country, so all must be informed.

Q: Why it was not sent to KHIEU Samphan if he was the Chief of State?

A: I do not know.

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