

ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា

ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ



អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia
Chambres extraordinaires au sein des Tribunaux cambodgiens

Kingdom of Cambodia

Nation Religion King

Royaume du Cambodge

Nation Religion Roi

Interview with PHY Phuon (ភី ភួន) living in Doung (ដូង) Village, Malay (ម៉ាឡៃ) Commune,
Malay District, Banteay Meanchey Province,

21 September 2008,

Questioning by SVAY Samnang (ស្វាយ សំណង់) and Mike Dixon of the Office of the Co-
Investigating Judges;

Interpreter: SENG Phally (សេង ផល្លី)

ឯកសារបកប្រែ
TRANSLATION/TRADUCTION
ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date): 25-Jul-2012, 09:00
CMS/CFO: Ly Bunloun

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Samnang: We, SVAY Samnang and Mike Dixon, investigators of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, have interviewed PHY Phuon alias Cheam (ជាម) in Doung Village, Malay Commune, Malay district, Banteay Meanchey Province. To supplement the interview with you on 5 December 2007, we would like to ask you for more information you may know. In your response on 5 December 2007, you said that there was a meeting to decide on the evacuation plan at POL Pot's Office B5 (មន្ទីរវប្ប-៥) at Taing Porn (តាំងពន) Village, Kampong Tralach District, Kampong Chhnang Province in early April 1975, and the people present in the meeting were KOY Thuon (កុយ ធួន), KÈ Pôk (កែ ពក), SAO PHIM (សោ ភឹម), VORN Vêt (វន វេត), Ta Mok (តាម៉ុក), CHÈN Ân (ចេន អន), SON Sên (សុន សេន), NUON Chea (នួន ជា) and KHIEU Samphan (ខៀវ សំផន). At that time POL Pot lead the meeting. Is that correct?

PHY Phuon: Yes, that is.

[00:01:33]

Samnang: What time did the meeting begin? What time did it end?

PHY Phuon: It began at 7.30 and ended at 11.00.

Samnang: Did it last until 11.00? During the meeting how did POL Pot, who led the meeting, explain the evacuation plan to the members of the meeting? Did the explanation last long?

[00:02:09]

PHY Phuon: (inaudible) it started from 7.30 until 11.00, to enable the members of the meeting to understand and carry out the plan.

Samnang: What impressions were provided by each of the above named attendees on the content of the meeting?

PHY Phuon: The members of the meeting provided their personal impressions and opinions on the evacuation plan and agreed to the plan.

Samnang: Meaning they agreed to the plan?

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PHY Phuon: Yes.

Samnang: What were Mr. KHIEU Samphan's opinions during the meeting?

PHY Phuon: Mr. KHIEU Samphan gave his opinions and impressions and agreed to the plan to evacuate the people.

Samnang: How about Mr. NUON Chea?

PHY Phuon: Mr. NUON Chea also provided his impressions and agreed to the plan.

Mike: Could you describe the location of the meeting?

[00:04:25]

PHY Phuon: The meeting was held in an approximately 4 by 5 meter thatch-roofed and thatch-walled ordinary style wooden house. Apart from *Angkar*, commanders from the battlefield also attended the meeting. There was no official written record, but POL Pot, and KHIEU Samphan and each individually recorded the content of the meeting.

Interpreter: I am reading the questions and please wait and answer them accordingly. Aside from the evacuating Phnom Penh, was there any discussion of evacuating the cities and other population centers?

PHY Phuon: The meeting had been set up to decide on the evacuation of Phnom Penh, but aside from that, they told all the commanders to set up meetings when they returned to their areas to make plans to evacuate the people from the cities under their responsibilities. The information was subsequently published in the *Revolutionary Flag* and the *Front Flag* and was distributed to all Party members.

Interpreter: For next question, where was IENG Sary during the meeting?

PHY Phuon: He was in Beijing with his wife IENG Thirith (អៀង ធីរិទ្ធ), and he returned to the country around one week after the collapse of Phnom Penh on 17 April 1975. At the time, he was a special emissary of the resistance movement and accompanied Samdech Sihnaouk. At that time, the Foreign Ministry has not yet been created.

[00:07:56]

Interpreter: According to the responses of the charged person KAING Guek Eav alias Duch (កាំង ហ្គេកអ៊ាវ ហៅ ឌុច) dated 24 June 2008, he said that you brought people who had been arrested to S21. What is your understanding of that point?

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PHY Phuon: I never knew S21 at that time; whatever he wants to say is his affair.

Interpreter: Can you describe the location and the date of creation of the Foreign Ministry?

PHY Phuon: In late 1975, Office B1, which was later called the Foreign Ministry, was created in House Number 1 and Number 2 on the riverside street, now the location of the Cambodia Development Council. In 1976, it was re-located to Soviet Federation Boulevard, now the location of the Council of Ministers.

Interpreter: At B1, who was the person in the highest responsibility for internal security affairs, for instance the arrests of staff in B1?

[09:09:21]

PHY Phuon: Office 870 was responsible for decision-making on security affairs related to serious wrong-doing. If there were responses in any confession responses, the names of those implicated were sent to Uncle Sary for him to clarify and tell them who those persons were and in what sections they worked. They were subsequently arrested by military personnel from Y10 (យ១០) of Office 870 (មន្ទីរ៨៧០). The arrests were made during the day or during the night, and the accused were transported away by vehicle.

Interpreter: How many worked at B1, and how many were arrested?

PHY Phuon: B1 had a staff of more than 1,000 persons, but from 1975 until 1976 there were no arrests. The majority of the arrests were made in 1977 and 1978.

Interpreter: Can you describe the prisoners who were sent to be tempered?

PHY Phuon: They were persons who had been reported to have committed minor wrong-doing, for instance not working very actively or being sick a lot; they were sent to be tempered at the rice fields and farms at Takhmao (តាកម្មោ) and Pun Ta Ley (ព្រំតាលៃ), and to break rocks at the Kampong Chhnang Airfield construction site.

Interpreter: Who made the decisions on who had to be sent to S21 or to be tempered?

PHY Phuon: Cases of the most serious wrong-doing were taken from the implications in the confession responses and reported by Duch to Office 870, then sent B1. Office 870 sent the information to Uncle IENG Sary, who was the person who made the decisions on where they were to be sent to be tempered. Uncle IENG Sary told me that the confession responses were sent to him with annotations and sometimes he

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received them during communal mealtimes, and they were sent to his office via secret letters.

[00:12:24]

Interpreter: What happened to the diplomats and intellectuals who were invited to return to the country?

PHY Phoun: The majority were sent to be tempered at Boeng Trâbèk (បឹងត្របែក) to raise ducks or plant water spinach (ត្រកួន).

Samnang: In case we need additional information, could you let us meet you next time?

PHY Phoun: (inaudible)