

Interviewed by: Monique SOKHAN

Interview granted by: Ms HUN Kimseng (ហ៊ុន គីមសេង)



(Partial transcription of Audio File D25/30R)

[00:21:07]

Monique: And when they conducted the interrogation, what did they ask?

Kimseng: They asked what the root cause was—how a story started. They asked about the cooperative, “Do you eat enough rice, Grandma?” I said, “I don’t eat my fill because men [...] half a plate of rice [...] a small casserole of rice is served for ten men. How do they eat their fill?” I said like that. “And they cooked sour beef soup, but no stomach, lung, meat or blood of the cow was seen; it was just the bone.” They said, “Is that true, Grandma?” I said, “That’s true.” All the stomach, lung and good meat were taken to their chiefs, the Commune Committee, and we, the people, just added vegetable and ate them. I replied honestly, “That’s true.” And they knew that I was honest, and then they said nothing.

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[00:25:55]

Monique: So, prisoners were not given enough food. What food were they given?

Kimseng: A ladle of porridge, two ladles of vegetable—over-boiled water lily. The chairperson told me about that. S/he said, “It’s unnecessary to allow them to eat their fill, Grandma?” S/he said like that. “Just allow them to eat food moderately,” they told me.

Monique: Like that!

Kimseng: It’s like that. They told me like that. It was to weaken the strength, to avoid [the prisoners] being strong or resisting so that it would be easy to beat them. They told me, “Don’t allow them to eat their fill, just allow them to eat sparingly. Let your child/ren eat their fill.”

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[00:30:57]

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Monique: During the time in prison, did they impose any other mistreatment?

Kimseng: On me?

Monique: Yes.

Kimseng: No. No mistreatment because they had me serve 200 prisoners—because they had me provide services—I managed to do that. I managed to serve fifty or sixty people.

Monique: How about your child/ren?

Kimseng: They moved around, eating something in the fields. They were allowed to keep watch over cows and buffalos.

Monique: Like that?

Kimseng: Yes.

Monique: But were they not mistreated?

Kimseng: No, they were not mistreated. They were not mistreated.

[00:31:19]