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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

Criminal Case File/Dossier penal
No: 002/14-08-2006
នេះខ្សែបង្ហាញ/Investigation/Instruction
លេខ/No: 002/19-09-2007-ECCC-OCIJ

ឯកសារទទួល
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ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date of receipt/date de reception): 17 / 12 / 2009
ម៉ោង (Time/Heure) : 12:00
មន្ត្រីទទួលបន្ទុកសំណុំរឿង /Case File Officer/L'agent chargé du dossier: C.A. Zuy

កំណត់ហេតុនៃការស្តាប់ចម្លើយសាក្សី
Written Record of Witness Interview

On the twenty-ninth of October two thousand and nine, at 8.10 a.m. at Prey Ta Lei
(ប្រៃតាឡើ) Village, Trapaing Thom Cheung (ត្រពាំងធំខាងជើង) Commune, Tram Kak
(ត្រាំកក់) District, Takeo (តាកែវ) Province,

I, Philip CAINE, Investigator of the Office of the Co-Investigating Judges of the
Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (the "ECCC"), 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 in the Courts of
Cambodia, dated 27 October 2004,

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

With CHHIN Nith, as sworn Interpreter of Extraordinary Chambers,

Recorded the statements of RIEL SâN (រឿល សន), a witness, who provided the following
information regarding his personal identity:

Original KH: 00402497-00402504

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ឯកសារប្រាប់ដ៏ត្រឹមត្រូវតាមច្បាប់
CERTIFIED COPY/COPIE CERTIFIÉE CONFORME
ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ នៃការបញ្ជាក់ (Certified Date/Date de certification): 17 / 12 / 2009
មន្ត្រីទទួលបន្ទុកសំណុំរឿង/Case File Officer/L'agent chargé du dossier: Uch ARUN

~~អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា~~ ០៣០/៤៨

The undersigned RIEL Sâ , alias: no, born on 30 January 1938 in Thom (ធំ) village, Sre Ronoung (ស្រែវរទោង) commune, Tram Kak (ត្រាំកក់) district, Takeo (តាកែវ) province. He is of Cambodian nationality. He is a commune council member of Trapaing Thom Cheung commune. His father, RIEL Soth (រៀល សុត), is deceased, and his mother, KHIEV Sory (គឿវ សយ), is deceased. His present address: Prey Ta Lei (ព្រៃតាឡើ) village, Trapaing Thom Cheung commune, Tram Kak district, Takeo province. He is married to YA Yoeun (យ៉ា យ៉ែន), alive, and father of 5 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 me 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.
- I notified the witness of his right against self-incrimination, in accordance with Rule 28 of the ECCC Internal Rules.

Questions and answers:

Q. Before 1975, where did you live? What did you do?

A1. Before 1975, I lived in Prey Ta Lei village (ព្រៃតាឡើ), Trapaing Thom Cheung (ត្រពាំងធំខាងជើង) commune, Tram Kak (ត្រាំកក់) district, Takeo (តាកែវ) province. I was a farmer.

Q. When did the Khmer Rouge enter this area?

A2. This area was known as the Khmer Rouge area and TA Mok's house was located in Prakeab (ប្រកាប) village, Trapaing Thom Tbaung (ត្រពាំងធំខាងត្បូង) commune. People said in 1957 or 1958, KHIEU Samphan came to meet TA Mok. This area was controlled by the Khmer Rouge after the coup d'état. At the beginning, no cooperatives were formed. Only forces were mobilized. Since I had some education, I did not join the forces. The people who were good were appointed as the village committee.

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Q. After April 1975, what happened to you?

A3. Life extremely changed. After 1975, the cooperative was formed and many people died at that time. If someone complained about the lack of food and the complaint was overheard, they were invited to go out at night time and never returned. My uncle, LONG Neak (ឡុង ណាក់) was accused of betraying Angkar. He was called out and disappeared. I did not know who called him as it took place at night time. We did not have enough food to eat and enough clothes to wear but I never complained.

Q. Where did you live then?

A4. I did not live together with my family. I was sent to work in a craft unit. My children were sent to other places to tend cattle while my wife lived in the cooperative. I could ask for leave to see my wife but it could not be done constantly. Some asked for leave to visit their families but leave was refused. If they secretly visited their families and the visits were discovered, they disappeared.

Q. How was the situation in the craft unit?

A5. We did not have enough food to eat. I was assigned to be in charge of economic section. I needed to go to the village and cooperatives to ask for rice. We, therefore, needed to cook gruels to be shared among us. There were more than 40 people in the unit. I worked in the unit for more than one year from 1975 to 1976. Later on, I was moved to work in the hospital.

Q. What did your wife do in the cooperative?

A6. She was asked to look for vegetables to be used as food. She sometimes was asked to carry soil, depending on the assignment made by the unit chief. The working hours were also arranged by the chief. In the morning, a bell was beaten and people gathered together and walked to the worksite. At 11 or 12 noon, the bell was beaten again to indicate that it was time to go back to the village. People returned to work after the bell was beaten and worked till 5 p.m. People did not work at night.

Q. Where did your wife have food?

A7. She had food in a kitchen in the Ta Suon village. As you were informed earlier, we could have access to the place only in dry season as the road to get there is flooded in this season. We cannot have access to the kitchen area.

Q. Were there any sick people or many diseases?

A8. Many people fell sick thanks to overwork and lack of food to eat. People who were sick and could not go to work were sent to be treated in the hospital. In the hospital, people were appropriately treated but there were not enough medicines.

Q. Did you hear people were evacuated from Phnom Penh to this area?

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A9. Many people were evacuated from Phnom Penh to this area but I could not estimate the number. My brother-in-law, YA San (យ៉ា សាន), was evacuated from Phnom Penh to this area. But he was arrested from my house, not more than a day after he arrived at my house. He worked as the national policeman. Before people were evacuated to this area, the chiefs of the district, the communes, the villages and unit members were invited to attend a conference. The conference participants were informed of what categories of people to be purged. The conferences were held in various places, mostly in the pagodas. I, as a unit member, was also invited to attend the conference. The conference was attended by the district committee. There was a planned purge. People who were targeted to be purged included soldiers from the ranks of corporal sergeant and above in army and from the first deputy chief and above in the administration.

Q. In the conference, were Vietnamese people mentioned?

A10. Vietnamese people were not mentioned in the conference but later on all Vietnamese people who lived in the village long disappeared.

Q. Were there any Cham people?

A11. Yes, there were but they were well treated like other people.

Q. Can you tell me who the committee members of Trapaing Thom Cheung were?

A12. The commune committee comprised of 3 people: chief, deputy chief and member. They all died or disappeared. None of them ever returned to the commune. I knew TA Mon (តាម៉ុន) only. I do not know other members as they came from other villages. The committee member who worked as the policeman in the Khmer Rouge regime was responsible for arresting people. This committee member was often changed. Some could work in the commune for one year and some were replaced. I do not remember the names of other committee members as they were from other villages.

Q. Can you tell the names of the composition of Tram Kak (District 105) committee members?

A13. TA Chhay (តាថាយ), TA Kith (តាកិត), TA Chhoem (តា ជឹម) and TA San (តា សាន). TA Kith and TA Chhoem were biological siblings. TA Chhoem lived with TA Mok in Anlong Veng but I heard that he probably died. TA Kith was killed by Vietnamese soldiers and TA Chhay died of diseases. TA San lives in the Cambodia-Thai border but I do know if he is still alive. The district office chief was Dan (ដាន). He is the deputy chief of Battambang gendarmerie (PM).

Q. When were you assigned to work in the hospital? What was your position?

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A14. I was assigned to be a deputy chief of the hospital in 1976 by TA Chhoem and TA Kith. NEARY Neang (នារី នាំង) was the chief of the hospital. She was the niece of TA Kith and TA Chhoem but she is deceased. I was sent to work in the hospital by TA Kith and TA Chhoem because I was able to provide some treatments to my family members. I was sent to attend the training sessions in Zone 13 hospital. I was trained with human anatomy and treatments. Sei (សី) was my trainer. I do not know if he is still alive but his house was in Tram Khnar (ត្រាំខ្មារ). He was not a doctor. He was the secondary nurse. I was sent to attend trainings twice. The first training lasted 3 months and the second one lasted 6 months. I could treat hot temperature and cholera (diarrhoea). I could treat other diseases but we did not have enough medicines for treatment. People who needed surgery were sent to sector or zone hospitals.

Q. Yesterday, you mentioned you went to attend a meeting with the district committee, can you describe the meeting?

A15. I do not remember when the meeting was conducted but it was a quarterly meeting. I was asked by the district committee why people in the hospital suffered from diarrhoea and puffiness case. I replied that people did not have enough food to eat and suffered from malnutrition. I was accused by the district committee of attacking the cooperatives. The district committee did not allow more food for the patients in the hospital.

Q. Yesterday, you said you were in charge of asking rice for patients in the hospital, can you elaborate this duty?

A16. I had a letter which was signed by the district committee, stating the amount of rice to be collected. I was allowed to have 50 cans of rice for 250 patients. Four cans of rice were equivalent to one kilogram. I used to pick the vegetables from the ponds to be used as supplementary food for the patients. I, sometimes, did not follow the contents of the letter as I asked for more rice for the patients.

Q. Did you witness any leaders visiting the hospital?

A17. No. Also, there were no leaders from the sector or zone. TA Mok used to drive his car nearby the hospital and stopped his car. I was asked to the road to meet him and he never actually visited the hospital. While meeting, he asked me how many patients in the hospital were. I thought to myself that I wished to ask him for the medicines or food but I did not dare to do so as I was afraid I would have a problem.

Q. Were there any arrests of people in the hospital?

A18. A lady, Han (ហាន), who was the medic, was arrested. I do not know the reasons for her arrest but she was the former medic in the zone hospital. One day, I went to spray insecticide in Kraing Ta Chan (ក្រាំងតាចាន់), I saw her face through a cell window. While

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~~00412174~~

spraying, I met a man from Hanoi who was also a prisoner but he was outside the cell. I asked him to take care of Han. I am sure Han is alive as she came to meet me after the collapse of the Khmer Rouge regime. At one point, I received a letter from the district committee, concerning a major. I was ordered in the letter to send the major back to his house in Romchang (រំថង់) commune. No one in the hospital knew the man was the major, except me. In the same day I received the letter, I wrote back to the district, saying that the patient were sent out 3 days ago.

Q. I wished to talk about the cooperative kitchen, in which the rice barn was located, was this kitchen used for other purposes?

A19. The kitchen in Angk Trav (អង់ត្រាវ) was also used for rice threshing.

Q. You also mentioned the area which was cemented was stood by a wood workshop?

A20. You are right but after the collapse of the Khmer Rouge regime and as people hated the regime, these facilities were dismantled.

(The interview paused for lunch break and resumed at 14 p.m. on the same date).

Q. We resumed the interview with reading document number 00322126. Do you know a man named Khâng?

A21. I think Kâng was the chief of the zone hospital, alias Zone 22 Hospital. He was arrested and executed by the Khmer Rouge and NEARY Han was arrested as she worked with Kâng.

Q. Do you know other names written in this letter such as NHEB Yan (ញ៉ែប យ៉ាន), Phou (ផ្លូ) (revolutionary name: Vann (វ៉ាន់)), Khâng (កង់), Soeuth (ស៊ីត), Duong (ដួង), Hâng (ហង់), Yann (យ៉ាន), and Run (រុន)?

A22. I do not know them.

Q. Do you know how the reports were made from the cooperative to the commune committee, from the commune committee to the district committee and from the district committee to the sector committee?

A23. I do not know but when I reported the hospital situations to the district committee, I did verbally.

Q. Have you ever met or talked with the accused people?

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A24. I saw KHIEU Samphan in his wedding in Chambark Ponnoreay (ចំបក់ពន្លាយ) village (now Stoeng (ស្ទឹង) village), Khbob Trabet (ខ្ពបត្រៃប៉ែក) commune (now O' Saray (អូរសារាយ) commune) but I did not talk with him.

- 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: 15.15 p.m. on the same date.

Witness	Interpreter	Investigator
[Thumbprint]	[Signature]	[Signature]

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អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា មានទីតាំងស្ថិតនៅ ផ្លូវជាតិលេខ៤ សង្កាត់ ចោមចៅ ខណ្ឌ ដង្កោ ក្រុង ភ្នំពេញ ប្រអប់សំបុត្រលេខ៧១

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