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Extraordinary Chambers in the	CERTIFIED COPY/COPIE CERTIFIÉE CONFORM
Courts of Cambodia	ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ នៃការបញ្ជាក់ (Certified Date/Date de certification)
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Office of the Co-Investigating Judges	du dossier: Mch Arun
Criminal Case File/Dossier penal	កំណត់មោត្តនៃកា <u>រស្លាប់ចម្លើយសា</u> ត្ស៊ី

Criminal (No: 002/14-08-2006 Written Record of Witness Interview

M2/No: 002/19-09-2007-ECCC-OCLJ

On the twenty-third of November two thousand and nine, at 11.00 a.m. at Ta So (ឥាស្ថ) Village, Tram Kak (ត្រាំក់ក់) Commune, Tram Kak (ត្រាំក់ក់) District, Takeo (តាកែរ) province,

1, 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,

Original KH: 00408329-00408338

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា មានទីតាំងស្ថិតនៅ ផ្លូវជាតិលេខ៤ សង្កាត់ ចោមចៅ ខណ្ឌ័ ដង្កោ ក្រុង ភ្នំពេញ ប្រអប់សំបុត្រលេខ៧១ ទូរស័ព្ទលេខ +៨៥៥(០)២៣ ២១៨៩៤១ ទូរសាលេខ +៨៥៥(០)២៣ ២១៨៩៤១។

- 100/10 Desertor

Recorded the statements of SOK Sim (ស្ត្រា ស៊ីម), a witness, who provided the following information regarding his personal identity:

The undersigned SOK Sim, alias: no, age: 72, born in Ta So (តាស្វ) village, Ta Phem (តាភេម) commune, Tram Kak (ត្រាំកក់) district, Takeo (តាភេវ) province. He is of Cambodian nationality. He is a farmer. His father, CHHOEM Sok (ឈីម សុក), is deceased, and his mother, SÂM Sum (សំ ស៊ុំ), is deceased. His present address: Ta So village, Ta Phem commune, Ta Phem district, Takeo province. He is married to CHHOEM Nhor (ឈឹម ញ៉ុ), alive, and is father of 3 children.

The witness has no criminal record.

⊠ TI	ne witness declared that he can read, write and understand the Khmer language. he witness declared that he cannot read or write any other languages. fore, the original of this Written Record is written in the Khmer language.
	e advised the witness that an audio or video recording was being made of this terview.
M Th	ne witness told me that he is not related to either the Charged Persons or to any of e Civil Parties.
M Th	ne witness took an oath, in accordance with Rule 24 of the ECCC Internal Rules.
	notified the witness of his right against self-incrimination, in accordance with Rule of the ECCC Internal Rules.

Questions and answers:

Q. Before 17 April 1975, where did you live and what did you do? A1. I was a farmer in Ta So village, Ta Phem commune, Tram Kak district.

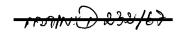
Q. Did you hear the coup d'état in 1970?

A2. I heard the coup d'état in 1970 but I did not know why the coup d'état was committed. I witnessed demonstrations and people were killed. I only heard the coup d'état was conducted to topple Samdech Sihanouk (សម្ពេចស៊ីហនុ) and then Lon Nol seized the power.

Q. Do you know who the commune committee members were from 1970 to 1975?

Original KH: 00408329-00408338

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា មានទីតាំងស្ថិតនៅ ផ្លូវជាតិលេខ៤ សង្កាត់ ចោមចៅ ខណ្ឌ ដង្កោ ក្រុង ភ្នំពេញ ប្រអប់សំបុត្រលេខ៧១ ទុរស័ព្ទលេខ +៨៥៥(០)៦៣ ២១៨៩៤១ ទុរសាលេខ +៨៥៥(០)៦៣ ២១៨៩៤១។



A2. CHUO Phin (ជ្ញុំ កិន្ន) was Ta Phem committee (deceased) and then TA Ki (តាគី) (deceased). TA Ki, later on, was replaced by TA Phin (តាភិន). TA Khut (តាយុត) was the village chief (deceased). After TA Khut was deceased, TA Kân (តាកិន្ន) was his successor. While TA Kân was the village chief, I was the member of the village committee. I was in this position till 1975.

Q. From 1970 to 1975, did you know the existence of the Khmer Rouge regime? A4. I did.

Q. From 1975 to 1979, where did you live and what did you do?
A5. I lived in Ta So village, Ta Phem commune, Tram Kat district. I was a member of commune committee in charge of economic section. Nan (MMS) (deceased) was the member of the commune committee in charge of vegetables. In the commune committee structure, TA Ki was the chief and TA Yav (MMS) was the deputy chief in charge of economy. He was above me. Nguon (MS) (deceased) was the second deputy chief. TA Karobi (MMS) was responsible for security but I had never seen him arresting people.

Q. At the district level, do you remember any persons?

A6. TA San (新知思) (I do not know if he is still alive) was the district chief. He always attended the meetings. Ms Râng (节知) was from the district. TA Kheav (新和的) was also the member of the district committee.

- Q. Do you know when the cooperative was formed in your commune? A7. In 1976, all resources were collected and placed under the control of the cooperative and people were eating collectively.
- Q. In liberation days in 1975, did you witness the evacuation of people from Phnom Penh?
- A8. I saw many people being evacuated from Phnom Penh and these people gathered and were accommodated in Champa (ប៉ុប៉ា) pagoda. People, later on, were sent to live in the villages and stayed there till 1979.
- Q. Can you recall the names of evacuees from Phnom Penh, who lived in your village? A9. I cannot.

Original KH: 00408329-00408338

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(a) 1661 (Cayon

- Q. Do you know anyone who was evacuated from Phnom Penh and arrested? A10. I do not know anyone. I just saw people being arrested. I was told the arrested people were sent to be educated and they never returned. Those who were sent to be educated included both the 17 April people and Base villagers.
- Q. Do you know who collected those people for education?

 A11. I do not know as we only kept mind on our work. The persons who came and asked people for education were in black uniform. I was not quite sure of if they were the militias.
- Q. Can you recall the names of people who were being asked for education? A12. They are TA Suong (តាស្លង), and Noeun (ឡើន) were taken to be educated. They both were 17 April people.
- Q. I wish to ask you about a letter with ERN 00079136. The letter was from your commune. Can you recall who wrote this letter?
- A13. Based on this writing, it was written by the commune secretary, Chroek ([jifi]) (who was deceased in the Khmer Rouge regime).
- Q. Do you know a person, named Ann (អាន់)?
- A14. Ann was the chief of prison in Krang Ta Chan (ក្រាំងតាទាន់).
- Q. Ann was the chief of security of Krang Ta Chan. Did you know anything pertinent to Krang Ta Chan?

A15. I did not know anything about Krang Ta Chan. I only knew it later on.

- Q. Do you know the person, named Yav (tins)?
- A16. I knew him. He was the deputy chief of the commune.
- Q. Do you know the person, named Suong (ស្ងង)?

A17. I do not know him.

Q. Do you know the person, named SUON Tren (ស៊្លីន ព្រេន), who wrote the document I showed?

A18. I do not know him.

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Q. What did the commune clerk or secretary do?

A19. He/she was responsible for writing letters and they were distributed in the cooperatives.

Q. Is Yav still alive?

A20. I am not quite sure if he is still alive or deceased.

Q. Do you know where Yav was from?

A21. From the upper echelon. Yav was the deputy chief of the commune.

Q. In the documents you were reading, enemy was stated. Were the enemies talked in the meetings?

A22. Enemies were mentioned. Anyone who protested was regarded as enemies. A person who stole a piece of cassava was also accused of being the enemy.

Q. In the meetings, how were the decisions made against the enemies?

A23. The enemies were not talked in the meetings. It was confidential.

Q. In the documents you were reading, two people were arrested. What were these two enemies guilty of?

A24. I did not know this.

Q. In the document mentioning a person, named Suong, who was in unit 1 in Ta Phem village, what does unit 1 refer to?

A25. It refers to unit 1.

Q. Were all the units different? How many units were there in the village? A26. All units were not different. They were involved in rice farming. I am not quite sure of the numbers of the units.

Q. Did the unit consist of 17 April people and Base people? A27. Yes, it did.

Q. In addition to your responsibility of economic section, what else did you do? A28. I built dikes and was asked to lead the teams of rice seed uprooting and transplanting.

Q. Do you know how many cooperatives there were in Ta Phem commune? A29. I do not remember.

Q. Were you invited to attend the meetings?

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Miss Desayer

A30. I used to attend a meeting in which a plan on increase of rice yields to 3 tons per hectare per year was talked. The meeting was lead by the district committee, *TA* San (mans).

Q. Were the enemies who saps from within mentioned in the meeting? A31. No, they were not.

Q. You told us that you were responsible for economic section, what did you do? A32. Building water canals. In that regime, building water canals was also part of the economies.

Q. In the meeting, were the locations where the canals were built and ways the transplanting was done mentioned?

A33. It said rice yields had to be at least 3 tons per hectare and we, at that time, needed to collect fertilizers for the rice fields.

Q. Where were the meetings conducted? How often were they conducted? A34. The meetings were conducted for every half a month and sometimes were conducted under a house.

Q. Who decided the plan of 3 tons per hectare?

A35. The cooperative chief, TA Ki (តាគិ).

Q. Did TA Ki have any messengers?

A36. He did but I do not know how many messengers. TA Ki's messengers were responsible for letter deliveries but I do not know the names of those messengers.

Q. In the meetings, did it mention how the ration of food was distributed to people? A37. It did not.

Q. Who decided the ration of food for the people within the cooperatives? A38. The decision was made by the commune committee.

Q. There was a plan of 3 tons of yields per hectare. Which level issued this plan? What happened if the target could not be reached?

A39. The plan was issued by the upper echelon. If we failed to reach the target, there would be no problems. It was only that if we failed to reach the target, we were fed with gruel. The harvested rice was taken away. The rice was transported away by the people from the upper echelon.

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- Q. Which level do you mean by upper echelon? A40. District or provincial level.
- Q. Was there enough food for people to eat? A41. It was not enough. People only had gruel.
- Q. When the food was not sufficient for people, did people fell sick or die of starvation? A42. Many people were sick and died of diseases. Some people who did not have enough food to eat tried to look for extra food to eat such as potatoes etc.
- Q. Do you know anyone who died of starvation?

A43. Yes, I do. They are: TA Bin (តាប៊ីន), TA Mak (តាម៉ាក), YEAY Tâng(យោយតង) and so on.

Q. Do you know if the sick people were sent to the hospital?

A44. Yes, they were sent to the hospital at Champa (t) pagoda.

Q. Did many people die in the hospital? A45. Yes, many people did.

Q. From 1975 to 1979, were there enough medicines? A46. From 1970 to 1975, there were rabbit-dropping medicines. From 1975 to 1979, medicines were available but I am not sure if they were enough. There were also medics but they were not well qualified.

O. Do you know any medics?

A47. There was medic, Phou (ង្គ) (I do not know if he is still alive). Vann (វ៉ាន់) is currently living in Ta So village, Ta Phem commune, Tram Kak district. He was the medic in the hospital in Champa pagoda.

Q. Were there any Vietnamese people in your village? A48. There were no Vietnamese nationals.

- Q. Were there any Vietnamese people among the evacuees from Phnom Penh? A49. I do not know.
- Q. You were married before the Khmer Rouge regime; did you hear the marriages in the Khmer Rouge time?

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- A50. Yes, I did and the marriages were held based on the arranged plan and marriage couples were asked to make commitments to being partners. Many couples were married each time.
- Q. If a groom or bride refused the marriage, what happened to him or her? A51. There was no problem. If the man was not happy with the marriage, he would join the army.
- Q. If the woman was not happy, what would she do? A52. She would not do anything. She just kept silent. If she was not happy with her marriage, she would be invited to b educated.
- Q. In the Khmer Rouge time, what happened with the monks? A53. In Khmer Rouge time, they did not believe in Buddha, but in Angkar and monks were disrobed and sent to work as soldiers.
- Q. If a monk refused to be disrobed, what happened? A54. I do not know.
- Q. You said that two of your relatives were deceased in the Khmer Rouge time, were their bodies cremated or buried?
- A55. We went to ask for the bodies to be cremated.
- Q. What did they do with the bodies of the people who died at the hospital? A56. Most of the bodies of the people who died in the hospital were cremated.
- Q. To which cooperative did the people in Ta So village belong? A57. They belonged to Ta So cooperative.
- Q. How many cooperatives were there in Ta Phem commune? A58. It depended on the villages. One village meant one cooperative.
- Q. How many villages were there in Ta Phem commune? A59. I was not sure.
- Q. Do you remember when you moved to Tnaot Chang (ត្នោតថាង), Angkor Chey district, known as district 106?

A60. I am not quite sure but I remembered I moved to work there for 6 or 7 months before the collapse of Khmer Rouge regime.

Q. Who assigned you to work there?

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69/48 CM

- A61. I was assigned by Angkar at the upper echelon.
- Q. When you were sent by Angkar at the upper echelon to Tnaot Chang, were you assigned by a letter?

A62. I was assigned by the letter written by TA Ki.

- Q. What section were you responsible for?
- A63. Again, I was responsible for buildings of water canals/dikes.
- Q. When you were in Tnaot Chang, did you ever witness arrests of people? A64. Three or four of my unit members were arrested but I do not know their names.
- Q. Why were your unit members arrested?

A65. I did not know. I just knew they were collected by Angkar to be educated.

- Q. Were you the chief of the unit?
- A66. I was the deputy chief of the unit and I was not informed of the arrests of these unit members.
- Q. Did the people who were collected to be educated return?

A67. One person returned but I do not know remember his/her name.

- Q. Do you know who worked as the commune secretary?
- A68. TA Phap (តា ជាប់) was the commune secretary, TA Nith (តានិត) was the district 106 committee and he was also the chief of Tnaot Chang. TA Sao (តាសាវ) and TA Meas

(តាមាស) were the commune committee. TA Nhen (តាញ៉េន) was the sector committee. I do not know if these people are still alive.

- Q. Do you know where the arrested people were sent to? A69. I do not know.
- Q. Do you know Ta Morn (តាមាន់) Security Centre?

A70. I did not know it before. I just heard it later on.

Q. Did you hear Sam (前) and Mok (背前) (17 April people) who were your unit members were arrested?

A71. I do not know.

Original KH: 00408329-00408338

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា មានទីតាំងស្ថិតនៅ ផ្លូវជាតិលេខ៤ សង្កាត់ ចោមចៅ ខណ្ឌ័ ដង្កោ ក្រុង ភ្នំពេញ ប្រអប់សំបុត្រលេខ៧១ ទូរស័ព្ទលេខ +៤៥៥(០)២៣ ២១៨៩៤១ ទូរសាលេខ +៤៥៥(០)២៣ ២១៤៩៤១។

1110/N: D 232/67

Q.	Besides these two people,	, do you knov	if other	people in yo	ur commune	were
arr	ested?					

A72. I do not remember.

Q. When you were in Tnaot Chang commune, do you know how many 17 April families there were in the commune?

A73. I am not quite sure.

Q. Was there enough food to eat in Tnaot Chang commune?

A74. Food was not enough.

Q. Were you ever invited to attend a meeting when you were in Tnoat Chang commune? A75. The meeting was conducted before the collapse of the regime and chaired by *TA* Nith.

Q. What was talked in the meeting?

A76. It said the country would be no longer at peace as it was attacked by Vietnam.

Q. A witness said you were the chief of Tnaot Chang commune. Is this true? A77. No, it is not.

Q. What else do you wish to add?

A78. I have nothing to add.

 ☑ 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: 15.30 p.m. on the same date.						
Witness	Interpreter	Investigator				
[Thumbprint]	[Signature]	[Signature]				

Original KH: 00408329-00408338

អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា មានទីតាំងស្ថិតនៅ ផ្លូវជាតិលេខ៤ សង្កាត់ ចោមចៅ ខណ្ឌ័ ដង្កោ ក្រុង ភ្នំពេញ ប្រអប់សំបុត្រលេខ៧១ ទូរស័ព្ទលេខ +៨៩៥(០)៦៣ ២១៨៩៤១ ទូរសាលេខ +៨៩៥(០)៦៣ ២១៨៩៤១។