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Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Chambres Extraordinaires au sein des Tribunaux Cambodgiens

# ព្រះរាជាឃាត្តមិនអតិ ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាតុក្រុ

Kingdom of Cambodia Nation Religion King Royaume du Cambodge Nation Religion Roi

#### ឯអសារជើម

#### ORIGINAL/ORIGINAL

Sann Rada CMS/CFO:.

## អតិន្នមុំស្រិះមារបន្តជំន

Trial Chamber Chambre de première instance

### TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS **PUBLIC**

Case File Nº 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC

2 September 2015 Trial Day 321

NIL Nonn, Presiding Before the Judges:

Jean-Marc LAVERGNE

Claudia FENZ YA Sokhan YOU Ottara

Martin KAROPKIN (Reserve) THOU Mony (Reserve)

Trial Chamber Greffiers/Legal Officers:

For the Office of the Co-Prosecutors:

SE Kolvuthy

Maddalena GHEZZI

Travis FARR SONG Chorvoin SENG Bunkheang

For Court Management Section:

**UCH Arun** 

The Accused: **NUON Chea** 

KHIEU Samphan

Lawyers for the Accused:

Victor KOPPE LIV Sovanna SON Arun Anta GUISSÉ KONG Sam Onn

Lawyers for the Civil Parties:

Marie GUIRAUD PICH Ang SIN Soworn **VEN Pov** LOR Chunthy **HONG Kimsuon** Nushin SAKARATI

TY Srinna

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## **List of Speakers:**

Language used unless specified otherwise in the transcript

Speaker	Language
Mr. FARR	English
The GREFFIER	Khmer
Ms. GUIRAUD	French
Ms. GUISSÉ	French
Mr. KONG Sam Onn	Khmer
Mr. KOPPE	English
Mr. LOR Chunthy	Khmer
Mr. MEAN Loeuy (2-TCCP-994)	Khmer
The President (NIL Nonn)	Khmer
Mr. PICH Ang	Khmer
Mr. SAM Sak (2-TCCP-993)	Khmer
Mr. SENG Bunkheang	Khmer
Ms. SIN Soworn	Khmer

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- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 (Court opens at 0902H)
- 3 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 4 Please be seated. The Court is now in session.
- 5 Today the Chamber hears the impact statement of a civil party and
- 6 we will hear the statement from the first 2-TCCP-993 and when
- 7 that statement concludes, we hear another civil party's impact
- 8 statement 2-TCCP-994, in relation to the facts at the Trapeang
- 9 Thma Dam worksite.
- 10 Ms. Se Kolvuthy, please report the attendance of the Parties and
- 11 other individuals at today's proceedings.
- 12 THE GREFFIER:
- 13 Mr. President, for today's proceedings, all Parties to this case
- 14 are present.
- 15 Mr. Nuon Chea is present in the holding cell downstairs. He has
- 16 waived his right to be present in the courtroom. The waiver has
- 17 been delivered to the greffier.
- 18 The civil parties who are to make their impact statements;
- 19 namely, 2-TCCP-993 and 2-TCCP-994, are present and we also have
- 20 TPO staff, Mr. Sarath, present to provide support to the civil
- 21 parties and they are waiting to be called by the Chamber.
- 22 [09.05.18]
- 23 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 24 Thank you. The Chamber now decides on the request by Mr. Nuon
- 25 Chea.

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- 1 The Chamber has received a waiver from Nuon Chea, dated 2nd
- 2 September 2015, which states that due to his health: headache,
- 3 back pain, he cannot sit or concentrate for long and in order to
- 4 effectively participate in future hearings, he requests to waive
- 5 his rights to participate in and be present at the 2nd September
- 6 2015 hearing.
- 7 Having seen the medical report of Nuon Chea by the duty doctor
- 8 for the Accused at the ECCC, dated 2nd September 2015, who notes
- 9 that Nuon Chea has severe back pain when he sits for long, and
- 10 recommends that the Chamber grant him his request so that he can
- 11 follow the proceedings remotely from the holding cell downstairs.
- 12 Based on the above information and pursuant to Rule 81.5 of the
- 13 ECCC Internal Rules, the Chamber grants Nuon Chea his request to
- 14 follow today's proceedings remotely from the holding cell
- 15 downstairs via audio-visual means. The Chamber instructs the AV
- 16 Unit personnel to link the proceedings to the room downstairs so
- 17 that he can follow the proceedings. This applies to the whole
- 18 day.
- 19 Court officer, please usher civil party 2-TCCP-993 into the
- 20 courtroom as well as the TPO staff.
- 21 (Civil party enters courtroom)
- 22 [09.08.19]
- 23 QUESTIONING BY THE PRESIDENT:
- Q. Good morning, Mr. Civil Party. What is your name?
- 25 MR. SAM SAK:

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- 1 A. My name is Sam Sak. I was born on 1st August 1963. I was born
- 2 at Phnum Pir village, Svay Torng district in Vietnam.
- 3 Q. And where is your current address and what are you doing for
- 4 living at the moment?
- 5 A. Currently, I am living in Ta Ou, Kiri Vong district, Takeo
- 6 province, and I am a rice farmer.
- 7 Q. What are the names of your parents?
- 8 A. My father's name is Sam San and my mother is Phoeung Song.
- 9 Q. What is the name of your wife and how many children do you
- 10 have together?
- 11 A. My wife is Kong Vanna and we have two children together.
- 12 [09.10.02]
- 13 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 14 Thank you. For the hearing of the impact statement of this civil
- 15 party, the Chamber has arranged the presence of a TPO staff to
- 16 provide emotional support to the civil party during the entire
- 17 proceeding of hearing this statement of impact.
- 18 And Mr. Sam Sak, as a civil party, the Chamber will give you the
- 19 floor so you can make your statement of harm and suffering
- 20 inflicted upon you physically, emotionally and materially, as a
- 21 direct result of crimes that existed and that continues to affect
- 22 you until today, and which led you to become a civil party in
- 23 this Case, and which involved the two Accused -- that is, Nuon
- 24 Chea and Khieu Samphan. As per your application, the crimes refer
- 25 to those that committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea

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- 1 from 17 April 1975 to 6 January '79, and which are related to
- 2 what happened at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite.
- 3 To start with, the Chamber hands the floor to the Lead Co-Lawyers
- 4 for the civil parties.
- 5 [09.12.08]
- 6 MR. PICH ANG:
- 7 Good morning, Mr. President; and good morning, Your Honours and
- 8 everyone in and around the courtroom; and good morning, Mr. Civil
- 9 Party. The Lead Co-Lawyers would like to designate Lor Chunthy, a
- 10 civil party lawyer to put questions to the civil party Sam Sak.
- 11 He is the lawyer for the civil party as well.
- 12 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 13 Yes, you may proceed.
- 14 QUESTIONING BY MR. LOR CHUNTHY:
- 15 Thank you, Mr. President. And allow me to say good morning to
- 16 everyone in and around the courtroom. My name is Lor Chunthy. I
- 17 am a civil party lawyer in this Case and I'd like to put some
- 18 questions to Mr. Sam Sak in relation to his statement of harm and
- 19 suffering that inflicted upon him during the Democratic Kampuchea
- 20 regime and that happened in the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite. Q.
- 21 I'd like to clarify one matter with you, Mr. Civil Party. You
- 22 said you were born at Phnum Pir village, Svay Torng, Moat Chruk;
- 23 however, in your identity card it shows that your place of birth
- 24 at Ta Ou, Kiri Vong, Takeo province. Could you please clarify the
- 25 matter for the Chamber?

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- 1 [09.14.09]
- 2 MR. SAM SAK:
- 3 A. Thank you. I actually was born in Kampuchea Krom, but I came
- 4 to live in Kiri Vong district a long time ago, and when I became
- 5 a soldier I changed my place of birth to the place of birth of my
- 6 wife.
- 7 Q. Can you tell the Court the reason for you to make that change?
- 8 A. I was a soldier and I did not want them to find out that I
- 9 originally came from Khmer Krom; for that reason, I changed my
- 10 background to be a Khmer Leu.
- 11 Q. Thank you. And where were you and what were you living before
- 12 and after 17 April 1975 -- that is, after the Khmer Rouge
- 13 captured Phnom Penh, as well as towns throughout the country?
- 14 [09.15.57]
- 15 A. On 17 April 1975, I lived in Phnom Penh, near the vicinity of
- 16 the Olympic market. At about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, the
- 17 Khmer Rouge came to our house and chased us away from our
- 18 residence. They told us that we had to leave Phnom Penh and move
- 19 to live in the outskirts of Phnom Penh provisionally -- that is,
- 20 for a period of three days only. So we had to move from the city
- 21 for a distance of three kilometres, and after Angkar cleaned the
- 22 city, then we would be allowed to return to Phnom Penh. As a
- 23 result I came to live at the area near Ou Baek K'am, which was
- 24 about three kilometres from Phnom Penh centre, and I was there
- 25 only for two to three days.

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1 The Khmer Rouge chased us to move further as -- at the time, my

- 2 family were thinking of returning to our native village -- that
- 3 is, to Kampuchea Krom. So we decided to make a trip to National
- 4 Road Number 2. And when we reached the Thnaol Totueng area, the
- 5 Khmer Rouge asked us where we were heading to and we lied to them
- 6 that we were heading to Takeo province. However, we were not
- 7 allowed to proceed further by the Khmer Rouge and we stayed at
- 8 the Trayueng village. At that time I was pretty young and they
- 9 asked me to tend the cattle, to collect cow dung and to build
- 10 dykes.
- 11 [09.18.50]
- 12 We were then evacuated further to Pursat province and that was
- 13 about the start of the rainy season and we didn't stay there for
- 14 long. We were put in a house which was crowded with 17 April
- 15 People. The situation there was terrible. Two or three days after
- 16 we lived in that house, my family, as well as the rest of the 17
- 17 April People there, were put on a train heading towards Svay
- 18 Sisophon. And we got off at the Svay Sisophon railway station and
- 19 I was not familiar with the area at all. We stayed there
- 20 overnight and next morning we were put on a trailer towed by a
- 21 tractor and we were among the other 17 April People. There were
- 22 many tractors on site and we were sent to various districts. Some
- 23 were sent to Preah Netr Preah district, to Phnum Srok district,
- 24 or Thma Puok district. And my family got on a tractor which was
- 25 heading to Phnum Srok district and that's where we got off. Then

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1 the Base People came to the area where we got off the tractors

- 2 with ox carts and then we were put on those ox carts together
- 3 with other 17 April People and with some Sino-Khmer people and I
- 4 was sent to Nam Tau village, Samraong commune. I was subsequently
- 5 put into a children's unit, and the task assigned to me was to
- 6 collect cow dung, and each day we had to collect 80 to 90
- 7 kilogrammes of cow dung. So we actually tried to compete with one
- 8 another in order to collect cow dung to reach the daily quota.
- 9 [09.22.05]
- 10 Later on I was sent to live in another area -- it was a bit
- 11 uphill -- at Ta Siev (phonetic) hill. It was quite graveyard-like
- 12 hill. All the children in the children's unit belonged to the
- 13 families of the 17 April People, and the task assigned to us at
- 14 that area was to clear the forest, to fell bamboo in order to
- 15 make vegetation farm to plant potatoes and other vegetation. And
- 16 that was the year that they started to mistreat us, the children.
- 17 I myself was pretty young and I never knew before how to cut
- 18 bamboo. And not only that we had to fell bamboo trees, but we had
- 19 to uproot them in order to make the farm, and later on to
- 20 transform the area into a village to house 17 April People.
- 21 We worked at various hours regardless of the time of the day or
- 22 the weather condition.
- 23 [09.23.54]
- 24 As for food, 10 of us were given a can of rice and that happened
- 25 at the beginning so we had to cook it as gruel, and we could only

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- 1 see water in the gruel. And later on the situation worsened --
- 2 that is, one can of rice for 20; and later on, one can of rice
- 3 for 30 children. And in order to resolve the matter we had to
- 4 supplement our food with morning glory. We had to cook it in a
- 5 large jar and when it's boiled then each child would be given a
- 6 scoop of the watery gruel. And the situation worsened than that,
- 7 because later on no rice was given to us and we were given only
- 8 bran. The bran smelled awful and there were worms in the bran. It
- 9 was barely edible; however we had no choice. We had to wash the
- 10 bran thoroughly before we could boil it. Actually we packed it
- 11 with banana leaves, then we kind of burnt it or grilled it. And
- 12 because of the situation, many children became sick from swollen
- 13 disease, from malaria, and some children started to die one after
- 14 another. There was no medical treatment or sick people were sent
- 15 to the hospital, no, that was not the case. And the medicine that
- 16 was given to us was rabbit drop-like pellets. These pellets were
- 17 given for all kinds of treatments: abdominal pain; or whatever
- 18 pain you had you would be given the same medicine. It was very
- 19 painful to bear such a horrible situation.
- 20 [09.26.41]
- 21 And I was by myself without any family members living nearby. As
- 22 the rest of my relatives and family members were sent to work in
- 23 the cooperatives, in the rice fields, far away from where I
- 24 worked.
- 25 Due to the unbearable situation, I decided to leave the

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1 children's unit and join a mobile unit, as in the mobile unit,

- 2 members were given gruel to eat, whereas in the children's unit,
- 3 only bran was given. So I worked in a mobile unit at the Trapeang
- 4 Thma Dam worksite and I lived and worked at that worksite, and I
- 5 was the youngest member of the mobile unit. And I was asked
- 6 whether I was able to work in the mobile unit because I was so
- 7 young, and I said of course I could. And since they saw me as the
- 8 youngest member of the mobile unit, I was given the task to ride
- 9 an ox cart to transport firewood for the kitchen.
- 10 [09.29.05]
- 11 So my task at the time was, in the morning to go into the forest
- 12 to cut some wood return the wood to the kitchen. And some mobile
- 13 unit members envied me for doing that task. As a result I was
- 14 reassigned to go and carry dirt. But because I was young, I could
- 15 not dig the ground and I could only carry the dirt. And there was
- 16 a daily quota for carrying the dirt at the worksite. Due to
- 17 overwork I became sick. I had fever and it was a relapse fever
- 18 but I did not dare to stop working. Once I recovered from the
- 19 relapse I returned to work immediately. I was afraid that they
- 20 would find some kind of mistake that I make, or that they would
- 21 accuse me of becoming an imaginary sick person. There was a
- 22 saying at the time that because people could eat and could not
- 23 work, then they said it was the fever of the tractor, and that
- 24 fever meant that it was an imaginary fever. For that reason, if
- 25 you could eat, it means you could work and your sickness was

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- 1 imaginary.
- 2 [09.31.25]
- 3 I have never forgotten the so-called slogan of the Khmer Rouge at
- 4 that time. I was doing my best. I was doing my best to work
- 5 although sometimes I was sick. I had to do the work to survive. I
- 6 did not think at that time I could survive the regime. I never
- 7 expected that I would survive the other day. If I probably made
- 8 mistake I would be taken away and killed. So I did not dare to
- 9 say anything. I rather pretended to be a dumb and deaf person; to
- 10 plant a kapok tree. My elder sibling told me not to speak, not to
- 11 say anything during the regime.
- 12 I was assigned to work for them during the regime. The Trapeang
- 13 Thma dam worksite was considered a hot battlefield at that time
- 14 and I had to work very hard. I was engaged in work regardless of
- 15 rain, regardless of the hot sun and thunder. When it was time to
- 16 work I would go to work. Every morning at 4.00 or 5.00, we were
- 17 woken up to work. And when we were at the working place, we could
- 18 hear only the sounds of hoes digging. We had to work from the
- 19 morning until 11.00 when we were given a short time to break. We
- 20 had lunch for a short period of time and we resumed work at 1
- 21 p.m. We continued to work until 5 p.m. in the evening, then we
- 22 had another short break. It took quite a while to arrive at the
- 23 sleeping quarters and we had dinner before we slept, and I could
- 24 say we could take a little bit of sleep only before we woke up in
- 25 the early morning at 5 a.m. to have gruel, to take baths. Rather

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- 1 we had dinner and we took a short break and we started work at
- 2 night-time. We also worked at night from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. So
- 3 I could not compare the situation at that time to the current
- 4 situation.
- 5 [09.35.55]
- 6 We were given thick gruel in a small bowl. I could not eat my
- 7 fill; it was not enough for me. I would not eat the thick gruel
- 8 right away. I had to go and collect edible leaves to mix with the
- 9 thick gruel to fill my stomach. Sinn Chanchhaya was my colleague
- 10 at the time. He was the son of Sinn Sisamouth, the singer. He
- 11 was with me going to pick up rather, Sinn Chanchhaya, he stole
- 12 part of my food ration when I was away collecting leaves. When I
- 13 noticed my food ration was stolen, I was weeping and crying at
- 14 the time. I went to my unit chief to inform him that Sin
- 15 Chanchhaya stole some of my food ration and Sin Chanchhaya was
- 16 beaten at that time. I felt pity on him. However in the regime,
- 17 the regime did not teach us to love each other, to help each
- 18 other.
- 19 And regarding the work quota, if we received two cubic metres of
- 20 soil per day, we had the same work quota. We were not watched to
- 21 be in solidarity. If we could not fulfil the work quota, our food
- 22 ration would be reduced. During that time there were
- 23 self-criticism and criticism sessions in order to encourage us to
- 24 work hard for Angkar, for the sake of Angkar.
- 25 [09.38.35]

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- 1 One time, I felt sick. There was no medicine for me and I was
- 2 given with the rabbit dropping pellets. And my knee caps were so
- 3 big at the time, my hair was not tidy. I was tremble. I had a
- 4 fever. No one came to help me and I had to take in the situation,
- 5 and it was called the relax fever. My clothes, my shirts and
- 6 trousers were full of lice, and they were smelly. There were lice
- 7 in my clothes. No soap, no detergent for us to clean our clothes.
- 8 Even time -- we did not have even time to wash ourself.
- 9 Regarding the time that we slept, we used the earth baskets as
- 10 pillows and hoes as bolsters. We were sleeping directly on the
- 11 ground. It was a terrible situation. It was so painful for me. I
- 12 was seriously mistreated since I was considered a 17 April
- 13 person. They hated so much the 17 April People so much because 17
- 14 April People were said to be capitalists and feudalists. And 17
- 15 April People would come with only a set of clothes, no belongings
- 16 with them, when they were evacuated. Because they were told to
- 17 leave their places for a period of a few days, three or four
- 18 days, they had only a set of clothes with them.
- 19 [09.41.27]
- 20 We worked, worked and worked, no rest, no blankets. During the
- 21 winter season, we had to burn things to warm ourselves. Sometimes
- 22 we would get burned because of the ember. Some people who had
- 23 fever, they would warm themselves by burning the ember and some
- 24 of them got killed by the ember, as I made -- mentioned a while
- 25 ago, only rabbit dropping pellets were given to all of us for

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- 1 every kind of diseases.
- 2 Q. I would like to put a few more questions to you, Mr. Civil
- 3 Party. You made mention a while ago that, first, you were in a
- 4 children unit. Could you tell the Court why you were transferred
- 5 to be part of a mobile unit at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite?
- 6 A. Thank you, Mr. Lawyer. For -- initially, I was within a
- 7 children units. I told you already I could not bear the
- 8 situation. I could no longer at the barn. There was no more food
- 9 ration for us; only bran was given to all of us. For this reason,
- 10 I decided to leave the children unit and join the mobile unit
- 11 with adult so that I would get some rice or food rations to eat.
- 12 [09.43.40]
- 13 Q. Thank you. Upon your first arrival the dam worksite, did you
- 14 receive the same and equal work quota?
- 15 A. Thank you, Mr. Lawyer. The work within the mobile unit, no
- 16 matter how young we were at the time, was the same in terms of
- 17 work quota. If we did not complete the work quota, our food
- 18 ration for the whole group would be reduced. They would reduce
- 19 the food ration and give to other groups who had completed the
- 20 work quota. Although a small amount of food ration was used, they
- 21 had to do that in order to deter us. I was the youngest in the
- 22 unit. I was weeping, crying. I felt sad that I could not meet the
- 23 work quota. Later on, I could do the work as other did. So I
- 24 could achieve what other adults did. Let me backtrack a little
- 25 bit. When I was young in the children unit, I was so hungry at

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- 1 the time, nothing to eat. At the time when we were given a can of
- 2 rice for 30 children, because there was no enough food for me, I
- 3 went around and picked up fish bones to fill my stomach and even
- 4 the skin of toad, of frogs were picked up by me to eat. So it was
- 5 terrible for me. I was a 17 April person. I had never had such
- 6 kind of food before in my life.
- 7 [09.46.03]
- 8 The waste water from rinsing rice was collected by me to drink. I
- 9 was warned and reprimanded. I ate so very much. For this reason,
- 10 I was transferred to be part of a mobile unit.
- 11 Q. When you had been transferred to the mobile unit, did you have
- 12 the latitude to communicate or contact your family members?
- 13 A. When I became a member of a mobile unit, no time to visit my
- 14 elder siblings. There was one time I had a permission to visit my
- 15 elder sibling in the evening. And the day after in the morning, I
- 16 returned to my worksite. My brother my elder sibling advised me
- 17 not to talk freely, not to say anything. I was there to visit him
- 18 for a brief moment.
- 19 [09.47.39]
- 20 Q. What else did you experience while you were working in the
- 21 mobile unit beside what you have told the Court?
- 22 A. I was working in a mobile unit, a mobile unit. There were a
- 23 lot of incidents happened within the mobile unit. People were
- 24 taken away and killed. I did not know at the time what kind of
- 25 mistakes those people committed and why they were taken away and

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- 1 killed. While we were working at night, the halls where we slept
- 2 were quiet after 7 p.m., but there were people coming to check to
- 3 make sure that no one was not staying in the hall. There were
- 4 some people who fell sick and there were others who had night
- 5 blindness. For the night-blinded people, they were guided toward
- 6 the latrines. This was an experiment or a test for them. A
- 7 container was used to be a latrine, and the bowls, two bowls were
- 8 put on the containers so that we could relieve ourselves. One
- 9 time, the night-blinded people were guided toward the latrine.
- 10 For those who did not actually have the night blindness disease,
- 11 they jumped over the pit or the latrine. But for those who had
- 12 the night blind diseases, they fell into the latrine or the pit.
- 13 So it was okay for the one who had the actual night blindness,
- 14 they could survive, but for those who pretended to have the kind
- of diseases, disappeared one after another.
- 16 [09.50.43]
- 17 Q. In your experience, what did you feel at the time?
- 18 A. In that period, it was a terrible situation. I was terrified.
- 19 People were taken away. And I was afraid of my life. I could say
- 20 I was lucky during the regime. I did not have the so-called night
- 21 blindness. I only contracted a fever and a swollen disease. My
- 22 legs, my feet were swollen. I could barely walk. And when I used
- 23 my fingers to touch my feet and legs, I could see that -- I could
- 24 feel the pain. So I had the two kinds of disease -- that is,
- 25 swollen disease and fever during the Khmer Rouge.

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- 1 [09.52.31]
- 2 Q. Were there any medical staff to treat you and other people?
- 3 A. No medical staff during the time. No medical staff or doctors
- 4 to take care all of us. But we could ask for medicines through
- 5 unit chiefs. No modern medicines. There were only rabbit dropping
- 6 pellets. They were given to all of us for any kind of diseases.
- 7 It was said that the pellets were effective for all kinds of
- 8 diseases.
- 9 Q. Thank you. I would like to backtrack a little bit. In your
- 10 experience, when you were young in the children unit or in the
- 11 mobile unit, had you been educated before and were you educated
- 12 within the children unit and mobile unit?
- 13 A. Thank you, Mr. Lawyer. During the regime, I received no
- 14 trainings, no education at all, no education for children.
- 15 Children were instead educated how to cut a "kantreang khet" and
- 16 pick up cow dung. No schools for children at that time.
- 17 Q. I would like to go back a little bit regarding the time when
- 18 you visited your elder sibling. Your elder sibling told you not
- 19 to reveal your own background. Why did -- what made her advice
- 20 you in such way?
- 21 [09.55.10]
- 22 A. Thank you, Mr. Lawyer. My elder sibling had been well
- 23 educated. Her husband held a senior position in the former
- 24 regime. She advised me not to mention or reveal our background of
- 25 our family situation, because she understood that there were

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- 1 people who had been taken away and killed. My elder sister
- 2 survived the period as well. In fact, during the regime, my
- 3 sister had divorced her husband already. Her husband was a
- 4 soldier at Neak Loeung (phonetic). She told me to shut up my
- 5 mouth not to reveal anythings about our family background.
- 6 Q. In relation to your siblings and relatives, did you lose any
- 7 loved one in your family?
- 8 A. Thank you, Mr. Lawyer. In relation to my family members who
- 9 perished in the Khmer Rouge regime, my aunt or uncle died, the
- 10 whole family, his family, her whole family died. And my mother
- 11 younger sibling was a colonel in the former regime. The whole
- 12 family was taken away and killed. Only one survived, only one
- 13 member from his or her family survived the period.
- 14 [09.58.27]
- 15 Q. Do you recall who else disappeared during the regime;
- 16 particularly, did any loved ones who supported you when you were
- 17 young disappear?
- 18 A. My mother, who raised me up, lost her life. My aunt, my uncle,
- 19 later on my uncle raised me and my siblings in Phnom Penh. My
- 20 uncle was a minister in the Lon Nol regime. His name was Chau Sau
- 21 (phonetic). He was the one who provided support to my elder
- 22 siblings to receive high education. He was killed by Khmer Rouge.
- 23 I had a great suffering because of his killing. Two of my elder
- 24 brothers disappeared with him, with my uncle. I have never seen
- 25 them back until now.

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- 1 Q. When you recalled what you have experience in the period, how
- 2 do you feel?
- 3 A. So far, I have lost my aunts, my uncles, my nephews and other
- 4 relatives whom I could depend upon in life. I feel terrible for
- 5 the loss of these lives, including the life of my mother. They
- 6 took care of me. The rest of my siblings, they provided us with
- 7 education, but ultimately they died under the hands of the Khmer
- 8 Rouge regime. Nothing was as painful as the loss of these lives.
- 9 Nothing can compare to it, and it's thanks to the regime that so
- 10 far has destroyed the future of my family. They deprived us of
- 11 education. We didn't have the chance to study at all. And that is
- 12 the most painful thing in my life.
- 13 [10.02.42]
- 14 Q. Would you express your true feeling about the period that you
- 15 worked at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite despite the fact that
- 16 you overworked? You were not given sufficient food to eat. What
- 17 was your true feeling at the time?
- 18 A. Thank you, Counsel, for asking this question. While I was in
- 19 the mobile unit, I overworked. I never had enough sleep and the
- 20 food was never sufficient. Nothing could describe such a horrible
- 21 situation. Sometimes we were so hungry and we spoke to one
- 22 another. As long as I could be given just a plate full of rice
- 23 and a cooked chicken, I would change it for my life as my last
- 24 meal. Some other would say just a bowl of food would be
- 25 sufficient for them to feel satisfied and they could rest in

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- 1 peace. You can imagine how terrible the situation was. We could
- 2 feel that just give us a good last meal and we would feel
- 3 satisfied.
- 4 Q. While you were working at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite, did
- 5 you ever envisage the benefit from your sacrifice, from your hard
- 6 work on the construction?
- 7 [10.05.30]
- 8 A. Talking about the sacrifice and about the benefit from working
- 9 at the dam worksite, my life there could be regarded as the life
- 10 of an animal, and that applies to all the workers. As for the
- 11 benefit, we knew nothing about the benefit of what the purpose of
- 12 building the dam. Everything was organized by Angkar. And for us,
- 13 we tried to survive on a daily basis. When we woke up we knew
- 14 that, okay we could live for that day, but we did not know what's
- 15 going to happen the next day or that late evening. We could not
- 16 envisage anything at all. And we never knew their true intention
- 17 on the building of the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite, not at all. We
- 18 were completely in the dark and that was compounded by the fact
- 19 that I was pretty young at the time. I kept doing what I was
- 20 asked to do, to build the dam or to work the dry season rice
- 21 farming.
- 22 [10.07.05]
- 23 Q. This is my last question to you, Mr. Civil Party. Again, while
- 24 you were working at the worksite, and as you just stated, you
- 25 never knew what was going to come, whether you would be killed in

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- 1 the afternoon or next day? And if this is the way that you felt
- 2 at the time, could you describe to the Court how painful such a
- 3 feeling was?
- 4 A. I believed my feeling at the time was similar to all of those
- 5 workers in the mobile unit, since mostly they were 17 April
- 6 People. And yes, there were a handful of Base People in the
- 7 mobile unit, but they were the one playing a different role. They
- 8 would monitor our activities or the works that we spoke.
- 9 Q. And Mr. Civil Party, lastly, do you have any questions that
- 10 you wish to put to the Accused through the President of the Trial
- 11 Chamber?
- 12 A. Thank you, Counsel.
- 13 Mr. President, with your permission and through you, I'd like to
- 14 put the questions to the Accused.
- 15 One, during the Khmer Rouge regime they said that they considered
- 16 children as pillars of the country. Why did they deprive
- 17 education from the children, and instead why were they forced to
- 18 cut "kantreang khet" trees, to collect cow dungs, and why were
- 19 they deprived of food and only a can of rice was given to 30
- 20 children?
- 21 [10.10.05]
- 22 Second, in the Democratic Kampuchea regime, Angkar said we should
- 23 yield three to four tonnes of rice produce per hectare. What
- 24 happens to the yield? Why the yields were not given to the people
- 25 to eat?

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- 1 Third, during the Democratic Kampuchea period they said it was a
- 2 great leap forward. If that was the case, why no machineries was
- 3 used for the building of the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite, and
- 4 instead people were forced to engage in manual labour?
- 5 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 6 Thank you, Mr. Sam Sak, and the Chamber wishes to inform you that
- 7 after ascertaining the position of both Accused on 8 January
- 8 2015, regarding exercise of the right to remain silent, the
- 9 Chamber notes that the two Accused maintain their expressed
- 10 position unless and until such time the Chamber is expressly
- 11 informed otherwise by the Co-Accused or their counsels. It is
- 12 therefore incumbent upon them to inform the Chamber in a timely
- 13 and efficient manner should the Accused resolve to waive the
- 14 right to remain silent and be willing to respond to questions by
- 15 the Bench or relevant parties at any stage of the proceedings. As
- 16 of today, the Chamber is not informed the Co-Accused have changed
- 17 their expressed positions and have agreed to provide a response
- 18 to questions. For that reason, the Chamber is not in a position
- 19 to compel the Accused to respond to your questions.
- 20 The time is appropriate for a short break. We take a break and
- 21 resume at 10.30.
- 22 Court officer, please assist the civil party during the break and
- 23 invite him, together with the TPO staff, back into the courtroom
- 24 to continue proceedings of hearing the impact statement by this
- 25 civil party at 10.30.

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- 1 The Court is now in recess.
- 2 (Court recesses from 1012H to 1030H)
- 3 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 4 Please be seated.
- 5 The Court is now back in session and now the floor is given to
- 6 the Co-Prosecutors to put questions to the civil party, if any.
- 7 You may now proceed.
- 8 QUESTIONING BY MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 9 Good morning, Mr. President. Good morning, Your Honours, everyone
- 10 in and around the courtroom. Good morning also Mr. Sam Sak. My
- 11 name is Seng Bunkheang, I am the National Deputy Co-Prosecutor. I
- 12 have a few questions to put to you and I need your clarification
- 13 for the Court.
- 14 Q. First I would like to know about workers at Trapeang Thma Dam
- 15 worksite. What was the composition of workers at the worksite,
- 16 were there any Base, New Peoples and also children at the dam
- 17 site?
- 18 MR. SAM SAK:
- 19 A. Thank you. At Trapeang Thma Dam worksite, most of the workers
- 20 were full-fledged people. The age range was between 16 to early
- 21 40s and most of members within the mobile units consisted of the
- 22 17 April People.
- 23 [10.33.40]
- 24 Q. Could you give the estimate to the Court, how many workers
- 25 were there at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite?

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- 1 A. Regarding the mobile units at Trapeang Thma Dam worksites, no
- 2 one can give the exact numbers or figures of workers there.
- 3 People from different districts came to join force and work at
- 4 the dam worksite. There were thousands, 10,000 or even one --
- 5 millions of workers at the dam site.
- 6 Q. I would like you to give a rough estimate, how many workers
- 7 were there at the worksite; did the number reach 100,000, tens of
- 8 thousands?
- 9 A. I cannot give you even the rough estimate. People were in long
- 10 rows working.
- 11 Q. Thank you. A while ago you made mention that you were assigned
- 12 to work at Trapeang Thma Dam worksite, could you tell the Court
- 13 what was the work quota on your daily activities?
- 14 [10.35.29]
- 15 A. Regarding mobile units at the dam worksites, we received about
- 16 two or three cubic metres of soil to work on, on a daily basis.
- 17 First we received perhaps three cubic metres of soil; later on,
- 18 when we had to carry earth and dump it in a far place, we
- 19 received only two cubic metres of soil per day.
- 20 Q. To your observation, what happened to those who did not meet
- 21 the work quota?
- 22 A. Concerning the work quota set by Angkar, we were instructed to
- 23 complete whatever work quota set by Angkar. For example, if we
- 24 received two or three cubic metres of soil per day, we had to
- 25 complete the work quota by the end of the day. Not all of us,

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- 1 majority of us could complete the work quota; only few of them
- 2 did not meet the work quota.
- 3 Q. Thank you. From your own observation from what you saw or from
- 4 any sources, what happened to those who did not meet the work
- 5 quota, what did they do to those who did not complete the work
- 6 quota?
- 7 [10.37.33]
- 8 A. We were assigned to carry dirt within the mobile units. For
- 9 example, if we did not complete the work quota by the end of the
- 10 day we would be invited to attend the criticism and
- 11 self-criticism session and we were advised to try to complete the
- 12 work quota.
- 13 Q. Thank you. Did it happen if one was called into a criticism
- 14 and self-criticism session and that person did not meet the work
- 15 quota, what happened to them if they still not meet the work
- 16 quota?
- 17 A. Regarding mobile units at Trapeang Thma Dam worksite, they
- 18 monitored mobile unit -- whether mobile units at the dam site
- 19 could complete the work quota. I do not know what happened to
- 20 those who still did not meet the work quota after they were
- 21 invited to the session.
- 22 [10.39.18]
- 23 Q. Thank you. Regarding the self-criticism session mentioned by
- 24 you, have you ever been invited into a self-criticism session at
- 25 your unit and how often did self-criticism and criticism session

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- 1 hold?
- 2 A. Thank you. I used to attend one criticism and self-criticism
- 3 session in a group at the time. I was criticised because I did
- 4 not fulfil the work quota by the end of the day, I was in the
- 5 meeting and I was criticised. Someone in the group said that he
- 6 wished to criticise Comrade Sam Sak and I was advised to complete
- 7 the equal work quota received by others and after the criticism
- 8 by that person in the group, then it was time for me to admit the
- 9 mistake to confirm that later on I would try to complete the work
- 10 quota.
- 11 Q. Thank you. Regarding the criticism and self-criticism session,
- 12 who chaired the sessions?
- 13 A. Thank you. The upper echelon instructed self-criticism and
- 14 criticism sessions to be held among members of groups or units
- 15 and the time that I was invited into a self-criticism session,
- 16 there were six of us within the group. I was criticised and then
- 17 I was asked to admit my mistake. For instance, Ton (phonetic) was
- 18 criticised and after the criticism Ton had to admit the mistake.
- 19 The same applied to the group chief. So the meeting was meant to
- 20 reflect ourselves, our performance.
- 21 [10.42.26]
- 22 Q. Thank you. Now I would like to mainly focus on the work that
- 23 you did at Trapeang Thma Dam worksite. Did you observe workers
- 24 die on the spot at the worksite or injured?
- 25 A. I did not notice anyone injured at the worksite and I do not

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- 1 know about the fact that other workers within different units
- 2 injured at the worksite.
- 3 Q. Thank you. To your observation, what was the health situation
- 4 of workers at the worksite? Were they pale? Were they skinny?
- 5 A. Thank you. Within mobile units at Trapeang Thma worksite, yes
- 6 of course there were sick people, people who fell sick. No enough
- 7 food for us to eat, no enough time for us to sleep. As I told the
- 8 Court already, my knee caps were as big as my hat. Some people
- 9 had relapsed fever, some had trembling disease, some other had
- 10 malaria, their faces looked very pale and their knee caps were so
- 11 extremely big and some sick people died.
- 12 Q. Thank you. I believe you have told the Court already in
- 13 relation to your sleeping time. You stated that you did not have
- 14 enough sleep. But what I would like to know is about the working
- 15 times at the worksite. So when did you start the work, when did
- 16 it end, when did the work end and when did you have resting time?
- 17 [10.45.29]
- 18 A. Thank you. Over there, we had to -- as well others could not
- 19 tell you the exact time that we started work at the dam worksite.
- 20 I could say perhaps we started the work at perhaps 4.00 or 5 a.m.
- 21 when the roosters were singing. At that time, 4.00 or 5.00 in the
- 22 morning, we could hardly see each other; what we were hearing was
- 23 the sound of hoes banging each other. It was quite dark in the
- 24 morning that we started work and we continued until 11 a.m. in
- 25 the morning. So we depended much on the sun that is the

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- 1 biological clock. So at 11.00 we had a short break to have lunch
- 2 and we resumed at 1.00, we continued until 5 p.m. in the evening
- 3 and after 5.00, we had a short break, taking bath, having gruel,
- 4 we were given a ladle of food, and the food was placed into our
- 5 bowl equally, equal for everyone then I take a bath. And at 6
- 6 p.m., we started work again perhaps from 7 p.m. So, we engaged in
- 7 work actively until 10 p.m., after which we came back to sleep.
- 8 [10.47.58]
- 9 Q. I still have a few more questions to ask you; please bear with
- 10 me, Civil Party. In relation to the work at the dam worksite,
- 11 what did you do when you and other workers fell thirsty, was
- 12 there water available for all of you to drink, I mean clean
- 13 water?
- 14 A. Thank you. During the time, no clean water was given to all of
- 15 us, the water was quite dirty. No sanitation; the water was not
- 16 hygienic and I had to use my shirt as filter so that I would not
- 17 drink in insects in the water.
- 18 Q. Thank you. And can you tell the Court who was in charge of the
- 19 Trapeang Thma Dam worksite?
- 20 A. Thank you. During the time I had no idea who had overall
- 21 supervision of my unit. What I knew at the time is that Ta Val
- 22 had the overall supervision at the worksite. I held no rank, no
- 23 position, what I had to do is was to work to avoid committing
- 24 any mistakes from my part. I did not know at the time who was my
- 25 unit chief. And as I told you already, Ta Val had overall

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- 1 supervision of Trapeang Thma Dam worksite.
- 2 [10.50.35]
- 3 Q. I believe it is my last question now; I want you to tell the
- 4 Court, to your observation, from what you heard, did senior
- 5 leaders from upper echelon ever visit the dam worksite?
- 6 A. Thank you. I used to see the leadership when I was at the
- 7 site. I was not standing close to the leadership at the time; I
- 8 was far away digging, carrying dirt. I was in a great distance
- 9 from them.
- 10 Q. You saw them from afar; did anyone within your group tell you
- 11 that those people were particular individuals, did anyone tell
- 12 you?
- 13 A. During the time that I was working at the dam worksite, yes
- 14 the visits were paid by the leadership. Chinese delegation came
- 15 to the site to visit and the Chinese were in black clad clothes,
- 16 they had fair complexion. Those who were working close to the
- 17 place where the delegation were walking, they could recognise who
- 18 they were but for me I was away working so I did not know and see
- 19 clearly.
- 20 [10.52.50]
- 21 Q. Thank you. I would like to focus the visit of Chinese
- 22 delegation. Did you notice any senior leadership join the
- 23 delegation at the time?
- 24 A. All I know is that the delegation came to visit the dam
- 25 worksite. I do not know who accompanied the delegation at the

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- 1 time. I did not know whether the senior leaders from district,
- 2 from sector or from zone level accompanied the delegation.
- 3 MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 4 Mr. President, I am concluded with my line of questioning.
- 5 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 6 Thank you very much, Co-Prosecutor. It is now time for the
- 7 defence team for the two Accused to put questions to this civil
- 8 party. If you have questions you may now proceed: first, counsel
- 9 for Mr. Nuon Chea.
- 10 [10.54.07]
- 11 QUESTIONING BY MR. KOPPE:
- 12 Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, Mr. Civil Party. I
- 13 have a few follow-up questions that I would like to put to you.
- 14 This morning you said that when you became a soldier you changed
- 15 your place of birth to the place of birth of your wife and you
- 16 said that you did not want them to know that you were Khmer Krom
- 17 originally but that you were from that you were Khmer Leu. Can
- 18 you explain to me why you didn't want them to know your original
- 19 place of birth?
- 20 MR. SAM SAK:
- 21 A. Thank you. I have changed my biography but I still use the
- 22 same name. I moved to live in the upper land of Cambodia and I
- 23 myself do not want others to know my background that I was
- 24 originally from the lower part of the country -- that is,
- 25 Kampuchea Krom. I do not intend to conceal my biography; however,

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- 1 as I stated I do not want others to know my background from
- 2 Kampuchea Krom.
- 3 [10.56.04]
- 4 Q. I understand that's what you said earlier this morning but my
- 5 question is: Why? Why are you hiding your original identity today
- 6 and also I supposed in the 80s?
- 7 A. I do not know what else to tell you; as I told you already I
- 8 hide my identity, my original identity and when I became a
- 9 soldier at Banteay Kdei (phonetic) or Preaek Kdei (phonetic)
- 10 barrack, I changed my original identity so that when something
- 11 happened to me when I was a soldier, my wife could stay in the
- 12 country and could stay around.
- 13 Q. I'll move on, Mr. Civil Party. Is my understanding correct
- 14 that you were living close to the Olympic market in Phnom Penh on
- 15 17 April 1975?
- 16 A. Of course, I lived behind -- in the area behind the Olympic
- 17 market at the time.
- 18 Q. And can you tell us where you or your family kept the cows and
- 19 the buffaloes that you were having?
- 20 A. Could you repeat your question once again because in Phnom
- 21 Penh town, at the time, no one raised cows and buffaloes?
- 22 [10.58.40]
- 23 Q. I agree with you; in your civil party application, you claimed
- 24 -- you request to be compensated for the loss of your cows,
- 25 buffaloes and your house. That's why I was wondering where you

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- 1 kept your cows and buffaloes.
- 2 A. No, I did not. I do not ask reparation in the forms of cows
- 3 and buffaloes. I was quite young at that time and I did not fully
- 4 grow yet at the time.
- 5 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 6 You are on your feet. You may now proceed, Counsel Pich Ang.
- 7 MR. PICH ANG:
- 8 I would like Counsel Koppe to refer us specifically to the page
- 9 which the civil parties stated that he raised cows and buffaloes
- 10 and in the part that the civil party said he requested
- 11 reparation; namely, cows and cattle.
- 12 [11.00.16]
- 13 BY MR. KOPPE:
- 14 I was referring, Mr. President, to D22/3209/1 and the English,
- 15 ERN is 00562491. In the English translation it says: "The
- 16 applicant requests to be compensated for the loss of his cows,
- 17 buffalo and house." But it's not important; the civil party
- 18 already answered the question so I think I can move on, Mr.
- 19 President, if you do not mind.
- 20 Q. Mr. Civil Party, let me ask you something about your WRI,
- 21 specifically about something you said in document E319/19.3.10,
- 22 Question and Answer 146. In this WRI, you were asked the
- 23 question: "Could you estimate how many people died of starvation,
- 24 disease or killing?", and then you answered: "I do not know how
- 25 many died but many died. As for the Chinese, they died until

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- 1 entire villages went silent." What exactly did you mean when you
- 2 gave this answer to the investigators?
- 3 [11.02.33]
- 4 MR. SAM SAK:
- 5 A. Yes, that is my statement. In fact I arrived at the Samraong
- 6 village as we were tasked to clear the forest and there was a
- 7 nearby village named Chrak Oul (phonetic), and Chinese people
- 8 were placed in that village and many of the Chinese people died.
- 9 And in some houses, the whole family died, the whole family
- 10 members died; 17 April People, I refer to some of them died from
- 11 illnesses or from being killed as they were accused of stealing
- 12 corn, for example, and some died from starvation. As for the
- 13 Chinese, the main cause of their death was lack of food and
- 14 stealing.
- 15 Q. So am I to understand that they didn't die because they were
- 16 Chinese but because they didn't have enough food and they
- 17 happened to be Chinese, is that what you're saying?
- 18 A. When I say they were Chinese, they were not pure Chinese from
- 19 china but they were Sino-Khmers, those Sino-Khmers from around
- 20 Olympic market for instance, they were not pure Chinese, you
- 21 could also consider them Chinese within the 17 April People
- 22 group. They had pale complexion than the pure Khmer people and
- 23 they died from illness, they were not killed.
- 24 [11.04.57]
- 25 Q. But were people of Chinese ethnicity mistreated for some

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- 1 reason?
- 2 A. They were under the same condition as that of the 17 April
- 3 People. However, they were considered capitalist by the Khmer
- 4 Rouge as they were accused of exploiting the society. For that
- 5 reason, they were segregated and placed in one group and they
- 6 were considered the rich Chinese and many of them died from
- 7 illnesses, from swollen conditions. However, the working
- 8 condition was the same for them as that for the 17 April People.
- 9 Q. Let me just ask one follow-up question to understand what
- 10 you're saying. In the same WRI that I just mentioned, you were
- 11 asked questions 36 and 37, you were asked first about Cham and
- 12 you said there were no Cham where I was living but you said there
- 13 were some Chinese. Question: "Were those Chinese arrested?" and
- 14 then you answered: "They did not kill the Chinese but they
- 15 mistreated them." The answer seems to suggest that Chinese were
- 16 mistreated because they were Chinese or is that not what you
- 17 meant?
- 18 [11.06.56]
- 19 A. They treated the Chinese in the same way as they treated the
- 20 17 April People from Phnom Penh. However the Chinese were placed
- 21 into Chrak Oul (phonetic) village and that village was a former
- 22 quite forest, it looked like a graveyard.
- 23 As for working conditions, they received or they were under the
- 24 same working condition as that of the 17th April people.
- 25 Q. This morning you said that 17 April People were "seriously

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- 1 mistreated"; is that now what you're saying as to what happened
- 2 to Chinese people as well?
- 3 A. We were all mistreated as these Chinese were oppressed in the
- 4 mobile unit. The work quota was the same. For example if the
- 5 Khmer people were given three cubic metre of work quota to finish
- 6 per day, the Chinese would receive the same work quota.
- 7 [11.08.40]
- 8 Q. Let me move on to another topic, Mr. Civil Party, and it's a
- 9 question about hospitals and medicine. In your civil party
- 10 application E3/5033, English, ERN 00919930; French, 00922767; and
- 11 Khmer, 00562499; you said as follows: "In that village many
- 12 people got malaria and died due to the unavailability of
- 13 medicine, treatment or hospital and starvation." Is this only
- 14 referring to '75 or were there also no hospitals when you were
- 15 working at the dam in 1977?
- 16 A. On the issue of medicine and hospital, there was a hospital;
- 17 however, there were no patients there. Actually I went to ask for
- 18 medicine at the hospital in Samraong district and what I was
- 19 given when I had a fever was rapid drop-like pellets.
- 20 Q. My question is -- let me rephrase my question. Were there
- 21 people who were working at the Trapeang Thma Dam site who had
- 22 gotten sick and subsequently sent to the hospital to get better?
- 23 A. I do not have that knowledge; I do not know whether sick
- 24 people were sent to hospital within the vicinity of the Trapeang
- 25 Thma Dam worksite. While I was at the Trapeang Thma worksite, I

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- 1 did not attend or was admitted to any hospital. I was given this
- 2 rapid drop-like pellets when I was sick.
- 3 [11.11.55]
- 4 Q. But it is correct that there was a hospital in Phnum Srok
- 5 district, correct?
- 6 A. I do not know whether there was any hospital in Phnum Srok
- 7 district as I was not there. I mainly worked at the Trapeang Thma
- 8 Dam worksite or I was at Samraong district.
- 9 Q. Let me read to you your answer to question 29 in your WRI.
- 10 Question 29 and 30, rather Question 30: "Were there medicines and
- 11 hospital in Phnum Srok district?" and you answered: "Yes, there
- 12 was a hospital with rapid dropping pills." Does that refresh your
- 13 memory?
- 14 A. Yes, I recall that but I never went to seek medicine from any
- 15 hospital in Phnum Srok district.
- 16 Q. Do you know anything about the food ration for the special
- 17 mobile unit at Trapeang Thma Dam?
- 18 A. Please repeat your question.
- 19 Q. My question was whether you know anything about the food
- 20 ration for the special mobile unit at Trapeang Thma Dam?
- 21 A. As I have already stated regarding the food ration for the
- 22 mobile unit, we were given thick gruel and during the dry season
- 23 we were given rice to eat. But I do not know about the food
- 24 ration for the so-called special mobile unit that you referred
- 25 to.

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- 1 [11.14.41]
- 2 Q. I am looking at your WRI and in Question 55, you were asked:
- 3 "What was the special mobile unit like?", and then you said: "The
- 4 special mobile unit let us eat solid rice; watery rice porridge
- 5 was given to the children's unit. If we completed all the work as
- 6 planned, we will receive the full food ration but if we could not
- 7 complete all the work assigned by the deadline, half of our food
- 8 ration would be cut." That's why I was asking you if there was
- 9 any special food regime.
- 10 A. What I said is correct; we were given rice to eat as I said
- 11 during the harvest season. They have a flat basket and they put
- 12 banana leaves on it and they pour the cooked rice on to it. We
- 13 ate this rice for about a month during the season and then it
- 14 would return to gruel again.
- 15 Q. Let me now ask you about your time working at the dam. You
- 16 said that you recall a visit of a Chinese delegation, you also
- 17 recall Ta Val being in charge of the dam site. Do you recall the
- 18 months or the year that you have been working at the dam, how
- 19 many months have you been working at the dam site?
- 20 [11.16.54]
- 21 A. I worked in the mobile unit at the Trapeang Thma Dam work site
- 22 in 1977 and I remained there until the fall of the Khmer Rouge
- 23 regime. I recall that I fled the Trapeang Thma dam to find my
- 24 siblings in Samraong district.
- 25 Q. There is evidence suggesting, Mr. Civil Party that the dam --

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- 1 the working at the dam itself was finished after two or three
- 2 months sometime April '77 or May '77 and that it started
- 3 mid-February 1977. What exactly were you doing after the dam was
- 4 finished?
- 5 MR. FARR:
- 6 Mr. President, an objection to the question; there is evidence to
- 7 that effect. There is also evidence that -- including
- 8 contemporaneous documents -- that construction continued at least
- 9 through the dry season of 1978. So if the question is what were
- 10 you doing after May of '77, no objection. But it shouldn't be put
- 11 to the witness that the evidence is only that construction
- 12 occurred in '77.
- 13 [11.18.45]
- 14 BY MR. KOPPE:
- 15 Q. I will rephrase. Isn't it correct that you were only working a
- 16 few months at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite and not two or three
- 17 years or one year and a half?
- 18 MR. SAM SAK:
- 19 A. I did not work for a few months but I continued working there.
- 20 I actually worked there in three phases. For the first phase, I
- 21 worked near the base of the dam; the second stage, I was in the
- 22 first bridge; and the third stage, I worked at the water sloughs
- 23 near the bottleneck to -- connecting to the small dam; and when
- 24 the regime of the Khmer Rouge fell, I was at the third phase.
- 25 However, I cannot tell you the exact month or year that I worked

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- 1 at the construction site. During the regime, nobody could
- 2 actually know the exact date of the day or of the year.
- 3 [11.20.05]
- 4 Q. But the carrying of the soil, did that happen also -- did that
- 5 continue after the first phase was finished?
- 6 A. When I was working there the bridges were not fully
- 7 constructed as the bridge construction itself was not fully
- 8 fledged, there were still holes near the start and the end of the
- 9 bridge and they had to make a detour around the bridge. And
- 10 actually after I finished working at that site I was instructed
- 11 to work the dry season rice farming nearby, but by that time the
- 12 dam itself was not yet completed as they had to finish the
- 13 working at the first bridge.
- 14 Q. When you working in the second phase at this bridge, were you
- 15 then also carrying soil?
- 16 A. Yes, I still carried soil at the second phase. However, during
- 17 the second phase I was also reassigned to work at the Spean
- 18 Sraeng dam. I was transported by truck at night-time to work at
- 19 the Spean Sraeng dam at the Spean Sraeng river and later on when
- 20 the regime fell in 1979, I went looking for my siblings.
- 21 [11.22.20]
- 22 Q. My last question. You were asked a question by the Prosecution
- 23 about people dying at the worksite, you answered that you didn't
- 24 see anybody dying because of an accident. But did you see people
- 25 dying because of overwork or starvation at the worksite itself?

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- 1 A. No. I did not witness any injured workers while they were
- 2 carrying soil but I knew that people disappeared as they were
- 3 sent away and killed.
- 4 Q. My question was about overwork and starvation, you have said
- 5 in your civil party application that many people, "many people
- 6 had died due to overwork and starvation", but it's correct that
- 7 you didn't actually see that yourself; am I right?
- 8 A. It is the lack of food that led people to become sick, to be
- 9 emaciated and to get swollen and ultimately die.
- 10 Q. Yes, but they were sent to hospital and you didn't see them
- 11 actually dying; is that correct?
- 12 A. Yes, that is correct. I did not see them die. As I said
- 13 earlier I did not know the whereabouts of the Phnum Srok
- 14 hospital.
- 15 MR. KOPPE:
- 16 Thank you, Mr. President.
- 17 [11.24.40]
- 18 MR. FARR:
- 19 Mr. President, just quickly before we move to the Khieu Samphan
- 20 defence, I wanted to just clarify one thing for the record
- 21 regarding the witness's request for compensation. The document
- 22 that the Nuon Chea defence was quoting from -- D22/3209/1 -- is
- 23 not the civil party application, it is a report on the civil
- 24 party application prepared by WESU, it's a summary of the civil
- 25 party application and it appears to be inconsistent with the

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- 1 application itself, which is E3/5033. In E3/5033, part C,
- 2 Question 7, the civil party is asked about reparation and it does
- 3 say that he is seeking cattle and an appropriate home, but there
- 4 is no representation that he previously had cattle so he is not
- 5 representing that he lost cattle and lost a house, he is seeking
- 6 cattle and seeking a house.
- 7 [11.25.45]
- 8 MS. GUISSÉ:
- 9 Mr. President, it's 25 past 11.00, so of course I won't be able
- 10 to finish with my questions in five minutes so I would like to be
- 11 clear from the start, it is going to be impossible for me to put
- 12 all the questions I have to put within the next five minutes.
- 13 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 14 And how much time do you anticipate because there is another
- 15 civil party this afternoon? Would it be possible for you to
- 16 conclude at 11.40? So it means we give you another 10 minutes on
- 17 top of the five minutes remaining.
- 18 MS. GUISSÉ:
- 19 Well, Mr. President, I would like to say yes but there are
- 20 certain number of things have been said that lead me to seek
- 21 clarification. So you might note that when we don't have any
- 22 questions, we don't ask many questions but now I need some
- 23 clarification so I cannot guarantee that I will be done by 20 to
- 24 12.00. And here we are actually speaking about substantial
- 25 matters related to the dam and which might be held against my

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- 1 client so I cannot refrain from asking questions. So Mr.
- 2 President, I am sorry I know that I will need the extra time but
- 3 I cannot tell you how much and I need the civil party to clarify
- 4 certain things so 20 to 12.00 seems a little short, so I prefer
- 5 starting and maybe to go over and maybe I will shorten my time
- 6 when it comes to the next civil party. So I would like to be
- 7 clear from the start that I cannot guarantee that I would be done
- 8 by 20 to 12.00.
- 9 [11.27.58]
- 10 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 11 As I said we may be flexible with time this morning because if we
- 12 extend the time for the afternoon session, there are logistical
- 13 issues with transporting staff back into town and also you need
- 14 to consider the health condition of your client, Mr. Khieu
- 15 Samphan, how much time he can sit this morning. If he can
- 16 continue then we can extend this morning's time; if not, we
- 17 adjourn now and resume in the afternoon. However we try not to
- 18 face the same situation as for yesterday's afternoon session.
- 19 MS. GUISSÉ:
- 20 I understand. Well, in that case, given all the elements that you
- 21 brought up, I would prefer starting and finishing at the
- 22 beginning of the afternoon and then I will draw my conclusions
- 23 for what continues.
- 24 [11.29.14]
- 25 MR. PRESIDENT:

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- 1 The Chamber can grant you 15 extra minutes this morning and I
- 2 hope it is not going to affect your client's health and then we
- 3 can continue with the new civil party this afternoon so that it
- 4 does not affect the logistical arrangement -- with the
- 5 transportation of the ECCC staff back to town, as of course, we
- 6 try to avoid the traffic congestion and we don't want to repeat
- 7 what happened yesterday and I think you understand the situation
- 8 well. However you also have to take into account the health
- 9 condition of your client as he needs to have sufficient break
- 10 also for the morning session.
- 11 MS. GUISSÉ:
- 12 I am well aware of that Mr. President, I will not ask for any
- 13 more time I'll do what I can do today but I would have preferred
- 14 to have more time this afternoon even if that means cutting some
- 15 of my questions short. So that said I would like to start now.
- 16 [11.30.36]
- 17 QUESTIONING BY MS. GUISSÉ:
- 18 Q. Mr. Sam Sak, I would like you to clarify a few things. I am
- 19 Anta Guissé, International Co-Counsel for Mr. Khieu Samphan. I
- 20 would therefore like you to clarify a few points regarding what
- 21 you have stated in your testimony. The first point is: For how
- 22 long did you work at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite?
- 23 MR. SAM SAK:
- 24 A. Thank you. I recall that I left the children unit and went to
- 25 work in a mobile unit. I cannot tell you the date of my transfer

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- 1 and relocation. However I recall the time when I attended a
- 2 meeting--
- 3 Q. Excuse me, Mr. Civil Party; I am obliged to cut you short
- 4 because I don't have a lot of time. In your statement
- 5 E319/19.3.10 in response to Question 99, you were asked "For how
- 6 long you worked at the Trapeang Thma dam?" and you said that "I
- 7 worked there probably around 1977". Does that refresh your
- 8 memory?
- 9 [11.32.26]
- 10 A. Yes, that is correct. Yes, in 1977.
- 11 Q. And do you also remember when you left?
- 12 A. I can recall that I went to work at the Trapeang Thma Dam
- 13 worksite in the dry season when I had rice to eat.
- 14 Q. I put this question to you because in the statement I've just
- 15 referred to in question Answer 112, you state that, "I worked
- 16 at the Trapeang Thma worksite from 1977 until the fall of the
- 17 Khmer Rouge regime -- that is, in January 1979". Does this
- 18 refresh your memory and do you confirm what you stated in that
- 19 statement?
- 20 A. My apology; I do not recall the exact date. There was no
- 21 calendar for everyone to know that it was Wednesday, Monday or
- 22 Tuesday, we had to work.
- 23 [11.34.06]
- 24 Q. I'm sorry, Witness; I had to interrupt you I just wanted to
- 25 know whether what I said refreshed your memory or not. You said

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- 1 this morning that you wanted to leave the children's unit in
- 2 order to work in the special unit because you wanted to be able
- 3 to eat rice. Can you tell us under what circumstances you made
- 4 that request and to whom?
- 5 A. Yes, I did make a request to join the mobile unit so that I
- 6 could have rice to eat. It was a terrible situation in the
- 7 children unit having only gruel.
- 8 Q. To whom did you make that request?
- 9 A. I cannot recall it. I do not remember it. I forget it.
- 10 Q. Was that to the chief of the children's unit that you made
- 11 that request?
- 12 A. Yes, perhaps so. The request was made through chief of
- 13 children's unit, Net.
- 14 Q. When you arrived in the special unit, who was your direct
- 15 superior? You said Ta Val was the overall supervisor at the
- 16 worksite, but who was your immediate superior?
- 17 A. I was quite young at that time. I did not know who was my
- 18 group chief or unit chief. I only knew that we were the 17 April
- 19 People in the group. All I knew is that Ta Val was a supervisor
- 20 over all of us.
- 21 [11.37.35]
- 22 Q. A While ago when you were questioned on the composition of
- 23 your unit, you said that it was mainly composed of 17 April
- 24 People and that there were Base People and at least you do recall
- 25 that there were heads of unit who were Base People. Do you

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- 1 remember whether the person who was in charge of supervising the
- 2 group was a man or a woman?
- 3 A. He was a man.
- 4 Q. And was that person a member of the Base People's group?
- 5 A. The 17 April People had different accent so we could make a
- 6 distinction between the Base People and the 17 April People.
- 7 Q. You haven't answered my question. My question was whether that
- 8 person was from the Base People's group?
- 9 A. He was a male, he was a man and he was a Base person; 17 April
- 10 People and Base People had different accent in their speaking.
- 11 [11.39.18]
- 12 Q. Within your group, were there men and women or only men?
- 13 A. There were only men, no women within my group. However workers
- 14 at the site consisted of both male and female. Again, within my
- 15 unit, there were no female at all.
- 16 Q. And you stated that there were youths aged between 16 and 20
- 17 and that you were the youngest, do you know whether some of them
- 18 were married?
- 19 A. Within my group most of them were married men. I called them
- 20 comrade fathers, they were married men. They were older than me
- 21 in terms of age.
- 22 Q. In terms of quotas, you stated this morning that the quota
- 23 that was imposed on you on a daily basis was either three cubic
- 24 metres or two cubic metres. Did I properly understand your
- 25 testimony?

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- 1 A. Yes, that is correct.
- 2 [11.41.10]
- 3 Q. In report E319/27.4.109.1, the ERN in English is 01031297 and
- 4 this is what is stated therein by the person who drafted the
- 5 report -- and I quote in English: "They were assigned to dig five
- 6 cubic metres per day--" My question is as follows: I will start
- 7 all over again because there was no translation in Khmer. My
- 8 question is as follows: Did you tell anyone at any point in time
- 9 that there was a quota of five cubic metres a day?
- 10 A. I do not recall it, I forget it.
- 11 Q. So you don't recall the name of your immediate superior but
- 12 you do recall Ta Val, did you have any personal interactions with
- 13 Ta Val?
- 14 A. You do not need to mention the opportunity that I could
- 15 communicate and talk to Ta Val; I did not dare to look at his
- 16 face. I heard of the name, I heard of his name, I have never seen
- 17 him. Thank you.
- 18 Q. Who checked to make sure that you had met the quota or not on
- 19 a daily basis?
- 20 A. Group chiefs, unit chiefs, they were the ones who verified or
- 21 checked the work quota and then they made the report and if we
- 22 told lies to them, if I told lie to them about the performance
- 23 that I did, I would be in danger. We did not dare to tell lies at
- 24 the time.
- 25 [11.44.23]

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- 1 Q. How were such quotas checked by what means and through whom?
- 2 A. No measurement tape at the time was used. The pole of the hoe
- 3 was used to measure the quota that we completed so no measurement
- 4 tape was used to measure the land that we completed; they used
- 5 the pole of the hoe.
- 6 Q. And regarding your group leader whose name you no longer
- 7 recall, was that the person who was in charge of managing food
- 8 rations and housing?
- 9 A. The group chief was not responsible for the food rations.
- 10 Everyone received the same and equal food ration. However, the
- 11 group chief controlled our working manners and the group chief
- 12 was there to see when we were working, digging the soil, carrying
- 13 the soil.
- 14 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 15 Thank you, Madam Counsel. Lead Co-Lawyer, I notice you are on
- 16 your feet.
- 17 So now it is time for a short break.
- 18 [11.46.28]
- 19 MS. GUIRAUD:
- 20 Thank you, Mr. President. I just want a clarification; I believe
- 21 the counsel made an error when she quoted the report of the
- 22 victim's unit. That report actually has to do with the next civil
- 23 party. It appears she quoted E319/27.1.4.019 in which the figure
- 24 of five cubic metres was indeed mentioned. We do not have that
- 25 information in the victim's possession -- report regarding this

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- 1 particular civil party. I don't know whether she erred and in
- 2 which case perhaps she should give us the right reference.
- 3 [11.47.09]
- 4 MS. GUISSÉ:
- 5 Document is E319/27.4.109/1. It was an error on my part; for this
- 6 reason, there shouldn't be any concern.
- 7 Mr. President, are you trying to say that I have run out of time.
- 8 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 9 I told you that it is now time for a short break so we should
- 10 take break first. I am afraid that you will be on your feet and
- 11 mention about your client's condition that he has no longer been
- 12 able to sit in the courtroom in the morning that is why I adjourn
- 13 the hearing now and we may resume in the afternoon.
- 14 [11.48.10]
- 15 Now it is time for the lunch break. The hearing will continue in
- 16 the afternoon at 1.30. In the afternoon the Chamber will continue
- 17 to hear the responses from civil party, Sam Sak, to questions put
- 18 by the defence counsel for Mr. Khieu Samphan, after which we will
- 19 continue to hear 2-TCCP-994.
- 20 Thank you, Mr. Sam Sak, the hearing of the victim impact
- 21 statement has not yet come to a conclusion so you are invited to
- 22 be here once again in the afternoon at 1.30. You may now be
- 23 excused but you are invited to be here again in the afternoon.
- 24 Court officer, please find a proper room for the civil party
- 25 during the lunch break and please invite the civil party and the

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- 1 TPO staff back into the courtroom at 1.30.
- 2 Security personnel are instructed to bring Mr. Khieu Samphan back
- 3 to the holding cell downstairs and please have him returned into
- 4 the courtroom at 1.30.
- 5 The Court is now in recess.
- 6 (Court recesses from 1149H to 1330H)
- 7 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 8 Please be seated. The Court is now back in session.
- 9 And again the floor is given to the defence team for Khieu
- 10 Samphan to continue putting questions to the civil party, Sam
- 11 Sak. You may proceed, Counsel.
- 12 BY MS. GUISSÉ:
- 13 Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Mr. Sam Sak. This
- 14 morning, you were speaking about the issue of quotas when you
- 15 were addressing the Co-Prosecutors, and you gave an answer that's
- 16 different from the answer that can be found in your WRI,
- 17 E319/19.3.10. And this is the question that was put to you. It's
- 18 question 132: "Did they impose a work quota on the people?" And
- 19 your answer is the following: "The day workers had to transport
- 20 one cubic metre of soil per day with their shoulder pole, but the
- 21 night workers had no quota that they had to meet." End of quote.
- 22 So can you tell the Chamber which version is correct? Was it one
- 23 cubic metre per day during the day, and no quota at night? Or was
- 24 it the two to three cubic metres that you were speaking about
- 25 this morning?

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- 1 MR. SAM SAK:
- 2 A. I said I recall that the work quota for the day work was one
- 3 cubic metre, and for the night shift, no quota was imposed, but
- 4 we had to work until 10 o'clock at night.
- 5 Q. Can you confirm, because apparently the interpreter wasn't
- 6 sure whether it was one cubic metre per day or not?
- 7 A. I think I made a mistake. It was not one cubic metre work
- 8 quota.
- 9 [13.34.03]
- 10 Q. So which version is the correct one, then?
- 11 A. I will stand by the statement of the three cubic metres work
- 12 quota.
- 13 Q. And in your WRI again, you say -- or you make a difference
- 14 between the day and night workers. Can you be a bit more specific
- 15 about that? Can you say how things were organized in that regard?
- 16 A. During the day shift, we worked by quota, and also we worked
- 17 at certain hours. For instance, we started working in the morning
- 18 and rested at 11.00, started again at 1.00. And for the night
- 19 shift, no quota was imposed, but we continued working until 10
- 20 o'clock.
- 21 [13.35.29]
- 22 Q. But in your answer 132, we get the impression that the day
- 23 workers are not the same as the night workers, and that there was
- 24 a rotation. So can you please be more specific about that?
- 25 A. I don't think I made that statement. There was no shift

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- 1 change, no people on rotation basis.
- 2 Q. You indicated, and I wasn't quite clear about this this
- 3 morning and please therefore clarify, you were speaking about the
- 4 kind of work you were doing at the 1st January Dam site. So, as
- 5 soon as you arrived at the worksite, until the end of your stay
- 6 there when the Vietnamese arrived, did you always do the same
- 7 kind of job?
- 8 A. No, it was not the 1st January Dam. It was the Trapeang Thma
- 9 Dam worksite.
- 10 Q. I'm sorry, that's my mistake. Indeed, Trapeang Thma, yes.
- 11 However, my question is the same: did you do the same job from
- 12 day one until the day you left the Trapeang Thma Dam site?
- 13 A. I worked there until the day I ran to look for my other sister
- 14 in Samraong district. So I worked at the Trapeang Thma Dam
- 15 worksite, but allow me to clarify that even by the end of the
- 16 regime, the dam construction was not fully completed. And as I
- 17 said, I worked there in phases: namely, working at the first
- 18 bridge, and later on at the narrow part of the dam.
- 19 Q. My question was: did you do the same kind of job all the time,
- 20 that is to say, carrying earth?
- 21 A. After I completed the work at the dam site, I was assigned to
- 22 work the dry season farming, also near the area of the dam
- 23 worksite. And I worked within the vicinity of the reservoir until
- 24 the day the Vietnamese troops arrived.
- 25 [13.39.29]

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- 1 Q. So therefore I understand that at one point in time, you
- 2 stopped carrying earth, and that you did agricultural work; is
- 3 that so?
- 4 A. Yes, you are correct.
- 5 Q. And at answer 102 in your WRI, you say the following:
- 6 "Initially, because I was young, they had me drive an ox cart to
- 7 deliver firewood for cooking rice for the mobile unit people."
- 8 End of quote. So, is it true as you said to the investigators,
- 9 that when you had just arrived at the Trapeang Thma site, you
- 10 didn't right away work on the dam?
- 11 A. I stated the same thing this morning because initially upon my
- 12 arrival, I was considered a young boy. For that reason I was
- 13 given a task to drive an ox cart to deliver firewood for the
- 14 kitchen.
- 15 O. Is it true as well that the children's unit were not allowed
- 16 to work at the dam site?
- 17 [13.41.28]
- 18 A. Yes, that is correct, because personally, I never saw children
- 19 working at the dam.
- 20 Q. Is it also true that, aside from your group or unit leader, no
- 21 one else was in charge of watching over you?
- 22 A. Yes, that is correct.
- 23 Q. You said, when you were answering the Co-Prosecutor this
- 24 morning, that you saw a Chinese delegation at least arrive, and
- 25 that you attended a meeting. Do you remember if the dam, and the

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- 1 purpose of the dam, was discussed during that meeting?
- 2 A. Yes, they did discuss this matter, and they said that we had
- 3 to try to accomplish the work plan set forth by Angkar. And they
- 4 made that announcement during the anniversary celebration of the
- 5 17 April day.
- 6 [13.43.15]
- 7 Q. And in the speeches you heard that day, was there any
- 8 explanation about the purpose of the dam?
- 9 A. I did not pay much attention, listening to what was announced
- 10 on -- during the meeting, and I can only recall what I have just
- 11 stated.
- 12 Q. This will be my last question now: in your civil party
- 13 application, in your VIF, document E3/5033, at Khmer ERN,
- 14 00562496; you speak about a certain Chau Ny as a witness. So can
- 15 you tell the Chamber who this Chau Ny is, whom we heard as civil
- 16 party in Case 002/01? So can you tell me what kind of kinship
- 17 link you might have with this Chau Ny?
- 18 A. Chau Ny is my elder brother-in-law.
- 19 Q. When you say older brother-in-law, can you specify who is
- 20 married to whom?
- 21 A. When I say that he is my elder brother-in-law, it means that
- 22 he is married to my elder sister.
- 23 [13.45.43]
- MS. GUISSE:
- 25 Thank you for this clarification. Mr. President, I am done. Thank

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- 1 you for the extra time you have granted me.
- 2 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 3 Thank you. And Mr. Sam Sak, the Chamber is grateful of your
- 4 presence, and your statement of harm and suffering that you claim
- 5 you suffered under the Khmer Rouge regime at the Trapeang Thma
- 6 Dam worksite, and you may be excused. And Mr. Sarath, since you
- 7 are still needed to provide support to the upcoming civil party,
- 8 please remain seated as we will have another civil party ushered
- 9 in shortly.
- 10 Court officer, please collaborate with WESU to make arrangements
- 11 for Mr. Sam Sak to return to his residence, and please usher the
- 12 new civil party in -- that is, 2-TCCP-994, for the purpose of the
- 13 presentation statement of harm and suffering.
- 14 (Civil party enters courtroom)
- 15 [13.48.12]
- 16 OUESTIONING BY THE PRESIDENT:
- 17 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Civil Party. What is your name?
- 18 MR. MEAN LOEUY:
- 19 A. Mr. President, my name is Mean Loeuy.
- 20 Q. Thank you, Mr. Mean Loeuy. When were you born?
- 21 A. I was born on 22 December 1954.
- 22 Q. And where were you born?
- 23 A. I was born in Thnal Dach village, Srah Chik commune, Phnum
- 24 Srok district, Battambang province. Currently it is in Banteay
- 25 Meanchey province.

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- 1 Q. What is your current occupation? And what are the names of
- 2 your parents?
- 3 A. At present I am a rice farmer. And my father is Mean Loeuy
- 4 (phonetic), and my mother is Bok Mai (phonetic).
- 5 Q. What is the name of your wife? And how many children do you
- 6 have together?
- 7 A. My wife is Sok Hoeum (phonetic), and we have six children
- 8 altogether: one son and five daughters.
- 9 [13.49.52]
- 10 Q. Thank you, Mr. Mean Loeuy. The Chamber would like to inform
- 11 the Parties and the public that the Chamber has arranged a TPO
- 12 staff to provide support to this civil party during the
- 13 proceedings of hearing his statement of harm and suffering as he
- 14 claimed inflicted upon him during the Democratic Kampuchea
- 15 regime.
- 16 And Mr. Mean Loeuy, as a civil party in this proceeding, you are
- 17 given an opportunity to make your statement of harm and
- 18 suffering, materially, emotionally and physically, which are the
- 19 direct result of the crimes that happened, and the effects
- 20 continue to the present day; and that led you to become a civil
- 21 party in this case; and which are alleged against the two
- 22 Accused, Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan; and which happened between
- 23 17 April 1975 to 6 January 1979, in particular the events that
- 24 happened at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite.
- 25 Per request by the Lead Co-Lawyers, the Chamber will give the

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- 1 floor to the Lead Co-Lawyers to put questions to this civil party
- 2 in relation to his impact statement.
- 3 [13.51.40]
- 4 MR. PICH ANG:
- 5 Thank you, Mr. President. In fact, Mean Loeuy had a toothache
- 6 today, so it might have some impact on his health. For that
- 7 reason, we seek your permission that my lawyer for civil parties,
- 8 Sin Soworn, puts some questions to the civil party.
- 9 [13.52.07]
- 10 MR. PRESIDENT
- 11 Yes, you may proceed in that fashion.
- 12 QUESTIONING BY MS. SIN SOWORN:
- 13 Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon everyone in and
- 14 around the courtroom. My name is Sin Soworn. I am a lawyer for
- 15 civil parties in this Court, and I am also a civil party lawyer
- 16 for Mr. Mean Loeuy. I'd like to put some questions to him
- 17 regarding his emotional, physical, and material suffering as a
- 18 result of crimes committed during the Democratic Kampuchea
- 19 regime, which the effects remained until today. And Mr. Mean
- 20 Loeuy, prior to 17 April 1975, where were you and your family
- 21 living? And what were you doing for a living at that time?
- 22 [13.53.08]
- 23 MR. MEAN LOEUY:
- 24 A. Prior to 17 April 1975, I lived in my village in Srah Chik
- 25 commune, Phnum Srok district, Battambang province. However, in

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- 1 1972 I ordained as a monk in Moni Bo (phonetic) pagoda. I
- 2 remained there for a year, and then I returned to study at Phnum
- 3 Sampov in Battambang province, and for the second year I went to
- 4 study in another pagoda in Preah Netr Preah district.
- 5 Q. Thank you. So you ordained as a monk at Bo (phonetic) pagoda,
- 6 and you ordained in 1972. And did you remain in monkhood until
- 7 1975?
- 8 [13.54.12]
- 9 A. In 1975, I returned from Chol Thearea Sambath (phonetic)
- 10 pagoda to Bo (phonetic) pagoda in Phnum Srok district. And while
- 11 I was still at the pagoda, the Khmer rouge liberated the Phnum
- 12 Srok district. And there were 20 monks still remained in the
- 13 pagoda on that day. The Khmer Rouge soldiers made an
- 14 announcement, asking people in the entire district -- that is,
- 15 comprised of seven communes, to come to a big meeting held in
- 16 that pagoda. And it was crowded, because people from all the
- 17 seven communes attended the meeting. They announced that for
- 18 ranked soldiers of the Lon Nol regime, they should congregate in
- 19 one place, and civilians to gather in another group.
- 20 By about 8 o'clock at night, they announced that they will take
- 21 those ranked soldiers away so that they would be reinstated. And
- 22 for us, we were instructed to leave to the villages, that
- 23 includes the civilians and the monks, through two directions: one
- 24 heading to the north and the other heading to the east. As I was
- 25 still a monk -- actually, at that time we cooked rice in order to

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- 1 prepare for tomorrow, and we started the journey at 4 o'clock in
- 2 the morning, and we stayed at Thnal Dach village for seven days.
- 3 Then we were allowed to return to the pagoda.
- 4 All the monks, including the chief monks, remained at the Bo
- 5 (phonetic) pagoda. And in the morning the Khmer Rouge soldiers,
- 6 who were the messengers of the district chief, came to insist
- 7 that we should leave the monkhood, that we would not be allowed
- 8 to be in monkhood anymore in the near future. But I insisted that
- 9 I want to remain in monkhood because, based on the tradition and
- 10 the religion, that we should be in monkhood for 10 to 15 years in
- 11 order to absorb the knowledge and the Buddhist disciplines. I
- 12 remained a monk from that month of April, and I continued until
- 13 July before I decided to leave the monkhood, although they came
- 14 to urge us to leave the monkhood every single day. And the main
- 15 chief assistants to monks also did not want to leave the
- 16 monkhood.
- 17 [13.57.26]
- 18 And everybody, every monk, had to decide what to do. So on the
- 19 first day, two monks left the monkhood, and the next day, six
- 20 more monks. And it continued until there was no more monks left.
- 21 The monk named Tuy In Brasith (phonetic), who used to stay at
- 22 Battambang still insisted that he didn't want to leave the
- 23 monkhood, as he wanted to search for the Buddhist enlightenment.
- 24 A month later he was sent to Nam Tau village, and he was
- 25 accompanied by two young monks to go. And when two young monks

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- 1 returned, they left the monkhood. And from that day, we did not
- 2 hear about him, but we heard that he was sent to Beng village in
- 3 Oddar Meanchey province. We did not hear from him since, until
- 4 1979 when the country was liberated. And by 1980, a village chief
- $\,$  of Beng village, said that they held a funeral for a monk who was
- 6 sent by the Khmer Rouge to Beng village, and that he was killed.
- 7 And I remember that he was a commune chief during the Khmer Rouge
- 8 regime. So we attended the funeral ceremony at a house near the
- 9 former Khmer Rouge district office, and we were told they heard
- 10 that the Khmer Rouge said that why the monk wanted to remain in
- 11 monkhood? And that the monkhood was beaten by the Khmer Rouge.
- 12 And he heard later that the Khmer Rouge killed that monk. And the
- 13 piece of tool that they beat the monk to death, was later on put
- 14 on his -- where he was buried.
- 15 [13.59.48]
- 16 Q. And after monks were ordered to disrobe, what were they
- 17 assigned to do, and where?
- 18 A. For me, after I left the monkhood, I lived in Thnal Dach
- 19 village. I worked as an ordinary villager, together with other
- 20 local villagers. I was assigned to uproot the tree stumps, to
- 21 work in the rice fields, or to clear termite mounds.
- 22 After we left the monkhood, we were not given any new sets of
- 23 clothes. However, I asked my elder sister to make clothes from
- 24 the Buddhist monk robe that I had. I worked at Thnal Dach
- 25 village. I worked collectively with other villagers. And that

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- 1 happened around late 1976.
- 2 Q. And when were you sent to work at the Trapeang Thma Dam
- 3 worksite?
- 4 [14.01.06]
- 5 A. It was in late 1976, chief of cooperative, Yan, gathered force
- 6 and sent all of us to build the dam at Trapeang Thma worksite.
- 7 People from cooperatives were gathered in large groups, and we
- 8 were sent to work at the dam site. I was part of a 100 person
- 9 unit. Yan was the chief of my unit. My group was working close to
- 10 the Bridge Number 1, and then we were relocated to the north of
- 11 Bridge Number 1, to work on another segment of the length.
- 12 The working conditions were difficult. We woke up in the very
- 13 early morning, and went to work. At 11.00, we were allowed to
- 14 take a very short rest. Then we continued working. For the daily
- 15 quota, we had to complete three cubic metres of soil per day.
- 16 Q. At Trapeang Thma Dam worksite, do you know who was in charge
- 17 of that dam worksite?
- 18 A. I do not know that person clearly. I heard people call that
- 19 individual by the name Val.
- 20 Q. Who divided the work to you to do? And who set the work quota
- 21 for you?
- 22 A. It was the 100 person unit chief.
- 23 Q. Thank you. While you were working at Trapeang Thma Dam
- 24 worksite, were you assigned only to work on the segment close to
- 25 Bridge Number 1, or were you relocated to work on other segments?

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- 1 [14.03.54]
- 2 A. When I was working there, I first started working at Bridge
- 3 Number 1, and I worked from Bridge Number 1 to Pongro. And after
- 4 that, I built the dam from Seim to Kaun Klaeng. Not only 100
- 5 members from my unit were working at that place: people from
- 6 different units joined the work force.
- 7 Q. Did they set the work quota at that time for all of you to
- 8 work?
- 9 A. The work was not normal. We received three cubic metres of
- 10 soil work quota per day.
- 11 Q. Three cubic metres of soil was assigned to you to complete.
- 12 Did you fulfil the work quota? What happened to you if you failed
- 13 to fulfil the work quota at that time?
- 14 A. We had to complete it. If we failed to meet the work quota, we
- 15 were invited to be in criticism and in self-criticism sessions.
- 16 And if we did not deter our mistakes, we would be in trouble.
- 17 Q. What did you mean by saying that you would be in trouble if
- 18 you did not deter your mistakes? Or if you did not meet the work
- 19 quota still?
- 20 [14.06.03]
- 21 A. If we were criticized for a few times, and we still failed to
- 22 meet the work quota, we would disappear, or we would be taken
- 23 away for re-education.
- 24 Q. You stated that people would disappear, and would be sent away
- 25 for re-education. Did you witness someone disappear from your

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- 1 group or unit at that time?
- 2 A. Regarding the disappearances, I did not witness the
- 3 disappearances. People -- some people fell sick. They could not
- 4 go to work. They were accused of having the so-called imaginary
- 5 disease or sickness, and they disappeared the day after, in the
- 6 morning. And there was no information or news concerning the
- 7 disappearance of these people.
- 8 Q. Because of this, you were working hard in order to survive and
- 9 to save your life; is that true?
- 10 A. Yes, that is true.
- 11 Q. Thank you. Regarding food rations, clothes during the time:
- 12 first, I want to know about the food rations. While you were
- 13 working at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite, what was the food --
- 14 what were the food rations like?
- 15 [14.08.08]
- 16 A. While I was working at Trapeang Thma Dam worksite, I did not
- 17 have enough food to eat. Initially, we had cooked rice once in a
- 18 while. Later, we had thick gruel. And we received only a small
- 19 bowl of food ration. We were weak, no strength at all. We were
- 20 afraid. I used to hear people say that monks are worms, sucking
- 21 blood. Monks are leeches, sucking blood. And it was said that we
- 22 had never been educated before, so for this reason I had to bear
- 23 the situation, although I did not have enough food to eat.
- 24 Q. Thank you. While you were working at Trapeang Thma Dam
- 25 worksite, were you happy to work there, in a big and huge

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- 1 worksite?
- 2 [14.09.40]
- 3 A. For me myself, as well as for other workers, we were not
- 4 happy. We were not satisfied with the work there. We followed the
- 5 guideline, the line of Angkar. If we did not follow -- if we had
- 6 not followed, we would have been killed.
- 7 Q. When you were working there, were there any medical staff to
- 8 treat you when you fell sick? Or were there any medicines for
- 9 treatment of sick workers?
- 10 A. When we fell sick, no medics were there to help us. But we
- 11 reported it to our chief, and the medic would come. They would
- 12 come with a bag, and the so-called rabbit dropping pellets were
- 13 given to all of us for any kind of diseases.
- 14 Q. Thank you. You told the Court that there were plenty of
- 15 workers at the dam worksite, including youth, female youth and
- 16 male youth. To your observation, from what you saw, did you
- 17 witness the marriages arranged for the male and female youths at
- 18 Trapeang Thma Dam worksite?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. What about you? Did you get married at Trapeang Thma Dam
- 21 worksite?
- 22 A. I got married during the Khmer Rouge period, while I was
- 23 working at Trapeang Thma Dam worksite. My squad chief, unit
- 24 chief, told me that the marriage would be held for me, and the
- 25 name was released to me. I got married at Bei (phonetic) village

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- 1 -- at Thnal Dach village. There were many couples in the
- 2 marriage: 63 couples. And the couples included Base People and
- 3 evacuees from Phnom Penh. However, we could not -- however, the
- 4 Base People could not marry New People. At that time, I felt -- I
- 5 felt that I was not sure of the one whom I would get married. I
- 6 was a bit afraid. We were told to sit in the middle, and there
- 7 was a table with the flowers on it. There were representatives
- 8 chaired the marriage. Perhaps the representatives were from
- 9 cooperatives, but I'm not quite sure. The marriage was held at
- 10 night, perhaps around 8.00 or 9.00. During that ceremony, they
- 11 announced that today it is the marriage for the 63 couples, so
- 12 all of you have to respect the line of Angkar. And after the
- 13 announcement, we were told to hold each other's hands, and we
- 14 were instructed to make resolution, and to make sure that we
- 15 followed the line, or guideline, of Angkar, and we were told to
- 16 complete and achieve three tonnes of rice per hectare.
- 17 [14.14.51]
- 18 In the marriage, some couples did not know each other in advance,
- 19 and after the marriage they could not even find their spouses. I
- 20 was -- I originated from the rural area. However, I think the
- 21 arranged marriage was not what I wanted.
- 22 We were allowed to rest for seven days, after which we were sent
- 23 to work at an area after Bridge Number 3, to build a dam and dig
- 24 a canal. All the 63 couples were sent to build the dam and dig
- 25 the canal after Bridge Number 3. We were working together.

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- 1 However, the married men had to sleep in different places from
- 2 those of the married men (sic). After we completed building the
- 3 canal, husbands and wives could only meet each other during the
- 4 meal time, because there was a decision that married men and
- 5 women had to sleep in different places. After we completed
- 6 digging the canal, we were relocated to east of Spean Sraeng, and
- 7 we had to work there until National Road Number 6 in Preah Netr
- 8 Preah district.
- 9 While we working in that segment, after we left Trapeang Thma Dam
- 10 worksite, we were allowed to stay together with our spouses.
- 11 I was working in an area from Spean Sraeng to Lieb. It was
- 12 raining. There was a heavy rain one day, and we could not work on
- 13 that day, so our forces were removed back to Trapeang Thma Dam
- 14 worksite.
- 15 [14.17.50]
- 16 Q. Thank you. Regarding the marriage, you stated that you did not
- 17 know your future wife in advance, and the marriage was arranged
- 18 for you. Did you love your future wife at that time?
- 19 A. I have learnt a lot about the virtues, good deeds, and
- 20 whatever that I had to do the good things. So, after the
- 21 marriage, I had to love my wife.
- 22 Q. After the marriage, did you and your wife consummate the
- 23 marriage?
- 24 A. Yes, we did.
- 25 Q. Thank you. Now, do you and your wife live together?

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- 1 [14.19.10]
- 2 A. No. Let me tell the Court. After we left for the cooperative
- 3 to work, I was assigned to do the rice farming in Thum Veal Thum
- 4 (phonetic). During the raining season, my father-in-law was taken
- 5 away to be killed, because he was accused to be in charge of 50
- 6 houses in the former regime -- that is, the Lon Nol regime. So we
- 7 -- we were sent to Kouk Kraol, and male workers were sent to do
- 8 the harvest in a far place, and women workers were allowed to
- 9 work in a place close by. In 1977, there was a chaos, or a
- 10 chaotic situation. People were not satisfied with the regime. At
- 11 that time people from the villages were evacuated, and to live
- 12 close to streams and rivers. At that time my aunts and my
- 13 relatives, we went to find our family members. I did not know at
- 14 that time the situation was chaotic, and I was harvesting rice in
- 15 a far place.
- 16 In the evening, my aunts and my relatives, 13 of them were sent
- 17 Phnum Srok district hall. When I returned from work in the
- 18 evening, I was told that your relatives had gone to Anlong Thom
- 19 (phonetic) to look for your family members. I did not believe in
- 20 that statement at that time. I said I had to go, too. And I --
- 21 afterwards left and followed them.
- 22 When I arrived at Kbak (phonetic), I was told that my family
- 23 members and relatives had been arrested, and sent to Phnum Srok
- 24 district hall. At that time, I really wanted to go and search for
- 25 them, because I knew that the word 'arrest' means dead. At that

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- 1 time, I really wanted to look for them, but my remaining family
- 2 members stopped me from going.
- 3 [14.22.53]
- 4 And they said that if I went alone, then it was not good for me.
- 5 I had to go with female relatives. At that time, I arrived in one
- 6 place, and my relatives were also looking for my family members
- 7 who had been arrested. All my relatives, 13 of them, had been
- 8 sent to the north side and killed. The two-year-old child was not
- 9 spared. His or her life was not spared. Only one among the 13
- 10 relatives could survive the period.
- 11 My neighbours -- my neighbours told me that my family members and
- 12 relatives had been taken away and killed. Among the 13 relatives,
- 13 one was my wife. I did not know whether at that time she was
- 14 pregnant. And one sibling of my wife was also among them. Aunts,
- 15 two elder brothers and four relatives. And as I stated, there was
- 16 a two-year-old -- there was one two-year-old child, and a
- 17 five-year-old child among them. The children's throats were cut.
- 18 [14.25.21]
- 19 In the morning, my neighbours in Phnum Srok district helped me to
- 20 leave the place, to the forest (inaudible). Then I reached the
- 21 cooperative, and I was asked where I was going. I replied I went
- 22 to look after my sick relative. I was clever at that time. I
- 23 noticed there was a messenger on a horse. At that time three of
- 24 us, I with two other colleagues, were returning to the
- 25 cooperative.

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- 1 The cooperative chief -- the cooperative chiefs and other people
- 2 were trying to shoot us behind. We were trying to run and escape.
- 3 My younger brother, who was among the 13 people who had been
- 4 taken away, could make an escape. He broke the line -- the rope
- 5 which was tied to his hand. I feel lost. I feel unhappy. Everyone
- 6 in this world wants to leave. I was trying to make an escape, to
- 7 leave Spean Sraeng, and I made my way and reached Siem Reap.
- 8 Q. Thank you. Could you tell the Court about your suffering? In
- 9 particular, your wife, your aunts, relatives, niece and nephews
- 10 who lost their lives. Could you express your suffering, how you
- 11 feel today?
- 12 [14.28.01]
- 13 A. It has been over 30 years. I have never forgotten the
- 14 suffering even a brief moment -- even for a brief moment.
- 15 Although I remarried a new wife and had six children, I still
- 16 love and miss my wife. I hold Buddhist ritual to commemorate my
- 17 wife's -- my former wife's soul annually. The Angkar at that time
- 18 was known as the leap great forward Angkar, but people were
- 19 killed like animals.
- 20 Let me add here: after I returned from Siem Reap, I went -- I
- 21 went to see the dead body of my family members and relatives. I
- 22 could see the children, whose throats were cut, and their bodies
- 23 remained at the place. Twelve bodies I found at that place. I,
- 24 together with the religious people or achar at the time, held a
- 25 ceremony and buried the corpses, after I found those corpses.

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- 1 Q. Thank you. Now, I would like to know whether you have any
- 2 questions to put to the Accused through the President of the
- 3 Chamber.
- 4 [14.30.03]
- 5 A. I have a request and proposal through Mr. President. I ask the
- 6 Chamber to sentence the Accused to life, and place them in the
- 7 dark prison. And I'd like to request for reparation, as I
- 8 declared it through my lawyer. And I'd like to put the questions
- 9 to the Accused through the President of the Chamber. Nuon Chea
- 10 and Khieu Samphan were leaders of the Democratic Kampuchea
- 11 regime, and during the period from 17 April 1975 to 6 January
- 12 1979, you cut off all communications with outsiders, and with
- 13 overseas countries. Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan stated that
- 14 during the regime, you had eyes, as many as apples' eyes. How
- 15 come you didn't see the suffering of the people, and people were
- 16 starved to death? And why people were forced to marry in a flock,
- 17 like cattle? And why you forced people to marry, and later on you
- 18 separated them from one another?
- 19 [14.31.52]
- 20 MS. SIN SOWORN:
- 21 Thank you, Mr. Civil Party. Mr. President, I don't have any
- 22 further questions to be put to the civil party. Thank you.
- 23 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 24 Thank you. And I noticed that Kong Sam Onn is on his feet. You
- 25 may proceed, Counsel.

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- 1 MR. KONG SAM ONN:
- 2 Thank you. I'd like to make a brief observation regarding the
- 3 questions by the civil party; that he requests to put my clients
- 4 into a life imprisonment in the dark dungeon. And that is not
- 5 according to the existing law and procedure. Thank you.
- 6 [14.32.38]
- 7 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 8 Mr. Civil Party, the Chamber wishes to inform you that after
- 9 ascertaining the position of both Accused on 8 January 2015,
- 10 regarding the exercise of their right to remain silent, the
- 11 Chamber notes that the two Accused maintain their express
- 12 position unless and until such time the Chamber is expressly
- 13 informed otherwise by the Co-Accused or their Counsels. It is
- 14 therefore incumbent upon them to inform the Chamber in a timely
- 15 and efficient manner, should the Accused resolve to waive their
- 16 right to remain silent and be willing to respond to questions by
- 17 the Bench or relevant Parties at any stage of the proceedings. As
- 18 of today, the Chamber is not informed that the Co-Accused have
- 19 changed their express position and thus agreed to provide their
- 20 responses to questions. And for that reason, the Chamber is not
- 21 in a position, legally speaking, to compel the Accused to respond
- 22 to your questions.
- 23 It is now appropriate to take a short break. We'll take a break
- 24 now and return at 10 to 3.00.
- 25 Court officer, please assist the civil party in the waiting room

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- 1 for civil parties and witnesses, and invite him, as well as the
- 2 TPO staff, back into the courtroom to continue proceedings in
- 3 relation to the statement of harm and suffering, at 10 to 3.00.
- 4 The Court is now in recess.
- 5 (Court recesses from 1434H to 1451H)
- 6 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 7 Please be seated. The Court is now back in session.
- 8 And the floor is given to the Co-Prosecutors to put questions to
- 9 this civil party if you have any. You may proceed.
- 10 [14.52.12]
- 11 QUESTIONING BY MR. FARR:
- 12 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Mr. Civil Party. My
- 13 name is Travis Farr and I am a lawyer for the Prosecution, and I
- 14 just have a few questions for you. I want to start by asking you
- 15 something about your first wife.
- 16 Q. You told us that you had consummated your marriage and you
- 17 said that at the time she died you didn't know whether she was
- 18 pregnant or not. Did you ever learn later whether she was
- 19 pregnant at the time she was killed?
- 20 MR. MEAN LOEUY:
- 21 A. The fact that I did not know whether she was pregnant or not
- 22 because during the time that we were together, we were not
- 23 together every day, because sometimes I was allowed to receive
- 24 her once a month so I did not know whether she was pregnant.
- 25 [14.53.28]

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- 1 Q. Did you ever learn, following her death, whether she had been
- 2 pregnant at that time or did you never -- never learn that one
- 3 way or the other?
- 4 A. No, I did not learn anything new.
- 5 Q. I'd like to ask you now about your emotional condition when
- 6 you were working at the Trapeang Thma Dam. Can you tell us what
- 7 your emotional condition was? Were you happy, were you sad, were
- 8 you fearful? What emotions did you feel in that period of your
- 9 life?
- 10 A. I never feel happy after that. I actually missed my late wife.
- 11 I missed the times that we were together although it was for a
- 12 brief period of time but it was the happiest time that I had with
- 13 her as a husband and wife.
- 14 Q. And, focusing now on your time as a worker at the Trapeang
- 15 Thma Dam, at that time did you believe that you were going to
- 16 survive the DK period?
- 17 [14.55.20]
- 18 A. During the time that I stayed at the Trapeang Thma Dam
- 19 worksite I could not ever imagine that I could survive. Every
- 20 morning when I opened my eyes I knew that I lived for another day
- 21 and I could not possibly know what would happen the next day. We
- 22 kept saying to one another that if we lived through the day we
- 23 might not survive during the night and we only looked forward to
- 24 one day at a time.
- 25 Q. And was that fear something that you were able to forget to

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- 1 time -- from time to time when you were working? Or was that fear
- 2 something that was with you on a more or less continual basis?
- 3 A. There was never a single day that I felt happy. The concerns
- 4 and the worries and the fear stayed with me every time.
- 5 [14.]
- 6 Q. And what about in your life today, how often do you think
- 7 about -- about that period of your life? How many times per month
- 8 or week or day do you recall it?
- 9 A. Until the present time the memory is still vivid in my mind
- 10 and when I attend any religious ceremony that feeling subdues
- 11 slightly. I try meditation and without such intervention the
- 12 feeling remains with me every day.
- 13 Q. I want to ask you about something you said about
- 14 disappearances. You mentioned first that people who failed to
- 15 meet their work quota a few times would sometimes disappear, but
- 16 you also mentioned that people who couldn't work because of
- 17 illness would sometimes disappear. And my question is did you
- 18 ever hear the phrase "to keep them is no gain, to kill them is no
- 19 loss" in reference to either of those groups of people?
- 20 A. Yes I heard that phrase.
- 21 Q. Who did you hear speak those words? Who used that phrase?
- 22 A. It was the unit chief group who said that.
- 23 Q. And did he say it on just one occasion or did he say it on a
- 24 regular basis?
- 25 [14.59.35]

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- 1 A. Every time when there were more sick workers he said that
- 2 phrase.
- 3 Q. And do you recall where it was that you heard him say that?
- 4 Was it in your sleeping quarters, at the worksite, at a meeting?
- 5 Where were you physically when you heard him say that?
- 6 A. I heard him saying that at the worksite.
- 7 Q. I think you mentioned criticism and self-criticism meetings.
- 8 Could you tell us a little bit more about that? Who was in charge
- 9 of them, who ran them, who spoke, what did they say?
- 10 A. For criticism and self-criticism meetings, it was the unit
- 11 chief who called us to the meeting. For instance, in a group of
- 12 10 workers, and if we could not complete the work quota that day
- 13 we as a group would be called to attend such as meeting and we
- 14 were criticized for being not self-mastery and that we have to
- 15 strive harder to be more active. And they warned us that if you
- 16 keep doing that then you should be mindful of the Angkar's phrase
- 17 -- that is, "to keep is no gain and to kill is no loss". And upon
- 18 hearing that we were so afraid.
- 19 [15.01.44]
- 20 Q. Did you ever hear anyone talking about enemies of Angkar or
- 21 enemies of the revolution when you were at the Trapeang Thma Dam
- 22 worksite?
- 23 A. Regarding enemies. For instance, earth carrying baskets and
- 24 hose has to be kept in good place. If one basket was lost one
- 25 individual would be accused of being an enemy. The same applies

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- 1 to the hoe if we broke the hoe.
- 2 Q. And can you tell us who was keeping track of all of these
- 3 things, of your -- whether you achieved the work quota, whether
- 4 equipment was lost, whether equipment was broken? Who was
- 5 monitoring that?
- 6 A. It was the unit chief who checked the equipment and the unit
- 7 chief would go around and monitor the tools whether the baskets
- 8 were broken, the hoes were broken. The unit chief would go around
- 9 and check.
- 10 Q. And what about investigation into peoples' backgrounds, into
- 11 who they had been and what they had done before the DK regime.
- 12 Were you ever aware of any sort of investigation into those
- 13 matters being carried out?
- 14 [15.03.58]
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Were you ever aware of any district militiamen being present
- 17 at the dam worksite?
- 18 A. I have never seen them, I do not know about that.
- 19 Q. Did you ever learn about any workers attempting to escape from
- 20 the worksite?
- 21 A. I do not know about that.
- 22 Q. And what about beatings or any other form of physical
- 23 violence? Did you ever witness any physical violence or beating
- 24 at the worksite?
- 25 A. No.

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- 1 Q. Was your work -- were you primarily involved in digging earth
- 2 or carrying earth or did you do both?
- 3 [15.05.32]
- 4 A. I was the one who carried the dirt.
- 5 Q. And are you able to estimate for us how far it was from the
- 6 place where the earth was dug to the place where you had to
- 7 deposit it?
- 8 A. Regarding the segment at Bridge Number 1, I heard the unit
- 9 chief say about the distance. It was about 100 metres from the
- 10 middle of the road to Bridge Number 1, and when we dumped the
- 11 dirt and make the dam from time to time the height of the dam was
- 12 getting higher and higher so we had to work hard and use to our
- 13 strength to move up on the dam and dump the earth.
- 14 Q. And do you have any way of estimating how much each load of
- 15 earth that you carried would weigh?
- 16 A. I could not give the estimate of the weights.
- 17 Q. I just want to ask you quickly about your working hours. You
- 18 discussed that a little bit before. But can you give us an idea
- 19 of the time you started, the time you stopped for lunch, the time
- 20 you began after lunch, the time you stopped in the evening and
- 21 then the shift you worked at night, just to the extent you are
- 22 able to?
- 23 [15.07.55]
- 24 A. Regarding working hours, in the morning we had to arrive at
- 25 the worksite to dig the earth when the sun rose. We took a short

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- 1 break at 11.00 and we resumed work at 1.00 in the afternoon. We
- 2 continued from working from 1.00 until 5.00 p.m. after which we
- 3 had another short break.
- 4 Q. And after that other short break, what were the working hours
- 5 after that?
- 6 A. Concerning night shift, we started from perhaps 6.00 p.m.
- 7 There was no clock no watch for us to watch -- to see the time. I
- 8 think it was -- we started night shift from 6.00 until 10.00. At
- 9 that time, the part of the dam was broken so we had to on an
- 10 offensive to fix and repair the dam. In my area, annually during
- 11 September, the flood situation was high and we had to work hard
- 12 to build the dam and try to block the water from breaking the
- 13 dam.
- 14 Q. Sir, my -- my last question. You've told us about food, hard
- 15 work, long hours, fear. Can you tell us what was the most
- 16 difficult aspect of your time at the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite?
- 17 What was the hardest for you from a physical and emotional
- 18 perspective?
- 19 [15.10.47]
- 20 A. Mentally and physically the work was hard for me because I had
- 21 to carry dirt in extremely huge work quota. My back was almost
- 22 bent because of the hard work so in terms of mentally and
- 23 physically situation it was very hard.
- 24 MR. FARR:
- 25 Thank you for answering my questions, Mr. Civil Party. Thank you,

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- 1 Mr. President, no further questions.
- 2 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 3 Thank you. The floor is now given to the defence teams for the
- 4 Accused. You may first start counsel for Mr. Nuon Chea. You can
- 5 now put questions to this civil party.
- 6 [15.11.56]
- 7 QUESTIONING BY MR. KOPPE:
- 8 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Mr. Civil Party. I have
- 9 a few questions that I would like to put to you. You just
- 10 answered a question from the Prosecution that you, while at the
- 11 dam, never saw anyone being beaten. Did you ever watch anybody
- 12 being killed while at the dam?
- 13 A. No, I did not.
- 14 Q. Did you ever see somebody get hurt or wounded because he or
- 15 she was involved in an accident?
- 16 A. No, I did not.
- 17 Q. Did you ever see anybody get arrested while you were working
- 18 at the dam?
- 19 A. No, I did not.
- 20 Q. Did you ever get disciplined by your unit chief or beaten
- 21 physically?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 [15.13.37]
- Q. Did you ever fall sick while working at the dam?
- 25 A. Yes.

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- 1 Q. What happened?
- 2 A. I had a high temperature and a fever.
- 3 Q. And when you felt these symptoms, what did you do? Did you ask
- 4 leave to stop working and lie down?
- 5 A. When I -- whenever I fell sick, I told my unit chief. He would
- 6 allow me to rest.
- 7 Q. Did any of your workers -- any of the workers in your unit get
- 8 sick, subsequently stay sick and then have to go to the hospital
- 9 to recover?
- 10 A. No, I did not witness such incidents.
- 11 Q. Have you ever heard whether workers who got sick and who
- 12 didn't recover could ask to be put on an ox cart to go to the
- 13 district hospital to get better?
- 14 A. No, I have never heard.
- 15 [15.15.47]
- 16 Q. Have you ever seen somebody die, not because he or she was
- 17 killed, but because of exhaustion at the dam worksite?
- 18 A. No, I did not.
- 19 Q. Just -- Just now you were asked a question by the Prosecution
- 20 about a saying or proverb "to keep you is no gain to lose you is
- 21 no loss". You said that you had heard this that your unit chief
- 22 had said this a few times. Can you explain why it was that he
- 23 said this but at the same time allowed you on few occasions to
- 24 lie down when you were sick and get better?
- 25 A. It was because I was regular at work. Whatever work I was

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- 1 assigned to do I always did it so the chief would allow me to
- 2 take rest when I fell sick once in a while.
- 3 Q. So maybe it wasn't clear to me but to whom was your unit chief
- 4 referring then when he was using this saying, "to keep you is no
- 5 gain" etc.? Who did he mean?
- 6 [15.17.55]
- 7 A. In the meetings this slogan was announced so that everyone
- 8 could hear.
- 9 Q. I understand but who did you think at the time did he have in
- 10 mind when he was using this proverb?
- 11 A. It was general speech or slogan for everyone in the meetings.
- 12 So the slogan was referred to everyone in general.
- 13 Q. What -- What did it mean to you to you at the time when you
- 14 heard it? What was your understand what he meant with it?
- 15 A. The so-called slogan or proverb was no -- "to keep you is no
- 16 gain to lose you is no loss", one who did not follow the
- 17 guidelines of Angkar, would be taken away and kill -- and killed.
- 18 This is my understanding.
- 19 Q. I see. You just also spoke about working when it was dark
- 20 between 7.00, 6.00 or 7.00 and 10.00 p.m. Was night work
- 21 occasional, once in a while when an offensive was needed or was
- 22 it regularly?
- 23 A. It was not permanent work for us to do. It was -- It happened
- 24 only when we were told to be on an offensive.
- 25 [15.20.45]

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- 1 Q. Did the woman that you married and that you spoke about
- 2 earlier work at the dam site as well?
- 3 A. No, she was not working at the dam site.
- 4 Q. What about any of her relatives, any of her 13 relatives who
- 5 -- whom you said they were killed any of them work at the dam
- 6 worksite?
- 7 A. Yes, some of them worked at the worksite.
- 8 Q. Who were Ret and Oeun?
- 9 A. Oeun was the district chief. As for Ret he was the militia man
- 10 at the district level.
- 11 Q. Did Ret and Oeun have any position at the dam worksite did
- 12 they -- were they unit chiefs or were they in any commanding
- 13 function?
- 14 A. I did not see them at that time.
- 15 [15.22.49]
- 16 Q. In your civil party application, Mr. Civil Party, D22/1934,
- 17 you hold both Ret and Oeun responsible for the harm and for the
- 18 crimes. What exactly are they responsible for?
- 19 A. When my family members and relatives had been arrested, the
- 20 two individuals has to responsible for the arrest because they
- 21 were militia man and unit chief. And I was told that my family
- 22 members and relatives had been arrested under the responsibility
- 23 of the two individuals.
- 24 Q. Did the arrest of your wife and your family members have
- anything to do with their work on the dam?

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- 1 A. At the time, it was when the rice was almost harvested.
- 2 Q. So, I'm not sure if I understand correctly but does it mean,
- 3 or are you implying that the arrests had nothing to do with some
- 4 of them working at the dam?
- 5 A. The arrests had nothing to do with the work at the dam
- 6 worksite. I told the Court already they had been arrested when
- 7 they were harvesting rice. And, I was told that my wife and her
- 8 family members had been arrested and placed at the district hall.
- 9 Q. In the additions to -- in addition to Ret and Oeun, you also
- 10 hold late King Father Norodom Sihanouk for the crimes because as
- 11 you said he created the Khmer Rouge. What exactly do you mean
- 12 with that?
- 13 [15.26.09]
- 14 A. On this point, at that time, there was an appeal from the late
- 15 king father to encourage children to go into the maquis or
- 16 jungle, and after which there was Khmer Rouge. And after the
- 17 appeal, we noticed that the Khmer Rouge took control of the
- 18 country and the late King Father was one of the victims as well
- 19 of the regime, although he made the appeal -- the appeal.
- 20 MR. KOPPE:
- 21 Thank you, Mr. Civil Party. Thank you, Mr. President.
- 22 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 23 Thank you. Now the floor is given to the defence team, the
- 24 defence team for Mr. Khieu Samphan. You may now proceed.
- 25 [15.27.16]

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- 1 QUESTIONING BY MS. GUISSÉ:
- 2 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Civil Party. I have
- 3 some brief questions to put to you as counsel for Mr. Khieu
- 4 Samphan. We have several documents in our possession; these are
- 5 reports including your civil party application. And, I would like
- 6 to know as you mentioned a number of persons who helped you to
- 7 fill your application, you stated today that the quota applied at
- 8 Trapeang Thma Dam worksite was three cubic metres a day.
- 9 Q. Isn't that what you stated?
- 10 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 11 Please hold on Mr. Civil Party. Lead Co-Lawyer, you may now
- 12 proceed.
- 13 MS. GUIRAUD:
- 14 Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to make a very brief
- 15 clarification because I am not sure that all the Parties
- 16 understand how the report of the victim's unit was drafted. In
- 17 fact it was someone in the victims unit who did a synthesis of
- 18 information in the civil party's application in Khmer. But when
- 19 that report was prepared there was no interaction between the
- 20 staff member of the victim's unit and the civil party, it was
- 21 simply a summary of the civil party application in Khmer since
- 22 the original document was the civil party application in Khmer
- 23 and the victim's unit simply did a summary of the contents in
- 24 English.
- 25 [15.29.14]

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- 1 MS. GUISSÉ:
- 2 Thank you for this clarification. In document E3/4889 which is
- 3 the victim's information sheet that was filled out, we find on
- 4 that document a number of points regarding what you said when you
- 5 filled out that form. My question therefore is to know whether
- 6 (inaudible) French 00895211 and in Khmer it is 005404546 (sic)
- 7 and in English 01061251.
- 8 Q. It is stated on this document that you did say that there was
- 9 a quota of five cubic metres, so my question is whether this is
- 10 an error in this document, or you have always said as you did
- 11 during these proceedings that the quota was three cubic metres?
- 12 [15.30.40]
- 13 A. I made mention about the three cubic metres of soil that I had
- 14 to do.
- 15 Q. Thank you for this clarification. Another point of
- 16 clarification now. You said to my colleague that the death of the
- 17 members of your family had no link with the Trapeang Thma Dam. So
- 18 can you confirm that it is in 1979 that you learned of their
- 19 deaths -- that is to say, after the Vietnamese had arrived?
- 20 A. The death of my family members was known to me since the day
- 21 they had been arrested. However, it was my younger relative who
- 22 told me after 1979, that my wife had been, her throat had been
- 23 slashed and killed and that he had survived. In fact that
- 24 information was learned in late 1978, and not in 1979.
- 25 MS. GUISSÉ:

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- 1 Thank you for this clarification. I have no further questions,
- 2 Mr. President.
- 3 [15.32.23]
- 4 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 5 Thank you. Today's hearing has come to an adjournment and the
- 6 Chamber will adjourn the proceedings now and resume tomorrow --
- 7 that is, 3rd September 2015. And for tomorrow's proceedings we
- 8 will hear the key document debates in relation to those dams and
- 9 worksites as scheduled. It will be proceeded first by the
- 10 Co-Prosecutors and the Lead Co-Lawyers for civil parties.
- 11 And Mr. Mean Loeuy the Chamber is thankful for your time and your
- 12 statement of harm and suffering that you claim you suffered under
- 13 the Democratic Kampuchea regime at the Trapeang Thma Dam
- 14 worksite. And you may be excused. And Mr. Yourn Sarath the TPO
- 15 staff, the Chamber is grateful of your support as well, and you
- 16 also are excused.
- 17 Court officer, please make an arrangement with WESU for the civil
- 18 party to return to his residence or wherever he wishes to go to.
- 19 Security personnel you are instructed to take the Accused back to
- 20 detention facility and have them returned to attend today's
- 21 proceedings tomorrow prior to 9 o'clock in the morning.
- 22 The Court is now adjourned.
- 23 (Court adjourns at 1533H)

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