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

អត្ថខ្ញុំខ្យុំខ្មុះសាលាដ៏មុខ

Trial Chamber Chambre de première instance

ព្រះពសាលាចក្រុងម្ដ ស សង្គ សាសលា ព្រះមហាត្យត្រ

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

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TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS PUBLIC

Case File Nº 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC

30 January 2012 Trial Day 23

Before the Judges: NIL Nonn, Presiding

Silvia CARTWRIGHT

YA Sokhan

Jean-Marc LAVERGNE

YOU Ottara

THOU Mony (Reserve)

Claudia FENZ (Reserve)

Trial Chamber Greffiers/Legal Officers:

DUCH Phary Matteo CRIPPA

Natacha WEXELS-RISER

The Accused: NUON Chea

IENG Sary KHIEU Samphan

Lawyers for the Accused:

SON Arun

Michiel PESTMAN

ANG Udom

Michael G. KARNAVAS

KONG Sam Onn Arthur VERCKEN

Lawyers for the Civil Parties:

For the Office of the Co-Prosecutors:

SENG Bunkheang Dale LYSAK VENG Huot

For Court Management Section:

KAUV Keoratanak

PICH Ang

Élisabeth SIMONNEAU-FORT

SIN Soworn Barnabé NEKUIE HONG Kimsuon TY Srinna Philippine SUTZ

Olivier BAHOUGNE

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

INDEX

THE ACCUSED, MR. NUON CHEA	
Questioning by Mr. Lysak resumes	page 1
Questioning by Mr. Seng Bunkheang	page 31
MS. PRAK YUT (TCW-542)	
Questioning by Ms. Sutz resumes	page 56
Questioning by Mr. Pestman	page 69
Questioning by Judge Cartwright	page 79

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

List of Speakers:

Language used unless specified otherwise in the transcript

Speaker	Language
MR. ANG UDOM	Khmer
JUDGE CARTWRIGHT	English
MR. KARNAVAS	English
MR. KONG SAM ONN	Khmer
JUDGE LAVERGNE	French
MR. LYSAK	English
THE PRESIDENT (NIL NONN, Presiding)	Khmer
MR. NUON CHEA	Khmer
MR. PESTMAN	English
MS. PRAK YUT (TCW-542)	Khmer
MR. SENG BUNKHEANG	Khmer
MS. SIMONNEAU-FORT	French
MR. SON ARUN	Khmer
MS. SUTZ	French
MR. VERCKEN	French

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 (Court opens at 0904H)
- 3 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 4 Please be seated. The Court is now in session.
- 5 For this morning's hearing, the Trial Chamber will resume
- 6 questioning the accused Nuon Chea, as scheduled in the letter to
- 7 the parties dated 27 January 2012.
- 8 Security guards, you are instructed to bring Nuon Chea to the
- 9 dock.
- 10 Court officer, please make sure that his earphone is in good
- 11 condition.
- 12 [09.07.48]
- 13 This morning, the Chamber will resume questioning the accused
- 14 Nuon Chea.
- 15 The Chamber would like to remind the Prosecution you only have
- 16 this morning session. So make sure that you adhere to the time
- 17 allocation.
- 18 We now hand over to the Prosecution.
- 19 QUESTIONING BY MR. LYSAK RESUMES:
- 20 Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. Nuon Chea, when we were last
- 21 questioning you, we were talking about the subject of cities and
- 22 towns in Cambodia and what happened there when they were
- 23 liberated in the 1972 to 1974 time period.
- 24 So I'd like to return now to a few general questions about the
- 25 Party's policy.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Do you recall whether in that time period, 1972 to '73, whether
- 2 there were any disagreements between the Party leaders as to
- 3 whether or not to abolish private property?
- 4 [09.09.43]
- 5 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 6 A. Good morning, Mr. President. Good morning, my compatriots.
- 7 As I recall-- My apology, Your Honour, I forget; what question is
- 8 it?
- 9 Q. Were there any Party leaders, in the 1972 or 1973 time period,
- 10 who were not in favour of abolishing private property?
- 11 [09.10.37]
- 12 A. As I recall, there was no abolition of private property. There
- 13 was the issue concerning land, but people can keep their own
- 14 private property, as in regards of lent land, so we distributed
- 15 to assist those living in the cooperative.
- 16 $\,$ Q. Let me read to you a statement from the February to March 1976
- 17 "Revolutionary Flag". It contains the following statement --
- 18 quote:
- 19 "In mid-1972, the Party announced an emergency regarding petty
- 20 bourgeoisie class stances and capitalism class stances inside the
- 21 Party. This was the opening stage of the struggle within the
- 22 Party by going on a profound offensive."
- 23 Continuing later: "The Party did not just fight within the Party,
- 24 the Party also fought in the society by opening a stage of
- 25 education to prepare the pre-conditions to establish the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 cooperatives."
- 2 This is from document D243/2.1.3 at English ERN 00517844, French
- 3 ERN 00492790, Khmer ERN 00063228.
- 4 So my question to you, Mr. Nuon Chea, is simply whether you
- 5 recall, in the 1972 period, there being an emergency because the
- 6 Party leadership viewed that there were people within the Party
- 7 who maintained capitalist and petty bourgeoisie class stances. Do
- 8 you recall that?
- 9 [09.12.54]
- 10 A. Mr. President, that was the affairs of the government. As for
- 11 my cadres regarding the Party, we were involved in education. I
- 12 was not involved in the administrative process.
- 13 Q. Is it correct, Mr. Nuon Chea, that, in mid-1973, the Party
- 14 decided to begin implementing cooperatives in the liberated
- 15 territories?
- 16 A. Mr. President, at that time, cooperatives were not yet
- 17 organized. In fact, the first time it was the association for
- 18 rice production was established. There was also other
- 19 associations to assist one another in the form of the
- 20 associations that they were established. And later on, when those
- 21 associations expanded, cooperatives were gradually formed that
- they were called the "low-level cooperatives".
- 23 [09.14.39]
- 24 Q. There are numerous Party documents, Mr. Nuon Chea, that refer
- 25 to the 20th of May 1973 as the birth date on which the Party

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 started to implement cooperatives. Do you recall-- Is there some
- 2 significance to the date of 20 May 1973?
- 3 A. Mr. President, I cannot recall.
- 4 Q. When is it that you recall that cooperatives were first
- 5 established?
- 6 A. Cooperatives were not immediately organized throughout the
- 7 country. In the area where the mass organization already formed
- 8 -- various forms of associations -- the cooperatives in those
- 9 areas were gradually formed. So it was not a systematic
- 10 establishment of cooperatives. For that reason, it is difficult
- 11 to know the exact year where cooperatives were in -- were formed.
- 12 And they were formed from the countryside area, not in the towns
- 13 or cities.
- 14 [09.16.29]
- 15 Q. What was the Party's reason for forming and organizing
- 16 cooperatives?
- 17 A. The Party decided to form cooperatives and they were first
- 18 'low-level cooperatives' in order to gather the people to work
- 19 collectively and not to work individually as it was a waste of
- 20 time and force. For instance, if 50 families worked individually,
- 21 then there would be a waste of rice for those families. However,
- 22 if they were to work collectively, ate rice collectively, then
- 23 they will be saved of both food and the labour force.
- 24 Q. Who was it that made the decision to implement cooperatives?
- 25 Was that a decision of the Standing Committee or the Central

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Committee?
- 2 A. It was the decision of the Standing Committee. However, they
- 3 listened to the low-level or middle-level peasants before they
- 4 made their decision. So if the masses agreed to that, then the
- 5 decision was formed and cooperatives were established.
- 6 [09.18.24]
- 7 Q. I'd like to read to you from a Party circular that is entitled
- 8 "Third Year Anniversary of the Organization of Peasant
- 9 Cooperatives, 20th May 1973 to 20th May 1976".
- 10 This is document D366/7.1.61, which is before the Trial Chamber
- 11 as E3/50. That document contains the following statement --
- 12 quote:
- 13 "In 1972 to '73, the Party took measures to organize the people
- 14 based on political consciousness in view of thwarting the
- 15 economic power of landowners and capitalists, cut off private
- 16 trading, control traders, dismantle the former means of
- 17 production, establish new ones and organize cooperatives. Chief
- 18 among the measures was the organization of cooperatives. It
- 19 consisted of attacking the power of the classes of the
- 20 feudalists, landowners, and capitalists." End of quote.
- 21 This is from English ERN 00636009, French ERN 00623783 and Khmer
- 22 ERN 00442209. My question to you, Mr. Nuon Chea, is whether the
- 23 implementation of cooperatives was part of the Party's political
- 24 attack against landowners and feudalists?
- 25 A. The organization of cooperatives, as I just stated, was not my

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 involvement or my affairs, as I was in the education under the
- 2 Party. As far as I know, cooperatives were established in order
- 3 to improve the livelihood of the people and to gather the people
- 4 together and not to forge a force to attack this class or that
- 5 class, besides the reactionary's group that we fought against.
- 6 [09.21.17]
- 7 As for the ordinary landowners, they conceded to join the
- 8 cooperatives.
- 9 Q. Mr. Nuon Chea, did you not educate Party cadres in various
- 10 regions as to how to organize cooperatives?
- 11 A. In regards to the organization of cooperatives, it was not
- 12 under my responsibility. I educated people in the establishment
- 13 of various forms of associations. Cooperatives were organized by
- 14 the government.
- 15 [09.22.12]
- 16 Q. When you say "the government", who are you referring to?
- 17 A. That is the Democratic Kampuchea government. Were you
- 18 referring to the period of to 1972 or 1973? Because at that time
- 19 the country was not yet liberated, the country was still under
- 20 the administration of Sangkum Reastr Niyum.
- 21 Q. Yes, Mr. Nuon Chea, but at that time, a substantial part of
- 22 the country was under the control of the Khmer Rouge. In the
- 23 areas that you controlled in 1973, did you not begin to implement
- 24 cooperatives at that time?
- 25 A. To my knowledge, the sector committees and secretaries at that

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 time started to educate people. As I stated earlier, the
- 2 awareness by the people, in particular those in the rural area,
- 3 was not sufficient. They did not fully understand yet how the
- 4 cooperatives were to be established. They knew about the
- 5 establishment of a various organizations or associations and the
- 6 process was gradual.
- 7 [09.24.00]
- 8 Q. All right. Let me move to another area, Mr. Nuon Chea. Could
- 9 you tell the Chamber what Son Sen's role was during the period
- 10 from 1973 to April 1975? Did he have any role in relation to the
- 11 military?
- 12 A. I cannot recall that, Mr. President. However, he was member of
- 13 the Standing Committee.
- 14 Q. How often were you present in Phnom Penh between 1972 and the
- 15 17th of April 1975?
- 16 A. During that period, I partly stayed in Phnom Penh and partly I
- 17 went to the countryside. I did not fully stay in Phnom Penh.
- 18 Q. When was the last time that you were in Phnom Penh, prior to
- 19 the capture and liberation of the city by CPK forces on the 17th
- 20 of April 1975? When was the last time before that that you were
- in Phnom Penh?
- 22 A. Mr. President, as I recall, I went for education of people in
- 23 the East.
- 24 [09.26.27]
- 25 Q. My question to you, Mr. Nuon Chea, was: When was the last time

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 you were in Phnom Penh prior to the 17th of April 1975?
- 2 A. As I just said, 17 April 1975 was the liberation day. I was
- 3 also in Phnom Penh.
- 4 I was at Stung Chinit River.
- 5 Q. Okay. You've just told us that you were at the Stung Chinit
- 6 River on the 17th of April 1975. My question is: When was the
- 7 last time you were in Phnom Penh before then?
- 8 A. Is your question that did I leave Phnom Penh when the
- 9 Vietnamese entered? What is your question, actually?
- 10 Q. Let me try it another way, Mr. Nuon Chea: Did you spend any
- 11 time in Phnom Penh in January 1975, February 1975 or March 1975,
- 12 the months leading up to the capture of Phnom Penh by the Khmer
- 13 Rouge on 17th of April?
- 14 [09.28.42]
- 15 A. Mr. President, I do not really understand the question. Please
- 16 make your question shorter for me to understand.
- 17 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 18 I noticed the defence counsel is on his feet. You may proceed.
- 19 MR. SON ARUN:
- 20 Mr. President. Good morning, everyone. As I listen to the
- 21 question-answer session, I think there might be issue of
- 22 interpretation. I could -- I myself could not fully understand
- 23 the question, and regarding my client, he is older than me, so it
- 24 is rather difficult for him to comprehend.
- 25 Can the question please be short and the interpretation shall not

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 be too fast for him?
- 2 [09.29.52]
- 3 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 4 Thank you for the remark by the defence counsel.
- 5 Once again, the Trial Chamber would like to remind the
- 6 International Co-Prosecutor to make your questions short and easy
- 7 to understand. If you have an explanatory statement in your
- 8 question, it is rather confusing for the Accused.
- 9 And also, for the interpreter, please make sure it is slow and
- 10 clear.
- 11 So, please, you can put the question again, Mr. International
- 12 Co-Prosecutor.
- 13 [09.30.40]
- 14 BY MR. LYSAK:
- 15 Q. My question is very simple, Mr. Nuon Chea: Were you present at
- 16 any time in Phnom Penh, in January, February or March 1975?
- 17 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 18 A. Mr. President, in early May 1975, Vietnamese troop invaded the
- 19 coastal area that is in Kampot. That was on the 8th of May. They
- 20 invaded our territory near the Tay Ninh province. After such an
- 21 invasion, we fled ourselves to the border area near Thailand.
- 22 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 23 Please put the question again to the Accused. Could you please
- 24 make your question clearer? It seems that the Accused cannot
- 25 fully understand your question as the date in his reply is not to

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 the date that you put in your question.
- 2 Your question was for the period between January and April 1975,
- 3 but his response was in already -- is in May, and which involves
- 4 a separate effect.
- 5 [09.32.51]
- 6 BY MR. LYSAK:
- 7 Q. Okay. Thank you, Mr. President. I'll try one more time.
- 8 My question was not in relation to the period after 17 April of
- 9 1975, but before. Do you remember being present in Phnom Penh
- 10 between January and April 1975?
- 11 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 12 A. During that period, I was in Phnom Penh.
- 13 Q. Now, in your testimony, on the 14th of December 2011, you
- 14 stated that, during the period Mr. Ieng Sary was in Beijing, he
- 15 came back to Cambodia every five or six months.
- 16 My question to you is: Can you tell the Chamber how many times
- 17 Mr. Ieng Sary returned to Cambodia in 1973 and 1974? Do you
- 18 recall how many times he came back to Cambodia during that time
- 19 period?
- 20 [09.34.20]
- 21 A. If my memories serves me well, he returned to Cambodia around
- 22 twice or so, if I remember correctly.
- 23 Q. What were the two occasions that you remember Ieng Sary
- 24 returning to Cambodia in 1973 or 1974?
- 25 A. To the best of my recollection, once he accompanied the prince

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 to visit Siem Reap Province. But, on another occasion I did not
- 2 remember the exact date.
- 3 Q. Am I correct, then, that, in relation to the second or the
- 4 other time that Ieng Sary returned, you don't recall the specific
- 5 time period it was when he came back to Cambodia? Is that
- 6 correct?
- 7 A. I cannot recall it well because my task and responsibility
- 8 were different. As I informed you earlier, that Pol Pot told me
- 9 precisely that the -- I can leave the intellectuals to
- 10 themselves. As for me, I should confine myself to my own
- 11 responsibilities so I should be responsible for education because
- 12 the situation has changed significantly. So I should not focus on
- 13 those intellectuals and I did not pay attention to where they go
- 14 and their whereabouts at all. I was actually focusing on
- 15 education per se.
- 16 [09.36.55]
- 17 Q. Okay. Now, I'd like to ask you a few more questions about some
- 18 of the towns or cities that were liberated by CPK forces prior to
- 19 the 17th of April 1975.
- 20 When we broke last time, a passage from a "Revolutionary Flag"
- 21 was read to you that described the practice of seizing the people
- 22 and one of the examples that was given was in relation Banam
- 23 Town.
- 24 Let me just read to you again the statement from the December
- 25 1976 to January 1977 "Revolutionary Flag" which said the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 following regarding the liberation of Banam in 1973 quote: "We
- 2 took everyone in Banam town, expelling the ethnic Vietnamese, the
- 3 ethnic Chinese, the military, the police. We took everyone,
- 4 drying up the people from the enemy." End of quote.
- 5 And this is document D243/2.1.9 at Khmer ERN 00063040, English
- 6 00491424, and French 00504049.
- 7 Can you tell us -- first of all, where was Banam located?
- 8 A. I never -- I have never heard of Banam.
- 9 Q. What about Oudong? The same issue of "Revolutionary Flag"
- 10 contained the following statement about Oudong quote: "We
- 11 liberated Oudong in 1974. We pulled out all the people."
- 12 Do you -- can you tell the Chamber whose military forces were
- involved in the capture of Oudong in 1974?
- 14 [09.39.32]
- 15 A. Mr. President, I do not remember which military force actually
- 16 led to the capture of Oudong because I was not responsible for
- 17 military. I had nothing to do with military affairs.
- 18 Pol Pot and Son Sen were solely responsible for military affairs.
- 19 Q. Do you know what was done with the residents of Oudong after
- 20 the city was captured by the Party's military forces in 1974?
- 21 A. Mr. President, we simply evacuated the people in order that
- 22 they can cultivate rice to feed themself because in Phnom Penh
- 23 there was a serious shortage of food since 1973. That's why we
- 24 gathered people to establish cooperatives and those cooperatives
- 25 would be significant in generating foods to feed the people. This

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 is what I can remember.
- 2 [09.41.07]
- 3 Q. Well, in a speech he gave in North Korea in early April 1974,
- 4 Khieu Samphan described the attack on Oudong as follows -quote:
- 5 "On 18 March, our People's National Liberation Armed Forces
- 6 liberated another city, Oudong, by annihilating all the puppet
- 7 soldiers there along with the reinforcements. In other words,
- 8 over 5,000 enemies were eliminated, 1,500 of whom were captured."
- 9 End of quote.
- 10 This is document IS 12.7 at English ERN 00280586, French ERN
- 11 S00000122, and Khmer ERN 00596141.
- 12 Mr. Nuon Chea, are you able to tell the Chamber what was done
- with the 1,500 enemies who were captured in Oudong?
- 14 A. Mr. President, I think on that particular issue, the question
- 15 should be directed to Mr. Khieu Samphan. I have no knowledge of
- 16 it at all.
- 17 Q. Well, Oudong was near the Party base in Kampong Tralach
- 18 district, Peam commune, that you've -- we've discussed before.
- 19 Did the Party have military bases and security offices in that
- 20 region in 1974?
- 21 [09.43.00]
- 22 A. Your Honours, I do not know anything about this particular
- 23 issue.
- 24 Q. Mr. Nuon Chea, the September to October 1976 "Revolutionary
- 25 Flag", which is document D243/2.1.7 at Khmer ERN 0063095, English

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 ERN 00450531, and French ERN 00491897-- That issue of
- 2 "Revolutionary Flag" contains the following statement-quote:
- 3 "When we evacuated the people from the cities, we carried out
- 4 class struggle". End of quote.
- 5 Can you explain to the Chamber how you were carrying out class
- 6 struggle by evacuating people from cities?
- 7 A. Mr. President, I do not remember the class struggle, but what
- 8 I remember is that we encourage people to work in cooperatives so
- 9 that we can generate food to feed ourselves.
- 10 And as for the struggling against classes in the society, I was
- 11 not aware of that matter because I was in charge of education and
- 12 (unintelligible) a principle by which we are supposed to adhere.
- 13 For example, we must not we must not involve ourselves in
- 14 gambling, womanizing and we have to restrict ourselves not to
- 15 exercise our power in violation of other people's rights.
- 16 [09.45.28]
- 17 Q. Thank you, Mr. Nuon Chea. Now, I would like to turn to some
- 18 questions regarding the decision of the Party to evacuate Phnom
- 19 Penh.
- 20 You stated in your testimony, on the 13th of December 2011, that
- 21 the decision to evacuate Phnom Penh was made in a -- quote --
- 22 "series of meetings". You have so far described one of those
- 23 meetings, a mid-1974 Extraordinary Meeting of the Central
- 24 Committee.
- 25 Can you identify for the Chamber the other meetings in that

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 series of meetings which decided on the evacuation of Phnom Penh?
- 2 A. Mr. President, I do not remember.
- 3 Q. Do you recall any other meetings, other than the mid-1974
- 4 Extraordinary Meeting of the Central Committee, that discussed
- 5 the evacuation of Phnom Penh?
- 6 A. Mr. President, to my recollection the meeting was first held
- 7 in 1960 and at that time there was no evacuation plan and there
- 8 was a subsequent meeting in 1963 and then 1971, then 1973, and
- 9 1978. So the meetings of this kind have been held five times, to
- 10 my recollection.
- 11 [09.47.46]
- 12 Q. Okay. But, Mr. Nuon Chea, I'm asking about -- specifically
- 13 about the decision to evacuate Phnom Penh and you previously
- 14 described in detail a mid-1974 Extraordinary Meeting of the
- 15 Central Committee where that decision was made. Do you recall
- 16 that meeting, Mr. Nuon Chea? Yes or no?
- 17 A. Can you indicate the year, Mr. Prosecutor?
- 18 Q. Yes, 1974. Was there an Extraordinary Meeting of the Central
- 19 Committee in mid-1974 that made the decision to evacuate Phnom
- 20 Penh?
- 21 A. To my recollection, yes, there was meeting, because at that
- 22 time we learned that the Senate of the -- the U.S. Congress
- 23 adopted a law not to finance the bombardment of Cambodia. So Lol
- 24 Nol administration was actually sort of a support from the U.S.
- 25 and food as well. So, at that time, the meeting was held and we

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 decided that people be evacuated temporarily.
- 2 Q. And trying to pinpoint exactly when that meeting took place,
- 3 there is a statement in the September 1977 "Revolutionary Flag"
- 4 that reads as follows quote:
- 5 "It was during this situation when our Party's Central Committee,
- 6 in the course of its June 1974 conference, resolved to mount the
- 7 decisive offensive to liberate Phnom Penh and the entire
- 8 country."
- 9 And that is from document D43/2.1.12 at Khmer ERN 0063162,
- 10 English 00486247, and French 00492836.
- 11 Was the time of the meeting that you have described, when the
- 12 decision was made to evacuate Phnom Penh -- was that a meeting
- 13 that took place in June 1974?
- 14 [09.50.55]
- 15 A. It was as what I described just now.
- 16 Q. Do you recall where it was that the meeting of the Central
- 17 Committee that decided to evacuate Phnom Penh? Do you recall
- 18 where that meeting was held?
- 19 A. To my recollection, meeting was held somewhere along Chinit
- 20 River.
- 21 Q. How long did the meeting last?
- 22 A. To my recollection, the meeting lasted for three days.
- 23 Q. And how many people attended the meeting?
- 24 [09.52.30]
- 25 A. Mr. President, I do not remember, but there were

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 representatives from the zone -- they have they sent
- 2 representative from all zones to attend that meeting.
- 3 Q. Can you identify for the Chamber, the people, the names of the
- 4 people who attended that meeting other than yourself?
- 5 A. If I recall it correctly, Pol Pot, myself, Nuon Chea, Ta Mok,
- 6 So Phim, Koy Thuon. That's all I can remember.
- 7 Q. Would you agree that you cannot remember all of the people who
- 8 attended that meeting, Mr. Nuon Chea?
- 9 A. Yes, I do. Oh, Son Sen as well. Son Sen also participated.
- 10 Q. Do you remember in 1974, a delegation from China coming to
- 11 Cambodia to do a film about the liberated zone? Do you have any
- 12 recollection of that, Mr. Nuon Chea?
- 13 A. Mr. President, I do not remember. I did not have any contacts
- 14 with them because that was the task of the Ministry of Foreign
- 15 Affairs; they took charge of it.
- 16 [09.55.13]
- 17 Q. Thank you. You have described to the Chamber how food
- 18 shortages in Phnom Penh were a major reason for the 1974 decision
- 19 of the Central Committee to evacuate Phnom Penh. I wanted to ask
- 20 you, though, about residents of Phnom Penh who had sufficient
- 21 food and who wanted to remain in their homes in the city.
- 22 Why was it that the Central Committee did not allow them to stay
- in Phnom Penh?
- 24 A. Mr. President, of course, if there were sufficient foods, then
- 25 it would have been better to stay in Phnom Penh.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Because at that time, to the best of my recollection, even Lon
- 2 Nol administration was facing the food shortage, and because they
- 3 were short of support from the external allies, and they actually
- 4 were facing a calamity in the country as well, in terms of the
- 5 food shortage. So those who were residing in Phnom Penh were the
- 6 gangsters or others which we could not fully control.
- 7 [09.57.01]
- 8 Q. Well, when the Central Committee made its decision to evacuate
- 9 Phnom Penh, Mr. Nuon Chea, did it allow any people to stay in
- 10 Phnom Penh or was the decision that all residents of Phnom Penh
- 11 were to be evacuated?
- 12 A. To my recollection, a committee was established in order to
- 13 carry out the evacuation, and this committee was chaired by Son
- 14 Sen, and it comprised of the members of the zones, like Koy Thuon
- 15 and others. So this committee was the one who were responsible
- 16 for evacuation.
- 17 Q. I understand that there was a committee established. When the
- 18 Central Committee though made its decision in mid-1974, was the
- 19 decision to evacuate all residents of Phnom Penh?
- 20 A. That's correct, but on a temporary basis because we follow-up
- 21 the situation, because at that time there were conflicts. But I
- 22 -- if I elaborate on that, it's going to be long winded, because
- 23 when we liberated Phnom Penh, the Vietnamese forces liberated
- 24 later. But actually the Vietnamese forces infiltrated in Phnom
- 25 Penh already.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [09.59.20]
- 2 And at that time there were a Mayaguez marines enter the water
- 3 territories somewhere in Koh Tang Island. So we at that time
- 4 thought that if there was war in Phnom Penh, it would be
- 5 disastrous because there would be many casualties. So we were
- 6 facing two important situations: one is the looming wars that is
- 7 likely to take place, and the second difficulty was the food
- 8 shortage. So we decided to evacuate people from the city. So that
- 9 was our viewpoint at that time.
- 10 And if the U.S. decided to wage war against Cambodia at that
- 11 time, so we can question as to what the situation be in Cambodia
- 12 if Vietcong entered Cambodia or infiltrated Cambodia. So the
- 13 situation was that difficult in Cambodia because there was
- 14 pressure from the U.S., there was pressure from the neighbouring
- 15 country, from Vietcong, and others. So the situation was quite
- 16 confusing.
- 17 Q. Well, because the Central Committee decided that all residents
- 18 were to be evacuated, that meant that sick people and patients in
- 19 hospitals were also to be evacuated from Phnom Penh; is that
- 20 correct?
- 21 A. Everyone was evacuated, so those people who were strong, they
- 22 needed to help the poor and those who have the cars or the
- 23 "pousse" karts that can assist those who did not in order to
- 24 leave Phnom Penh.
- 25 Q. How many hospitals were there in Phnom Penh in 1974, Mr. Nuon

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Chea?
- 2 A. I cannot recall. What I can recall is that there were
- 3 Khmer-Soviet friendship hospital. There were also state
- 4 hospitals, but I cannot recall the exact numbers of those
- 5 hospitals.
- 6 Q. When the Central Committee made its decision to evacuate all
- 7 residents of Phnom Penh, did you make any effort to determine how
- 8 many hospitals there were in Phnom Penh? And how many patients
- 9 were in those hospitals?
- 10 A. We did not think about that, Mr. President. How could we think
- 11 about that? Because the situation was dire. At that time, when
- 12 Phnom Penh was liberated, Son Ngoc Thanh actually went to
- 13 Vietnam, to South Vietnam, two months earlier and when Phnom Penh
- 14 was liberated, Chan Raingsey took some of his troops to Thailand.
- 15 So, for the Central Committee, and for the situation in Phnom
- 16 Penh -- is that the Standing Committee held the view that the
- 17 U.S. would never allow any other force of enemies to capture a
- 18 city, and if we were allowed to capture the city, that could be a
- 19 trick by the U.S.
- 20 And if we were attacked by the U.S., then the Vietcong would not
- 21 be standing idle. They would also join in attacking us because
- 22 they failed bad as Phnom Penh was liberated, before the
- 23 liberation of South Vietnam.
- 24 [10.04.28]
- 25 Even if the South of Vietnam was liberated and if we could not

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 capture Phnom Penh, we would lose everything. That would be the
- 2 opinion of the Vietnamese leaders at the time.
- 3 Q. Mr. Nuon Chea, were there any members of the Standing or
- 4 Central Committee who disagreed with the decision to evacuate
- 5 Phnom Penh?
- 6 A. As far as I recall, there was no disagreement. Everyone agreed
- 7 to the evacuation.
- 8 Q. After the mid-1974 meeting of the Central Committee where this
- 9 -- where the decision was made to evacuate Phnom Penh, did you
- 10 participate in any more meetings regarding the evacuation of
- 11 Phnom Penh, or was that the last meeting that you participated in
- 12 on that subject?
- 13 A. I cannot recall, Mr. President; the event took place a long
- 14 time ago.
- 15 Q. At the same mid-1974 meeting of the Central Committee that
- 16 you've described, did the Central Committee at that same meeting
- 17 also discuss enemy infiltration of the Party and make a decision
- 18 not to allow any new members to join the Party?
- 19 A. At that time, there were a huge numbers of enemies. Let me
- 20 give you an example. Before the liberation and even during the
- 21 liberation in the Kratie area, there were some soldiers who
- 22 organized themselves in Kampong Thom with the commander named
- 23 Vong Vattana (phonetic). They planned to attack in that area, but
- 24 they were opposed by the people. As for Son Ngoc Thanh, they
- 25 organized their soldiers from the South Vietnam with the aim to

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 attack us. So that was events during the period.
- 2 [10.07.48]
- 3 And as in Phnom Penh itself, if people were not completely
- 4 evacuated, those people who responded to the appeal by the Prince
- 5 to go to the forest. Not all of them were good elements. There
- 6 were some bad elements, like Kao Tak, Hul Vong Anupheap
- 7 (phonetic), and others. So the situation at that time was so
- 8 confusing and the situation was rather chaotic.
- 9 And as for the Misear Tum -- So there were multi-parties
- 10 movements at the time. They act under the pretext of the
- 11 revolution, but in fact they robbed people of their money and
- 12 people -- if people did not give them money, then they would be
- 13 killed.
- 14 [10.09.10]
- 15 If the if Mr. Prosecutor were in Phnom Penh at that time, you
- 16 would clearly understand the situation, and what I said is based
- on my knowledge as I myself was not in Phnom Penh.
- 18 Q. Because of the concerns regarding enemies, is it correct that
- 19 the Central Committee decided both to close the doors to any new
- 20 members in the Party and also to conduct internal purges in 1974?
- 21 Is that correct, Mr. Nuon Chea?
- 22 A. As I recall, in mid-'74 the door was not closed. However,
- 23 people were selected to join the Party. As for the opportunists
- 24 -- that is, those so-called revolutionary opportunist -- they
- 25 infiltrated the Party in large number, in particular during the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 period of the appeal by the Queen to go to the forest. So the
- 2 situation was complicated at the time, and the U.S. bombers were
- 3 dropping dropping bombs in Cambodia for 200 days and nights
- 4 ,and a lot of Cambodian people died as a result. That is all, Mr.
- 5 President, regarding this event.
- 6 [10.11.29]
- 7 Q. Let me read to you, Mr. Nuon Chea, from the February to March
- 8 1976 issue of "Revolutionary Flag", which is document D243/2.1.3
- 9 at Khmer ERN 00063229, English ERN 00517844 through 517845, and
- 10 French ERN 00492790. That issue contains the following statement
- 11 quote:
- 12 "In early 1974, there were many problems with the enemy
- 13 conducting pacifist agent activities, which damaged a number of
- 14 our troops, our state authorities, our male and female
- 15 combatants, and our cooperative committees. Since the proletarian
- 16 stance of the Party was not yet solid, the enemy was able to bore
- 17 holes from within our ranks."
- 18 Continuing on the same page quote: "The Party assessed the
- 19 situation and decided to close the door to the Party and the core
- 20 organizations. Along with this, there were internal purges." End
- 21 of quote.
- 22 [10.12.51]
- 23 Do you recall, Mr. Nuon Chea, that in 1974, one of the groups of
- 24 Party cadres who were purged were the Party leaders from Koh Kong
- 25 province?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

24

1 A. Mr. President, I can recall some of those events, but I cannot

- 2 recall everything.
- 3 The complicated events at that time was in the East Zone, not in
- 4 Koh Kong province. In the East Zone, the situation at the time
- 5 was that there was Chan Chakrey, who was a rebellious leader, and
- 6 Vietnamese were populated everywhere in the East. There were, as
- 7 I recall, roughly 250,000 enemies residing in the East. And the
- 8 food supply was also an issue due to the sheer number of these
- 9 people who came to stay in Cambodia and consume our own food.
- 10 In Cambodia, some people paid gratitude to the Vietnamese, but in
- 11 fact it was Cambodia who assisted the Vietnamese to give them
- 12 shelter and refuge in Cambodian territory. At that time, the U.S.
- 13 were bombarding the Vietnamese territory and they had to find a
- 14 place to take refuge. I put question to Nguyen Thi Dinh, the lady
- 15 commander of the front soldiers, when she came to meet with So
- 16 Phim. I asked her of her purpose of her visit and she responded
- 17 that she would ask for the permission for the soldiers to stay as
- 18 they could not have any place to stay in Vietnam as -- due to the
- 19 bombardments and the rubber trees' leaves were falling off and
- 20 they had no place to hide.
- 21 [10.15.40]
- 22 And for them, the transportation, for instance, of fuel were made
- 23 through Rattanakiri from Ho Chi Minh. I refer to the fuel
- 24 assisted by the Chinese government at the time.
- 25 So when it comes to the struggle of the Kampuchean revolution, we

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 indeed assisted the Vietnamese a great deal.
- 2 The Vietnamese leaders, at the time, since the 1960s, were mainly
- 3 based in Kampuchean territory. For instance, Le Duan, Nguyen Van
- 4 Linh, Hy Chau (phonetic), etc. They were stationing to the south
- 5 of Yukanthor College. They were not staying in Vietnam.
- 6 [10.16.42]
- 7 But people who did not know the real situation said that
- 8 Vietnamese assisted Kampuchea a lot. But in fact it was the
- 9 opposite and I'd like to take this opportunity to mention this
- 10 fact, although it's a little bit off what we are talking today,
- 11 my purpose is for our people to understand the real nature and
- 12 ambition of the Vietnamese people. And even if we assisted them
- 13 to that level, they still at the international stage said that
- 14 they assisted us. It was the opposite in fact.
- 15 Q. Mr. Nuon Chea, do you remember a leader from the Koh Kong
- 16 region named Prasith, alias Chong?
- 17 A. I heard of the name. It's "Prasith", not "Proseth".
- 18 Q. And can you please tell the Chamber what happened to him in
- 19 1974?
- 20 A. As I know, along the way he was ambushed by the bandits. He
- 21 was actually, at that time -- was with Ta Mok at the Southwest.
- 22 He was called by Ta Mok, but when he was walking in the forest he
- 23 was ambushed by the bandits and some people died as a result.
- 24 That's what I hear at the time.
- 25 Q. All right, Mr. Nuon Chea.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [10.18.46]
- 2 In your opening statement, you mentioned a base or office called
- 3 B-5 that was located near Peam commune. Can you tell the Chamber
- 4 what B-5 was?
- 5 A. I cannot really recall well. B-5 was actually office belonging
- 6 to Pol Pot.
- 7 Q. When was that office established?
- 8 A. It was during the time they prepared to attack Phnom Penh. Pol
- 9 Pot stationed there.
- 10 Q. Who, other than Pol Pot, was located at the B-5 Office?
- 11 A. There was nobody else, as I recall. There were those people
- 12 from the zone who went to report to him. The place I saw was
- 13 possibly a secret place and there were only himself and some
- 14 guards.
- 15 [10.20.28]
- 16 As I said earlier, that was querrilla warfare so we had to be
- 17 vigilant, secretive in order to succeed. If we reveal ourselves
- 18 and the locations, then we would be attacked by the enemy.
- 19 Q. Did you ever attend any meetings at the B-5 Office?
- 20 A. I recall that I did not actually have any meeting there, but
- 21 once in a while, yes, I went to -- I went there to meet with Pol
- 22 Pot.
- 23 Q. Khieu Samphan has stated, in his interview with the
- 24 Co-Investigating Judges, that, after Phnom Penh was liberated on
- 25 the 17th of April 1975, he travelled with you and Pol Pot from

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Pol Pot's headquarters, west of Oudong, to Phnom Penh.
- 2 How did you travel to Phnom Penh? Is it correct that you
- 3 travelled with Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea?
- 4 A. Mr. President, I cannot recall that event. As I said earlier,
- 5 the situation at that time was chaotic.
- 6 Q. So am I correct that you don't remember whether you came to
- 7 Phnom Penh from the B-5 Office or whether you came from Steung
- 8 Chinit? Is that correct, Mr. Nuon Chea?
- 9 A. Could you please rephrase your question?
- 10 Q. Yes. Do you remember whether, when you travelled to Phnom Penh
- 11 after its liberation, on the 17th of April 1975 -- did you come
- 12 from the Steung Chinit river or did you come from the B-5 Office?
- 13 [10.23.20]
- 14 A. As I remember, I was from Steung Chinit at the time.
- 15 Q. Last area that I want to ask you about at this time, Mr. Nuon
- 16 Chea. One of the documents that has been put before this Chamber,
- 17 which is case file number D108/43/1, which is before the Trial
- 18 Chamber as E3/117, is a public statement that was signed and
- 19 issued on the 26th of February 1975 by Khieu Samphan as chairman
- 20 of the FUNK National Congress. That statement identified seven
- 21 traitors from the Khmer Republic regime, including Lon Nol, Sirik
- 22 Matak, Long Boret, and it declared it quote "absolutely
- 23 necessary to kill these seven traitors for their treason". End of
- 24 quote.
- 25 [10.24.32]

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Now, you've told Judge Lavergne, on the 14th of December 2011,
- 2 that you heard references to the seven Lon Nol super-traitors
- 3 through radio broadcasts.
- 4 My question for you is whether you agreed with the call for the
- 5 execution of those seven leaders of the Lon Nol regime.
- 6 A. Mr. President, I was not aware of that. I only heard it
- 7 through the radio broadcast and I did not know who made such an
- 8 announcement, either Khieu Samphan or somebody else.
- 9 Q. Did you agree that those seven leaders of the Lon Nol regime
- 10 were traitors and should be executed?
- 11 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 12 (No interpretation)
- 13 MR. PESTMAN:
- 14 Your Honours, before my client answers the question, I would like
- 15 to object, if I'm allowed.
- 16 [10.26.15]
- 17 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 18 Defence Counsel, can you clearly state ground for your objection?
- 19 MR. PESTMAN:
- 20 I would like the Prosecution to be more specific. Whether my
- 21 client agrees is irrelevant and also vague.
- 22 My client already said, as he was not aware of the order were
- 23 just given or the decision which may have been taken to kill
- those people.
- 25 Maybe the prosecutor can simply ask whether my client was there

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 when the decision was taken or whether he was informed at the
- 2 time of this decision.
- 3 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 4 Thank you, Counsel, for your grounds for the objection.
- 5 [10.27.02]
- 6 Any response from the Co-Prosecutor regarding the objection
- 7 raised by Nuon Chea's defence?
- 8 BY MR. LYSAK:
- 9 Q. Well, Mr. Nuon Chea has indicated that he heard of this matter
- 10 through radio broadcasts.
- 11 As a member of the Standing Committee, I would like to know
- 12 whether he had a view or position on whether the seven
- 13 super-traitors should be executed.
- 14 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 15 A. I would not know of that announcement. I only heard it through
- 16 the radio broadcast, as I was involved in only education, and
- 17 this is the affairs of the military.
- 18 Q. Can you tell us, Mr. Nuon Chea, whether the Standing or
- 19 Central Committee issued any statements or instructions regarding
- 20 those seven traitors from the Lon Nol regime?
- 21 [10.28.25]
- 22 A. Mr. President, I do not know about that.
- 23 Q. Am I correct, then, that the Standing and Central Committee
- 24 did not publicly renounce the statement calling for the execution
- of the seven Lon Nol traitors? Is that correct?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 A. As I said, Mr. President, I only heard this announcement
- 2 through radio broadcast and I believe the message also heard the
- 3 announcement by the radio and not everybody knew about those
- 4 people. As I recall, at that time Lon Nol already fled.
- 5 Q. I understand from your answer then, that the Standing and
- 6 Central Committee did not renounce the call for the execution of
- 7 the seven Lon Nol traitors. Is that correct?
- 8 A. Whether it is correct or not, it is -- I do not know about
- 9 that.
- 10 [10.30.03]
- 11 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 12 The time is now appropriate for a break. The Chamber will take a
- 13 20-minute break, and we shall resume after that.
- 14 I notice defence counsel is on his feet. You may proceed.
- 15 MR. ANG UDOM:
- 16 Thank you, Mr. President. Due to health reasons, Mr. Ieng Sary
- 17 cannot sit and he would seek permission that he waives his rights
- 18 to participate in the proceeding in the holding cell, downstairs,
- 19 for the entire day, today.
- 20 [10.30.45]
- 21 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 22 We heard the request by Ieng Sary through his defence counsel to
- 23 waive his right to follow the proceeding directly in the
- 24 courtroom and that he shall follow the proceeding in the holding
- 25 cell, downstairs.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 The Chamber grants the permission so that he can participate in
- 2 the proceeding in the holding cell, downstairs.
- 3 The Chamber would like to instruct the defence counsel to deliver
- 4 immediately the letter of -- the waiver letter and the letter
- 5 shall be signed or fingerprinted by the accused Ieng Sary. And
- 6 for the audiovisual section, please connect the proceedings to
- 7 the facility downstairs, in the holding cell, for the entire day
- 8 proceeding.
- 9 And security guards are instructed to bring Ieng Sary to the
- 10 holding cell, downstairs, so he can follow the proceeding.
- 11 We now take a break.
- 12 (Court recesses from 1032H to 1053H)
- 13 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 14 Please be seated. The Court is now back in session.
- 15 We hand over the floor to the Prosecution to continue putting
- 16 questions to the Accused. You may now proceed.
- 17 [10.54.18]
- 18 OUESTIONING BY MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 19 Q. Thank you, Mr. President. My first question concerns document
- 20 document E148.
- 21 I would like to ask the Accused to clarify certain points
- 22 relating to this document. And I have got this document printed
- 23 and I want it to be present to the Accused so that I can ask some
- 24 relevant questions to this document.
- 25 May I seek leave from the Chamber to present this document --

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 hard copy document to the Accused? I have printed them in both A3
- 2 and A4 paper, so that they are convenient for the Accused to
- 3 read.
- 4 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 5 Court officer is instructed to take the document from the
- 6 prosecutor and present it to the Accused.
- 7 (Short pause)
- 8 [10.55.57]
- 9 BY MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 10 Q. Mr. Nuon Chea, is this record made by you?
- 11 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Do you confirm the dates mentioned in this document and do you
- 14 use any other documents in order to refresh your memory relating
- 15 to those dates?
- 16 A. Yes. In preparing this document, I have had some documents
- 17 reserved as a reference.
- 18 Q. Can you indicate the references you cited from?
- 19 [10.56.51]
- 20 A. I do not remember all. I refer to certain documents in foreign
- 21 languages as well.
- 22 $\,$ Q. In this document, certain places, they are illegible, and I
- 23 would like to ask you for your clarification.
- 24 First, on the first page, the last line of the page, starting
- 25 from "1964-1965", can you read?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 A. Mr. President: "1964-1965: Pol Pot, Son Sen, Ieng Sary left
- 2 Office 100 for Cambodian Vietnam's border, in the Northeastern
- 3 part of Cambodia."
- 4 Q. Can you tell the Chamber what is Office 100?
- 5 A. Office 100 was formerly the Central Office.
- 6 Q. How many days would it take to travel from Phnom Penh to
- 7 Office 100?
- 8 A. To my recollection, (unintelligible) the secondary road.
- 9 Sometimes, we travelled there on foot; sometimes, we travel by
- 10 car or trucks. We do not know how many days exactly.
- 11 Q. On page 2, line 8, beginning with "the 1st of January 1968",
- 12 can you read this line out?
- 13 [10.59.41]
- 14 A. There are pages 5, 6, 9, and 10, and there is no any other
- 15 page.
- 16 Q. No, on page 2 -- ERN in Khmer, 00757831 -- and it was on line
- 17 8.
- 18 A. Could you please repeat your question? What line was it?
- 19 Q. It's line number 8, starting with "the 1st January 1968".
- 20 A. "1st January 1968: the Party, at the Central Zone, hold a zone
- 21 secretaries' meeting."
- 22 Q. Thank you. That zone meeting was held -- what was the content
- 23 of the meeting?
- 24 A. As I recall, the meeting was to resolve the issue of building
- 25 dams, etc., and essentially to improve the livelihood of the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 people.
- 2 Q. Where was the meeting held?
- 3 A. As I recall, it was along the Steung Chinit.
- 4 Q. Also in that line, it reads "the Central Zone". What does it
- 5 mean?
- 6 [11.02.35]
- 7 A. Central Zone encompassed Kampong Chhnang, Pursat, etc.
- 8 Q. Who were the participants in that meeting?
- 9 A. As I recall, there were the -- there were myself, Ta Mok, and
- 10 a few others whose names I could not recall.
- 11 Q. What-- Was the issue of armed struggle decided in that
- 12 meeting?
- 13 A. Mr. President, yes, there was a decision on the initiation of
- 14 the armed and political struggle.
- 15 Q. On lined 15, start with "the month of December 1969", could
- 16 you read it?
- 17 A. It's: "Between September 1969, Nuon Chea went to Rattanakiri."
- 18 [11.04.35]
- 19 Q. Can you inform the Trial Chamber as whether it was the same
- 20 thing as you told Mr. Khem Ngun, that you went to a meeting in
- 21 Rattanakiri and that it took one month to go back and forth? Is
- 22 that correct?
- 23 And also, for the transcript record, the document number is IS
- 24 20.28, ERN in Khmer 00078199. In English, 00184671, and in
- 25 French, 00596193.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 A. Mr. President, it took more than one month to -- just to go or
- 2 to come back.
- 3 Q. What was the content of the meeting and what were decided at
- 4 the time?
- 5 A. At that time, the decisions were made in regard to the
- 6 situation in the zone where it was charged. So I reported about
- 7 that situation to Pol Pot, and we discussed the issue of armed
- 8 and political struggle.
- 9 Q. On line 25, which reads "the date of 18 March 1970", can you
- 10 read the four lines starting from that line?
- 11 [11.07.04]
- 12 A. "18 March 1970. At that time, there was a coup d'état to
- 13 topple Sihanouk."
- 14 The word "Dou", in Khmer, reads -- I wrote here means the
- 15 "topple", the "coup d'état" against Sihanouk.
- 16 And the next line, it reads:
- 17 Vietnam made a false statistics through Ta Mok. Nguyen Van Linh
- 18 requested me to recruit some of the Kampuchean youth and that
- 19 they would be educated by the Vietnamese soldiers. But the
- 20 Vietnamese fabricated a statistic and sent it to Ta Mok to
- 21 organize a regiment of soldiers. And at that time Nguyen Thi Dinh
- 22 met with So Phim in order to seek refuge, as I said earlier.
- 23 [11.08.25]
- 24 So this is a summary of these four lines.
- 25 Q. Thank you. Now, we move to page 3 of that document. I'd like

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 you to read line number 5, starting with "the month of October
- 2 1970". Could you please read that line?
- 3 A. Line number 5, it reads: "October 1970: Pol Pot gathered for a
- 4 full plenary meeting at Boeng Lvea, in Santuk district.
- 5 Q. Please read the next line, as well.
- 6 A. "In Kampong Thom, it's decided to appoint main cadres for them
- 7 to spearhead in various zones."
- 8 Actually, the Santuk district in the above line refers to a
- 9 district in Kampong Thom province.
- 10 Q. Did you participate in that meeting?
- 11 A. As I told the President, yes, I did.
- 12 Q. Was there a CPK office in Boeng Lvea, Santuk district?
- 13 A. Yes, there was, but it was mobile.
- 14 [11.10.28]
- 15 Q. Can you recall who were the participants of the meeting?
- 16 A. As I recall, they were all Party's zone secretaries.
- 17 Q. What was discussed and decided, in that meeting, by the
- 18 Standing Committee -- by the Central Committee, rather?
- 19 A. As I recall, in -- for the period of October, November, and
- 20 December, there were the negotiations between Pol Pot and
- 21 Vietnamese counterpart, Nguyen Van Linh, in order to facilitate
- 22 the cooperation and the attack.
- 23 Q. In that record, it also reads that main cadres were appointed
- 24 to each zone.
- 25 [11.11.53]

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Why was that to be done?
- 2 A. Because, for those main cadres, they had to be members of the
- 3 Central Committee who would then go to control the zone.
- 4 Q. At that time, which cadres were appointed to each zone, if you
- 5 can recall?
- 6 A. Wherever -- whichever zone they came from, they would go back
- 7 to that zone. Like Ta Mok, he's from the Southwest, then he would
- 8 be assigned to Southwest. And So Phim from the East, then he
- 9 would be assigned to the East. As for Koy Thuon, he was sent back
- 10 to his respective North Zone. That's what I can recall.
- 11 Q. Thank you. Can you inform the Chamber in regards to the roles
- 12 and responsibilities of each zone secretary? What were their
- 13 roles and responsibilities in the implementation of the Party
- 14 policies at that -- their respective zone?
- 15 A. Each cadre was responsible in the implementation of the
- 16 Party's policy, based on the decision of the Party's congress.
- 17 Q. Next, I'd like you to read the last line -- that is, the last
- 18 two lines in that page, starting from "at that time".
- 19 A. "At that time, the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armies reached the
- 20 number of 200,000. The insecure situations were everywhere in
- 21 Phnom Penh, and Lon Nol could not manage the situation."
- 22 Q. The "200,000 soldiers" in the -- in that figure, was that
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. Yes, "200,000 soldiers" was correct.
- 25 Q. We now move on to page umber 4, on line 3, which reads the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 date "26 January 1974".
- 2 A. It reads: "26 January 1974: The GRUNK made an announcement of
- 3 the continuation of struggle."
- 4 Q. Also, can you read line 5, starting with "April 1974"?
- 5 A. "April 1974: There was an incident. The Kampuchean
- 6 Revolutionary Armies were about 60 kilometres from the
- 7 Pochentong."
- 8 [11.16.07]
- 9 Q. Also, can you also read lines 9 and 10.
- 10 A. "In late March 1975, the Vietnamese Party requested for a
- 11 meeting -- to meet with the CPK."
- 12 Q. Can you read line 10?
- 13 A. "At that time -- that is, after Phnom Penh was seized -- Pol
- 14 Pot went to stay at Krang Doung, alias B-5, in Peam commune,
- 15 Kampong Tralach, alias Chan Tei (phonetic). He stationed there in
- 16 order to command for the control of the liberation of Phnom
- 17 Penh."
- 18 Q. Let me now return to line number 5, regarding the
- 19 demonstration in April 1975 -- '74, rather. What happened? Can
- 20 you tell us?
- 21 A. As I recall, there were many demonstrations held in various
- 22 locations throughout, because the soldiers were approaching Phnom
- 23 Penh. So there were various demonstrations, in particular by the
- 24 students.
- 25 Q. Thank you.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [11.18.21]
- 2 Next, I'd like to move to page number 5. I'd like you to look at
- 3 the right column. Can you read the two lines?
- 4 A. What line is it? What line number is it? Line 15?
- 5 Q. In fact, it is on the right column on that page, and there are
- 6 only two lines.
- 7 A. "At that time, So Phim committed suicide in May 1978, and Koy
- 8 Thuon was arrested in 1977. At that time, there was a rebellious
- 9 activity, and there was fighting in the East, and for that
- 10 reason, the Standing Committee sent soldiers to that area to
- 11 resolve the situation. So Phim fled and, as he could not escape,
- 12 then he committed suicide."
- 13 [11.19.53]
- 14 Q. Now, we refer to line 12 on the left column. Can you read?
- 15 A. "Regarding the congress, as Comrade Heng recalled, in 1960,
- 16 '63, and '76, there should be a reshuffled of the Standing
- 17 Committee, and, in 1978, the new Standing Committee members were
- 18 appointed."
- 19 Q. Thank you.
- 20 We now move on to the last page, on line 16, starting with "the
- 21 year of 1942".
- 22 A. It reads: "1942. At that time I went for my study in
- 23 Thailand."
- 24 Q. Regarding your education in Thailand, did you study law at
- 25 Thammasat University? And how long did you study there?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [11.21.43]
- 2 A. I studied for three years, but I did not take my exit exam, as
- 3 I left for my struggle.
- 4 Q. In your class, what language was used?
- 5 A. It was conducted in English and Thai.
- 6 Q. Did you know Thai or English fluently?
- 7 A. Not really in English, but I was fluent in Thai.
- 8 Q. How many foreign languages can you use?
- 9 A. For political language, I can use Thai and Vietnamese
- 10 languages.
- 11 Q. Thank you.
- 12 [11.22.55]
- 13 On line 18, which reads "1946"--
- 14 A. "In 1946, I joined the Thai Democratic Youth Organization. In
- 15 Thailand there was this organization under the leadership of the
- 16 Thai Communist Party."
- 17 Q. This Thai Democratic Youth Organization, what was it?
- 18 A. This youth organization is to gather the progressive youth
- 19 with democratic spirit in order to gather to discuss the
- 20 political issues, the situation in Thailand, etc.
- 21 O. We move to line 24.
- 22 A. This is in regards to the division of the Indochinese Party
- 23 into three separate parties in 1951. At that time, that is, in
- 24 1950, there was still the Indochinese Party, but by 1951, that
- 25 Indochinese Party was divided into three parties. One is the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Vietnamese Labour Party, two is the Kampuchean People's Party,
- 2 and three the Lao's People's Party.
- 3 Q. Were you present at that meeting to divide the Party?
- 4 A. I was there, Mr. President.
- 5 Q. Who actually invited you to join that congress to split up the
- 6 Indochinese Party?
- 7 A. I was invited by those previous members. They were the
- 8 standing member, and his name was Udom.
- 9 [11.25.40]
- 10 Q. Can you recall the representatives from Kampuchea? How many
- 11 were they?
- 12 A. I cannot recall as I did not meet them. Because in Thailand we
- 13 stayed in separate pagodas.
- 14 Q. When you participate in that congress to split up the
- 15 Indochinese Party, did you see the representative from Kampuchea?
- 16 A. No, I did not see any.
- 17 Q. Thank you.
- 18 [11.26.45]
- 19 I'd like now to move on to another subject that is in regards to
- 20 your names. Can you inform the Chamber of all the names that you
- 21 have used so far?
- 22 A. My birth name that is in my birth certificate was Lao Kim
- 23 Lorn, and later on I used the -- I used many aliases, including
- 24 Peanh Chea and, later on, Nuon Chea.
- 25 Q. When did you start using your alias Nuon Chea?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 A. When I returned to stay in Cambodia.
- 2 Q. Did you use the alias Long Bunruot or Long Ruot?
- 3 A. No. I think there were mistakes.
- 4 Q. During your time you started in Thailand, did you use your
- 5 birth name?
- 6 A. I used the word Long Ruot Lao Dee (phonetic); that's my name,
- 7 because, in Thailand, all the Khmer students need to translate
- 8 their names into the Thai language.
- 9 Q. Thank you. In regards to the "Revolutionary" books, commencing
- 10 from September 1960 through April 1975, were the "Revolutionary
- 11 Flags" published frequently?
- 12 A. It was a monthly publication, as I recall.
- 13 Q. Was it a secret magazine, only distributed within the members?
- 14 A. It was only distributed to cadres.
- 15 Q. Why that magazine was considered confidential?
- 16 [11.29.39]
- 17 A. Because, at that time, we have to maintain our
- 18 confidentiality. If it was seen by somebody else, then we would
- 19 be arrested by the government.
- 20 Q. For each publication, how many copies were it -- was it
- 21 printed?
- 22 A. As I remember, it was written by hand and published manually
- 23 and there were only a handful of those books, probably about 10
- 24 for the distribution through various zones.
- 25 Q. Now, I move on to another topic that is in regard to the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 method for -- for joining the Communist Party of Kampuchea. Can
- 2 you inform the Chamber of how someone can join the Party?
- 3 A. Initially, the -- I was in the Thai Democratic Youth
- 4 Organization to test myself, to join in various demonstrations
- 5 against the government against the arrest of the progressive
- 6 professors at the Thammasat University, etc. And after that, they
- 7 noticed that I was active and was invited to join the Party.
- 8 There was no real or proper process or to -- or to respect the
- 9 flag because the process was covered and I need -- I needed to
- 10 spend seven months in the preparatory stage before I could join
- 11 the Party.
- 12 [11.31.46]
- 13 Q. The question is that for each Party who were to join the
- 14 Communist Party of Kampuchea, what was the method or the
- 15 approach?
- 16 A. Is it for the Communist Party of Kampuchea?
- 17 Q. Yes.
- 18 A. When I returned, I was inducted by a Vietnamese cadre. He said
- 19 I was a former Thai Communist Party and now that I returned to
- 20 work in Kampuchea, I could be transferred to join the Indochinese
- 21 Communist Party.
- 22 Q. I would like to speak in general term for the Communist Party
- 23 of Kampuchea. If somebody was requested to join the Party, what
- 24 was the procedure -- this is a general not a -- not in your
- 25 particular case.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [11.32.58]
- 2 A. As far as I know, there was a criterion that the person must
- 3 be patriotic, must love the people, must not be a vagabond, and
- 4 must adhere to the Party's organization's disciplines and must
- 5 have high morale without having to indulge oneself in heavy
- 6 drinking or womanizing. That is also without engage in any
- 7 gambling in short. And then a person will be tested through --
- 8 through working.
- 9 Q. So the person who wanted to join the Party must have the
- 10 inductee?
- 11 A. There has to be some -- there has to be three presenters
- 12 before that person could be acknowledged to join the Party.
- 13 Q. As for the person -- the person shall sign like an agreement
- 14 to adhere to the Party's principle?
- 15 A. They had to take an oath before the Party Flag that the person
- 16 shall commit to the nation, the people and to adhere to the
- 17 Party's directions and disciplines and to sacrifice any personal
- 18 interest for the common interest. If there is a conflict of
- 19 personal interest and the common interest, common interest shall
- 20 prevail. This is what I can recall.
- 21 Q. For an ordinary Party's member who wants to become a Central
- 22 or Standing Committee, what are the criteria?
- 23 A. For a Party's member to become a Central or Standing Committee
- 24 member, that person must be a member of the Party's district or
- 25 village committee, that they had to build themself up from that

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 level, then they would become the Party's branch at the commune
- 2 level. And if the performance was good, then it will be promoted
- 3 to the district level. At that time, there was also a sector
- 4 level so it goes up a gradually in that order and then from the
- 5 sector to the zone.
- 6 [11.36.24]
- 7 In general, the person must be sincere and hardworking, and the
- 8 person must commit himself or herself to conduct a struggle.
- 9 [11.36.52]
- 10 Q. Was there any exception or every Party's member is equal, that
- 11 every Party member is entitled to join the Central or the
- 12 Standing Committee?
- 13 A. As long as the person had the revolutionary virtue or
- 14 revolutionary morale and hardworking, the person could be
- 15 entitled to be promoted to join that committee. The important
- 16 thing is that they must have good class element. If they had a
- 17 poor peasant -- in the poor peasant's class and had good or,
- 18 rather, more than educational background, then the chance was
- 19 good. For other classes who did not have much education or were
- 20 rather non-active, then the preparatory period could be longer;
- 21 it could be between one and two years.
- 22 Q. As you stated, there was no exception that everybody had to
- 23 follow by these directions; right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Thank you.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 I'd like now to move on to another subject regarding your
- 2 relationship with Khieu Samphan. Can you confirm when was the
- 3 first time that you met with Khieu Samphan?
- 4 [11.38.43]
- 5 A. I believe I met him in the forest.
- 6 Q. What is the location where you met?
- 7 A. Well, I -- to my recollection, it was somewhere around Aoral
- 8 Mountain.
- 9 Q. Which year was it?
- 10 A. I do not recall the year when I met him.
- 11 Q. Do you have any event which can refresh your memory of your
- 12 meeting with him?
- 13 [11.39.34]
- 14 A. Well, I had never known him but, at that time, I was
- 15 introduced -- that he was Khieu Samphan. But I rarely contacted
- 16 him because he belonged to the intellectuals group and the -- Pol
- 17 Pot was responsible for establishing relationship with the
- 18 intellectuals. And for me, I did a different task. I established
- 19 relations with Party members who were recruited from grass root
- 20 levels, such as from poor peasant.
- 21 Q. Did Mr. Khieu Samphan attended meetings with you until 1975?
- 22 A. Well, I do not remember, but I think that he did not attend
- 23 the meetings with me because he had other meetings to attend,
- 24 while I organized other meetings.
- 25 Q. So you are suggesting that you did not have any meetings with

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Mr. Khieu Samphan at all; is -- was that correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Now, I move on to the next point. I would like to refer to
- 4 document IS 20 IS 20.32.
- 5 You had an interview in--
- 6 Mr. President, I would like to seek your leave to present this
- 7 document to the Accused in hard copy.
- 8 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 9 Court officer is instructed to take the document from the
- 10 Prosecution and present it to the Accused.
- 11 BY MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 12 Q. Do you still remember the -- your interview with Mr.
- 13 Thaitawat?
- 14 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 15 A. Mr. President, I do not know this person. I don't know.
- 16 [11.42.29]
- 17 Q. If you look at this document on the first page, there is an
- 18 indication that this interview was joined by Mr. Naowarat
- 19 Suksamran, who was the editor -- provincial editor for "Bangkok
- 20 Post" and a major -- a major in Thai. And your wife was also
- 21 present during this interview.
- 22 [11.43.11]
- 23 A. I'm sorry, President -- Mr. President., I don't remember.
- 24 Q. (No interpretation)
- 25 MR. PESTMAN:

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. Is it possible to get a reference
- 2 of the English version of this interview or document as well, so
- 3 we can look it up? Or can it be projected-- And can it be
- 4 projected on the screen so that we can all have a look? Thank
- 5 you.
- 6 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 7 Yes, thank you. Can the Co-Prosecutor indicate the ERN numbers in
- 8 three languages so that we can have them displayed on the screen?
- 9 MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 10 Mr. President, we do not have any substantial question, but we
- 11 simply inform the Chamber that this document bears the number IS
- 12 20.32.
- 13 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 14 If you do not have any substantial questions on this particular
- documents, then you may move on to another question.
- 16 MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 17 Thank you, Mr. President.
- 18 Document IS 20.34; may I seek leave from the President to present
- 19 this document to the Accused?
- 20 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 21 Court officer is instructed to bring this document to present it
- 22 to Nuon Chea.
- 23 [11.45.11]
- 24 Again, Co-Prosecutor, you should clearly indicate the identity of
- 25 the document and, if possible, have them projected on the screen

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 so that the parties, as well as the Chamber, can see these
- 2 documents and it is easier to direct the Accused accordingly.
- 3 MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 4 Thank you, Mr. President. My colleague is -- get them projected.
- 5 This document bears the number IS 20.34.
- 6 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 7 (Microphone not activated)
- 8 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 9 Please activate your mic.
- 10 [11.46.15]
- 11 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 12 A. Mr. President, upon scrutinizing this document, I can -- I
- 13 know the identity of the document.
- 14 BY MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 15 Q. I heard that -- Mr. Nuon Chea say that, upon reading it, you
- 16 recognize this document.
- 17 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 18 A. I do not remember.
- 19 Q. This -- the document being displayed is the interview by Mr.
- 20 Ea Meng-Try and Sopheak Loeung , page 10 to 18; ERN in Khmer,
- 21 00347040 to 00347048; ERN in English, 0000931 to 00000935.
- 22 [11.48.28]
- 23 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 24 The defence counsel for Khieu Samphan is on his feet, so you have
- 25 any issue to raise, you may proceed.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [11.48.38]
- 2 MR. VERCKEN:
- 3 Thank you, Mr. President. Excuse me, Mr. Nuon Chea, but I would
- 4 like to make an objection here.
- 5 I'd like to inform the Court that the Co-Prosecutor is
- 6 questioning the Accused about a document that I, personally, do
- 7 not have, and I'm interested to see if, in a questioning session
- 8 like this, which has been planned for a long while now, if it's
- 9 not possible to run off the document so that we can avail
- 10 ourselves of them. If the Prosecution does not have a photocopy
- 11 to do that, then we would be most happy to provide that service
- 12 so that we could actually follow these debates.
- 13 [11.49.33]
- 14 Mr. Nuon Chea has his document, but I have nothing before me,
- 15 either on the screen or in hard copy. And so, when we're having a
- 16 session like this, that has been prepared well in advance, it
- 17 would be extremely useful if we could be told in advance of which
- 18 documents are going to be brought forward in Court. Thank you.
- 19 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 20 National Prosecutor, do you have document in French?
- 21 MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 22 Document IS 20.34, ERN in French 00613200 to 00613212.
- 23 BY MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 24 Q. Mr. Nuon Chea, have you ever had an interview with -- with
- 25 these two people?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 MR. NUON CHEA:
- 2 A. Mr. President, who the two people you are talking about?
- 3 [11.50.56]
- 4 Q. The interview with Ea Meng-Try and Sopheak Loeung.
- 5 A. I do not know them. I do not know the names. I -- of course,
- 6 there have been people visiting me at my home, and they did not
- 7 tell me sometime the names or their purpose; they simply asked me
- 8 question and I simply answer those questions.
- 9 [11.51.23]
- 10 Q. Now, I would like to move on to another one. The book written
- 11 by Mr. Khieu Samphan, considering the events in Cambodia until
- 12 the -- 1975. And you were appointed as the Standing Committee
- 13 members. It's document D213.2; ERN in Khmer, 00380305 to 7;
- 14 English, 00498222 to 6; in French, 00643822 to 4.
- 15 Is that correct that you were appointed as the Central Committee
- 16 members in -- of the Kampuchea Communist Party in 1951?
- 17 A. I have never seen this book, but, in 1951, I was not appointed
- 18 as Central Committee member. I was merely a Party member. I went
- 19 down to -- to disseminate education and propaganda. And in 1951,
- 20 we were actually still resisting against the French colonialism,
- 21 and there was no official appointment of the Central Committee.
- 22 Q. So, at that time, what was your role in the Kampuchea
- 23 Revolutionary Party?
- 24 A. At that time, I was in charge of propaganda and education. I
- 25 edited paper and news known as "Issarak News", and we educated

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Party members in the village and grass root levels.
- 2 Q. There was a speech by Pol Pot. He said that:
- 3 "In 1957, we designated management in order to carry out the
- 4 Party political lines, and the members of this committee were the
- 5 representative from the people at the grass root level -- at the
- 6 base level -- as well as those from Phnom Penh."
- 7 Document D-- ERN in Khmer, 0063133 (sic); ERN in English,
- 8 00486225; ERN in French, 00492280.
- 9 [11.55.43]
- 10 A. I'm sorry, Mr. President. I have never seen that speech.
- 11 Q. You informed the Chamber already that you work with Pol Pot to
- 12 design the Party political lines, so could you enlighten the
- 13 Chamber as to who else was involved in designing the Party's
- 14 political line. For example, Mr. Ieng Sary, was he also involved
- 15 in that?
- 16 [11.56.19]
- 17 A. To my recollection, at that time, Tou Samouth was also
- 18 involved in his capacity as advisor. As for me, I was a person
- 19 who understand situation at the grass root level, and Pol Pot was
- 20 the one who grabs the situation in the city and Ieng Sary was not
- 21 involved, if I remember correctly. Tou Samouth, Pol Pot, and I
- 22 were the ones who designed the Party's political line at the
- 23 beginning.
- 24 Q. During the First Party Congress, in 1960, did you travel to
- 25 Tay Ninh province to explain the -- Vietnam's Communist Party

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 about the political lines that you have devised?
- 2 A. I remember we went there but I do not know the exact date. I
- 3 do not -- I cannot recall the exact date but, of course, we went
- 4 to Tay Ninh province to explain the political lines, as well as
- 5 the strategic and tactical lines of the Party. But the Vietnamese
- 6 Communist Party did not like the idea because they said we have
- 7 not discussed with them.
- 8 Q. So, despite the disapproval from the Vietnamese Communist
- 9 Party, did you still stand by your political lines?
- 10 A. Yes, we decided to maintain our political lines because
- 11 Communist Party of Kampuchea was independent and sovereign and we
- 12 are self-reliant and we take firm hold of our destiny. As for
- 13 Vietnam Communist Party, even if they did not like it, we would
- 14 continue our position.
- 15 [11.58.43]
- 16 Q. Do you recall as to which particular area the Vietnamese
- 17 Communist Party of Kampuchea -- with Vietnamese Communist Party?
- 18 A. To my recollection, the Vietnamese did not like the ideas that
- 19 we would employ the dual strategy of armed struggle as well as
- 20 political struggle.
- 21 [11.59.10]
- 22 But the Kampuchea Communist Party saw that it was important for
- 23 them. That's why we decided to pursue this goal.
- 24 Q. So who went along with you to explain to the -- your
- 25 Vietnamese counterpart?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 A. Well, I went there alone, nobody else.
- 2 MR. SENG BUNKHEANG:
- 3 Well, due to time, I would like to pause my question here. And
- 4 thank you, Mr. President, for allowing me the opportunity to put
- 5 question.
- 6 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 7 Thank you, National Prosecutor.
- 8 It is now time to break for lunch.
- 9 But before the adjournment, I wish to let the prosecutor know
- 10 that the time you have left to ask the question is now up. So the
- 11 Prosecution's time has run up for -- run out for the questioning,
- 12 and when we resume, we will give the floor to other parties.
- 13 So the defence for Nuon Chea is on his feet. You may now proceed.
- 14 MR. PESTMAN:
- 15 My client would like to request for -- to be transferred to the
- 16 holding cell and to stay there for the afternoon proceedings.
- 17 And, as far as I understood, we were going to continue with the
- 18 witness we heard last week, this afternoon.
- 19 [12.01.19]
- 20 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 21 Upon hearing the oral request from Mr. Nuon Chea through his
- 22 counsel that he waives his right to participate directly in this
- 23 courtroom and follow the proceedings in the holding cell through
- 24 audiovisual equipment, the Chamber grants this request, request
- 25 to not be present in the courtroom, and he is allowed to follow

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 the proceeding from the holding cell through audiovisual link.
- 2 And the Chamber wishes to remind me the defence counsel that a
- 3 letter of waiver shall be submitted to the Chamber immediately
- 4 with the signature or fingerprint of Mr. Nuon Chea. And the
- 5 Chamber also instructs the audiovisual equipment staff to make
- 6 sure that the equipment is linked so that the Accused can follow
- 7 the proceeding from the holding cell.
- 8 The security guards are now instructed to bring Mr. Nuon Chea and
- 9 Mr. Khieu Samphan to the holding cell, downstairs. And this
- 10 afternoon, Mr. Khieu Samphan should be bring to the -- should be
- 11 brought to the courtroom before 1.30, and Mr. Nuon Chea may
- 12 remain in the holding cell and be connected to the audiovisual
- 13 link to following the proceeding remotely.
- 14 The Court is now adjourned.
- 15 (Court recesses from 1202H to 1330H)
- 16 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 17 This afternoon, the Chamber will resume hearing the testimony of
- 18 witness Prak Yut.
- 19 The witness will be questioned by the defence counsel.
- 20 Mr. Phary, is the witness present today?
- 21 [13.32.23]
- 22 THE GREFFIER:
- 23 Mr. President, the witness Prak Yut is present. She is in the
- 24 waiting room, awaiting the summons by Your Honour.
- 25 MR. PRESIDENT:

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Thank you, Mr. Phary.
- 2 Court officer, could you invite the witness into the courtroom?
- 3 You may proceed.
- 4 MS. SIMONNEAU-FORT:
- 5 Thank you, Mr. President. We asked for permission to use another
- 6 quarter of an hour today, and we understood that -- at the Friday
- 7 morning meeting, that we had indeed been granted a further 15
- 8 minutes at the start of this hearing, this afternoon.
- 9 (The witness, Ms. Prak Yut, is taken to the dock)
- 10 (Judges deliberate)
- 11 [13.33.56]
- 12 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 13 Yes, Lead Co-Lawyer, your request is granted. You have another 15
- 14 minutes to put question to the witness.
- 15 However, before we hand over the floor to you, we'd like to
- 16 remind the Lead Co-Lawyers and all the defence counsel that,
- 17 during the questioning of the witness before the Trial Chamber in
- 18 Case 002, you are not allowed to use a statement or the record of
- 19 interview of another person or witness as your base to put
- 20 questions to this witness. We already ruled on this issue, so do
- 21 not repeat this same process.
- 22 You may now proceed.
- 23 [13.35.14]
- 24 OUESTIONING BY MS. SUTZ RESUMES:
- 25 Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you for the additional 15

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 minutes.
- 2 Good afternoon, Your Honours. Good afternoon, everybody. Good
- 3 afternoon, Madam Witness. Let me resume where I left off on
- 4 Thursday afternoon.
- 5 Q. I'd like to begin with a few general questions just to be sure
- 6 that you fully understood the reason why you are here today,
- 7 Madam.
- 8 Have you understood that you are here to appear as a witness and
- 9 not to be judged?
- 10 MS. PRAK YUT:
- 11 A. Yes, I understand. I am here as a witness.
- 12 Q. And have you understood that the questions that we're going to
- 13 ask you are designed to establish the truth about certain facts
- 14 of which you are aware and which are connected to certain
- 15 presumed crimes of which the three Accused are, indeed, accused?
- 16 A. (No interpretation)
- 17 THE INTERPRETER:
- 18 May the President ask the witness to repeat her statement?
- 19 MS. SUTZ:
- 20 Would you like me to repeat the question?
- 21 (Short pause)
- 22 [13.37.23]
- 23 Would you like me to repeat the question? I didn't hear the
- 24 answer to that.
- 25 MR. PRESIDENT:

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Please repeat your question.
- 2 I'd like to remind you that the witness who is sitting before you
- 3 has low education, so your questions should be simple and short
- 4 so that she can respond to your question. Otherwise, your
- 5 15-minute allocation might not be as effective as you wish for.
- 6 BY MS. SUTZ:
- 7 Thank you, Mr. President.
- 8 Q. Madam, I just wanted to ask you if you had fully understood
- 9 that the questions that we are asking you are designed to
- 10 establish the truth on certain facts of which you are aware and
- 11 which are apparently connected with the presumed crimes of which
- 12 Nuon Chea, Khieu Samphan, and Ieng Sary are accused.
- 13 [13.38.55]
- 14 MS. PRAK YUT:
- 15 A. I will respond to your questions, but I don't really
- 16 understand your statement you just made.
- 17 Q. Let me go on to the last one of my general questions. Have you
- 18 also understood that you are under oath and that, when you answer
- 19 questions, you are obliged to tell the truth and that, in the
- 20 event that you do not, you are, in fact, liable before the
- 21 Cambodian Courts?
- 22 A. Generally speaking, I am not really aware of what are the
- 23 charges against Khieu Samphan or Ieng Sary, and of course I will
- 24 speak the truth. But I don't really understand the nature of the
- 25 charges against those people.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [13.40.14]
- 2 Q. Thank you, Madam.
- 3 I'm now going to resume where I left off on Thursday afternoon
- 4 with my questioning, and at that point in time I was asking you
- 5 about your role between 1977 and 1978, when you were in the
- 6 Kampong Siem province. So I'll briefly come back to that.
- 7 But to make my procedure quite clear before this Chamber and to
- 8 prevent any objections from the Defence, I would just point out
- 9 that my aim is to establish the structure as it existed in the --
- 10 at the different levels of the Central Zone to establish the
- 11 different structures, especially the decision-making structures.
- 12 [13.41.13]
- 13 I'm going to refer to some security centres and an execution
- 14 centre which are in the Central Zone, which do not fall within
- 15 the scope of the trial in the sense that they are not to be found
- 16 in the Closing Order. My aim is not to establish what happened
- 17 there, but to establish the decision-making structures and to
- 18 clarify how power was wielded at the different levels within the
- 19 zone.
- 20 So, Madam, last week, you told us that you were district
- 21 secretary in Kampong Siem and fourth member of Sector 41 between
- 22 1977 and 1978.
- 23 Can you tell us if you had any other responsibilities at that
- 24 same period, within the sector and within the zone? Thank you.
- 25 [13.42.17]

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 A. Could you please repeat your question again? I do not
- 2 understand your question. What do you mean when you refer to the
- 3 district or the sector level?
- 4 Q. Let me make it a little more direct. You told us that you had
- 5 been Kampong Siem district sector (sic) and the fourth member of
- 6 Sector 41. Have you also been a delegated secretary in the
- 7 committee for Sector 41?
- 8 A. I was the fourth member of Sector 41 and I was the secretary
- 9 of Kampong Siem district.
- 10 Q. But you were never appointed as secretary of the Sector 41
- 11 Committee.
- 12 A. In Sector 41, I was in charge of a district. In Sector 41, I
- 13 was in charge of Kampong Siem district.
- 14 Q. Thank you. Did you have Central Zone Committee
- 15 responsibilities? Were you a member?
- 16 [13.44.00]
- 17 A. No, I was not involved at the Central Zone; I was in Sector
- 18 41. I was not part of the zone. I was only a member of Sector 41
- 19 and I was in the Kampong Siem district.
- 20 Q. You did say, though, that you had attended a meeting in the
- 21 Central Zone. Do you know who the members were of the committee
- 22 for the Central Zone?
- 23 A. I participated in the meeting in the Central Zone. I cannot
- 24 recall the names of the participants. However, there were a few,
- 25 including Chon (phonetic). I only remember three participants,

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 and most of them already died.
- 2 Q. Was Mr. Ta An a member of the Central Zone committee?
- 3 A. I was not sure whether he was in the zone committee. I did not
- 4 ask him. I only knew about Sector 41. I'm not sure if he -- if Ta
- 5 An was also connected to the zone committee.
- 6 [13.45.52]
- 7 Q. Thank you. Last Thursday, when you were being questioned by
- 8 the Co-Prosecutors, you said that there was a security centre in
- 9 the district of Kampong Siem, between the district office and
- 10 Phnom Pros Mountain. Can you tell us the name of that security
- 11 centre?
- 12 A. I was in charge of security in that area. I was also involved
- 13 in educating people, the local people in that area. The education
- 14 was provided to those people residing in between the Phnom
- 15 Pros--Phnom Srei Mountain.
- 16 Q. Can you give us the precise name of the security centre that
- 17 you're referring to?
- 18 A. There was no one in charge of that area because it was not yet
- 19 fully organized at the time.
- 20 Q. Was it Angkuonh Dei Pagoda?
- 21 A. Yes, the district office was located at Angkuonh Dei Pagoda.
- 22 [13.47.37]
- 23 Q. But the security centre that you told us about, was it at the
- 24 pagoda of Angkuonh Dei?
- 25 A. Yes, the security centre was located in that pagoda.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Q. Thank you. Last week, you said -- I quote transcript, page 70:
- 2 "This security centre didn't belong to the sector or the zone. It
- 3 was there for the district. I was the one who re-educated people
- 4 in that place."
- 5 Could you explain a little bit more precisely what this
- 6 signified? And were you in charge of that security centre?
- 7 A. Yes, I was in charge of that educational office.
- 8 Q. Thank you. Does that mean that you took the decisions to send
- 9 people to the security centre yourselves, or were you at the
- 10 receiving end of orders from higher levels to send people to the
- 11 centre?
- 12 [13.48.58]
- 13 A. For the people, those who could not be educated or who did not
- 14 behave properly, then they would be taken to the district office
- 15 for education. There was no order from the upper level. I,
- 16 myself, decided on this education.
- 17 Q. So you decided, you didn't receive orders from anybody else.
- 18 A. Yes, I made the decision. If the person cannot be educated,
- 19 then the person would be sent to the sector for another
- 20 education.
- 21 Q. Thank you. In the Kampong Siem district, was there also an
- 22 execution site?
- 23 A. There was no execute site in Kampong Siem district.
- 24 [13.50.20]
- 25 Q. Have you already heard the name Phnom Pros--Phnom Srei?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 A. Of course. We saw the Phnom Pros--Phnom Srei Mountains, but I
- 2 did not know about any killing, as I did not visit the location
- 3 often. I worked by myself at the district office. I did not know
- 4 about the killing of people at the Phnom Pros--Phnom Srei, and
- 5 that is the fact. It is not a lie before this Chamber.
- 6 MS. SUTZ:
- 7 Mr. President, if I may, I'd like to refer to some victim
- 8 information forms which refer to that place and which also refer
- 9 to Mrs. Prak Yut. The aim, as I have said, is to elucidate the
- 10 existing structure for the district and the chain of command and
- 11 those who were responsible for taking certain decisions.
- 12 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 13 What is your request? I don't really understand. The witness Prak
- 14 Yut is here before us as a witness.
- 15 And, secondly, the time that you requested -- that is, the
- 16 15-minute time allocation -- is expired.
- 17 So please can you verify your request? What do you actually want
- 18 the Chamber to do?
- 19 MS. SUTZ:
- 20 Mr. President, I'd like to briefly refer to some civil party
- 21 victim information forms, read them to Mrs. Prak Yut because they
- 22 refer to that Phnom Pros--Phnom Srei place and they refer to Mrs.
- 23 Prak Yut herself as well.
- 24 (Judges deliberate)
- 25 [13.55.12]

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 2 You-- Can you inform the Chamber the identity of the victim
- 3 information form to applicant?
- 4 MS. SUTZ:
- 5 $\,$ I can give you the references so as to protect the anonymity of
- 6 the victims. We are referring to document D22/1264 and D22/3358.
- 7 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 8 In regards to that victim information form, it does not belong to
- 9 this witness, Prak Yut; is that correct?
- 10 MS. SUTZ:
- 11 These are not documents which concern Mrs. Prak Yut directly, but
- 12 which do quote her name.
- 13 (Judges deliberate)
- 14 [14.00.42]
- 15 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 16 Yes, please, Madam Judge Cartwright, I now hand over to you in
- 17 order to respond to the request made by the counsel. Thank you.
- 18 JUDGE CARTWRIGHT:
- 19 Yes. Thank you, President. Very briefly, the Trial Chamber would
- 20 like an opportunity to consider whether or not to grant
- 21 permission to put these victim statements to this witness. And
- 22 once we have determined the decision, if it is in favour of
- 23 allowing you to put the statement, you will be given the floor
- 24 again.
- 25 So would you please, now, move on to your remaining questions?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 And I think the President would agree there's been an
- 2 interruption of about five minutes at this stage. Thank you.
- 3 [14.01.33]
- 4 MS. SUTZ:
- 5 Thank you, Madam Judge. I have no further questions, but at a
- 6 later stage, the questions would be in reference to civil party
- 7 applications. Thank you.
- 8 MR. VERCKEN:
- 9 In the case, Mr. President, of your Chamber responding favourably
- 10 to the request we have just heard, we would be most grateful to
- 11 hear the ERNs of the documents she referred to for the French
- 12 versions as well. Thank you.
- 13 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 14 The Chamber has heard several times from counsel for Khieu
- 15 Samphan requesting for the ERN numbers. This Court uses the ZyLAB
- 16 system through which you can search for the documents, and you
- 17 can just do so by typing the document number. Doing so, you will
- 18 be able to locate the document in the language that you use.
- 19 I observe that you are the only one who raised this issue.
- 20 [14.03.31]
- 21 MR. VERCKEN:
- 22 I am the only person who's raised this issue, Mr. President,
- 23 because I did conduct a search for the ERN numbers in French and
- 24 I've noted that this document has not been translated into either
- 25 French nor in English, and so I was simply inquiring as to

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 whether or not the civil parties could provide me that relevant
- 2 information.
- 3 MS. SUTZ:
- 4 May I please have the floor, Mr. President, to reply?
- 5 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 6 The Chamber would like to hand over to counsel for Ieng Sary
- 7 because he raised his hand before that. We just try to avoid
- 8 discussion -- and less discussion.
- 9 [14.04.16]
- 10 MR. KARNAVAS:
- 11 Good afternoon, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Your Honours. And
- 12 good afternoon to everyone in and around the courtroom. Before
- 13 Your Honours make a decision on the application, I would wish to
- 14 note a couple of points.
- 15 First of all, the civil party lawyer has made no offer of proof
- 16 as to how the line of questioning she wishes to engage in is
- 17 relevant to what this witness is here to testify about. And so,
- 18 without further -- a further foundation, it would appear that the
- 19 sole purpose is to try to get the witness to incriminate herself.
- 20 I would also add that in light of the questioning that is about
- 21 to take place, should you grant the application, the witness
- 22 should be advised of her rights to remain silent and against
- 23 incrimination. I think it's an -- I think it's rather important,
- 24 especially since it would seem that the -- they're trying to
- 25 implicate the witness into potential alleged crimes.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [14.05.28]
- 2 So those are my applications, Your Honours. And, frankly, we
- 3 would object to this line of questioning; we think it goes well
- 4 beyond the scope for which this witness has been called to
- 5 testify.
- 6 If they wish to hear from the witness concerning the reporting
- 7 system or how it existed, then they can do so by asking questions
- 8 that are relevant to her knowledge. I believe those questions
- 9 have already been asked. Thank you.
- 10 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 11 Thank you. And now the floor is for lawyer for civil party.
- 12 [14.06.02]
- 13 MS. SUTZ:
- 14 Thank you very much, Mr. President. Obviously, our objective is
- 15 not to have the witness incriminate herself, it is simply to
- 16 manifest and search for the truth. We are seeking to establish as
- 17 to whether or not there was, indeed, a chain of command and if
- 18 the witness received any orders to send people to execution
- 19 sites. Obviously, we are not trying to establish any guilt on her
- 20 part, we are simply seeking to understand what orders she may
- 21 have received from the upper echelon.
- 22 MS. PRAK YUT:
- 23 You ask me whether there were killing sites at Phnom Pros--Phnom
- 24 Srei, in Kampong Siem district. I would like to talk about
- 25 Kampong Siem district.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 It was a place where I educated people and I would like to submit
- 2 that I did not send any people to be killed at Phnom Pros and
- 3 Phnom Srei.
- 4 And I would like to clarify also that the education that we
- 5 conducted at the district office was not on any big issues. It
- 6 was simply about educating people who conducted any wrongdoings,
- 7 small or minor wrongdoings, and there were no people who were
- 8 sent to be killed at Phnom Pros and Phnom Srei. This is my
- 9 answer.
- 10 [14.08.04]
- 11 And when -- so, when you ask me about these issues, I said no, I
- 12 did not know, because I simply did not know because I worked at
- 13 Kampong Siem district and I did not know anything about Phnom
- 14 Pros--Phnom Srei killings.
- 15 And you also said that this might be self-incriminating, but this
- 16 is nothing to do with self-incriminating. Simply, I did not know
- 17 about the killings at that place. I only knew about the things
- 18 that happened in my district.
- 19 And sometimes I did not understand your question and so I just
- 20 answered: "I did not understand your question."
- 21 (Judges deliberate)
- 22 [14.10.10]
- 23 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 24 The additional time granted to lawyer for civil parties has
- 25 ended.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Now, the Chamber hands over to counsel for Nuon Chea to put
- 2 questions to this witness if they wish to do so.
- 3 QUESTIONING BY MR. PESTMAN:
- 4 Thank you, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Ms. Prak Yut. I may be
- 5 able to finish before the break. I certainly hope so because it's
- 6 always difficult having to interrupt the cross-examination of a
- 7 witness for an interval.
- 8 Q. Ms. Prak Yut, last week, you told us that, when you were a
- 9 member of the Sector 35 Committee, you were in charge of women's
- 10 affairs; is that correct?
- 11 MS. PRAK YUT:
- 12 A. Yes, it is.
- 13 [14.11.25]
- 14 Q. Would you also be called the women's chairperson?
- 15 A. I was called to be in charge for the women affairs.
- 16 Q. Okay. Would you ever meet, in that capacity, other people from
- 17 other sectors -- from other sector committees in charge of
- 18 women's affairs?
- 19 A. I do not understand the question. What do you mean by "other
- 20 districts"?
- 21 Q. Were there other meetings within the zone with committee --
- 22 sector committee members in charge of women's affairs?
- 23 A. At that time, there were meetings in Sector 35, and members of
- 24 the committee participated in the meetings, but members from
- other places did not participate in the meetings.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 Q. Did you ever meet the person who was in charge of women's
- 2 affairs in Sector 13?
- 3 A. What is the person's name? Who are you referring to? Unless I
- 4 know about his name, I could not tell you whether I ever met the
- 5 person or not.
- 6 Q. I can help you a little bit. She was born in your village,
- 7 Kbal Ou, in 1946; she is almost your age. Does that help?
- 8 [14.13.54]
- 9 A. I could not recall it. I forget about it. It was a long time
- 10 ago.
- 11 Q. Last week, when you spoke about the other Sector 35 Committee
- 12 members, you mentioned several names: Ta Phan, Ta Sean, Ta Kat,
- 13 Kang Chap and Ta Ti.
- 14 A. Yes, they were in Sector 35. I know everyone in that sector:
- 15 Ta Kang, Ta Phan, Ta Sean, Ta Noy -- I know all these persons in
- 16 the sector committee. But they all died. One remains alive,
- 17 however, but he is now very, very old.
- 18 Q. And who is that person that is still alive?
- 19 A. No one is alive. I am the only one who is alive. Ta Ti, Ta Kat
- 20 -- all died. The four or five of them all died. And if there are
- 21 some of them who are still alive, I never contacted them.
- 22 [14.15.47]
- 23 Q. Do you remember your second interview with the investigators
- 24 of this Court in 2009? Very short interview. Do you remember that
- 25 interview?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 A. Was it the first time?
- 2 Q. Second, the second interview.
- 3 A. The second interview was brief, but I do not remember the date
- 4 of the interview unless I read from the form.
- 5 Q. Do you remember the question they asked you?
- 6 A. I don't really remember because I do not read it every day. I
- 7 do not remember all of it.
- 8 Q. They asked you one question, and that was: "Was Ta An a member
- 9 of the Sector 35 Committee?" Do you remember?
- 10 [14.17.26]
- 11 A. At the time, I'm not sure what is the rank of Ta An; I'm not
- 12 sure whether he was a third or a fourth or a fifth member of the
- 13 committee, but he was there, in the committee. I just can't
- 14 remember whether he was the third, the fourth or the fifth
- 15 member, but there was one person whose name is Ta An.
- 16 I was the fourth member, but I'm not sure whether he was the
- 17 third because there were up to the seventh member in the -- in
- 18 Sector 35. There were up to nine members in the committee. But
- 19 I'm not sure about Ta An.
- 20 Q. Ms. Prak Yut, why do you always forget to include his name
- 21 when people ask you about the committee members in Sector 35?
- 22 A. Do you mean I forget my name? But I don't know why I always
- 23 forget my name. I just know that Kang Chap was the chief, and we
- 24 have members including Ta Ti, I, myself, Ta An, and others. But I
- 25 forget. Of course, it was a long time ago. I also forget things

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 about myself.
- 2 [14.19.32]
- 3 Q. Do you remember what happened to Ta An after you were
- 4 transferred to Sector 41?
- 5 A. Nothing happened to him. He was the secretary and he was with
- 6 me in Sector 41.
- 7 Q. So did he become your secretary in Sector 41?
- 8 A. He was my chief.
- 9 Q. Do you remember who the deputy secretary of the zone was?
- 10 [14.20.34]
- 11 A. I can't recall it; I can't recall who was the sub-secretary.
- 12 The first member was probably Kang -- Ta Kang, Ta Sean, and three
- 13 others who I can't remember their name.
- 14 Q. The deputy secretary of the new Central Zone was Ta An. Does
- 15 that ring a bell?
- 16 A. No, it was not Ta An; Ta An was the chief.
- 17 Q. In your second interview, you told the investigators that you
- 18 do not know whether Ta An is alive or dead now, and that was is
- 19 in 2009.
- 20 A. Yes, this is correct. And you talk about the zone committees;
- 21 I don't understand about this. Can you ask me again about the
- "new" zone committee? What do you mean by that?
- 23 [14.22.14]
- 24 Q. I've already progressed to the next question.
- 25 So it's correct that you don't know whether he is dead or alive

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 at the moment?
- 2 A. No, I don't. We never met again after we ran away. I'm not
- 3 sure whether he is alive.
- 4 Q. What if I tell you that he lives approximately 30 kilometres
- 5 from your house, in Kamrieng district?
- 6 A. We never -- we never contacted because I do not know whether
- 7 he is alive. I'm not lying, I'm telling the truth. We never met
- 8 again; we never saw each other even though we lived far away from
- 9 each other; but we never meet each other.
- 10 Q. I have the impression that you're very reluctant to testify
- 11 about Ta An. Can you explain why?
- 12 [14.23.27]
- 13 A. I am not afraid, but I just don't know where he is.
- 14 Previously, I never met him. So, if I talked about him when I do
- 15 not know about that -- I cannot do that. Like I said, I never met
- 16 him and I never knew whether he is alive. Since we separated, we
- 17 never met again.
- 18 I am not afraid of telling the truth. If I know about it I will
- 19 tell the truth. But the fact is that I do not know whether he is
- 20 living at this particular place or not. I am not afraid to talk
- 21 about him.
- 22 We were separated when the "Yuons" came, and since then we never
- 23 met again. And at that time I was not known, so I would not be
- 24 informed about anything.
- 25 I'm telling the truth now. This is the truth. You may be still

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 doubtful and you keep asking me why I am afraid to talk about Ta
- 2 An; it's not what I am afraid to talk, but it's just that I don't
- 3 know. And since then I never met him again. This is the truth.
- 4 And I observe that all questions concerns this issue, like Madame
- 5 Lawyer asked me about the killings at Phnom Pros-Phnom Srei and
- 6 why I did not know about that. How could I answer that question
- 7 as I do not know? f I know, I will answer that. Otherwise, I will
- 8 just talk about something that I do not know.
- 9 Q. Ms. Prak Yut, have you ever heard of Case Number 4 before this
- 10 Court?
- 11 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 12 Witness is not required to answer this question.
- 13 [14.26.25]
- 14 The issue raised by counsel is not related to what we are
- discussing now. It is not concerned with Case 002/1.
- 16 Defence counsel may continue with a new question.
- 17 And you are reminded to stay within the limits of the segment.
- 18 You cannot expand at your will the scope of this trial.
- 19 MR. PESTMAN:
- 20 (Microphone not activated)
- 21 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 22 Please activate your mic when you speak.
- 23 BY MR. PESTMAN:
- 24 Q. My apologies. The woman in charge of women's affair in Sector
- 25 13 was Im Chem; do you remember now?

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [14.27.47]
- 2 MS. PRAK YUT:
- 3 A. We did not contact each other. Chem was in Sector 13, but we
- 4 never contacted each other. And as before meetings at Sector 13,
- 5 yes, we met there, during the meetings, but we never contacted
- 6 regarding the jobs that we do rather, that we did. We did a
- 7 different work.
- ${\tt 8}\,{\tt Q.}$ What if I tell you that both Ta An and Im Chem are suspects in
- 9 Case Number 4?
- 10 A. I do not know about that.
- 11 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 12 Counsel, you are just informed that Case 003 and 004 are separate
- 13 cases from Case 002. Besides, for Case 002, the Chamber has set
- 14 the scope for the first trial that we are having now. I think you
- 15 are well aware of this.
- 16 And you are reminded to stay within the limit that concerns the
- 17 facts of Case 002/1, according to the sequential segments.
- 18 MR. PESTMAN:
- 19 Excuse me -- excuse me, Mr. President, my microphone -- my
- 20 headphones are not working. I didn't hear the second half.
- 21 [14.29.52]
- 22 JUDGE CARTWRIGHT:
- 23 I'll tell you in English, then, with the President's permission,
- 24 while you're looking for new headphones.
- 25 The President has ruled twice now that you are to remain within

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 the confines of Trial 2, and the first trial in Trial 2.
- 2 Is that clear enough now, Counsel?
- 3 MR. PESTMAN:
- 4 My questions are within the scope of the first--
- 5 JUDGE CARTWRIGHT:
- 6 Please don't arque. You have been asked to move on to your next
- 7 question. Thank you.
- 8 MR. PESTMAN:
- 9 I'd like to note to the record that I disagree with the decision.
- 10 And I'm here to establish the Government interference in Case
- 11 Number 2 and, for that purpose, I'm asking these questions, and I
- 12 think they are well within the scope of this case, certainly,
- 13 Case Number 2.
- 14 [14.30.51]
- 15 But I will continue with my questions.
- 16 JUDGE CARTWRIGHT:
- 17 I had understood that your role here was to represent and defend
- 18 your client.
- 19 Please move on with your questions in relation to this trial.
- 20 Thank you.
- 21 BY MR. PESTMAN:
- 22 Q. Before testifying, Ms. Prak Yut, were you ever approached by
- 23 somebody about your appearance here, in Court?
- 24 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 25 The witness does not have to answer this question; the question

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 is not in -- related to the facts before us.
- 2 BY MR. PESTMAN:
- 3 Q. Do you know that the Government strongly opposes further
- 4 investigations in Case Number 4?
- 5 [14.32.19]
- 6 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 7 Witness, you do not need to respond to this question. I'd like
- 8 now to hand over the floor to the Co-Prosecutor.
- 9 MR. LYSAK:
- 10 Thank you, Mr. President. I was simply going to state an
- 11 objection to this question.
- 12 I don't see how this witness can be asked about who are Case 004
- 13 suspects and about facts that are not within her knowledge.
- 14 There's only a few people in this room who are aware of the facts
- 15 regarding this confidential investigation, and they are not on
- 16 the witness stand right now. So I think these questions are
- 17 entirely inappropriate.
- 18 [14.33.12]
- 19 MR. PESTMAN:
- 20 I'm afraid it's common knowledge, who the suspects are in Case
- 21 Number 4. It's-- That information is freely available on the
- 22 internet.
- 23 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 24 Defence Counsel, for today's questioning, you are not allowed to
- 25 put questions except the questions related to the facts in the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 first trial of Case 002.
- 2 MR. PESTMAN:
- 3 Mr. President, I believe that this witness is not free to testify
- 4 and that this witness knows that the Government doesn't want Case
- 5 004 to go forward, and for that reason, has refused to say
- 6 anything about the suspects in Case Number 4. That is what I'm
- 7 trying to establish today, and I think that it's relevant for
- 8 Case 002, not only for Case 004.
- 9 So I would like to continue with my questions.
- 10 [14.34.40]
- 11 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 12 You may proceed with your questions, but only if they are related
- 13 to this case, not to other cases. Restrict your questions to the
- 14 first trial in Case 002, which you have been well aware of. And
- 15 your questions should also be related to the facts to be known by
- 16 this witness before us, and your questions shall be based on the
- 17 facts in sequential order in the first trial of Case 002 -- that
- 18 is, from the first fact in regards to the historical background
- 19 of Democratic Kampuchea and then the structure of the government.
- 20 So, in short, you should confine yourself to the facts in the
- 21 first trial of Case 002. Otherwise, you can waste your time if
- 22 you attempt to put questions not relevant to the facts determined
- 23 by this very Chamber. And all parties are instructed to follow
- 24 the same proceeding.
- 25 (Judges deliberate)

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [14.37.40]
- 2 I'd like to give the floor, now, to Judge Cartwright. She may
- 3 have some questions for this witness.
- 4 OUESTIONING BY JUDGE CARTWRIGHT:
- 5 Q. Thank you, President. Prak Yut, you have said often, in this
- 6 Court, that you can't remember facts or events that happened more
- 7 than 30 years ago.
- 8 I want to ask you one or two questions now, because the lawyer
- 9 for Nuon Chea thinks that you are frightened of answering
- 10 questions.
- 11 So I'm asking you this: Has anyone threatened you about giving
- 12 evidence in Court today?
- 13 MS. PRAK YUT:
- 14 A. I come to this Court under no threat. I am here to tell the
- 15 events that I can recall, and nobody has threatened me not to
- 16 speak anything.
- 17 Q. Has anyone asked you to be careful about what you say in Court
- 18 today?
- 19 A. No. I was summoned to appear before this Chamber to enlighten
- 20 the Court with the facts and to only say of what I know.
- 21 [14.39.43]
- 22 I say only what I know; I cannot say anything that I do not know.
- 23 I have been asked questions about Im Chem and others, and I don't
- 24 know anything about her or them. So how can I say? That is my
- 25 response.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 And nobody coached me to come here to give evidence. I only speak
- 2 of what I know, of my knowledge, and that is all, Your Honour.
- 3 [14.40.15]
- 4 Q. And you have said many times that you can't remember certain
- 5 facts, but you have also told the Court that you told the truth
- 6 when you were interviewed on four occasions by the Investigating
- 7 Judges; is that correct, that you told the truth to the
- 8 Investigating Judges?
- 9 A. Yes. I only speak the truth to the investigators.
- 10 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 11 The time is now appropriate for a break. The Chamber will take a
- 12 20-minute break, and we shall resume at 3 p.m.
- 13 Court officer, please assist the witness during this break, and
- 14 bring her back to the courtroom at 3.
- 15 And the security personnel, could you also assist the civil
- 16 parties for the order in the courtroom and not to make any
- 17 unnecessary noise during the proceeding.
- 18 (Court recesses from 1441H to 1506H)
- 19 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 20 Please be seated. The Court is now in session.
- 21 Next, the Chamber hands over to defence counsel for Nuon Chea to
- 22 continue questioning the witness if there are any other
- 23 questions.
- 24 MR. PESTMAN:
- 25 Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to take this opportunity

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 just to briefly respond to what happened before the interval.
- 2 [15.07.24]
- 3 First of all, I would like to stress that we feel we have the
- 4 right and the duty to challenge the credibility of a witness if
- 5 we feel that witness is not telling the whole truth.
- 6 Second, it is up to defence lawyer -- me, in this case -- to
- 7 cross-examine a witness, and not to the Judge to come to the
- 8 rescue of a witness who is unable to answer my questions
- 9 satisfactorily.
- 10 And it is, third, up to me, up to us, Nuon Chea's defence, to
- 11 decide how we want to defend our client. And, as long as we stay
- 12 within the limits of the law, we take the position that we are
- 13 allowed to do whatever we think is necessary.
- 14 Remarks made by Judge Cartwright we consider highly
- 15 inappropriate. A Judge should not interference with defence
- 16 strategy. It's up to us to decide how we want to represent our
- 17 client in or outside Court.
- 18 [15.08.52]
- 19 And, finally, we have raised the issue of political interference
- 20 many times in the past, and I have to warn Your Honours that we
- 21 will continue to do so in the future, also in Court.
- 22 Thank you very much. I have no further questions for this
- 23 witness.
- 24 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 25 Yes, International Co-Prosecutor, you may proceed.

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 [15.09.25]
- 2 MR. LYSAK:
- 3 I don't want to use much time of the of the Court, but I would
- 4 just briefly respond to that.
- 5 I certainly disagree with the statements that have just been
- 6 made. There was no attempt by the Chamber, here, to interfere.
- 7 Our objections were when counsel attempted to ask a witness who
- 8 was not a part of the confidential investigation team of the
- 9 Court, who were suspects in an investigation, and attempt to ask
- 10 the witness whether the Government was interfering in cases.
- 11 The point seemed to be that Mr. Pestman was suggesting that the
- 12 witness had been intimidated with. Yet, he wouldn't ask the
- 13 questions directly.
- 14 And I think it's entirely entirely appropriate, when counsel
- 15 makes suggestions that a witness has been interfered with, for
- 16 the Court to ask such questions, which they did.
- 17 And that is all that went on here, and I think it was entirely
- 18 appropriate.
- 19 [15.10.34]
- 20 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 21 Yes, Judge Lavergne.
- 22 JUDGE LAVERGNE:
- 23 Thank you very much, Mr. President.
- 24 I wish to address some of the civil party's requests concerning
- 25 their questions that they'd like to put to the witness and the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 documents that they would like to reference in order to establish
- 2 the background of their questions.
- 3 The Chamber wishes to know if, indeed, those specific documents
- 4 are available in the three official languages of the ECCC and, if
- 5 this is not the case, if any translation requests have been made
- 6 so that such documents be translated. That's our first question
- 7 to you.
- 8 [15.11.31]
- 9 Our second question to civil party counsel concerns the reason
- 10 why civil parties deem such documents necessary. What is the
- 11 objective of citing those documents in posing your questions? Do
- 12 they hold very significant relevance to today's hearings?
- 13 MS. SUTZ:
- 14 Thank you very much, Judge. I will answer your two questions.
- 15 Some of these documents are indeed available in three languages.
- 16 Others are available only in English and Khmer. These are not
- 17 civil parties who are represented by myself. I'm not aware as to
- 18 whether or not translation requests have been made. I'll have to
- 19 forward that question to the appropriate counsel.
- 20 [15.12.40]
- 21 Obviously, these documents have been filed, and I believe that
- 22 these requests were made -- I believe that there was one
- 23 application made in the month of April, which is E9/32, as well
- 24 as a second application that was made in July, numbered E109/2.
- 25 With respect to your second question, the goal of our submission

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 of these documents is to ascertain the truth with respect to the
- 2 chain of commands that was in application in the zone and if,
- 3 indeed, there were people who were executed, who gave those
- 4 orders for execution.
- 5 JUDGE LAVERGNE:
- 6 With respect to the civil party's statements, are they signed by
- 7 the victims and applicants?
- 8 MS. SUTZ:
- 9 Yes, indeed. They are statements that were made during the filing
- 10 of the civil party application. There's an application in Khmer
- 11 as well as a summary that is -- or was produced in English and
- 12 filed, put in the case file. Some of these summaries were
- 13 translated in French, and others were not translated in French.
- 14 (Judges deliberate)
- 15 [15.14.46]
- 16 JUDGE LAVERGNE:
- 17 The Chamber will take some time to contemplate this issue and we
- 18 will be rendering a decision at a later stage.
- 19 MS. SUTZ:
- 20 Thank you very much, Judge.
- 21 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 22 I now hand over to Judge Cartwright.
- 23 [15.15.12]
- 24 JUDGE CARTWRIGHT:
- 25 Yes. Thank you, President. I just want to take the opportunity of

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 ensuring that the statements made by Prak Yut to the
- 2 Investigating Judges have all been placed before the Chamber,
- 3 because I'm personally not clear about their current status. And
- 4 so I'm now formally placing before the Chamber these four
- 5 statements: D234/4 with corrigendum; D234/4 -- corrigendum number
- 6 2; D234/8, already referred to -- oh, he's not here -- by counsel
- 7 for Nuon Chea; D234/15; and D234/16.
- 8 And I just want to ask Prak Yut a couple of questions about
- 9 these.
- 10 BY JUDGE CARTWRIGHT:
- 11 Q. In your evidence, earlier, you have said repeatedly that you
- 12 could not remember a lot of information because it was so many
- 13 years ago; is that correct?
- 14 MS. PRAK YUT:
- 15 A. Yes, it is.
- 16 Q. And is it also correct that -- You have told us that the
- 17 statements made in your four statements to the Co-Investigating
- 18 Judges were truthful; is that correct?
- 19 A. Yes, it is.
- 20 Q. In D234/16, you were asked this question:
- 21 "You told us yesterday that you were confident in the revolution
- 22 and a loyalist to the revolution. Did the arrest of your husband
- 23 make you change your mind about the revolution?"
- 24 And you answered:
- 25 "Since the arrest of my husband, I lost confidence in the

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 revolution because I loved my husband. I could not speak out
- 2 then, but inside myself, I felt hopeless."
- 3 Was that a correct statement then?
- 4 [15.18.40]
- 5 A. Allow me to answer the question concerning the arrest of my
- 6 husband.
- 7 In the first place, I was hopeless after the arrest of my
- 8 husband. I loved my husband, but he was arrested. However, I
- 9 dared not to say anything before Angkar. But normally, as
- 10 everyone knows, there must be love between husband and wife. But
- 11 I had to give it away because my husband was arrested. This is
- 12 what I thought to myself. It would be incorrect if I was
- 13 protesting, but it is true that husbands and wives love each
- 14 other. This is what I said. But I had to sacrifice. I did not
- 15 even cry when he was arrested. This is my true statement.
- 16 [15.20.17]
- 17 Q. You were also asked other questions about your faith in the
- 18 revolution, and you were asked, for example: "Was it wrong or
- 19 right that people were forced to work?"
- 20 Do you remember what you replied to the Investigating Judges in
- 21 answer to that question?
- 22 A. Allow me to answer this question. I am of the view that it is
- 23 wrong when people are forced to work. It is wrong because people
- 24 were forced to work very hard during that time. People were
- 25 forced. However, I believed that we had to follow the plan put in

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 place by the upper echelon.
- 2 [15.21.37]
- 3 Q. You were also asked what happened to people who could not be
- 4 re-educated. You were asked: "Were they arrested, killed or
- 5 died?"
- 6 Do you remember what you answered to that question?
- 7 A. I was asked at that time about that, and I said there were no
- 8 arrests or killings, but there was re-education. And there was no
- 9 arrest by the upper level and there were no killings of people
- 10 because they only conducted minor mistakes.
- 11 Q. So you are telling the Court, today, that, at your level,
- 12 there was no arrests or killings. Were there arrests or killings
- 13 at any other level above you?
- 14 [15.23.10]
- 15 A. It is true. This is true.
- 16 Q. You were asked: "Did it mean that the killing was the final
- 17 stage in the process?" And you answered:
- 18 "I was not responsible for the killing of the wrongdoer. The
- 19 killing was the decision of the upper echelon. When there were
- 20 people making mistakes, the lower rank prepared [the case] and
- 21 sent it to the upper echelon who was the educator and manager."
- 22 Is that correct -- that answer correct?
- 23 [15.23.58]
- 24 A. Yes, it is.
- 25 Q. So you are confirming that the information that you gave about

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 two years ago to the Investigating Judges is true and correct,
- 2 even if you can't -- couldn't remember all of those details in
- 3 Court; is that what you're telling us today?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 [15.24.28]
- 6 JUDGE CARTWRIGHT:
- 7 Thank you, President.
- 8 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 9 Thank you, Judge Cartwright.
- 10 Next, the Chamber hands over to defence counsel for Ieng Sary for
- 11 them to put questions to this witness if they wish to do so.
- 12 MR. ANG UDOM:
- 13 My respects to Mr. President, and my respects to Your Honours.
- 14 And good afternoon, everyone in and outside the courtroom.
- 15 The defence counsel for Mr. Ieng Sary stand by the position that
- 16 they will not ask questions to this witness. Thank you.
- 17 [15.25.29]
- 18 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 19 Thank you.
- 20 And now the Chamber hands over to defence counsel for Mr. Khieu
- 21 Samphan to put questions to this witness if they wish to do so.
- 22 MR. KONG SAM ONN:
- 23 Thank you, Mr. President. And my respects to the Chamber.
- 24 At this moment, counsel for Mr. Khieu Samphan do not have any
- 25 questions to put to this witness. However, if the Chamber allows

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 counsel for civil parties to put more questions to this witness
- 2 at a later stage, we would like to reserve our rights to put any
- 3 questions.
- 4 [15.26.31]
- 5 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 6 Thank you.
- 7 Now the proceedings to hear testimony of Mrs. Prak Yut has come
- 8 to an end, and it is appropriate for us to--
- 9 (Judges deliberate)
- 10 [15.29.18]
- 11 The Court will continue its proceedings as there are some
- 12 remaining issues to be dealt with concerning the questionings to
- 13 this witness by civil parties' counsel.
- 14 In order to be clear, I would like to hand over to Judge Lavergne
- 15 to clarify this point.
- 16 JUDGE LAVERGNE:
- 17 Thank you, Mr. President. Just to be certain about what you said
- 18 just now, the Chamber wants to be certain that the documents you
- 19 have referred to are available in Khmer plus one of the other
- 20 official languages.
- 21 You said just now that they weren't all available in three
- 22 languages; but can I be clear that they are available all in
- 23 Khmer plus one of the other two languages?
- 24 MR. VERCKEN:
- 25 Yes. In that case, I would be most grateful, Mr. President, if we

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 could withhold the references for this. The civil parties only
- 2 referred to the summaries rather than the actual documents that
- 3 they were putting to the witness.
- 4 [15.30.48]
- 5 MR. SUTZ:
- 6 We intend to present these summaries. There are some civil party
- 7 findings that are only in Khmer, which go along with summaries
- 8 done in English by the Victims Unit, and some of those summaries
- 9 have been translated into French, others not.
- 10 The two civil party applications that I wanted to refer to have
- 11 not been translated into French at this stage. Thank you.
- 12 JUDGE LAVERGNE:
- 13 Let's be certain about this. The ones you are going to use are
- 14 not the statements actually made by the civil parties, but the
- 15 summaries made by -- who, exactly?
- 16 MR. SUTZ:
- 17 We can refer to both. We don't work in Khmer. I personally was
- 18 going to refer to the summaries that have been made in English,
- 19 but my Cambodian colleagues can refer directly to the long
- 20 non-summarized version in Khmer.
- 21 JUDGE LAVERGNE:
- 22 But the Khmer version is only available in Khmer, or in Khmer
- 23 plus one language?
- 24 MR. SUTZ:
- 25 No, the full Khmer version is available only in the Khmer

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 language.
- 2 (Judges deliberate)
- 3 [15.33.07]
- 4 MS. SIMMONEAU-FORT:
- 5 Just, Mr. President, to add a couple of points.
- 6 We're talking about all the civil party filings that were
- 7 applications that were filed initially by the civil parties.
- 8 These were not translated because -- and this is a somewhat
- 9 impromptu remark -- because the translations didn't get their
- 10 authorization. It wasn't possible to have all document
- 11 translated, but between the civil party statements and the
- 12 filings by complainants who were not civil parties, there were
- 13 about 8,000 documents, and there are, of course, 3,900 civil
- 14 parties.
- 15 But let me just say that, for the reliability and authenticity of
- 16 these documents, they are documents that were used by the
- 17 Investigating Judges and Pre-Trial Chamber to declare 3,900 civil
- 18 parties admissible, so they have a genuine reliability and were
- 19 used as a basis for that decision I mentioned.
- 20 [15.34.18]
- 21 I would also add that your decision about the use of these
- 22 documents is vitally important because we have filed these
- 23 documents, they have their references and codes so forth, which
- 24 we will of course give you in due course. If, under rule 87, we
- 25 wish to use these documents, we do need to make sure that they

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

- 1 are officially placed before the Chamber. The question will
- 2 arise, now and at other times, because these are documents that
- 3 may be used in the file. Thank you.
- 4 (Judges deliberate)
- 5 [15.36.14]
- 6 MR. PRESIDENT:
- 7 After having verified the two documents that the civil party
- 8 counsel intended to use in questioning the witness, as the
- 9 document exists only in one language, the Trial Chamber will not
- 10 allow it for questionings to be put to this witness based on
- 11 those documents.
- 12 The hearing of the testimony of witness Prak Yut has come to an
- 13 end, and it is now appropriate for the adjournment as well.
- 14 The Trial Chamber would like to thank Ms. Prak Yut for providing
- 15 your testimony as summoned by the Chamber. And the hearing of
- 16 your testimony has come to an end. You can therefore -- you are
- 17 now, therefore, relieved of your duty to provide testimony before
- 18 this Chamber.
- 19 [15.37.49]
- 20 Court officer, please assist the witness with the Victim Support
- 21 section -- with officials, rather, to facilitate the witness to
- 22 return to her residence.
- 23 The Chamber is now adjourned, and we shall resume tomorrow
- 24 morning, starting from 9 a.m.
- 25 Security guards, you're instructed to take the three Accused back

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Trial Chamber – Trial Day 23 Case No. 002/19-09-2007-ECCC/TC 30/01/2012

1	to the detention facility and bring them back to this courtroom
2	tomorrow morning, before 9 a.m.
3	(Court adjourns at 1538H)
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