

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/Sub.2/414/Add.10
25 January 1979

ENGLISH
Original: ENGLISH/FRENCH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION
AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS
INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION AND OF
APARTHEID, IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL
AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SUB-
COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXIII)

Further submission from the International Commission of Jurists
under Commission on Human Rights decision 9 (XXXIV)

By letter dated 20 December 1973 the International Commission of Jurists has submitted a further collection of testimonies of refugees, marked by the submitting organization as testimonies Nos. 29 to 41. 1/

The submitting organization informs that the person, who gave testimony No. 29 currently lives in France, while those giving testimonies Nos. 30 to 41 live in refugee camps in Thailand.

1/ Owing to limited facilities for translation and reproduction, only testimony No. 29 is reproduced in the present document. Testimonies Nos. 30 to 41 are kept in the Secretariat files and are available for consultation in the original language, as received.

Testimony No. 29

Age: about thirty

Profession: Kanak srok of the present administration

Location: Prey Chhor (Kompong Cham)

Date of arrival in Thailand: 17 August 1977.

His father was a peasant who supported the revolutionaries from 1963-1964. He himself was well acquainted with revolutionary propaganda before 1970 and eagerly welcomed it. In 1970 he joined the revolutionaries and rose to become chairman of two villages and then head of srok. He completed the tenth grade (can read and write but no more). He has never been a soldier.

"In the beginning, in 1970, they killed only soldiers. As I had been taught, we were making the revolution in order to change the régime, to drive out the Americans and thus prevent Cambodia from becoming a base for attacking Viet Nam. We were not making the revolution in order to kill people. The rich were being plundered in order to distribute their property to the poor. I fully agreed with these views and taught them to people."

"The decision to empty the cities was taken after the experience of the revolutionary years 1971 and 1972: it was realized that people from the conquered villages could work in the fields and thus help the army. Their children could become revolutionary soldiers. The same was decided for Phnom Penh as for the other cities."

"The decision to kill the soldiers was also the product of revolutionary experience: in the beginning they killed only men, sparing the lives of women and children. I married several soldiers' widows to villagers, which was subsequently held against me.

In 1975, however, we were made to change policy: the victory of the revolution had been too quick. If the population was not wiped out immediately, the revolution would be in danger because the republican forces, the forces of Sihanouk, the capitalist forces would unite against it. It was therefore necessary to eliminate all these forces and to spare only those of the Communist Party of Kampuchea. It was necessary to eliminate not only the officers but also the common soldiers as well as their wives and children. This was also based on revolutionary experience. In the past, Sihanouk had killed revolutionaries, but their wives, children and relatives had united against him and had joined us. That must not be repeated against us now. In the beginning, however, only officers' families were killed. At the beginning of 1976, however, the families of common soldiers were also killed. One day, at Choeung Prey, I cried for a whole day on seeing women and children killed. I could no longer raise my arms. Comrade Saruoeun said to me: 'Get on with it'. I said: 'How can I? Who can kill women and children?' Three days later I was arrested, in June 1976".

"At the end of 1976, Comrade Sreng became chairman of the Northern Region to replace Comrade Touch, who had been called to Phnom Penh. It was then decided to arrest "the worthless ones" (? Editor's note: Anou-thon), in other words, intellectuals, teachers, pupils beyond the seventh grade. The country had to be rid of them. That was the decision of the Central Committee, just as it had been its decision to wipe out the soldiers in 1975-1976. In 1978, it would be the turn of the rich peasants, and the peasants of the upper middle level, sparing only the poor peasants and the lower middle level peasants.

I suppose that Hou Youn was against this severity and that he was killed after the victory, because I saw him just before. Comrade Touch (Koy Thuon) too. I knew him very well. One day, after the execution of a girl, he posted this notice: "It is absolutely wrong to kill girls and children because they are innocent. The revolution was not made in order to kill people but in order to change society!"

"In the prison of Trapéang Pop (?) I was put in chains, seated on the ground with my feet up. They beat the soles of my feet in order to make me reveal the names of my accomplices, but I had none. Every day three or four people died. That was the provincial prison, the one for crimes of opinion. They beat the prisoners to get information about their accomplices and once they had the information they killed them. There was no trial of any kind. As for myself, I managed to pick the lock on my chains after a month and a half of detention and fled into the forest where I remained for a year, secretly fed by the villagers."

"Beginning at the end of 1976, and especially in 1977, many people from the administration (Roat Amnach) and the services (Krasuong) were arrested and disappeared. I no longer recall all the names, but if I did I would require an entire notebook. Those I remember are the following:

- 1 - HAS, a friend of mine. He was arrested about the same time as I was.
- 2 - SRENG, chairman of the region after TOUCH.
- 3 - THOL, vice-chairman of the region and chairman of Dambân 42 (Chamcar Le).
- 4 - NGEN, member of the regional team and chairman of Dambân 43.
- 5 - Miss KHAM, woman member of the regional team.
- 6 - TANG, chairman of Dambân 41 (Kang Méas).
- 7 - SUOEU, Kanak srok of Kompong Sie m (srok No. 33).
- 8 - SAU, member of the same srok team (not dead when I left).
- 9 - Miss SAN, woman member of the same srok team.
- 10 - SEN, Kanak srok of Prey Chhor (srok No. 77).
- 11 - HENG, vice-chairman of the same srok.
- 12 - SAOM, member of the srok team.
- 13 - MARANN, woman member of the srok team.
- 14 - MEAS, Kanak srok of Kang Néas (srok No. 101).
- 15 - PHANN, vice-chairman of the same srok.
- 16 - KCHANG, member of the same srok committee.
- 17 - SAU, member of the srok committee.

- 18 - ROM, woman member of the srok committee.
- 19 - KEAP, chairman of the srok (or "kanak srok") of Choeung Prey.
- 20 - SOUI, vice-chairman of the srok.
- 21 - NEANG, woman member of the srok committee.
- 22 - SAO, chairman of Batheay srok (Dambân No. 44).
- 23 - CHHIENG, vice-chairman of srok.
- 24 - HEAP, woman member of the srok committee.
- 25 - SUOR, kanak srok of Prey Prasâp (I can no longer recall the number).
- 26 - KA, kanak srok of Stung Trang.
- 27 - LOAN, kanak srok of Taing Kauk.
- 28 - CHHEM, of the Taing Kauk committee.
- 29 - BUON, of Chamcar Leu (a simple peasant who couldn't read or write).
- 30 - POUL, trade chairman of the Northern Region.
- 31 - NGOUON, trade vice-chairman of the region.
- 32 - A Khmer Leu whose name I don't know.
- 33 - SAN, of the "ministry of factories".
- 34 - VA, of the same ministry.
- 35 - PHENG, kanak sangkat of Kley Por.
- 36 - LEN, kanak sangkat of Véal Trach.
- 37 - BAN, kanak sangkat of Kach Thom.
- 38 - YEN, kanak sangkat of Tang Rong.
- 39 - YOAM, kanak sangkat of Hek (?) Krauch.
- 40 - NEANG, a woman.
- 41 - PHIN, chairman of the "security" (Editor's note: = prison) of Prey Chhor.
- 42 - HOY, chairman of the security of Choeung Prey.
- 43 - CHON, vice-chairman of this prison.
- 44 - SARAY, also vice-chairman of this prison.
- 45 - SARUOEUN, member of the prison committee.
- 46 - PHAN, also a member of the prison committee.

- 47 - BINH, another member of the prison committee.
- 48 - HIENG, of the Taing Kauk prison.
- 49 - KHEN of Tan Kranh.

(All the names which follow are those of Kanak sangkat who were arrested and killed)

- 50 - SEAN, of Sandèk (?)
- 51 - SONG, of Tonôp.
- 52 - SAN, of Samnâr.
- 53 - SENG, of Kang Méas.
- 54 - SIEM, of Prek Krabau.
- 55 - KHAN, Colonel (anouprathien kang pol).
- 56 - SEY, Colonel (prathien kang pol).
- 57 - HAM, commander (prathien voréak).
- 58 - HEM, commander.
- 59 - YANG, commander.
- 60 - MY, commander.
- 61 - CHHOUON.
- 62 - SANN.
- 63 - TY.
- 64 - MAN.
- 65 - KHEM.
- 66 - CHON.
- 67 - BENG.

All these people were killed after the TOUCH affair, but they knew nothing about it. They were killed together with their families: Sreng, for example, was killed together with his father, mother and wife. They were accused of being revisionists. In my case, they killed my three brothers, leaving me with only a sister.