

DCCAM'S PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT:

Meas Im, the younger brother of Meas Mut

Noted by Long Dany

Meas Im is a 70-year-old male who lives in Po village Sre Samrong commune, Chumkiri district, Kampot province. Im was born in Po village, Sre Khnong commune, Chhouk district, Kampot province. Im's father's name was Meas Ut. Ut died under the Sangkum Reatr Niyum regime. Im's mother, Tit Kin, died in 1979 near the Cambodian–Thai border. Im has six sisters and 3 brothers. *Meas Mut is the fifth child in the family, and Meas Im is the sixth.*

Im's education at the Wat Angchak Primary School ended at grade 7 (old system). His brother Meas Mut also studied at the Wat Angchak Primary School before practicing as a Buddhist monk in Sre Khnong Pagoda. Meas Mut eventually completed his studies in Phnom Penh City. He received a secondary school certificate after passing his exams. Im, on the other hand, failed his Stivika exams (Pedagogy School for students studying primary school education). Im returned to his home and worked in his parent's rice field. He also received training as a tailor from a Chinese merchant in Chhouk until 1970.

On March 18, 1970, Im volunteered to join the KR revolution. His parents supported his decision to join the revolution. Im received tactical military training from the Viet Cong and Khmers experts who had recently returned from Northern Vietnam. Im's believed that his brother, Meas Mut, joined the KR revolution prior to 1970. Im rarely saw his brother during the civil war years.

In 1972, Im joined KR Regiment 12, under the leadership of regiment chief Tim Ren. In 1973, Im's regiment was ordered to fight Lon Nol soldiers stationed along National Road # 2 between Siem Reap, Kan Tuot and Ta Khmao. Im believes that KR used this engagement to test their strategy before deciding on the Phnom Penh attack strategy. Im's regiment was next stationed in the Kraing Dei Vay region, in Kampong Speu province.

In 1974, Regiment 12 was ordered to attack Lon Nol soldiers in the Pochentong region. Im along with 10 other soldiers from the regiment stayed in Kraing Dei Vay. The soldiers that stayed behind sewed clothes for the regiment until KR entered in Phnom Penh in April 1975.

After the conclusion of the civil war, Im was sent to work on a rice field in Prek Roluos near Steong Hav. In 1976, deputy chief of division 164 Dem promoted Im to the position of chief mechanic in the division. He was responsible for truck and tractor repair. There were 800 soldiers under his supervision.

Im's unit was next assigned to transport rock from Slap Ta Aon and Kampong Trach to the Steong Hav harbor construction site. Once a day a truck would deliver the rock to the harbor. At this time the Chinese government was providing gasoline, engine oil, and other materials for the construction site at Steong Hav.

Meas Mut visited the construction site and met with KR cadres and discussed technical work and the future plans for the construction site. Im was not present at Meas Mut's meeting that discussed the enemies' network and the current political situation in the country.

Im dealt with many problems. For example, his trucks consistently had problems. Drivers were often forced to drive trucks in precarious situations, resulting in breakdowns and the constant need for spare parts. He never reported these mistakes and problems to his superiors. Im believed that the soldiers received only limited truck driving training. For this reason he was more sympathetic for their mistakes and breakdowns.

At this time Meanh was the supervisor for the construction site. The KR planned the construction of a dam to prevent the damage from large sea waves. However, only 700 meters of the dam was constructed before the Vietnamese soldiers entered Cambodia in January, 1979.

In response to the changing political climate, Im and several soldiers from his unit fled to Sre Ambil. They continued to Thma Bang, Koh Kong province and integrated with the third division near the Cambodian–Thai border between Koh Kong and Thma Da (Pursat). Tim Seng was a chief of the Division.

In 1986, Im was ordered to lead 60 soldiers to operate in areas within Koh Kong province. He operated and looted there until the integration with Cambodian government in 1997. Meas Im was assistant chief of commander of the 3rd Military Zone for the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) until his retirement in 2008.