

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលឯកសារកម្ពុជា

Documentation Center of Cambodia
PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT (PA)

KHMER ROUGE 'TRAPEANG THMA' DAM CONSTRUCTION
Interview series: Interview No. 4

Interview with Mun Mut, Male, 54 years old
Sreh Kaet village, Preah Netr Preah commune, Preah Netr Preah district,
Banteay Meanchey province
Position during KR regime: A chief of Big Cell of Mobile Work Unit of Region 5
at Trapeang Thma Dam Worksite
Current position: Farmer
Interviewed by Long Dany
Translated by Long Dany and Vanthan Peoudara
June 16, 2011

Dany: I want to know your name. So what is your full name?
Mut: My name is Mun Mut.
Dany: Is your original name?
Mut: Yes. I also used the name during the KR regime. After the regime, when I went to study far away from my home village, I changed my name to Mun Saroeun.
Dany: Mun Saroeun?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: What else?
Mut: No. Only the two above.
Dany: Your original name is Mun Mut and then you changed your name as Mun Saroeun?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: When did you change your name?
Mut: After the KR regime.
Dany: Oh! After the KR regime!
Mut: Yes. After 1979.
Dany: How old are you?
Mut: 54 years old.
Dany: Where is your birthplace?
Mut: In Sreh Kaet village.
Dany: What is the commune?
Mut: Preah Netr Preah commune, Preah Netr Preah district, Banteay Meanchey province.
Dany: Where do you live today?
Mut: I live in Sreh Kaet village.

Dany: Preah Netr Preah commune right?
Mut: Yes. Preah Neth, Preah commune.
Dany: What is your wife's name?
Mut: Her name is Nou Kimleang.
Dany: How old is she?
Mut: 45 years old.
Dany: How many children do you have?
Mut: I have five children.
Dany: How many daughters and sons do you have?
Mut: Four sons and one daughter.
Dany: Are they all adults?
Mut: Yes. Three of them have wives and a husband; one is single.
Dany: What is your job?
Mut: I am a farmer.
Dany: What is your father's name?
Mut: His name is Chu Mun.
Dany: He is still alive right?
Mut: No. He died in 1977.
Dany: What is your mother's name?
Mut: Ao Deng.
Dany: Is she still alive?
Mut: She died during the UNTAC time (around 1991-1992).
Dany: How many siblings do you have?
Mut: I have 6 siblings.
Dany: How many sisters and brothers do you have?
Mut: Two sisters and four brothers.
Dany: What is your rank in your family?
Mut: I am fifth in my family.
Dany: Did you go to school when you were young?
Mut: I was in grade 10 (old system) during Thieu-Ky, black teeth period.
Dany: It was the Vietcong period right?
Mut: Yes. Vietcong black teeth, it was called Thieu-Ky (Prey Norko).
Dany: Oh!
Mut: I went to school in Battambang town center. However, I did not finish my school during that time.
Dany: Which school did you study at in grade 10?
Mut: I studied at a school near Kampheng Pagoda.
Dany: Kampheng Pagoda in the town center right?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: Why did you go to study in Battambang town center?
Mut: I stayed with my elder brother who was a teacher in Battambang town center. So I went to school there.

Dany: Your elder brother was a teacher right?
Mut: Yes, he was a teacher there and he was killed by the KR after he was evacuated to Phnom Srok district, Battambang province.

Dany: When did you go to school and when did you drop out of the school?
Mut: I quit school in 1973.
Dany: You dropped out of the school in 1973!
Mut: Yes. I went to school when I was five years old in my home village.
Dany: So, you went to school in Battambang since you was five years old right?
Mut: No. I moved to Battambang when I was in grade 11 and I studied there for only two years.

Dany: You dropped out of the school in 1973 right?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: Why did you quit from the school in 1973?
Mut: I quit the school in 1973, because Lon Nol and the KR fought against each other in the villages and then in Veal Bak Chan near the town center...

Dany: Where did you go after you quit school in 1973?
Mut: In 1973, I returned my home village.
Dany: Did you stay with your parents there?
Mut: I stayed with my family in my home village.
Dany: What did your family do during the time?
Mut: My family were famers. We worked in rice fields.
Dany: How long did you work in the rice field with your family?
Mut: In 1975, the KR soldiers came into my village and they started to force us to carry earth to build dam and pile up dikes for rice fields in Kok Romchek.

Dany: Did you carry earth as part of a unit?
Mut: I was in a unit in Kok Romchek.
Dany: What was the unit?
Mut: It called the unit but it was not identified as a mobile work unit yet. The KR just collected people to labor together in one place and carry earth to build Kok Romchek Dam O-Kok Romchek, which has a road to Phnom Srok district.

Dany: So, you were forced to carry earth at Kok Romchek Dam at that time right?
Mut: Later on.
Dany: Your unit was mixed between young and old people right?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: Mixed!
Mut: Mixed! They came from different districts within Region 5 and the KR forced people to eat the root of banana and papaya trees instead.

Dany: How many people were there?
Mut: At first time, there were no new people who were evacuated from Phnom Penh yet. They were mobilized from districts to Kok Romchek.

Dany: How many people were there at first?
Mut: There were a lot of people. They came from every village, communes in Preah Netr Preah district, and in Banteay Meanchey.
Dany: Were hundreds or thousands people there?
Mut: There were thousands people there.
Dany: Who was the supervisor at the Kok Romchek dam?
Mut: [Ta] Loeum was a chief of Kok Romchek Dam.
Dany: [Ta] Loeum!
Mut: I did not dare to talk to him and saw him only for a moment.
Dany: What was [Ta] Loeum's chief?
Mut: He was in charge of Kok Romchek dam, but I did not know exactly about his position.
Dany: Who was the chief of mobile work unit of Region 5?
Mut: At that time, they did not form as a mobile work unit of Region 5 yet. Then, [Ta] Val was a chief of mobile work unit of Region 5. The KR had just liberated in 1975 and they had not assigned their cadres with exact positions yet.
Dany: He was only responsible the dam right?
Mut: Yes. He was a chief of the worksite.
Dany: He was a chief of the worksite right?
Mut: Yes. He managed food supply such as salt and fish paste (Brohok).
Dany: Where did [Ta] Loeum come from?
Mut: I did not know. He was liberation.
Dany: So, soon after the KR came to power in 1975, you were selected to a unit?
Mut: Yes. I started to carry earth to build Kok Romchek. And then the unit was formed as [Ta] Val's unit.
Dany: Did the KR force you to a unit or did you volunteer to join them?
Mut: They were collected to carry the earth at Kok Romchek and after finished the worksites. The KR did not allowed us to return home and the KR sent us directly to a mobile work unit in Region 5 where [Ta] Val was a chief.
Dany: So, you did not volunteer to go to Kok Romchek right?
Mut: No I did not volunteer. They mobilized and forced us to go there.
Dany: They mobilized?
Mut: Yes. I was a teenager.
Dany: How old were you at that time?
Mut: I was 17 or 18 years old.
Dany: So, what was the age of people who were mobilized to carry earth to build the dam?
Mut: There were a lot of people between 20, 30 and 40 at that time.
Dany: Hundreds of people right?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: How long were you forced to carry earth at Kok Romchek dam?

Mut: I was there for 4 months. Then I was sent to Chup Vary and the KR organized a party for us and in night time they showed a film at Kok Thay Pagoda.

Dany: So, were you there only 4 months and returned Cup Vary?

Mut: Yes. We finished the Dam and the KR organized a party for us. Afterwards they were selected to serve as soldiers.

Dany: Were they selected to serve as soldiers?

Mut: They were selected for Preah Netr Preah district's military unit. Some of them were selected to serve as soldiers in Preah Netr Preah district

Dany: Some were selected to serve as soldiers. So, how about the others?

Mut: Other people were selected to serve as medical staff.

Dany: Selecting to be soldiers and medical staff?

Mut: The KR selected some people who were healthy to serve as soldiers and medical staff.

Dany: How about other people who were not selected to serve as soldiers and medical staff?

Mut: Other people who remained were sent to the agricultural unit at Chup Vary where [Ta] Chhang was a chief of the unit.

Dany: Agricultural unit of Preah Netr Preah district?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: How about you? Were you in the agricultural unit?

Mut: Yes. I was in the unit.

Dany: Who was a chief of the unit?

Mut: [Ta] Chhang.

Dany: Could you tell me about how the KR selected people to serve soldiers, medical staff and in agricultural unit? Please explain about the people's behaviors and their appearances?

Mut: The KR selected based on their family background such as farmers or working classes. As for some people who were involved with the previous regime, they were not allowed to serve as soldiers or medical staff.

Dany: So, they might allow people to serve as soldiers if they are classified as pure classes?

Mut: Yes. They had good class background.

Dany: How about medical staff?

Mut: Medical staff were also the same as soldiers. However, I was in the agricultural unit. The unit was not bad. Chhang managed both agriculture and commerce. I was a messenger of [Ta] Chhang.

Dany: The commerce of Preah Netr Preah district right?

Mut: Yes. The commerce of Preah Netr Preah district.

Dany: When did the KR selected people to be soldiers, medical staff, and agricultural workers?

Mut: In 1975-1976. Probably in early 1976.

Dany: Did you remember the month in 1976?
Mut: When I was with [Ta] Chhang in early 1976.
Dany: Oh. Early 1976?
Mut: Yes. At that time they prepared and created commercial units.
Dany: You were a messenger of [Ta] Chhang right?
Mut: [Ta] Chhang took me to follow him. He gave me a short gun.
Dany: How many people were messengers of [Ta] Chhang?
Mut: There were 4 people.
Dany: Could you tell me their names?
Mut: Thet lives in Phnom Liep, Thai lives in Preah Netr Preah, Cham, Hong lives in Kampot, Chhum lives in Svay Chek. Hong and Chhum were chiefs of the messenger group. There were 4 or 5 messengers and there was one short gun for each.
Dany: What did you do as the messenger?
Mut: When [Ta] Chhang went out, we followed him. We also helped people on the rice field when we had free time.
Dany: What else?
Mut: No. I did nothing.
Dany: Did you find it difficult when you were a messenger?
Mut: Yes. A bit difficult and I had no free time at the time. I respected [Ta] Chhang because he took me to serve as a messenger there. I did not go to forest with him before they came to power in 1975. I thought [Ta] Chhang liked me because he took me to work in his unit and also gave a short gun to me.
Dany: How long did you serve as a messenger of [Ta] Chhang?
Mut: It was until 1977.
Dany: From 1976 to 1977 right?
Mut: In 1977, people in my unit were separated from each other.
Dany: Why in 1977 were separated from each other?
Mut: The KR dissolved the unit.
Dany: The KR dissolved the unit?
Mut: At that time, the situation was troublesome. The KR arrested some cadres in the unit and started to dissolve the unit; and I was sent to a mobile work unit.
Dany: The KR dissolved the unit and arrested people?
Mut: The KR arrested some cadres and I was sent to supervise in [Ta] Val's mobile work unit.
Dany: [Ta] Chhang was arrested after the unit was dissolved right?
Mut: [Ta] Chhang was arrested and I did not know the reason why [Ta] Chhang was arrested. At the time, [Ta] Val was assigned to be a chief of mobile work unit of Region 5 and he took cadres from this agricultural unit to supervise some sectors of the mobile work unit.

Dany: Why did you think you were selected to [Ta] Val's mobile work unit?
 Mut: I did not know. They did not inform me. They just required me to go there.
 Dany: They selected you?
 Mut: They selected me and assigned me to be a chief of a big cell unit of the mobile work unit.

Dany: Were you sent there in 1977 right?
 Mut: In 1977.
 Dany: Which month?
 Mut: In the harvest season. In the dry season they started to carry earth at Trapeang Thma Dam Worksite. It was in Khe Kadoek of Khmer Calendar (in November or December in 1976)

Dany: Khe Kadoek?
 Mut: Yes.
 Dany: Khe Kadoek in early 1977 right?
 Mut: Early 1977.
 Dany: Early 1977.
 Mut: Yes. Early 1977 or late 1976. It was in Khe Kadoek, They started the worksite.

Dany: So, it started in late 1976 or early 1977 right?
 Mut: Yes. It was in November or December in 1976.
 Dany: At that time, were you selected to the mobile work unit of [Ta] Val?
 Mut: Yes.
 Dany: What was the mobile work unit?
 Mut: Mobile work unit of the region where [Ta] Hoeng was a chief of the region.
 Dany: The mobile work unit of which region?
 Mut: Region 5.
 Dany: [Ta] Hoeng was a chief of Region 5 right?
 Mut: Yes.
 Dany: [Ta] Val was a chief of mobile work unit of Region 5 right?
 Mut: Yes. [Ta] Val was a chief of the mobile work unit, [Ta] Hoeng was a chief of the Region and [Ta] Chiel was a deputy chief of the Region.

Dany: Who else were deputies of [Ta] Hoeng?
 Mut: [Ta] Hoeng had only Chiel, who was a deputy chief of the Region. Chiel was a son of [Ta] Nhim who was a chief in the North West Zone.

Dany: Only [Ta] Hoeng and [Ta] Chiel for the region's committee?
 Mut: I knew only the two guys and did not know other people in the Region's committee.

Dany: Who was a deputy of [Ta] Val?
 Mut: I did not see someone was a deputy of [Ta] Val.
 Dany: Who was chief of Preah Netr Preah district?
 Mut: [Ta] Maong was chief of Preah Netr Preah district and [Ta] Sam-at was deputy chief of the district.

Dany: [Ta] Val was not chief of Preah Netr Preah district right?
Mut: He was not chief of Preah Netr Preah district.
Dany: So, [Ta] Maong was chief and not [Ta] Val. He was a chief of Preah Netr Preah district?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: How about [Ta] Sam-at?
Mut: [Ta] Sam-at was a deputy of [Ta] Maong.
Dany: Both of them were the district committee!
Mut: Yes. Two of them.
Dany: Preah Netr Preah district committee!
Mut: Yes. Only two of them [Ta] Maong and [Ta] Sam-at. [Ta] Val was different, he was in the region committee.
Dany: Region committee!
Mut: Yes. I saw [Ta] Hoeng often went to [Ta] Val's house.
Dany: Did [Ta] Hoeng go to [Ta] Val's house?
Mut: He often went to [Ta] Val's house.
Dany: Where was [Ta] Val's house?
Mut: [Ta] Val's house located in north part and near a pond and his house was a wooden house with roofing tile. [Ta] Hoeng's house located in west of the pond. His house was also a big wooden house with roofing tile.
Dany: Where was the Region 5's office?
Mut: The office located in Svay.
Dany: But, [Ta] Hoeng's house was here?
Mut: Yes. His house was in Chup Vary near [Ta] Sam-at, [Ta] Maong houses also closed to Kok Thay Pagoda. The house was in north of a road into Kok Thay Pagoda.
Dany: How about [Ta] Chiel?
Mut: [Ta] Chiel was in Svay.
Dany: [Ta] Chiel was in Svay!
Mut: Yes. [Ta] Chiel is a son of [Ta] Nhim who was a chief North West Zone.
Dany: Did you ever see [Ta] Chiel's face?
Mut: Yes. I saw.
Dany: Did [Ta] Chiel look older than you?
Mut: Yes. He is older than me.
Dany: How old was he at that time?
Mut: Yes. At that time, [Ta] Chiel was around 40.
Dany: He was 40.
Mut: Yes.
Dany: How about [Ta] Nhim?
Mut: [Ta] Nhim was around 60.
Dany: How about [Ta] Hoeng?
Mut: He was around 50.

Dany: [Ta] Hoeng was elder than [Ta] Chiel right?
 Mut: Yes. He was elder than [Ta] Chiel.
 Dany: How about [Ta] Val?
 Mut: [Ta] Val was around 48 or 50 years old. He was a professor in Kampong Cham.
 Dany: Oh! He came from Kampong Cham province!
 Mut: Yes.
 Dany: How about his appearance?
 Mut: He was skinny. [Ta] Val and [Ta] Sam-at were similar in appearance to each other.
 Dany: He was skinny and tall right?
 Mut: He was tall. He had golden teeth. He had sharp voice and a sharp face (Mokh Sruoch). His wife name's is Kin and his son's name is Daung. His wife is still alive.
 Dany: Oh! His wife is still alive!
 Mut: Yes. His son is also still alive. His son lives with [[Yeay]] Kin.
 Dany: [[Yeay]] Kin!
 Mut: Yes. She is [Ta] Val's wife. After [Ta] Val was arrested and his family was separated.
 Dany: [[Yeay]] Kin is [Ta] Val's wife right?
 Mut: Yes.
 Dany: Where is [Ta] Val's wife living now?
 Mut: She lives in a village near Spean Sreng village.
 Dany: What is his son's name?
 Mut: At that time, his son's name is Daung or Dauch.
 Dany: Daung or Dauch right?
 Mut: Yes.
 Dany: If I go to Spean Sreng and ask the local people there, do they know [[Yeay]] Kin ([Ta] Val's wife)?
 Mut: Yes. [[Yeay]] Kin is [Ta] Val's wife. If the people there do not know her, you should go to Kum Phneang village. However, in 1979 I used to ask the villagers in Spean Sreng and many of them knew her.
 Dany: When the KR arrested [Ta] Val, his family was free right?
 Mut: The KR allowed his family to return to their home village.
 Dany: How about [Ta] Hoeng's appearance?
 Mut: [Ta] Hoeng was not so tall. His appearance was similar to my appearance at the moment. He was not tall. His was beautifully dark skinned.
 Dany: How about his hair?
 Mut: His was straight hair.
 Dany: How about his voice?
 Mut: His voice is similar to [Ta] Maong's. I suspected that he came from Samlot district, because [Ta] Maong came from Samlot district.

Dany: So, he was not from Kampong Cham?
Mut: Similar with [Ta] Maong. He was not from Kampong Cham, [Ta] Hoeng.
Dany: [Ta] Hoeng.
Mut: [Ta] Hoeng was not from Kampong Cham, [Ta] Hoeng who was a chief of Region 5.
Dany: He was an intellectual right?
Mut: They were both intellectuals, [Ta] Sam-at, [Ta] Val.
Dany: How about [Ta] Hoeng's voice?
Mut: His voice was similar to [Ta] Maong's. He spoke with a loud and deep voice. And he spoke fast.
Dany: How about [Ta] Chiel?
Mut: [Ta] Chiel spoke loud and fast. He came from Phnom Srok district.
Dany: He came from Phnom Srok district?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: How about [Ta] Val?
Mut: Oh! [Ta] Val spoke very fast. I was hard to listen when he talked. He had two golden teeth.
Dany: He had two golden teeth!
Mut: Yes.
Dany: How about his appearance?
Mut: He was dark skinned and with curly hair.
Dany: He was tall or short?
Mut: He was tall and skinny.
Dany: What is his wife's name?
Mut: His wife name is Kin and was called comrade Kin.
Dany: What is [Ta] Hoeng's wife's name?
Mut: I did not know [Ta] Hoeng's wife's name. I knew [Ta] Maong's wife's name is Rin. She was a chief of Preah Netr Preah hospital. She was very cute at that time.
Dany: How about [Ta] Chiel's wife?
Mut: I don't know. He was in Svay.
Dany: Did you know [Ta] Chiel's wife is a daughter of So Phim?
Mut: I never heard about that. It was probably right because [Ta] Nhim was a close friend of Sophim. However, I did not know about this.
Dany: Did you know his wife's name?
Mut: I did not know.
Dany: How about [Ta] Hoeng's wife?
Mut: I did not know that either.
Dany: You knew only [Ta] Val and [Ta] Maong's wives right?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: What was your position after you were selected to his mobile work unit?

Mut: I was assigned to be a chief of the third big cell of [Ta] Val's mobile work unit

Dany: You were ahead to the third big cell right?

Mut: Yes. The KR assigned people who were evacuated from Phnom Penh to my unit.

Dany: How many people were in your unit?

Mut: There were more than a hundred and sometimes 120.

Dany: More than a hundred?

Mut: More than a hundred.

Dany: How many people in [Ta] Val's mobile work unit?

Mut: There were a lot of people in the unit. First Big Cell where [Ta] Vit was a chief. He lived in Daun Chreng village. Second Big Cell was managed by [Ta] Phan who lived in Rohal. And the Third Big Cell was me and three other Big Cells of women.

Dany: How about [Ta] Vit's Big Cell?

Mut: [Ta] Vit.

Dany: What was [Ta] Vit's Big Cell?

Mut: [Ta] Vit was the first big cell and [Ta] Phan was the second big cell. [Ta] Phan lived in Rohal located east past of Chup Vary. He died at Phnom Chhat after 1979.

Dany: How about [Ta] Vit?

Mut: [Ta] Vit escaped from Trapeang Thma to the Cambodia – Thailand border and then, [Ta] Vit and other people disappeared until today.

Dany: So, there were three Big Cells of men right?

Mut: Yes. There were three Big Cells.

Dany: How about Big Cells of women?

Mut: There were three too. Mao was a chief of first Big Cell of women. Mit was a chief of second Big Cell of women and she also was a chief of women's battalion. Mit lives in Spean Sreng village. I forgot who was chief of the other Big Cell of women. I suspected that Ken was a chief of the second Big Cell of women. Ken is wife of [Ta] Reap. Both worked at Trapeang Thma Dam Worksite.

Dany: What was [Ta] Reap's position?

Mut: He managed youth. Then he was sent to manage children. After that he was assigned to be a chief of Small Cell within my Big Cell.

Dany: Beside Mao and Ken, who else was chief of a Big Cell of women?

Mut: Ken lives in Phnom Liep and Mao lives Daun Chreng villages and they were chief of Women's Big Cells.

Dany: You knew only two? Ken and Mao right?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Ken and Mao?

Mut: Oh! One more. Phoan was a chief of third Big Cell. Phoan came from the Eastern part. She lives in Siem Reap and then she came to work in Spean Sreng. She was a chief of the third Big Cell of women at Trapeang Thma Dam Worksite. She was in Siem Reap but her village closed to Spean Sreng border, Phnom Srok district of Region 5 and she came to live in Spean Sreng.

Dany: So, there were 3 Big Cells of men and three Big Cells of women within of mobile work unit of region 5?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: A total of 6 Big Cell right?

Mut: We had another middle-age unit where [Ta] Chhuong and [[Yeay]] Phean were chiefs. The unit was people who had spouse only.

Dany: [Ta] Chhuong was a chief of Middle-age Unit!

Mut: Yes. [Ta] Chhuong.

Dany: How many people in the unit?

Mut: There were 20 to 30 spouses and they were assigned to work different from the youth.

Dany: [Ta] Chhuong managed middle-age unit both male and female right?

Mut: Yes. The unit consisted of youth. After they got married, the KR separated them from Youth Unit and placed them in the Middle- Age Unit.

Dany: Only for people who had spouses?

Mut: Yes, for people who spouses only! Some of them were ordered to carry earth and other was assigned to grow vegetable or work in other places instead.

Dany: How many people in the unit?

Mut: There were a lot of people including other people who came from villages, communes, districts as well. I suspected that the KR forced people from districts to carry earth at the Trapeang ThmaDam worksite too. However I do not remember how many people were sent from cooperatives. [Ta] Val required youths from all cooperatives in Thma Puok and other districts within Region 5 for the worksite. For example, Khim and Krou Lekh were sent to Trapeang Thma Dam Worksite, but they were not in the mobile work unit of Region 5 like me. They probably recieved their food supply from the cooperatives not involved with the Region.

Dany: Were you sure about this?

Mut: I was not sure.

Dany: So, maybe the KR sent some people in communes (mobile work unit of communes) to help at the worksite.

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Helping?

Mut: Yes. They helped because the KR wanted to finish as soon as possible. So the KR took people from Banteay Chhma Ang Cheung Kruos, Serei Sophoan districts to help there.

Dany: When did they start the Trapeang Thma Dam Worksite?

Mut: They started in 1976 and went until 1977-78. Then the KR began to arrest each other.

Dany: Did the Trapeang Thma Dam worksite start construction when you were in the unit of [Ta] Val?

Mut: Not yet. Only my unit was there at first ([Ta] Val's unit) and later there were a lot of people there.

Dany: So, your unit was first unit start at Trapeang Thma Dam Worksite right?

Mut: Yes. I was there; I saw the KR put a bamboo line up for the construction. My unit arrived and immediately started to carry the earth because the KR already had the plan for the construction.

Dany: So, in early 1977 you were assigned to be a chief of third Big Cell and immediately sent to Trapeang Thma right?

Mut: I went out from [Ta] Chhang in 1977 to join [Ta] Val's unit in Chup Vary and then I was sent to Trapeang Thma.

Dany: Directly went to Trapeang Thma!

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Did you see the KR already put bamboo on line for construction plan?

Mut: Yes. I saw how many meters for the dam back, how many meters for width and how many for the length. [Ta] Val called all the KR cadres (Small Cell, Big Cell, Battalion and Regiment in the Unit) to have a meeting and confirmed how many meters for the dam's back and how many meters for width and long.

Dany: So, do you remember how many meters was the back of the dam?

Mut: The back was 8 meters. I did not know exactly but may be 8 meters depth; and the bank slope was 12-13 meters. I did not know how many meters for it bottom.

Dany: Did you not know about the bottom?

Mut: I did not know the bottom. I only know it meters form the bank slope of the dam.

Dany: So, you did not know the bottom?

Mut: I was not sure about this.

Dany: How about the Dam's long?

Mut: The dam's long was so long. However, I did not know the exactly kilometers. It spanned from Pong Ro to Phnom Kaun Khleung and meandered. If we see a Trapeang Thma map, we can see it covered Trapeang Thma village and reached Sambo village then Pong Ro to Phom Kaun Khleung. It started from west of a road to the second bridge and the third bridge until Ta Vong village. It was not short.

Dany: Can you draw the dam? It started from where to where?

Mut: If we see from the eastern part, east of Trapeang Thma village, a road to Trapeang Thma. It is Trapeang Thma. It has a road to the west from Trapeang Thma to west where we reach the first bridge and then continue to the west where we see can see the second bridge and we still continue to the west where we will reach the third bridge and then continue to the west part where we will reach Suong and finally we get to Ta Vong village. It had only three bridges for the whole dam. It did not have a bridge at Ta Vong village.

Dany: How about this?

Mut: This is Trapeang Thma village.

Dany: Here is Trapeang Thma from the east part right?

Mut: Eastern part.

Dany: Is it from the east to west parts?

Mut: Yes. It is from the east to west parts. Trapeang Thma village is located in east part of the dam and a road is on the back of the dam to the western part. It starts from the first bridge to the second. The engineer's name is Ten who built the bridges. [Ta] Val took Ten to build the bridges. There was only one bridge that was suffered of lightning and the construction was not complete and people called the bridge as widow bridge (Spean Memai). At that time, I used to sleep at the bridges.

Dany: So, the Dam started in Trapeang Thma and went to Ta Vorng villages or where else?

Mut: Yes. At this corner, it was done by my unit.

Dany: How about Phnom Kaun Khleung?

Mut: Yes. Phnom Kaun Khleung is located in the east part. This is the village and it is near the village, around 100 meters, where there is a corner to Sambuor and then, Pong Ro villages.

Dany: So, the construction was started from northern part right?

Mut: No. It was in the south part. It extended from south to east. This village had a part and it continued to west. Some people started to carry earth from this to a north corner. It is north of Trapeang Thma village to Sambuor village and Pong Ro; and then it continued to Prey Kaun Khleung. However, I did not carry the earth at all for any part of the Dam. It was not finished at the time and the construction was still continuing.

Dany: Continuing to Prey Kaun Khleung?

Mut: Yes. Prey Kaun Khleung.

Dany: So, they were continuing the construction!

Mut: Yes. Later one the KR still continued and today the government fixed the Dam. However I never go there for long time ago.

Dany: Did you know how far it is?

Mut: I did not know. I knew, it is long but I did not know exactly how many kilometers the dam's long was. The Trapeang Thma Dam Worksite covered all the way to Prey Kaun Khleung. This is the east part and this comes to west. This is Trapeang Thma village. You see, the village located in east part of the dam. This is a road which goes to the village. The Dam was built in a corner of the village to Sambuor and Pong Ro villages and then it reaches to Phnom Kaun Khleung and passes Ta Vorng village. The Dam has kept the water surround area.

Dany: What was the dam's height if the bank slope was 12 meters?

Mut: It's height would be considered short today. But when the KR built it for the first time, the bank slope was 12 to 13 meters. You see, it is from the bottom. It is not the back of the dam.

Dany: Yes.

Mut: It's back is 8 meters. They constructed it like the back of turtle. It is 8 meters. However, I have no idea about the bottom. It took such a long time and I forget it now.

Dany: How about it's height?

Mut: Oh! If we take it from the top to bottom, it is around 10 meters.

Dany: So, did you have meetings often with [Ta] Val?

Mut: We had meetings with [Ta] Val at his cottage. At that time, we built a long hall with roofing thick cloth and thatch for the walls. Men's unit (first, second; and third big cell) for a long hall and another long hall for women's unit. [Ta] Val was in a big cottage with the food supply. He called cadres for meetings at his cottage. [Ta] Val had meals were had separate from each other.

Dany: How about you?

Mut: I had meals with my unit members.

Dany: With the unit?

Mut: We had in each group even I was head of the unit I still had meals with my unit's members.

Dany: You had meals with your unit's members?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Did you ever have meals with [Ta] Val?

Mut: No. They provided rice and food for each unit and followed a food regime.

Dany: How many meeting with [Ta] Val each week?

Mut: We had meeting every evening. After dinner, we took statistics about our unit had a meeting with a lady who was the secretary of [Ta] Val. She was a 'new people' (17 April). I made a total calculation with her and measured how many cubic meters that our unit had done each day. It was done whether we met with our plan or not.

Dany: What is her name?

Mut: I forgot her name now. She was white skinned and smart. She was the secretary of [Ta] Val. She was so skillful. We reported to her how many people were in our unit and how many people became ill in the day.

Dany: You also reported about people who got sick?

Mut: We reported for everything, how many people went to the hospital, how many people went to the field and how many people took a rest in the hall. Then, we calculated the day's measurements, as one person had to carry three cubic meters per day. We must carry until meet the goal of the plan.

Dany: So, you had to report to [Ta] Val every evening after dinner?

Mut: Yes. I reported to him. After I finished from a day in the field, we had dinner and then made a report and took it to [Ta] Val's place. In the report we had to decipher how many cubic meters that we had done during that day. One person must finish 3 cubic meters per day, regardless of whether they were able to finish early or late in the day.

Dany: 3 cubic meters for one person per day? Mut: 3 cubic meters for all carrying.

Dany: In the first stage, it seemed easy to carry three cubic meters each. However, it was more difficult to carry and climb to put the earth on the top of the dam..

Mut: Yes.

Dany: First stage, you carried to put the earth on the ground right?

Mut: At first, we kept roads with an incline that was comfortable to climb and after we finished the part, we cleaned it as a final stage. We kept only a road to carry up on the back of the dam and then we started for another place.

Dany: How did you select your big cell members?

Mut: The KR formed it for us. We had no right to select by ourselves. For example my third big cell was not so strong like first and second big cell. You could ask Nuon Narin who was in my unit during that time (Nuon Narin is an advisor for Prime Minister Hun Sen now). Many people in the third big cell were weaker and suffered Khvakk Moan disease (caused by lack vitamin A). They were blind in the night time. First and second big cell were stronger. Sometime some people wouldn't finish on time we had to carry on into the night time and they carried following each other because they were blind in night time.

Dany: So, your unit's members were mixed between base and new people right?

Mut: Yes. But the base people were fewer than the new people. The base people included Van, Chakk, who was chief of small cell within my big cell. Chakk, Van and Rok were head of small cell. Their villages were near my village and they were students in grade 3 (old system) at Kralanh High School.

There were half bloods of Chinese-Khmer. I kept them in my unit. At that time I asked Van to make a report of the unit for every evening.

Dany: Besides those, they were new people right?

Mut: Yes. The new people who were evacuated from Phnom Penh by the KR.

Dany: So, one person must finish 3 cubic meters per day right?

Mut: Yes. [Ta] Val deigned the plan for one person must carry 3 cubic meters per day. "If you did not meet the plan, it is not necessary to come and report to me". [Ta] Val said.

Dany: He said that?

Mut: Yes. No need to come and report to me. That was an order. We must do overwork. However, my unit members liked me a lot. I ate with them. I never had meals with [Ta] Val or ate alone once. I was to starve together with my members.

Dany: What time did you start on the field?

Mut: At 7AM. We would begin by measuring the dimension for each person and they we would start to carry the earth around 8 am.

Dany: What time did you and your members have lunch?

Mut: At 11 pm or more than 11, we worked hard in the mornings and in afternoons it was more comfortable.

Dany: How many people for each group and must be 3 cubic meters for one person per day right?

Mut: Yes. There were 10 people for one group. If we did not measure a dimension for them, they could not decide by themselves. We gave direction for them like this place for group and another place for group 2 or 3 as well.

Dany: Were you at the field to supervise them?

Mut: Yes. However, I was not seat and ordered them to carry the earth. I needed to help them and I also carried the earth with them. I had moving baskets, a carrying stick and hoes. However, I was not needed to finish 3 cubic meters as the plan said. I had to measure a dimension for them early until the end of the day.

Dany: How about the people who were ill? They also counted as one person for three cubic meters per day?

Mut: They tired and everyone had to finish their own plan. If someone had health problems and sat down too much of the time, I needed to help solve the problem and they still had to meet the plan during the day. However, they hardly helped each other and wished only to finish their own plan and then go out to hunt rats, field crabs, and frogs for food as well. As for rice, they were provided 1milk can of rice for lunch and another can for dinner for one person.

Dany: Oh! 1 milk can of rice for lunch and another 1 can for dinner for one person right?

Mut: Yes. No problem with rice.

Dany: So, 1 milk can of rice for lunch and another 1 can for dinner for one person?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Did you organize a chef to cook for your unit?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: How many chefs for your unit?

Mut: There were two for one group. They cooked two pots of rice and other two pots of food. Sometime, the KR provided some kind of dry fish.

Dany: Where did you get dry fish?

Mut: They took them from Tunle Sap Great Lake. However, I did not know the specific place which we got the fish.

Dany: So, your unit had enough rice and food?

Mut: Maybe other units were short of rice supplies. However, my unit had enough and I never heard someone in my unit complain about the rice.

Dany: So, there were people from other organizations to carry earth at Trapeang Thma.....

Mut: People from other cooperatives at Trapeang Thma may have had it hard, but people in [Ta] Val's unit was not so hard done by.

Dany: Oh! People was in mobile work unit of Region 5 was not so terrible right?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: It was hard only people in other cooperatives right?

Mut: Yes. They were very difficult. Even my unit also still had a hard time. We labored everyday without holiday and feared to take a rest if we got an illness. We had enough rice, but we were lacking food. We had to labor like animals. We did not know when we might be arrested or killed. We could not ensure that we were safe.

Dany: So, did you have another meeting after you reported to [Ta] Val in every evening?

Mut: No meeting after the reporting unless [Ta] Val had a new plan from the Region or assigned some people to do other work outside the dam. Sometimes the KR took one small cell (30 people) to stop water somewhere...

Dany: So, how did they count for cubic meters when they took one small cell (30 people) of your unit?

Mut: Yes. That was not a problem because they had other work to do. So we would not count cubic meters for them.

Dany: So, you labored on the field everyday from Monday to Sunday right?

Mut: .We labored everyday. There was no free time. We had never thought about plan to go to visit anywhere.

Dany: Did you have dessert after meals?

Mut: No dessert. Sometimes we were provided with some small piece of sugar palm and we shared a bit each.

Dany: How about water?

Mut: There was a great shortage of water at that time. The water was so dirty. When we used it to cook rice, the rice became red. We did not have enough food and we had to assign a few people to fish after the carrying and also carry water for cooking and drinking. We had to mix food between the KR offering and earning by ourselves.

Dany: Did [Ta] Val or other KR plan or ask you and others to report about new people who were involved or were officials of the previous government like soldiers or students during the meetings?

Mut: Yes. They rarely asked about that. If they suspected someone about something, they came to ask by themselves. That was confidential

Dany: [Ta] Val took them to be interrogated?

Mut: Yes. They were interrogated at [Ta] Val's house. They were so scared. However, they returned to the unit after the interrogation. There were two people who were taken to be interrogated at [Ta] Val's house and then they returned the unit. I told them that [Ta] Val or other KR suspected you were official of Lon Nol regime. So do not talk much about the regime. If the KR asks something or they ask, "What do you want to do?" Please answer to them: "I want to do nothing to Angkar. If Angkar want me to do anything or go anywhere I will follow Angkar absolutely no objection." Even you have a high education, don't tell them the truth.

Dany: So, nobody in your unit were arrested and killed during that time?

Mut: Not in my unit. There were some people in other units who were called to be educated and they disappeared. I never saw the KR arrest or kill people at Trapeang Thma Dam Worksite.

Dany: No?

Mut: I only saw the KR called people to labor somewhere else or be sent to another place and then they disappeared. I never saw anyone arrested or killed with my eyes.

Dany: So, they were only sent to another place and you never saw they tortured or killed?

Mut: Yes. I never saw them killed with my eyes

Dany: Did you see a security prison near there?

Mut: No.

Dany: No?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Were some people sick when they were working or not?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: They got sick?

Mut: Yes. The KR gave them some medicine. There were modern and KR medicine. There were some kinds of medicines such as Vitamin B complex and Paracetamol No.300.

Dany: Paracetamol No.300?

Mut: Yes. There were some medical staff that came along to the unit. Later on, [Ta] Hoeng had a plan to take all members of mobile work units and make them into soldiers to fight against the KR. He provided one pair of cloth and one scarf for each. He wanted to give weapons to the mobile units

Dany: Did your team members have to carry 3 cubic meters for each per day?

Mut: 3 cubic meters.

Dany: Nobody carried less than 3 cubic meters?

Mut: No.

Dany: No, force 1, 2; and 3 right?

Mut: Yes. Everyone was equal with 3 cubic meters.

Dany: Equal?

Mut: Yes. Even when some people got sick, they still had to carry 3 cubic meters per day.

Dany: All had to be equal?

Mut: Yes. Equal.

Dany: Since the beginning until the end?

Mut: In the morning, they started to measure a dimension for first big cell to second big cell and then third big cell. I also followed them to measure a dimension for group 1, group 2 and group 3 of my third big cell. We carried it out in this order from the head to last of the dam. It was like a front line.

Dany: Like front line?

Mut: They dug as a front line and carried similar amounts to each other.

Dany: Did you go to be educated at the Region's office or go to North West Zone's office in Battambang province?

Mut: Yes. At that time, I prepared to be a member of the Communist Party of Kampuchea (CPK). I prepared to gain membership and then the KR arrested the leaders. So I did not go to be educated yet.

Dany: Did you go to meeting at Region's office?

Mut: No. I was just a chief of big cell and I never went to Svay. Usually, the KR came to have meeting at [Ta] Val's place.

Dany: At [Ta] Val's place!

Mut: Later on. It was very busy. Sometimes the KR cadres who were chiefs of regiments and held other higher positions changed their meetings to 2 am.

Dany: 2 am?

Mut: Yes. They started from regiment's chief, [Ta] San had already died.

Dany: So, you were in Mobile work unit of region and were a chief of big cell and who was a chief regiment?

Mut: [Ta] San was a chief. He was subordinator of [Ta] Val. San supervised our big cell. He was a chief of the regiment

Dany: Oh! A chief of the regiment?

Mut: [Ta] San was a chief of the regiment which supervised men's big cells.

Dany: A chief of the regiment right?

Mut: Yes. [Ta] San was a chief. He supervised the three big cells (First Big Cell, Second Big Cell; and Third Big Cell).

Dany: Those were men's units?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: How about women's units?

Mut: Sister Mit was a chief of Women's units.

Dany: Sister Mit?

Mut: Sister Mit lives in Kok Char. Oh! Spean Sreng village. It is near Sister Kin who is [Ta] Val's wife. She was about 40 years old at that time.

Dany: At that time it was a battalion or regiment?

Mut: The regiment was in charge of the three Big Cells.

Dany: Then, was [Ta] Val a chief?

Mut: [Ta] Val supervised over them.

Dany: [Ta] Val, no other people?

Mut: It was finished by [Ta] Val, no one came after.

Dany: Did he have a deputy?

Mut: No military came at all, only [Ta] Val.

Dany: How about when a big meeting was convened, did Ta Hoeng and Ta Chiel come to the meeting?

Mut: Ta Hoeng came sometimes when he was less busy or a big matter was the subject of discussion.

Dany: Only when the matter was big?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: How about Ta Chiel?

Mut: Ta Chiel, if he came with Ta Hoeng it was by Jeep A2.

Dany: Did they ride together?

Mut: Yes. Officially, he came and talked normally.

Dany: How about Ta Nhim, did he come?

Mut: He came but did not get out of a Jeep A2.

Dany: Did he not?

Mut: No.

Dany: He came but did not get out of a car. What's for?

Mut: Yes. He headed to [Ta] Val's place, less a walk around. Ta Chiel said when he (Ta Nhim) came, Ta Hoeng assigned Regional 4 to 5 person to escort him.

Dany: Did he come quite often or never?
Mut: Came quite often when there was a plan. Later on, [he] came in at night and day time, in the evening and sometimes at 2 p.m.

Dany: What did he come for?
Mut: [He] brought sandals; Cambodian sandals from the Eastern [Zone] for the mobile units.

Dany: Wow! Bring sandals?
Mut: Nice sandals were given to us. At the time there was a plan. I was very afraid of that plan.

Dany: What kind of a plan?
Mut: When [Ta] Val spoke, at the same time scarves, (cigarette)s lighters, and white shirts were given to the leaders. Then he would say, "You are all captains". He repeated "You are all captains, colonel". He pointed at and walked out joking with the cadres after the meeting. He compared this selection of mobile unit the same the military did. The plan was at Phnom Kaun Khleung. The plan could not be executed but I just learned about that plan. ... not meeting for killing people. If there was a meeting to have a plan it was but in secrete.

Dany: In what year?
Mut: The year was in late, probably in late 77.

Dany: Was there a plan?
Mut: It was a plan to arm the mobile unit. But, it could be not executed. The supplies had already arrived. The progress of this plan was not known of and we were unable to speak out about it. It was clear. So we did not need to speak this out.

Dany: When there was a plan as such, you were armed and then what went on?
Mut: No arms were given and the plan was never executed. The arrest was launched then it became quiet.

Dany: Who was arrested?
Mut: At the time Ta Hoeng and [Ta] Val were arrested and taken away.

Dany: Did someone come in before the arrest?
Mut: The Southwest Zone came down. You know where they are from?
Dany: From Takeo.
Mut: From Takeo! Southwest Zone came down to arrest the Northwest Zone.

Dany: Did the Southwest Zone come before or after the existence of a plan?
Mut: After the existence of a meeting and the plan. It was quite long after the meeting when Southwest Zone came down to arrest him because the plan broke out.

Mut: They came with men and women and some military as well. The military came down to our place and asked if we fully ate or not. As everyone faced hardships, a report was made available then the Southwest Zone arrested them.

Dany: Oh! When the southwest zone came did they worked with [Ta] Val and Ta Hoeng or not?

Mut: No. They came down as a group and were stationed somewhere but, as was my observation, they came like spies to the unit.

Dany: Did they work?

Mut: No, they did not work. It was sure that they asked information for everywhere. The arrests would start after they began asking around. They did not come suddenly and made the arrest.

Dany: Did you see the arrest of [Ta] Val?

Mut: What?

Dany: [Ta] Val.

Mut: I did not see the arrest, even a place of arrest. I was at the work site and did not know the place of arrest or even if the military made the arrest.

Dany: Was [Ta] Val arrested?

Mut: Yes. He was taken away.

Dany: How about Ta Moang?

Mut: Ta Moang was at the district. He was not always with [Ta] Val. He was in the office in Preah Netr Preah district.

Dany: At Preah Netr Preah district?

Mut: Yes. His house was at the district hall.

Dany: How about Ta Hoeng?

Mut: Ta Hoeng? I did not know about him. He was arrested at his house in this Region. I was at Trapeang Thma.

Dany: [Ta] Val was taken away and do you remember when the arrest took place?

Mut: [Ta] Val was arrested in earlier 76 or 77.

Dany: Ah! Earlier 77? You had said the dam construction had just begun, right?

Mut: Around 77 but I did not know if it took place earlier or at the end of.

Dany: Between [Ta] Val and Ta Hoeng, who was arrested first?

Mut: If speaking about the arrest it was the Region that took place first, [Ta] Val and Ta Moang. Oh, Ta Chiel was first and [Ta] Val after.

Dany: Then [Ta] Val?

Mut: Next was [Ta] Val.

Dany: Was there any new appointment after the arrest?

Mut: After the arrest of [Ta] Val and Ta San, who was in charge over Big Cell,. I was named a platoon in charge of a youth unit. It was Ta San and [Yeay] Mith who ran overall.

Dany: Ta San was arrested and how about [Yeay] Mith?

Mut: Ta San! He was arrested on the way to Trapeang Thma, buried him in a sitting position, Ta San.

Dany: Buried in sitting position?

Mut: Yes. The southwest zone arrested him. They dug a whole straight like colon in shape, didn't lie him down, Ta San. The arrest was brought from Trapeang Thma.

Dany: What was he doing when the arrest took place?

Mut: He was watching people working on the dam.

Dany: Then where he was taken to?

Mut: He was taken back and I had learnt that he was taken to Svay with no shackles him. There was a car, a Jeep brought to educate (kill), in Poay Snuol which was called Kok Krasaing.

Dany: Kok Krasaing?

Mut: Kok Krasaing, Poay Trach.

Dany: Brought there for what?

Mut: He was brought to be killed.

Dany: Killed?

Mut: He was killed at an end of Kok Trach, away from Poay Snuol-Trapeang Thma.

Dany: He was buried in a sitting position?

Mut: It was said that he was buried in a hole, oh, no he was buried in a sitting position.

Dany: Was he thrown in the grave?

Mut: The grave was dug then he was dropped into the grave. After the arrest of [Ta] Val, Nhav was then appointed.

Dany: Nhav?

Mut: I lived with Ta Nhav one more time.

Dany: Where was Ta Nhav from?

Mut: It was not known where Ta Nhav was from.

Dany: Was it a southwest zone person or a person inside?

Mut: It was not a southwest zone person. Ta Nhav seized control for 4-5 months then he disappeared.

Dany: Ta Nhav?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: About 4 months?

Mut: Yes. Then Ta Nhav was arrested again.

Dany: Who was next?

Mut: After Ta Nhav, it was broken apart and there were no more appointments Then the mobile unit started breaking apart.

Dany: After the arrest of [Ta] Val [Nhav], who had seized control for 4 months, he was arrested again. Is this right?

Mut: Yes. Ta Nhav was arrested again.

Dany: Was Ta Nhav a person from the Northwest zone?

Mut: It was Northwest zone.

Dany: After the arrest of Ta Hoeng, of whom was appointed next?

Mut: Ta Hoeng? I did not know about this because his secret place was in another province, so no means to know.

Dany: After the arrest of Ta Hoeng, was someone from the southwest zone appointed?

Mut: It was likely someone from the southwest zone was next because Ta Moang was replaced by [Yeay] Chaem a chief of Preah Netr Preah district.

Dany: Oh!

Mut: Yes. The district chief was a woman.

Dany: Oh! After Ta Moang, then [Yeay] Chaem got an appointment?

Mut: Yes. After Ta Moang was [Yeay] Chaem, a district chief.

Dany: Did [Yeay] Chaem go to Trapeang Thma?

Mut: [Yeay] Chaem had never gone to Trapeang Thma.

Dany: Oh! Never?

Mut: Only to go to the dam of Spean Sreng. It was [Yeay] Chaem who went to oversee our digging [soil].

Dany: Was this after the arrest of [Ta] Val you still...?

Mut: Yes. I was the same. At the time, I was in a lonely manner and I seemed having fear of Nhav. Ta Nhav looked angry and rarely spoke. I felt fear of Ta Nhav when there was no [Ta] Val.

Dany: After there was no [Ta] Val you felt afraid of Ta Nhav?

Mut: I was afraid of Ta Nhav. I was not likely confident in myself.

Dany: Did you report to Ta Nhav every day?

Mut: Every thing was reported to [Ta] Val at his shelter which was like a booth.

Dany: Did he live in a booth?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: What was it that you reported about? What cubic of soil a day you performed to Ta Nhav?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Did Ta Nhav say anything?

Mo: Ta Nhav said nothing. There was a meeting as usual in a manner of critic and shelf critic and finding solution put forward in a great leap forward manner.

Dany: How about at [Ta] Val's period? Did he say about a great leap forward really?

Mut: It was the same wording, a great leap forward, but [Ta] Val was by Suong and not yet finished bridge 2. I was with Ta Nhav, who was after [Ta] Val in charge there.

Dany: But at the time, the arrest was aimed at only leaders and did it append to Big Cells?

Mut: Yes, Big Cell. My men ran away from the unit. Yes, one big cell leader ran away. It was leader who had high knowledge like Vit who was at Buddhism University in Phnom Penh and from Daun Chreng district.

Dany: Vit?
Mut: Vit.
Dany: Did he run away?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: Running away?
Mut: Yes. He had high knowledge. He was surprised when the southwest zone came in. He ran away but it was impossible. He was caught in Kamboar-Kok Romiet village as it came into their zone. It was his group up to 15 of youth in age of 30 to be killed. They were belong to Ta Vuy, Ta Phatt and Sambath.

Dany: Only of Ta Vuy, Ta Phatt and Ta Sambath?
Mut: Yes, they died.
Dany: Did you run away at the time?
Mut: I was still young. I thought it would not happen. It seemed no one talked of anything in my unit and every thing stayed calm.

Dany: Were you chief of the unit?
Dany: Yes. It was the usual but no one talked about me as I was simple and no one seemed likely to hate me either. I was not arrogant. If I was arrogant like they were because Vit's whos was a chief second unit used to threat his unit's members.

Dany: Ta Vit?
Mut: Ta Vit was the first who was very mean.
Dany: How about the second?
Mut: Second was Phan and the same as me. Phan had survived and second and third.

Dany: Where is Phan now?
Mut: Phan? When the Khmer Rouge broke apart and Vietnam came, he ran into the jungle and died as he was hit by a land mine at Phnom Chhatt. He was from Rohal, east of Chup. Also, Khveut died, from Pheas.

Dany: What was the name?
Mut: Khveut, one of my team members. He was in charge of Platoon. Khveut got a wife in Pheas. I already told Huy all this.

Dany: So, after the arrest of [Ta] Val there was only Ta Vit of the mens unit who ran away and not [Ta] Val's?
Mut: Ta Vit ran.
Dany: Second unit but not third unit?
Mut: No.
Dany: Where was the women's unit? Did they run away?
Mut: No one ran away and only Ta Vit's unit ran away. See, running away was Ta Vait, a chief, deputy chief, platoons of 3. Ta Vit was chief and his younger brother, Sres also ran away.

Dany: Ta Sres ran away, did he?

Mut: Yes. He ran away. There were in fear for themselves.

Dany: When the arrest happened, was there meeting convened? Any advice from the southwest zone?

Mut: There was no a meeting to inform us of who ran away and who didn't.

Dany: Was there a meeting for arresting this person or that person or criticizing this person or that person?

Mut: No, there was no a meeting at all.

Dany: Ta Nhav did not come to talk in a meeting, didn't he?

Mut: Ta Nhav did not convene a meeting about the people who ran away.

Dany: Did he say anything about [Ta] Val?

Mut: No.

Dany: Ta Nhav?

Mut: There was no talk about [Ta] Val.

Dany: No talk about [Ta] Val?

Mut: There was criticism but no reasons were given about if this person was away then if that person came to be a replacement. Nothing at all.

Dany: No?

Mut: Nothing.

Dany: At the time, did the southwest zone come in?

Mut: There was no official appointment that now I was to replace this person or that person or this person was sent to do this to do that.

Dany: Did southwest zone come in?

Mut: Southwest zone came into my place. Since the southwest zone came in I stayed for a short period of time and then we broke apart. I was taken to a hospital. Since the southwest zone came in I was taken to be at a hospital nearby at Anlong Sar, Pring Chou, close to Prey Moan.

Dany: Did it mean that the dam of Trapeang Thma reservoir was complete?

Mut: Yes. It was done.

Dany: When was it done?

Mut: It was done.

Dany: When?

Mut: Did you ask when the dam was completed?

Dany: Yes. The dam of Trapeang Thma reservoir.

Mut: It was done in the same year of 77.

Dany: In late 77, wasn't it?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: It was shortly after the arrest of [Ta] Val, wasn't it?

Mut: Yes. After the arrest of [Ta] Val occurred I did not stay there any longer. The cadres there were displace. [Ta] Val paid a caution too.

Dany: In late 77, when Ta Nhav came in for 4 months, was the dam ready yet?

Mut: Yes. Ta Nhav came in already when there was little left to be completed.

Dany: There was the first bridge, second bridge...did Ta Nhav come in at third bridge?

Mut: Yes. There were still things that needed to be added where it looked low or it was leaning over or dipping which was what Ta Nhav did. He just came in to add into it but not significantly.

Dany: Ta Nhav came in for 4 months then he was disappeared, didn't he?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Ta Nhav disappeared and you were still there, weren't you?

Mut: I was still there. But later on they looked lonely and they did not know to go to anywhere. It was likely falling apart or starting to fall apart after the dam was ready. It was apart because no one thought that one would stay there for much longer than they were apart respectively. They were afraid and at the time sought their own way to go. When it fell apart as such, no one came to direct where anyone should go exactly. No at all.

Dany: After the dam was done what went on?

Mut: It was not clear when it was done and where we should go to because no one told us that we should go to this place or that place. Suddenly, it was liberated freely.

Dany: You told me it was done in late 77 right?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: After it was done then you said you were taken to a hospital, weren't you?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Did you come by your own?

Mut: No. Brother Yoeuk assigned me to come to Anlong Sar with 3 men and 3 women, to the hospital of Anlong Sar.

Dany: For what did you come to the hospital of Anlong Sar?

Mut: At the hospital I was assigned to care of patients. There was one hospital at Anlong Sar.

Dany: Where was it?

Mut: Anlong Sar Hospital in an area of Pring Chou.

Dany: Anlong Char-Pring Chou?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: At the time you were not assigned by a chief but Brother Yoeuk, wasn't it?

Mut: Brother Yoeuk sent me to there.

Dany: What was Yoeuk's role?

Mut: Brother Yoeuk was with [Ta] Val who ran everything overall like Ta San, but he was in charge of the economy that supplied us with rice. Brother Yoeuk, who is now living at Sala Kraham, is an adopted brother of Mr. Nuon Narin. When he came here he called Brother Yoeuk to see him. Later on Nuon Narin was with my unit and carried sand for bridge construction.

Dany: Which bridge?

Mut: A bridge of Trapeang Thma. I led Nuon Narin to work at Yang Van, taking sand from the bottom of a river and carrying it upwards of the river.

Dany: It was 2 or 3 person who were assigned to the hospital of Anlong Sar-Pring Chou, wasn't it?

Mut: I came with 3 other person. However, the patients at the hospital were already there.

Dany: Were you a chief after being there?

Mut: Yes. Everything existed already and I just came to care of patients as such.

Dany: You were in charge of taking care of patients at Anlong Sar hospital, weren't you?

Mut: Yes. It was about the caring of food ...the three of us were in charge over there. There were Det (woman), Kha, me, Von and Khveut. I had three in total which was Chan, who has already died, Chan from Phom Leap. There were three men including me.

Dany: To which unit did Anlong Sar hospital belong?

Mut: It belonged to the mobile unit and patients were brought from the mobile unit.

Dany: Did it belong to the Region too?

Mut: It belonged to the Region.

Dany: It belonged to the Region, didn't it?

Mut: Sure, it belonged to the Region.

Dany: It belonged to Region 5 and it belonged to the mobile unit as well, didn't it?

Mut: It belonged to the mobile unit of [Ta] Val. The patients were sent to that place which was called Anlong Sar hospital.

Dany: Anlong Sar hospital, wasn't it?

Mut: It was on the edge of a river at Anlong Sar.

Dany: Was there someone in charge there before you came in?

Mut: I did not know about it. I was in charge when I was sent there. That's all.

Dany: At the time, there were three people in charge there? weren't you one?

Mut: Yes. 3 women and 3 men.

Dany: Von?

Mut: There was Von, Chan and myself. As for the women, there were Det, Sokha (from Tonloap). Det lives in Cheung Wat of Preah Netr Preah. I did not remember another woman. Let me ask Det to find out for sure.

Dany: Were there many patients there?

Mut: Many.

Dany: Can you count them?

Mut: There were approximately 50-60 people lying in a booth roofed by thatch.

Dany: You had not been a medical man so how did you manage working at a hospital?

Mut: I did not know where the medical staff came from. I was in charge in a different way.

Dany: You were just a chief?

Mut: I was in charge of supplies such as rice, sugar and other material for patients. I did not know what it is called. We looked all over for supplies like dried fish but medical staff were from the Region.

Dany: It was the medical staff who treated the patients, wasn't it?

Mut: It was medical staff and I did not know what they were doing. I did not understand about if they were talking about current affairs.

Dany: When you were in charge there was there some southwest zone with you?

Mut: No, they had not arrived yet. At the time that hospital was dismantled. Later on I ran toward home.

Dany: How long did you work there?

Mut: It was about 3-4 months long.

Dany: 3-4 months? What was going on?

Mut: At the time I was at Kamboar which meant I was sent to Kamboar. I was at Kamboar-Sres after leaving from hospital.

Dany: What were you doing at Phnom Kamboar?

Mut: I was sent to Phnom Kamboar to harvest rice not long after the dam construction. I'm not clear about work forces.

Dany: How many people were there?

Mut: There were likely many, maybe between 30 and 40 people, joining with existing forces already over there.

Dany: Who sent you to there?

Mut: What?

Dany: Who sent you to there?

Mut: Brother Yoeuk sent me to harvest rice at Phnom Kamboar since I was transferred from Anlong Sar.

Dany: Anolong Sar?

Mut: Yes, I harvested [rice] there.

Dany: How long did you harvest rice over there?

Mut: After harvesting I went to Chup. I could not tell exactly how long I was there because there was no one documenting this and then, we were dislocated.

Dany: Was there no leader?

Mut: Yes, I could not rightly tell you at this point. Every one minded their own way.

Dany: What was going on when you arrived in Chup Vary?

Mut: I came home for a short period of time, then it was the year the Vietnamese came. The information was heard through radio that the Vietnamese came and then every one minded their own way.

Dany: It meant when you arrived in Chup Vary then the Vietnamese came, didn't they?

Mut: No, it was when I came back.

Dany: Chup Vary?

Mut: They were not coming yet. It was quite long since I had arrived in.

Dany: What were you doing at Chup Vary?

Mut: I went to Chup Vary to find acquaintances and could not find anyone. They were headed respectively back to the collectives of their parents. I also came home and stayed for a quite long period of time.

Dany: You came home to the collective?

Mut: No, it was not the collective.

Dany: What were you doing at home?

Mut: It was the end then I came home.

Dany: Oh! When Yuon came in then you came home?

Mut: The Yuon had come in already when I came home.

Dany: How long did you stay at Chup Vary?

Mut: I left from Kamboar to Chup Vary and lived there for 2-3 months.

Dany: What were you doing at Chup Vary?

Mut: At Chup Vay I was at the work site.

Dany: What kind of work site was it?

Mut: It was the work site of planting rice, helping people planting rice and other things. At the work site, one went to planting and pulling rice in the morning. So, the work was not really significant.

Dany: Who was the chief over there?

Mut: It was Ta Chhang, a chief.

Dany: Ta Chhang was already arrested, wasn't it?

Mut: Oh! The chief of the work site was Brother Yoeuk.

Dany: It was Yoeuk?

Mut: That was Brother Yoeuk who supervised over the youth group at the work site. Brother Yoeuk and I were taken away to there.

Dany: To where?

Mut: To Trapeang Thma, it was when they took Brother Yeouk and others away.

Dany: You said earlier that you were taken away from Trapeang Thma to Anlong Sar to be in charge of a hospital, weren't you?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: After that you were to harvest rice at Phnom Kamboar, weren't you?

Mut: Phnom Kamboar.

Dany: From Phnom Kamboar to Chup Vary, wasn't it?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: You were at a work site at Chup Vary, weren't you?

Mut: I was at a work site there.

Dany: You helped harvesting rice there, didn't you?

Mut: I came in the previous place, the work site. Then, I was taken to the mobile unit. Then, I went back to my previous place, the work site.

Dany: Previous place?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Yoeuk was a chief over there, wasn't he?

Mut: Brother Yoeuk oversaw the work there. The previous work site before [Ta] Val was taken away. When I was taken to the mobile unit he went to there too. He was in charge of [Ta] Val's mobile unit over there.

Dany: It was with Ta Chhang, wasn't it?

Mut: It was Ta Chhang when I came.

Dany: Ta Yoeuk came together with you and he came in Chup Vary before you, didn't he?

Mut: No, Brother Yoeuk was not there. He went to Kok Key, replacing Ta Poal, planting rice in the dry season in an area of Phnom Leap. At the time he and I went separately for a short period of time. While Brother Yoeuk was planting rice he was not taken away from the work site as of yet. Then the Vietnamese came in at Kralanh. When the Vietnamese arrived in Kralanh, Ta Yoeuk had an uneasy feeling and communicated with me in an attempt to escape on the way to Spean Sreng, into the jungle.

Dany: You stayed at Chup Vary work site for only 3 months, didn't you?

Mut: Based on my assumption, it was not that long.

Dany: It was about 3 months, wasn't it?

Mut: I was there tasking no job exactly as before. When people went to plant rice I went along with them. This work site was about to disappear but the work force at Ta Chhang's work site was in their usual manner. I wanted to join my previous work forces as we used to know each other. The big work force was included the evacuees and those who went home to their respective collectives.

Dany: Yes.

Mut: Yes, they went to find their siblings.

Dany: Where did you go to after leaving the work site?

Mut: After leaving the work site, Brother Yoeuk invited to go to Kok Key with him where he was planting rice; in Kok Key-Daun Te.

Dany: Kok Key, planting rice?

Mut: Yes, I was planting rice. At the time the southwest zone controlled both Brother Yoeuk and me.

Dany: What was the name of the leader?

Mut: The leaders who ran stuff over there were Ta Poal and Ta Huot.

Dany: Ta Poal and Ta Huot?

Mut: Both were from the southwest zone.

Dany: Southwest zone people, weren't they?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: How long did they stay there?
Mut: They were there for very long period of time, years long.
Dany: At where?
Mut: At Kok Key.
Dany: How long did they stay at Kok Key?
Mut: They were at Kok Key for quite a long time, up until one harvest season passed.
Dany: One season long, wasn't it?
Mut: It passed one harvest season. At the time, the security place (prison) was at Vai Thma, Phnom Ta Yaung. [Yeay] Chaem did not leave Phnom Leap yet. Then, Yuon arrived in Ta Pon with many tanks toward Kralanh up to Phnom Leap. Reaching Phnom Leap [Yeay] Chaem managed to escape and I met Brother Yoeuk there one more time. Brother Yoeuk ran into jungle and I run home.
Dany: It meant that at the work site you harvest rice for one season already, didn't you?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: When Yuon arrived it was one season, wasn't it?
Mut: The Yuon arrived after one season had passed.
Dany: When Yuon arrived one season had passed already?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: When Yuon come in you ran home, didn't you?
Mut: When Yuon came in Brother Yoeuk talked me into going to the jungle but I did not end up going to the jungle.
Dany: Brother Yeouk intended to take you to the jungle but you did go to the jungle with him and you ran home?
Mut: Yes. From every where including Battambang and Phnom Penh, the KR tried managing to run toward Dang Rek mountain. I did not go. Only Brother Yoeuk went up until UNTAC came in. [I] met Brother Yoeuk one more time.
Dany: At the time it was [Yeay] Chaem being chief of Preah Netr Preah district, wasn't she?
Mut: [Yeay] Chaem was district chief probably in...
Dany: Really?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: It meant she came here long time ago before the dam construction?
Mut: No, I did not know about that. [Yeay] Chaem came in probably in late 77 or earlier in 78. It was probably 79 because in 79 the Vietnamese came in.
Dany: She replaced Ta Moang, didn't she?
Mut: Yes she did.
Dany: Was Ta Moang arrested yet when she arrived?
Mut: Yes, he was already arrested.

Dany: [Yeay] Chme came in after the arrest of Ta Moang, didn't she?
Mut: Yes, [Yeay] Chaem came in later.
Dany: Did [Yeay] Chaem come as a district chief?
Mut: [Yeay] Chaem came in there not so long after.
Dany: Did you see [Yeay] Chaem in person?
Mut: Yes, I did.
Dany: Did you know her?
Mut: Yes, I did.
Dany: Did she know you?
Mut: Nowadays, she doesn't know me. As long as she sees me then she recognizes me.
Dany: At the time, [Yeay] Chaem...
Mut: When the Vietnamese arrived in [Yeay], Chem gave birth that night. The Vietnamese arrived in Ta Pon and Kralanh ran away with blood stains still. She ran to Kok Key village and headed towards the jungle along the river to the north. She delivered a baby that night.
Dany: She delivered a baby when the Vietnamese arrived?
Mut: Yes.
Dany: And she ran away while she delivered a baby?
Mut: Yes, she ran away shortly after the baby was born, with her messengers.
Dany: At the time when [Yeay] Chaem came in she had a position as district chief or up to region chief, hadn't she?
Mut: No way I could know her position, she looked likely be...
Dany: [Yeay] Chaem was district chief. Who else?
Mut: No, I did not see any body else. There were men but I did not know who they were.
Dany: Did you hear about Ream?
Mut: Ream was district chief of Thma Puok.
Dany: Ream was district chief of Thma Puok?
Mut: Yes. Ream, Saream.. up until he was running into the jungle. You will get a clearer idea when you see Brother Yoeuk as he was with them all the time.
Dany: Lets see. It was the period of Ta Moang and Ta Sam-at.
Mut: Ta Sam-at was among them.
Dany: In Preah Netr Preah, after the arrest of Ta Moang and Ta Sam-at, then [Yeay] Chaem came in, didn't she?
Mut: [Yeay] Chaem came in.
Dany: Was it only her, or did [Yeay] Chaem come in with somebody else?
Mut: Yes, it was with a group of military men and women who were pretty young. I did not know who they were.
Dany: You knew only [Yeay] Chaem, didn't you?
Mut: Yes, but her subordinates.
Dany: As for Ream, did you know him?

Mut: Ream, I heard about but I did not know about his position. Brother Saream was a district chief of Thma Puok whom I knew.

Dany: What is his wife name?

Mut: I did not know it.

Dany: What color of Ream's skin is?

Mut: Ream was a little back and tall as well.

Dany: Nowadays, did he survive?

Mut: Yes, he is still alive in jungle with Ta Huot who was with Ta Paol. Ta Paol died. Ta Huot whom I used to plant dry-season-rice with in Kok Key was still alive. I heard that he is a policeman in Battambang. Ta Huot used to be my supervisor. He was from southwest zone. He pretty liked me. His wife named [Yeay] Sang.

Dany: [Yeay] Sang!

Mut: Yes, of Ta Huot.

Dany: Where is Ta Ream now?

Mut: Ta Ream lives in Phnom Proek (I guess) . He was among those of defected group. He lives over there.

Dany: What does [Yeay] Chaem look like?

Mut: Since I had last seen her she looked very pretty. Nowadays, she looks old I think. When I had seen her she looked likely pretty in age of about 30 which was close to 40. When she arrived in she seemed not too young. She arrived in with dress in black like Chinese's.

Dany: Back or white?

Mut: She was pretty, white like a chicken egg color, quite pretty. [Yeay] Chaem was very pretty with her skin so clean. She came in with short hair to this long. I guessed she was Chinese from Beijing.

Dany: What is her husband name?

Mut: Her husband name is Nhan, probably.

Dany: Ta Nhan, isn't he?

Mut: Nhan whom I have heard of but I am not so clear about it.

Dany: Did you use to work with him?

Mut: No, I have never worked with him. He came in as district chief of Preah Netr Preah. He came to take control over Preah Netr Preah.

Dany: Where was his house?

Mut: His house was in Phnom Leap.

Dany: His house was in Phnom Leap, wasn't it?

Mut: Stationing in Preah Netr Preah district, but he went to sleep in Phnom Leap all the time.

Dany: Why?

Mut: I didn't know why. He didn't sleep at the place where Ta Moang's house was allocated either.

Dany: He didn't sleep at Ta Moang's house?

Mut: No. It was not too far from Phnom Leap to Preah Netr Preah. It was pretty close and he preferred going there.

Dany: What means of transportation did he use at the time?

Mut: He used a motorbike.

Dany: He used motorbikes, not a Jeep?

Mut: No, not a car.

Dany: What kind of motorbike was it?

Mut: Blue CL motorbike.

Dany: Blue CL?

Mut: Blue CL. He didn't drive it by himself. Rather, he was taken by another.

Dany: Some body else drove him?

Mut: His messenger. Blue CL of Lon Nol's.

Dany: Blue?

Mut: Blue but it looked a little bit old.

Dany: How about [Yeay] Chaem?

Mut: [Yeay] Chaem just arrived in there, it had no much information related her. I saw [Yeay] Chaem walked and controlled along dam, water streamline and channel as usual. At the time I had two people with me: Ta San, who was arrested from Trapeang Thma, working at Spean Sreng and on channel digging. [Yeay] Chaem saw and managed all worksites under previous control by [Ta] Val. I didn't remember the date chronically. When Vietnamese came in that ended the event. [Yeay] Chaem ran away when the Vietnamese came in. I left Kok Key for the jungle.

Dany: How long were you in the jungle?

Mut: What?

Dany: How long were you in the jungle?

Mut: I ran home for 1 or 2 months and then I left for the jungle.

Dany: After arriving home you went to jungle one more time, didn't you?

Mut: I heard the propaganda about how Yuon would arrest us, open our bellies and stuff us with grass and starve us, so I was very afraid. So, I went to the jungle one more time. I was in the jungle with a Para group, a kind of movement where wood charcoal was produced for selling to Thais. It was like living like a bandit.

Dany: Was that in 79 when you came home for 2-3 months?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: You ran into the jungle one more time?

Mut: I run into the jungle one more time for quite a long time.

Dany: Did you go to the jungle with [Yeay] Chaem?

Mut: No, I did not meet her.

Dany: I mean when running into the jungle.

Mut: No, when running there I met her but we lived separately. She was welcomed by the red Thais with Brother Saream.

Dany: Brother Saream?

Mut: Brother Saream of Thma Puok.

Dany: Oh, the district chief of Thma Puok, wasn't he?

Mut: It was Thais who wanted to take them up to the mountains.

Dany: When [Yeay] Chaem and Ream came to this district, were there many killed?

Mut: There were killings and arrests when [Yeay] Chaem took control but they were told to go to study. I had never seen [the killing and arresting] with my eyes. They were in the prison of Phnom Ta Yaung and then were apart when the Vietnamese arrived in. They broke out of prison and ran away. My brother died in the prison.

Dany: During [Ta] Val's period and Ta Hoeng's comparing to [Yeay] Chaem's, which one was ...?

Mut: It was all the same. The arrest occurred during [Ta] Val's control and it seemed like there were less killed. The killing did occur when the southwest zone came in.

Dany: It was vigorous by the southwest zone?

Mut: Yes. It was vigorous. But [Ta] Val's was not. There were spies and later on [Ta] Val was killed as well. At the time we were to work only and there was no criticism of each other. When the southwest zone came in it was vigorous and they went on a killing spree with no reason but linkages of this and that. I was in fear of any linkage with this and that. When the southwest zone came in they chased people for networking and killed all within the supposed network.

Dany: All within the network were killed??

Mut: It was a killing spree.

Dany: Was the southwest zone young or old?

Mut: Young militias who didn't know any thing. It was all about arresting.

Dany: How old were they?

Mut: They were not too young. It was almost similar to my age. They were between 20 and 27.

Dany: Were there men and women?

Mut: They were only men.

Dany: How about the person in charge?

Mut: The person in charge were women with no gun. The militiamen had guns.

Dany: Was it many women?

Mut: They patrolled all villages and check points but not in the group. [I] saw between 4 and 10 of them.

Dany: It was between 4 and 10?

Mut: Yes. It was when I saw them patrolling over cooperative to cooperative. They divided themselves into small groups in order to go down to a cooperative, province and check points, not a whole one.

Dany: Did you know who the region chief was after Ta Hoeng?
Mut: It was like a short period of time without any attention at all. Time flew very fast. Since Ta Hoeng disappeared it seemed likely no one was named for the replacement.

Dany: Have you ever heard about Neng?
Mut: I heard about Neng and Ream. I did not know about their responsibility. I heard about them but I have never been with them.

Dany: You only heard about?
Mut: Yes, I heard about him but I did not know about his work.

Dany: You talked earlier about Brother Yoeuk. Do you know how old he is?
Mut: Now, he is nearly 60.

Dany: Was he older than you?
Mut: Already 60. He is older than me.

Dany: Was it Yoeuk?
Mut: Oh, I am younger than him, Brother Yoeuk.

Dany: How about Yoeuk, he can able to tell about the dam in detail than you?
Mut: Brother Yoeuk knows this all in detail. If you are seeing him it is perfect because he knew about it a lot.

Dany: If we go from here...
Mut: Passing over Toek Thla a little bit.

Dany: Passing over Toek Thla a little bit is pretty close, isn't it?
Mut: Yes. So far, it was called old In Tam school. From old In Tam school [you go] in the construction direction and he stays along side of the road.

Dany: Near old In Tam school, isn't it?
Mut: Yes. Ask dwellers along the road where is Brother Yoeuk's house, [you will see.]

Dany: What his wife's name?
Mut: I do not remember his wife's name. You can ask a dweller who you see. It is not difficult. When you call him, he will come to see you. When you arrive in his house, let his child call him then you will see him. He is working for an NGO.

Dany: He is working for NGO?
Mut: Yes.

Dany: What is his telephone number?
Mut: Let me look it up in a telephone notebook.

Dany: When you joined Para, what was going on?
Mut: I was associated with Son San and his son named Son Sobert. Son San came back into the country then he died. They were with So Chan Heng, Khhou Chhea and others. At the time I was young and joined military up until UNTAC came in.

Dany: Where did you stay at?

Mut: First I was stationed at Banteay Ampil, then Boeng 7. [I was sent to] Regiment 219 from Regiment 207 in Nang Chan camp.

Dany: You made repatriation when UNTAC came in, didn't you?

Mut: Yes, it was when UNTAC came in. My life was so difficult since an age of 16-17 old. It was broken apart.

Dany: What was your position when you joined Para?

Mut: I was a platoon commander.

Dany: Platoon commander?

Mut: At the time they called as a Platoon but now it is called as a Big Cell.

Dany: When did you marry?

Mut: In 87.

Dany: 87?

Mut: It was in 87-88.

Dany: Where did you marry?

Mut: At the border.

Dany: Where?

Mut: The border of the camp number 7.

Dany: Camp number 7?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: Where was your wife from?

Mut: [She was] from Srey Snam district.

Dany: From Srey Snam district, Siem Reap province, isn't it?

Mut: Yes.

Dany: What Prey?

Mut: Prey Chruoy Nhuon.

Dany: Prey Chruoy Nhuon, isn't it?

Mut: Prey Chruoy Nhuon in Srey Snam district.

Wife: It is other side of Trapeang Thma.

Dany: Really?

Wife: Phnom Srok district.

Mut: It is another side.

Dany: Is it the Srey Snam border with Phnom Srok, Thma Puok and Svay Chek?

Mut: Yes, it is.

Dany: In the period of UNTAC, did you hold any position?

Mut: I made repatriation during the UNTAC period. I envisaged that I didn't have a paddy rice field so I took all my family to my birthplace hoping to have some opportunity. I decided to resign from my work and stopped working for the government. Taking account of my age, I stay home and do business as usual.

Dany: When you made repatriation, did you have any position?

Mut: When I was at the jungle I did have position.

Dany: During the repatriated period you decided to go home directly, didn't you?

Mut: Yes. I did not have any position. I was still called to office for the military but I refused to go.

Dany: Really?

Mut: Yes. I refused to go due to poverty and nothing to depend upon. When I stayed here and did things for a living I felt that I didn't want to go to [work] any more.

Dany: I do not have any more questions. Do you have something to add?

Mut: I do not have something to add. It ended when they were apart and I went to the jungle at the time the Vietnamese came in at Kralanh. [Yeay] Chaem then ran away and I also did. [Yeay] Chaem and I had different jobs. It seemed the story without the King that ended up at this point.

Dany: So, I thank you a lot that you have taken time, about 2 hours, for my interview. Thank you a lot.

Mut: You're welcome.

[End]