

February 8, 2004

## **ONLY THE FBI CAN STOP PERVERSION OF JUSTICE IN CAMBODIA**

The intensity of the media campaign in the last few days, which has been conducted by the Hun Sen government in response to my lawsuit against Mr Hun Sen for his alleged involvement in the March 30, 1997 grenade attack, raises a number of questions.

1. Why has the campaign now become so necessary that the State-owned TV and other TV stations under the ruling party's control were mobilized to re-broadcast repeatedly footage of "confessions" of two suspects in the grenade attack that is intended to implicate me? The footage was first filmed and broadcast in November 1998.

One would expect that had these public "confessions" carried any legal significance and validity, the government would have jumped at the first opportunity to take legal actions against me, at least for perversion of justice. It would have been, for Mr Hun Sen's CPP, the most legitimate way to remove me from Cambodia's politics.

2. Why did the CPP-controlled government use the State-owned station TVK for an individual's benefits? My lawsuit is against an individual named Mr Hun Sen, not the State. Why has the CPP propaganda apparatus taken over the role of the Judiciary? According to our Constitution, "The judiciary shall cover all lawsuits" and "only judges shall have the right to adjudicate."
3. Where is Chhay Vee now? He is one of the main suspects, who was shown on TVK making his "confessions" in 1998? Whether he is still alive or dead, the authority should let the public know. He was last seen more than five years ago when he was in custody of the authority, and taken to Mr Hun Sen's senior adviser Om Yen Tieng's house, from where he gave his "confessions" broadcast on TVK.

As reported in today's edition of CPP's mouthpiece Rasmei Kampuchea, the ruling party now claims that the FBI has included Chhay Vee's "confessions" implicating me in its "final report" because they are "valid and conclusive". The newspaper's editorial finally suggests that because of my involvement in an alleged plan to pervert justice, it will be difficult to include the Sam Rainsy Party in any future government.

Sam Rainsy

**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
Nation Religion King



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

February 7, 2004

**CRIMINAL LAWSUIT AT THE FRENCH COURT  
IN RELATION TO THE MARCH 30, 1997 GRENADE ATTACK IN PHNOM PENH**

On November 20, 2000, my wife Tioulong Saumura and I (both of us are French citizens) filed a criminal lawsuit at a French court (Tribunal de Grande Instance de Paris) in relation to the March 30, 1997 grenade attack in Phnom Penh, where at least 16 people were killed and more than 100 wounded. Even though we were unhurt, both of us could have been killed in the incident. Actually, I am convinced I was the main target of the attack, as I am convinced that the then "second" prime minister Hun Sen was the instigator of the attack. We then can refer to the incident as an assassination attempt.

Our lawyer in Paris is Maître Pascal Guénancia. According to French specific judicial procedure, we lodged with the court on November 20, 2000 a complaint against a suspect that the court would have to identify, for assassination attempt. (Nous avons déposé auprès du Tribunal une plainte avec constitution de partie civile, portée contre X, du chef de tentative d'assassinat).

Our complaint was officially accepted on November 27, 2000 by a senior judge, le Doyen des Juges d'Instruction René Humetz. For the case to proceed, we complied with the court requirement and deposited a sum of money (Consignation à titre de partie civile) amounting to 8.000 Francs or 1.219.59 Euros, on December 11, 2000.

An investigating judge, le Juge d'Instruction Baudoin Thouvenot, was assigned to proceed with the case. Tioulong Saumura and I have met with the judge several times since 2001. We have given him all available information pertaining to our complaint, including information related to the FBI investigation into the same incident. Judge Baudoin Thouvenot plans to come to Cambodia to complete his investigation on the spot in the near future. We think he would like to interrogate Mr. Hun Sen, who could be invited to the Paris tribunal (Palais de Justice) if he happens to be in France any time from now.

Our legal case bears the following references:

N° Fiche : 1637

N° Parquet : 0032823046

N° Plainte : 0000851

For further information about the March 30, 1997 grenade attack, especially for documents in French:  
[www.cambodiapolitics.org](http://www.cambodiapolitics.org)

Sam Rainsy  
Member of Parliament

**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
Nation Religion King



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

6 February 2004

**CPP MANIPULATES INVESTIGATION INTO THE 1997 GRENADE ATTACK**

In relation to the lawsuit that I filed earlier this week against Prime Minister Hun Sen for assassination attempt at a grenade attack in Phnom Penh on March 30, 1997, the State TV has been re-broadcasting several times, over the last twenty-four hours, testimonies given by two suspects.

In the footage, first broadcast by the same State TV in November 1998, the two suspects, Chum Bun Thoeun and Chhay Vee, recanted their first testimonies given to FBI agents at the American Embassy in Bangkok in June 1998. They claimed that SRP Secretary-General Eng Chhai Eang had offered them money to make up the story they told the FBI in Bangkok. They acknowledged at the time that Chhay Vee was one of the main perpetrators.

But the second version of their testimonies, in which they denied any participation in the grenade attack, was made following their arrest shortly after their return from Bangkok in June 1998. They were subsequently detained in Phnom Penh's municipal prison where torture is routine for extracting false confessions. They were apparently forced, five months later, to appear on the television recanting the early testimonies.

After the broadcasting of the testimonies last night and today, Prime Minister Hun Sen's senior adviser Om Yen Tieng appeared on the stage to assert that,

1. there were two FBI reports. The first - published in early June 1997, which is the one that Sam Rainsy refers to - seems to implicate Prime Minister Hun Sen. But the second - published in late November 1998 and containing Chum Bun Thoeun and Chhay Vee's second testimonies - is inconclusive. This latest one is the only valid version;
2. Sam Rainsy manipulates alleged witnesses/suspects, and is not credible. His lawsuit against Hun Sen is, therefore, groundless.

I wish to make the following clarification.

1. Chum Bun Thoeun and Chhay Vee approached the SRP in June 1998. In order to free them from fear if they accepted to reveal to the FBI what they knew about the grenade attack, I made an arrangement for them to go to Bangkok where they would give their testimonies. In his testimony, Chhay Vee acknowledged that he had thrown the fourth and last grenade into the crowd. But he was reportedly killed after giving the second testimony five months later. His features strikingly matched the FBI sketch of one of the prime suspects, as can be seen at [www.cambodiapolitics.org](http://www.cambodiapolitics.org)
2. I have no means, no will, and no habit of bribing or coercing anyone into doing anything against their will, the truth, and the law. I believe, given the climate of terror in Cambodia, we can help the truth and justice to prevail only by abiding by rules of discretion and following a quiet approach with relevant international organizations: FBI, Amnesty International, UN Human Rights Center.

Sam Rainsy  
Member of Parliament