

Sam Rainsy Appeals to FBI for Evidence

Sam Rainsy called on the US Federal Bureau of Investigation to release all evidence related to the 1997 grenade attack following the broadcast on Friday of a government documentary linking the opposition party to the atrocity. Broadcast on several stations simultaneously, the documentary featured a 1998 interview with Chhay Vy and Chum Bunthoeun, who alleged they were involved in an opposition plot to blame the attack on the government. "I appeal to those who have the real evidence to release it. The FBI cannot stay idle," Sam Rainsy said. According to Sam Rainsy, the two men featured in the documentary had earlier testified to US officials that they were involved in the attack. They recanted after they were arrested on returning to Cambodia, he claimed. Sam Rainsy reiterated that two FBI reports exist on the attack that killed 13, and one that incriminates the government has been suppressed. "The government just shows that we have evidence that Sam Rainsy was involved," government spokesman Khieu Kanharith said Friday. Sam Rainsy filed a lawsuit Tuesday claiming Prime Minister Hun Sen masterminded the grenade attack. Last week, Hun Sen lodged a lawsuit against Sam Rainsy over his allegations that the CPP was responsible for union leader Chea Vichea's murder. (*Lor Chandara*)