



Khmer Rouge Abuses Recalled at Trial October 23, 2012

A former Lon Nol soldier has told a court in Cambodia he was forced to collect human waste and spread it on fields with his own hands.

Chum Sokha, who was 20 at the time Phnom Penh fell in 1975, testified Monday in the trial of top Khmer Rouge officials, the Phnom Penh Post reported.

Sokha, one of the parties in a civil suit against the leaders, said he did the work for six months in a rural cooperative. He had buried his uniform when the Khmer Rouge came to power, but Sokha said his father was taken away when his military connections became known and he was never seen again.

Sokha became emotional on the stand, prompting objections from attorney Andrew Ianuzzi, who is representing Nuon Chea, the party's chief ideologist.

Ianuzzi said Sokha's grief was outside the scope of the trial, and the judge asked witnesses to keep descriptions as limited as possible.