



## **UN-Backed Court Charges 2 Ex-Khmer Rouge Leaders With Genocide**

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PHNOM PENH (AFP)--Cambodia's U.N.-backed warcrimes court has for the first time issued genocide charges against two leaders of the brutal Khmer Rouge regime, a tribunal spokesman said Wednesday.

Former Khmer Rouge number two Nuon Chea and foreign minister Ieng Sary were both charged over the hardline communist regime's slaughter of Vietnamese people and ethnic Cham Muslims during the 1970s, spokesman Lars Olsen said.

"This week both Nuon Chea and Ieng Sary have been brought before the investigating judges and informed they are being charged with genocide against the Cham Muslims and the Vietnamese," Olsen said.

"This is the first time that anyone has been charged with genocide" at the U.N.-backed tribunal, he added.