

April 18, 2003

Justice in Cambodia

To the Editor:

Re "Flawed Khmer Rouge Trial Better Than None" (Letter From Asia, April 16):

I agree that the United Nations should go ahead with the revised formula that Cambodia offered last month for trying the top leaders of the Khmer Rouge. Time is running out. The former Khmer Rouge leaders are getting very old.

Twenty-eight years ago this month, the Khmer Rouge took over Cambodia. By the time the invading Vietnamese soldiers drove the Khmer Rouge back into the jungle, less than four years later, 1.7 million Cambodians had perished at the hands of the regime.

Along with millions of other Cambodians, I lost my father, my grandfather, a brother and a sister. I still wake up at night crying because I miss my father. I still cry at the sight of starving children in the news because they reminded me of my brother and sister, who were starved to death.

In a few years, all the former Khmer Rouge leaders will have died. I want to see justice. We missed the chance with Pol Pot. Please don't let the opportunity go by again. It will be too late.

REASEY POCH
Woodbridge, Va., April 16, 2003