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By R NARA Date 1/19/12

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: October 4, 1960. ~~107~~  
CAS

SUBJECT: German Classification of Centrifuge Work

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Wolfgang Opfermann, First Secretary, German Embassy Es

GER - Mr. Andrew Stalder  
S/AE - Mr. Dana Orwick  
S/AE - Mr. William A. Chapin

COPIES TO:

GER - Mr. Stalder (1)                      Embassy, Brussels, USEC (Reg. # 355652)  
RA - Mr. Hartman (1)                      Embassy, The Hague                      (" 355661)  
AEC - (2) Mr. O'Donnell  
WE - Mr. Miller (1)  
S/AE

1-1488

Mr. Opfermann called to inform us of the contents of a cable received this morning from Bonn concerning the centrifuge classification problem. He said the German Government had just decided to impose state secrecy classification on such centrifuge developments as appeared to be sensitive. Violation of such secrecy is punishable under criminal law. The German Government had informed the patent office and DEGUSSA of this decision, although the details of the procedure were yet to be worked out. He added that Germany did not want to include all developments under state secrecy classification, particularly information that would have no military significance. The Germans assumed that an understanding could be reached with the United States on classification procedures.

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S/AE:W.A.Chapin:aw