

**May 16, 1979**

## **Cable from Brazilian Embassy in Bonn to Brasilia, 'Nuclear Energy. Hamburg Congress: South African Program'**

### **Citation:**

"Cable from Brazilian Embassy in Bonn to Brasilia, 'Nuclear Energy. Hamburg Congress: South African Program'," May 16, 1979, History and Public Policy Program Digital Archive, CPDOC Archives, Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro collection. Obtained and translated by Fundação Getúlio Vargas. <http://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/116658>

### **Summary:**

Report of a meeting between an official from the Brazilian Embassy in Bonn and the scientific attaché of the South African Embassy on the occasion of a nuclear congress in Hamburg. The South African official informed the Brazilian diplomat about the advancement of the Pretoria nuclear program with regard to uranium enrichment.

### **Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from the Leon Levy Foundation and Carnegie Corporation.

### **Original Language:**

Portuguese

### **Contents:**

- English Translation
- Scan of Original Document

16 May 1979

SECRET

DEM/DAF-II/DE-I

Nuclear Energy. Hamburg Congress.

South African program.

No. 596 Wednesday 17:15 hs. Informing. On the occasion of the Nuclear Congress in Hamburg, an official from this Embassy met the Scientific Attaché of the Embassy of South Africa in Bonn. At the opportunity some aspects of the nuclear program of that country were brought up. The following is a recount of the comments made by the South African official:

1. The South African facility for uranium enrichment has been operating for some three years and has a capacity of about 200.000 UTS/A. In the next few years this facility should be enlarged to reach a capacity of 800.000 UTS/A to supply the enriched uranium needs of the South African nuclear program.
2. The enrichment method adopted by South Africa is similar, in its basic conception, to the centrifuge jet process of professor Becke. The facility built in South Africa, however, is the result of that country's own efforts, which would permit considerable reduction of energy consumption even in facilities of small dimension.

Jorgesilva

# TELEGRAMA RECEBIDO

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6 maio

DE BRASEMB BONN PARA SECRESTADO EM 16.05.79

SECRETO

DEM/DAF-III/DE-I

ENERGIA NUCLEAR. CONGRESSO DE HAMBURGO.

PROGRAMA SUL-AFRICANO.

586 41715 - ADITEL 585. INFORMO. POR OCASIAO DO CONGRESSO NUCLEAR DE HAMBURGO, FUNCIONARIO DESTA EMBAIXADA ENCONTROU-SE COM O ADIDO CIENTIFICO DA EMBAIXADA DA AFRICA DO SUL EM BONN, OPORTUNIDADE EM QUE FORAM EVOCADOS ALGUNS ASPECTOS DO PROGRAMA NUCLEAR DAQUELE PAIS. REPRODUZO A SEGUIR COMENTARIOS DO REPRESENTANTE SUL-AFRICANO:

1. A INSTALACAO PARA ENRIQUECIMENTO DE URANIO SUL-AFRICANO FUNCIONA HA CERCA DE 3 ANOS E TEM UMA CAPACIDADE DE CERCA DE 200.000 UTS/A. NOS PROXIMOS ANOS ESSA INSTALACAO DEVERA SER AMPLIADA PARA UMA CAPACIDADE DE 800.000 UTS/A PARA ATENDER AAS NECESSIDADES DE URANIO ENRIQUECIDO DO PROGRAMA NUCLEAR DA AFRICA DO SUL.

2. O PROCESSO DE ENRIQUECIMENTO ADOTADO PELA AFRICA DO SUL ASSEMELHA-SE, NA SUA CONCEPCAO BASICA, AO PROCESSO DO JATO CENTRIFUGO DO PROFES OR BECKE. A INSTALACAO CONSTRUIDA NA AFRICA DO SUL, NO ENTANTO, EH O RESULTADO DE DESENVOLVIMENTOS PROPRIOS, QUE PERMITIRIAM UMA CONSIDERAVEL REDUCAO DO CONSUMO DE ENERGIA MESMO EM INSTALACOES DE DIMENSOES PEQUENAS.

JORGESILVA

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