

U.S. Spy Agency Asked German Intelligence to Spy on Siemens



Berlin, May 11 (RHC)-- The U.S. National Security Agency asked German intelligence service to spy on the European country's technology giant Siemens, a new report reveals. The NSA suspected that Siemens was providing communications technology to a Russian secret service, the German newspaper Bild am Sonntag reported on Sunday, citing unnamed U.S. intelligence sources.

The report added that it is not still clear whether Germany's intelligence service BND had in fact delivered any intelligence on Siemens to the NSA or not. A Siemens spokesman told the newspaper that the company was "not aware of any facts in the company's area of responsibility" that would give excuse making it a target of such surveillance.

The report comes a month after the BND was accused of helping the NSA target the Airbus Group, the French government and the European Commission. The revelations have sparked a heated debate in Germany about the role of the intelligence agency and the damage that the scandal can cause for the country's relations with other European nations.

Edward Snowden, a former NSA contractor, began leaking classified intelligence documents in June 2013, revealing the extent of the NSA's spying activity. The disclosures have revealed that the NSA has been collecting the phone records of millions of Americans and foreign nationals as well as political leaders around the world.

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