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EURATOM CONTRACTS WITH GERMAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR FUSION RESEARCH

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 26 -- The Commission of the European Atomic Energy Commission has decided to conclude a large-scale association contract with the Juelich (North Rhine-Westphalia) nuclear research center in Germany, it was announced today.

Euratom will contribute 40 per cent of the \$6,375,000 cost of the project, which covers a three-year controlled nuclear fusion research program.

The Juelich plasma physics institute has been conducting studies since 1956 on the production of high-temperature plasma compression in magnetic pinch of varying configurations.

The new contract is part of Euratom's over-all program of research in thermonuclear phenomena. Euratom's first three-year contract of association was signed in 1959 with the French atomic energy commission (CEA), whose laboratories at Fontenay-aux-Roses now have a staff of 100 (about 60 French and 40 from other member countries of the Community) concentrating on magnetic-mirror devices. In 1960 a second contract, linked with the first, was concluded with the Italian atomic energy commission (CNEN), whose Frascati laboratories are undertaking experiments based on the Theta pinch method.

Another contract for study of the Theta pinch devices was signed in 1961 with the new German laboratory at Garching, near Munich, established at the initiative of the Max-Planck Institute in Munich. This year Euratom entered into an association with the Dutch Foundation for Fundamental Research on Matter (FOM) at Jutphaas, near Utrecht, for other studies on plasma stabilization problems, and also extended its association with the French CEA for three more years.