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Germans say Mengele in Paraguay

BONN, West Germany (UPI) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl believes Nazi war criminal Dr. Josef Mengele is still in Paraguay despite a denial by the government of the South American nation, it was reported Sunday.

The West German magazine Der Spiegel, citing unidentified sources in Mr. Kohl's chancellery, said the West German chancellor does not believe the Paraguayan government's denial.

The sources were quoted as saying Mr. Kohl will press Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner for clarification of the Nazi war criminal's whereabouts when Mr. Stroessner visits West Germany on July 2-6.

A spokesman for the Paraguayan government said last month that Mengele, who carried out barbaric experiments on prisoners at the Auschwitz concentration camp, left

Paraguay in 1960.

Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal has said repeatedly that Mengele still lives in Paraguay and is under Mr. Stroessner's protection.

In the hunt for Mengele, the U.S. Army over the next few months will study more than 300,000 documents containing at least 1 million pages. Darrell L. Peck, an Army lawyer, said in a statement to U.S. District Judge Thomas A. Flannery that there are over 1,000 reels of poorly indexed or unindexed microfilm records from the post-World War II years which conceivably contain information on Mengele.

He said a special Army task force created to aid the Justice Department investigation also has begun searching former Army records now held by the National Archives.

After hearing arguments, Judge Flannery granted the government's request to stay for four months the

proceedings in a lawsuit brought to force the Army to release more intelligence documents pertaining to Mengele.

Mengele was responsible for the deaths of 400,000 Jews in the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz. Known as "The Angel of Death," he decided which prisoners were sent to the gas chamber and which he would use in his experiments.

The concentration camp doctor fled to South America at the end of World War II and obtained Paraguayan citizenship in 1959, which was revoked in 1979 under international pressure.

Mengele has not been definitely sighted since he vanished in Paraguay after the West German government requested his extradition in 1962. It is not known for sure whether he is still alive, but reports repeatedly have surfaced placing him in various parts of the world.