Dear Mr. Lubeck,

Thank you for your email dated August 11, 2017, addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Your email has been forwarded to the Office of the Commissioner for Patents for a response. In your email you express concern about the subject matter disclosed in US Patent 5,698,812.

The Manual of Patent Examination Procedure (MPEP) states in 35 U.S.C. 181, "Whenever publication or disclosure by the publication of an application or by the grant of a patent on an invention in which the Government has a property interest might, in the opinion of the head of the interested Government agency, be detrimental to the national security, the Commissioner of Patents upon being so notified shall order that the invention be kept secret and shall withhold the publication of an application or the grant of a patent therefor under the conditions set forth hereinafter". Therefore each patent application and patent publication are carefully reviewed to determine their impact on National Security.

I hope this information has been helpful.

John [name]
Supervisory Patent Examiner Detailee
Office of Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office

Original Message
From: Felix [mailto:[name]@ideenschmied.eu]
Sent: Friday, August 11, 2017 02:46 AM
To: USPTO Info
Subject: Patents
Dear Sire,
Is there any reasonable doubt that US Patent US5698812 was available to the interested public by open internet access since December 1997?
Today many link lead to this Patent, for example the following. Though Links may have been different in the past, one can assume that access was possible?
http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser? Sect1=PTO2&Sect2=HITOFF&p=1&u=%2Fnetahtml%2FPTO%2Fsearch-bool.html&r=1&f=G&l=50&co1=AND&d=PTXT&s1=%22Thermite+destructive+devicE%22.TI.&OS=TTL/
Has there been any mechanics to restrain criminal subjects, especially Terrorists from accessing patents which teach how to build weapons and how to use them?
Is there any reason to assume Mohammed Atta and the Hamburg Cell (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamburg_cell https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamburg_cell
) could not have accessed US Patent US5698812 and thus could not have learned to fabricate and use Thermite destructive devices from US5698812?
Best regards,
Felix Lübeck
Germany