Pretoria, January 16:

"Two men who were recently convicted in Salisbury for spying against Rhodesia were deported to London by air tonight. They are Mr. Roger Nicholson, former financial editor of the Rhodesian Herald, and Mr. Trever Gallaher, a lawyer.

Informed diplomatic sources in Pretoria said that the release of the two men was part of a deal between the U.S. and Rhodesia.

Two weeks ago the Johannesburg Sunday Times said that in return for keeping its diplomatic mission open in Rhodesia, the U.S. would be assured that its part in the spy drama would be kept secret, and all evidence about U.S. involvement would be heard in secret session.

The sources added that another part of the deal was that the two men be set free and allowed to go to the U.S. where substantial sums of money have been deposited in bank accounts for them. They were expected to leave London almost immediately for the U.S.

A statement issued from the Rhodesian Prime Minister's office said:

"Before their departure they surrendered their Rhodesian citizenship...

The decision to make this deal was taken in the national interest after the most careful examination of all the circumstances. The government wishes to assure Rhodesians of its conviction that this move, which is in keeping with international practice, will confer advantages on Rhodesia which outweigh all other considerations." (UPI)

Roy Lewis writes: The Foreign and Commonwealth Office last night was unable to offer any explanation of the advantages Rhodesia expects to have won for itself from the release of Mr. Nicholson. Certainly nothing has been offered by Britain, it stated. The case involving Mr. Nicholson is regarded as coming under the jurisdiction of Rhodesian internal matters under the legal 1961 Constitution, and the Foreign Office never sought to interfere with his imprisonment."

BROTHERS AND SISTERS: THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF THESE TWO C.I.A. AGENTS BY THE FASCIST RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT IS A CLEAR INDICATION OF THE CONTINUED EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO MANIPULATE THE OPPRESSORS AS WELL AS THE OPPRESSED TO SUIT ITS OWN IMMEDIATE PURPOSES!

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