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WYNNE REUNITED WITH HIS FAMILY

Briton Traded for Soviet Spy Says Little of Ordeal

By SYDNEY GRUSON

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, April 22 — Looking

thin and tired, Greville M Wynne, a British businessman whom the Russians sentenced last May to eight years' imprisonment on charges of espionage, flew to London today for a joyful reunion with his wife and 12-year-old son.

Mr. Wynne, 45 years old, was exchanged at 5:35 A.M. for the Soviet spy known here as Gordon Arnold Lonsdale a few hours earlier at a border crossing point between West Berlin and East Germany.

Mr. Lonsdale, 40, has been identified by the British police as Konon Trofimovich Molody, son of a prominent Soviet science writer. He was serving a 25-year sentence as the mastermind of a ring that obtained for the Russians vital information about the Royal Navy, particularly its underwater weapons.

At two brief news conferences, at the airport and later in the garden of his Chelsea home, Mr. Wynne gave cryptic answers to questions about his health, which the British Government said had been deteriorating in prison, and his treatment in a Moscow prison. He added nothing to what is known about his case.

'I Feel as I Look'

He said he could not comment at this time on having pleaded guilty at his trial.

"They treated me according to how they felt at the moment," he said. "Just say that I feel as I look."

Mr. Wynne would not elaborate. Asked how he thought he looked, he replied, running a hand over his prison-cropped hair, "You will have to judge for yourselves."

He said he had not been told he was going home when he was taken from prison yesterday. "Then," he added, "I found myself in an airplane and I was arriving in East Berlin."

Mr. Lonsdale was removed from his cell in a Birmingham prison yesterday and flown secretly to West Berlin. Soviet security officers drove the Briton to the Heerstrasse crossing point early this morning. British officers drove the Russian. The two men's luggage also was exchanged.

Russians Made Offer

The Foreign Office, in a statement, said it had been informed by the Russians April 7 that they were willing to release

Mr. Wynne provided Mr. Lonsdale was freed.

"The Government recently learned that Mr. Wynne's physical condition has seriously deteriorated," the statement said.

"Without prejudice to the views which they had previously expressed about the procedure followed with regard to Wynne's arrest and trial and to the guilt of Lonsdale, they consider that in this exceptional case humanitarian motives should predominate."

Mr. Wynne, who traveled extensively in Eastern Europe as managing director of Mobile Exhibitions, Ltd., was arrested in Budapest Nov. 2, 1962, handed over to the Russians and tried before a military court. Britain protested to no avail.

Confession by Russian

Oleg V. Penkovsky, a 44-year-old Soviet scientific worker, was accused with him. Mr. Penkovsky was shot after having confessed that the Briton was his contact with the British and United States intelligence services.

Reliable sources said unofficial "feelers" for a Wynne-Lonsdale exchange were received almost immediately after the Briton came into the Russians' custody, 20 months after Mr. Lonsdale's sentencing.

The Government decided to reject them because, it was said, "this would make things too easy for the Russians, who could arrest an innocent man any time a Soviet spy was caught."

Mr. Wynne was described by one official as a "comparatively innocent man" who "got into

Briton Freed in Deal for Soviet Spy

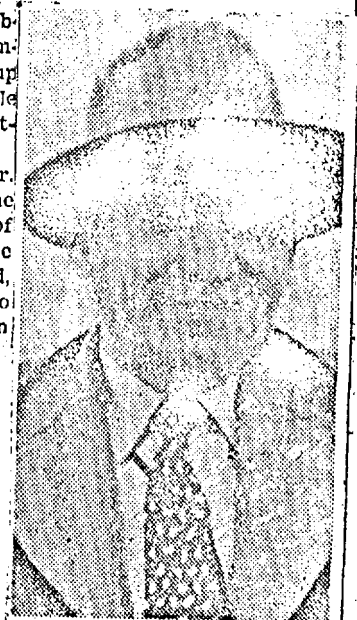


Associated Press Cablephoto

Greville Wynne lands at London Airport after flight from West Berlin. The British businessman, sentenced to eight years' imprisonment by the Soviet Union last May, was exchanged in Berlin for Gordon Arnold Lonsdale, Soviet spy.

the fringes of espionage," probably by passing on bits of information that he picked up about the Soviet economy while conducting his business in Eastern Europe.

The official insisted that Mr. Wynne was "not one of the boys," meaning a member of the espionage services. "If he had been," the official added, "his duty would have been to rot and, if necessary, to die in prison."



Pictorial Parade

Lonsdale, who was serving a 25-year prison sentence in Britain as Soviet agent.