



The Grayzone speaks out for Assange

This transcript may not be 100% accurate due to audio quality or other factors.

Speaker 1: Would you please welcome Mark Blumenthal from The Grayzone.

Max Blumenthal (MB): Thank you. Can't thank you enough. Well, my soldier. I will speak louder. I'll speak louder. [Ironic:] I was hearing some babbling around the outskirts. I don't know, is President Biden here? I'm glad everyone stayed after Roger Waters and Ben Cohen, the little people, just a humble editor of a website that was just declared by Wikipedia to be far left and far right at the same time. We'll talk about that in a second because it does relate. I came in last night. I had dinner with an old friend, a not political friend, and he brought his apolitical girlfriend who brought her apolitical corporate friends. Very nice people. I mean, great people. And after 2 hours of talking about themselves, they asked me what I was doing in New York, and I said, I'm speaking at a rally for Julian Assange. And they just drew a blank, and said, Who the hell is Julian? Julian? Julian Lennon. Julian who? Julius Erving. They didn't know who Julian Assange was. And these are people that are highly educated and they have been betrayed. No, it's not their fault. And when I told them who Julian Assange was and that he is being literally tortured and has been in solitary confinement for a thousand days and more for exposing official corruption and the crimes of our national security state, they were horrified. And you could actually see tears in their eyes when they learnt that he was also a father and a husband who has been deprived of holding his children simply because he told the truth about our national security state. We have an entire population to reach here. Most people do not know who Julian Assange is, and that's why this work is so important. I'll tell you about another event I went to earlier this year in Los Angeles. Some of you might not like it from the lock down left, but it was at a rally to defeat the mandates. Yes. For those of you who don't like it, it's irrelevant. We all need to get along. We need to get over these divisions from the pandemic. And I'm sorry you got mad at me, but I'm not mad at you. I'm sorry you fell for the PSYOP, but I was just there. I was just there to explain how I thought that the lockdowns and the health passports were creating a digital dystopia. And

when I said that Julian Assange had warned about this for years before I even called for his freedom, this right leaning crowd got on its feet and cheered immediately for the freedom of Julian Assange. And it was an amazing moment. Now, why? Why? Because they watch stuff like Tucker Carlson. And Tucker Carlson has had Roger Waters on repeatedly to advocate for Julian Assange. It's crazy. We're living in an upside down world right now where the Fox News Network that was clamouring for the war in Iraq is now presenting space for people to advocate for the freedom of Julian Assange. And so there's an opportunity there. But who are the people that we have the hardest time trying to talk to about this? It's the progressive, the liberals, the MSNBC watchers, the people who read Legacy Media. We call them shitlibs now. But these are educated people who read The New York Times and The Washington Post and they don't realise The Washington Post is owned by one of the world's richest men, who is a contractor for the CIA, who hosts the CIA's cloud at his Amazon. They don't realise that and they are hostile to Julian Assange.

Speaker 2: Oh, don't forget the people who support the Patriot Act.

MB: The people who support the Patriot Act... So the mainstream media has become an enemy of the journalists, the most courageous publishers and journalists of our time. And I always tell this story. I always tell this story about the piece that I published that Randy mentioned at The Grayzone about how the CIA was running an operation to surveil Julian Assange at the Ecuadorian embassy. They had taken over the security through UC Global. And so everyone who came in through the front door to visit Julian, they thought they were speaking to an Ecuadorian embassy security guard. It was, in fact, a CIA asset who would take their devices, open their devices, invade their devices, and then send it back to Langley. So who were some of those people? Some of those people were reporters for the same publications that have demonised Julian Assange, painting him as a Russian spy and so on. One of them was Ellen Nakashima, the chief national security correspondent for The Washington Post. I published photos of her devices that were opened by CIA assets that UC Global - just to restate that, the chief national security correspondent for The Washington Post had her devices infiltrated by the CIA. Now, can you imagine if the Russian FSB did that? What would have happened? There would have been headlines on every mainstream publication. I went to The Washington Post, I went to Ellen Nakashima. I said, Do you have any comment on this? Do you have anything to say about this? No. Silence, crickets. Not a goddamn thing, because they can't bite the hand that feeds them.

Speaker 3: They are cowards.

MB: No, they're worse than cowards. They are the voice of the national security state, that Julian Assange exposed. They are the stenographers for our secret government, and they betrayed Julian Assange. So a letter recently came out, thank you to The New York Times publisher Arthur Sulzberger, for participating in this letter. Several mainstream legacy publications called for the US to drop the Espionage Act charges against Julian Assange.

Finally, finally, years later, they finally did this. The New York Times was the only American publication to sign that letter. No L.A. Times, no Chicago Tribune, no Washington Post, no Wall Street Journal, no Associated Press, no Reuters. Because they are the stenographers for the national security state. They are worse than cowards. They are part of the crimes that Julian Assange exposed. Julian Assange asked, What is the average death count for every Western journalist? And that is a question we need to continue to ask today. Those people know that they will never be on the hook. They will never face punishment, as Julian Assange did, because they will never do what he did. But those of us who do and we do this at The Grayzone, if you read anything Kit Klarenberg published recently about the British national security state, British intelligence, we continue to do this. There is a target on our back because of what is happening to Julian Assange. And so we are fighting not only for the right of Julian Assange to hold his children and be with his wife, we're fighting for the right to expose the secret government, the national security state, the Central Intelligence Agency, which has a \$90 billion or more black budget, which has infested Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms with its former agents. And we see Garland Nixon here is banned from Twitter. I thought Elon Musk was exposing censorship. National security, state contractors, Elon Musk, I thought he was exposing censorship. He said only the right is censored. But why are anti-imperialist like Garland Nixon censored? Why are they suspended? Why? Why isn't he leaking the files about that? Why isn't he leaking the files about Russiagate? Why isn't he leaking the files about everyone who criticised the Ukraine proxy war being suspended? Why has Elon Musk not restored the Twitter account of Julian Assange? Can we at least free Julian Assange's Twitter account?

MB: So I want to close by reading an email from Julian Assange: "Hi, all. I'm in Iceland. You should be too. Or at least reporting about it. I've been in Iceland the past few weeks advising parliamentarians here on a cross-party proposal to turn Iceland into an international journalism haven, a jurisdiction designed to attract organisations into publishing online from Iceland by adopting the strongest press and source protection laws from around the world. In my role as WikiLeaks editor, I've been involved in fighting off many legal attacks. To do that and keep our sources safe we have had to spread assets, encrypt everything, and move communications and people around the world to activate protected laws in national jurisdictions." It goes on. He says: "That's why I am excited about what is happening in Iceland, which is starting to see the world in a new way after its mini revolution a year ago." That was February 2010. And today, Julian Assange has been captured. And he's being tortured because he was leading a revolution in journalism. And that's why, not because he violated the Espionage Act. So it's our job today to continue that revolution, to continue the revolution that Julian Assange and WikiLeaks started, and to see Julian Assange standing here with us and his family to see that revolution through. Thank you.

Anay Parampil in front of the UK embassy : Go France [World Cup match]. I guess we have to say that since we're here to tell the British that they are complicit in a crime. The persecution of Julian Assange and an attack on the free press. You know something when we as the United States fight for our independence from the British one thing we fought for was the First Amendment and the free press, a concept they don't even really have in the UK. And so it is our responsibility, I think, as US citizens to show that we actually believe in this here in the United States. We believe in a free press and we are going to fight to say: You know, the UK should not extradite Julian Assange. He has no chance of facing a fair trial in the United States. And the precedent that the UK has already set by essentially kidnapping him. It's horrible for people like me who work through journalism to expose the crimes of the trans-Atlantic evil empire and our greatest partner in that trans-Atlantic evil empire is the United Kingdom. And, you know, one of the best things that I have experienced in my life lately is getting to raise my daughter. And my heart breaks for Julian Assange, who's been robbed of that right to spend time with his children. And his children have been robbed of their father. And just on that personal level, I hope that one day we get to see Julian reunited with his children. We've all heard the horrible stories of what his boys have had to go through to meet him in prison. Very invasive searching of young children who are just trying to visit their father, who's been taken away from them. And that's all being done by the UK government, not much to be proud of there. I mean, we're standing here to tell you that you should be ashamed. Shame. Shame on you. Shame on the UK. Free Julian Assange. Free Julian Assange. The last thing I will say is that tomorrow I'll be going to Miami to cover a case, a trial of someone else who was kidnapped by the United States, that is Alex Saab, the Venezuelan diplomat who was fighting against the same trans-Atlantic evil empire, defending Venezuela against the sanctions not only levied by the United States, but by the UK government. And this government has also stolen billions of dollars worth of Venezuelan gold. They used the coup, the cover of Juan Guaidó to basically just make sure that gold that Venezuela was trying to repatriate and bring back to its country is forever in the coffers of the Central Bank of England. So there's just so much criminality coming out of the government that these people in this building work for. And so we're going to keep showing up and tell you, You can't watch a World Cup game in peace. Shame on you. Shame on you. We will not stop until Julian Assange is free. And the rest of the world, it feels like sometimes has moved on or forgotten. And so I'm so happy to see that there are people that haven't forgotten and that will always show up and say: Free Julian Assange.

END