

JULIAN ASSANGE EXPOSED THE SECRETS OF GUANTÁNAMO – *for doing that he's in prison*

'THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA v JULIAN PAUL ASSANGE. Count 1: Conspiracy to Obtain, Receive, and Disclose National Defense Information, contrary to Title 18, U.S.C. section 793(g), punishable by a maximum penalty of ten years' imprisonment. It is alleged that, between 2009 and 2015, outside any particular state or district of the US, Mr. Assange conspired with others known and unknown to commit the following offences: (i) first, to obtain documents relating to national defence including Guantánamo Bay detainee assessment briefs ...'

The Committee to Defend Julian Assange supports the Guantanamo Network protest and the demand to close the US prison at Guantánamo as it reaches its 20th grim year of existence. It has remained open through the Presidencies of Bush, Obama, Trump and now Biden. Guantánamo, in which 39 Prisoners remain, is a symbol of the lawlessness, brutality and criminality with which the US/UK and other NATO countries have conducted the so-called 'war on terror'.

Tony Blair, a key partner of the Bush administration in launching a catastrophic war on Iraq in 2003 – a war launched by lies – has now been knighted. The war criminals remain unaccountable and are honoured while those who helped to expose their crimes are silenced. Julian Assange is 'disappeared' and isolated in the bleak Maximum Security Belmarsh prison where he has spent over two and a half years awaiting extradition to the US. He has suffered years of arbitrary detention and psychological torture causing his health to seriously decline.

For what crime? Julian Assange and Wikileaks published a treasure trove of leaked US documents showing the terrible reality of US (and NATO allies) wars, their ripping up of every international law and human rights framework – the infliction of mass civilian casualties, the use of death squads, torture and rendition. Amongst the many significant Wikileaks publications were the secret Guantánamo files released in 2011. These were 765 Detainee Assessment Briefs which covered the period 2002-2009 and were compiled by those

responsible for interrogating and detaining the prisoners. The documents revealed many previously unknown details about the prisoners of Guantánamo including the use of tortured prisoners to provide 'evidence' against other prisoners, the detention of children, the mentally ill and those sold to the US for generous bounties.

Journalist Andy Worthington, (author of the book, *The Guantánamo Files* and media partner to Wikileaks), an authority on the documents, calls them '*the anatomy of a colossal crime perpetrated by the US government on 779 prisoners who, for the most part, are not, and never have been, the terrorists the government would like us to believe they are.*'

Read the leaks and the essential information they contain for yourself at: <https://wikileaks.org/gitmo/>

The GITMO files form part of the US case against Julian Assange who faces Espionage charges and a potential 175-year sentence for doing what journalists should do: holding power to account. Amnesty has condemned the High Court decision to allow his extradition to the US calling it '*a travesty of justice*' and condemning the US assurances that Assange would not be held in solitary confinement in a US maximum security prison as '*not worth the paper they are written on.*'

All who believe in justice and human rights must act. We would ask Amnesty supporters to lobby Amnesty to make Julian Assange a **Prisoner of Conscience** and thus raise the profile of the fight to free him and prevent his extradition to a country which has plotted not only his endless detention and psychological torture but also his assassination. ■

Further links:

https://wikileaks.org/wiki/Wikileaks_busts_Gitmo_propaganda_team

https://wikileaks.org/wiki/Inquiry_into_the_Treatment_of_Detainees_in_US_Custody,_20_Nov_2008

[https://wikileaks.org/wiki/Changes_in_Guantanamo_Bay_SOP_manual_\(2003-2004\)](https://wikileaks.org/wiki/Changes_in_Guantanamo_Bay_SOP_manual_(2003-2004))

https://wikileaks.org/wiki/Camp_Delta_Standard_Operating_Procedure

Find Out about the Committee to Defend Julian Assange news and events at:

■ <https://wiseupaction.info>

■ www.facebook.com/CommitteeToDefendJulianAssange/

■ **On twitter:** @WISEUpAction @ja_defence