

U.S. president faces growing protests during official visit to London



London, June 4 (RHC)-- Protests in London are growing, as U.S. President Donald Trump continues his official three-day visit to the UK.

On Day One, Trump began his visit by insulting people, endorsing hard-Brexiters for talks with EU and conservative Boris Johnson as Prime Minister.

The U.S. president arrived in the United Kingdom for a delayed state visit and even before landing, he insulted London Mayor Sadiq Khan by calling him "a stone cold loser" while misspelling his name. He also endorsed Boris Johnson for the position of the Prime Minister which did not sit well with many.

Trump and his wife, Melania, were greeted by the 93-year-old monarch, Queen Elizabeth, at Buckingham Palace at the start of a three-day state visit. They were received at the airport by Jeremy Hunt, the foreign secretary and one of the contenders to be Prime Minister Theresa May's successor.

The U.S. president, before his visit, publicly backed Boris Johnson as the next prime minister after May steps down on June 7. "I think Boris would do a very good job. I think he would be excellent," he said.

Mel Stride, the newly appointed Commons leader said that Trump is entitled to his opinion but he would not be picking the next prime minister of the country. "That process, as you know, will be one involving the parliamentary party and then the membership itself," Stride said.

Donald Trump, who has regularly criticized May's Brexit tactics, said Britain must leave the bloc on the due date of October 31st with or without a deal and praised a more radical Brexit-supporting potential successor as British leader.

Upon his arrival, Trump complained about London Mayor Sadiq Khan. Calling his "very dumb" and "incompetent," who has done "a terrible job."

Khan has attracted the ire of the U.S. president for comparing Trump to "the fascists of the 20th century" in an opinion piece. "President Donald Trump is just one of the most egregious examples of a growing global threat. The far right is on the rise around the world, threatening our hard-won rights and freedoms and the values that have defined our liberal, democratic societies for more than 70 years."

He compared Trump with Viktor Orbán in Hungary, Matteo Salvini in Italy, Marine Le Pen in France and Nigel Farage in the U.K. who are "using the same divisive tropes of the fascists of the 20th century to garner support, but with new sinister methods to deliver their message."

While Monday was dominated by Royal pageantry, the second day of Trump's trip is focussing on politics, including breakfast with business leaders, a news conference and a dinner at the U.S. ambassador's residence.

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