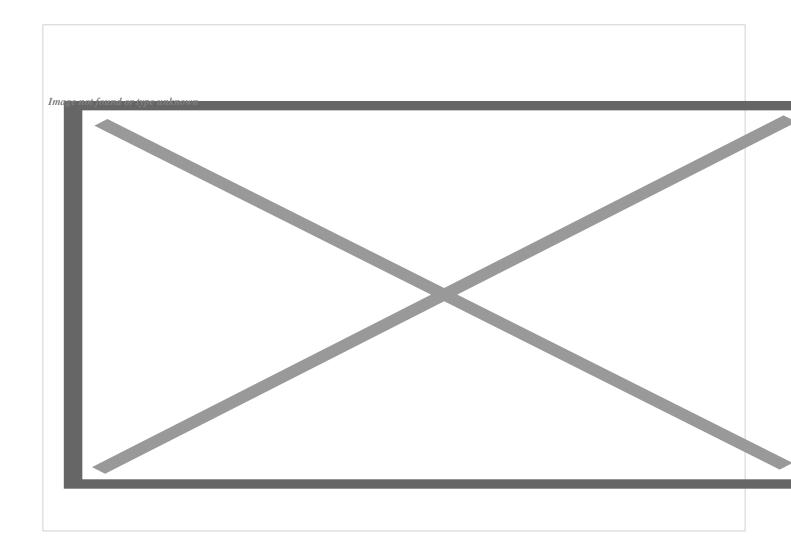
Free Julian Assange demo ahead of upcoming extradition hearing



London, October 24 (RHC)-- Supporters of the WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange marched all the way to the British Royal Courts of Justice on Saturday, ahead of an upcoming extradition hearing to be held this coming week.

The U.S. government is attempting to extradite Assange under an old treaty with the UK for publishing damning documents of U.S. war crimes in Iraq, Afghanistan and human rights violations elsewhere. His supporters say the charges are politically motivated.

Just last month, it was revealed that in 2017, as Assange began his fifth year holed up in the Ecuadorian embassy in London, the U.S. government plotted to kidnap or assassinate him on British soil. Still, the UK is carrying on with his trial.

Since his eviction from the Ecuadorian embassy two years ago, Assange has been languishing in a maximum security prison in south-east London. His next court hearing is set for Wednesday, October 27,

and Thursday, the 28th. If extradited, he'll face 175 years in a U.S. prison.

His supporters say that this is a watershed moment in the most important press freedom case of the century. And these protesters are saying they hope the UK government will do the right thing and put an end to what they describe as a show trial of Julian Assange.

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