

personal english



Quote #26

JULIAN ASSANGE

'The **internet**, our greatest tool of emancipation, has been transformed into the most dangerous **facilitator of totalitarianism** we have ever seen. The internet is a threat to human civilization.'

'**Big Brother is home**. He is installed in the item you just dragged home from the Apple store.'



Julian Paul Assange (1971) is an **Australian computer programmer** and the founder of **WikiLeaks** (established in **2006**), an organization which has garnered him such accolades as the **Sam Adams Award and Martha Gellhorn Prize for Journalism**. Assange came to global prominence in 2010, when WikiLeaks published a series of leaks including the Collateral Murder video, the Afghanistan war logs, the Iraq war logs, and CableGate. Because of these leaks, the **US government** launched a **criminal investigation** into WikiLeaks in November **2010** and made a request for Assange's **extradition to Sweden**, where he had been questioned months earlier over allegations of sexual assault and rape. Assange continued to deny the allegations, and expressed concern that he would be extradited from Sweden to the United States because of his perceived role in publishing secret American documents. Assange surrendered himself to the British police in **December 2010**, and was held for ten days in solitary confinement before being released on bail. Having been unsuccessful in his challenge to the extradition proceedings, he breached his bail and was granted **asylum by Ecuador** in **August 2012**. He has since remained in the Embassy of Ecuador in London.

Click on the Picture for a **VIDEO** on Julian Assange