# Julian Assange Released Without Supervision After Guilty Espionage Plea



**Julian Assange Released Following Guilty Espionage Plea**

Julian Assange, founder of WikiLeaks, has been banned indefinitely from entering the United States after pleading guilty to a felony espionage charge. The action concludes a lengthy legal saga that began in March 2018 when Assange was first indicted in the Eastern District of Virginia. Following his plea, Assange, 52, was released without probation or supervision after a hearing in a US federal court on the Pacific island of Saipan.

Assange's journey from London’s Ecuadorian embassy, where he sought asylum in 2012 to avoid extradition to Sweden over unrelated rape allegations, ended when he was removed from the embassy in 2019 and jailed in the UK. The plea deal allowed him to avoid further incarceration and return to Australia.

The US Department of Justice (DoJ) released details of Assange’s criminal activities, focusing on his collaboration with US Army intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning to illegally obtain and publish classified documents. This included 90,000 Afghanistan war-related reports and other sensitive information that allegedly endangered US sources.

Despite the ban and legal unresolved issues from his years of confinement and detention, Assange left the court to the cheers of supporters and is now on his way to Australia to reunite with his family.