

## Giant Mobile Billboard Campaign for Julian Assange Goes Viral and Will Keep on Truckin' Round the Nation's Capital

By <u>Steve Brown</u> Global Research, September 15, 2022 <u>CovertAction Magazine</u> 9 September 2022 Region: <u>USA</u> Theme: <u>Law and Justice</u>

All Global Research articles can be read in 51 languages by activating the "Translate Website" drop down menu on the top banner of our home page (Desktop version).

To receive Global Research's Daily Newsletter (selected articles), <u>click here</u>.

Visit and follow us on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

\*\*\*

What started as a one-man "shame-on-you" protest against the Justice Department—launched by comedian-activist Randy Credico—has gone viral as "Buy-a-Billboard-for-Julian" Campaign <u>supported by</u> activists worldwide

*Co-Founder of Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, Ben Cohen, pledged: "I'll Match Each and Every Donation to The Julian Assange Mobile Billboard Campaign"* 

\*

Two weeks ago *CovertAction Magazine* <u>reported</u> on the 15-foot-wide satirical billboards mounted on trucks and driven all over the nation's capital to publicly shame the Justice Department and Democratic Party leaders for their illegal and immoral persecution of Julian Assange.



Randy Credico addresses Assange Billboard Rally in front of Justice Department, August 17, 2022. [Source: Photo courtesy of Steve Brown]

Randy Credico never dreamed that his personal "poke-in-the-eye" campaign against the Justice Department would catch on the way it has. He had started with just one truck and one driver for a few hours a day—which was all he could afford. But suddenly, after *CovertAction Magazine* broke the story and posted photos of Credico's billboards popping up all over Washington D.C., other news organizations started covering the story.

Then activist journalists like John Pilger, Max Blumenthal, John Kiriakou and many others began writing about the billboard campaign, praising it for the hope it inspired in so many who fervently campaigned and prayed for Assange's release.



John Pilger-"When people ask, 'What can I do?', my response is to point to the billboard

campaign created by the ever-imaginative direct action of one man, Randy Credico."

Stefania Maurizi—"We need people taking to the streets to protest against the horrific treatment of Julian Assange. The Billboard project does a valuable work."



Gabriel Shipton (Julian Assange's brother)—"A billboard cruising the streets of D.C. with pictures of imprisoned and murdered journalists? This brainchild of Randy Credico is a powerful in-your-face message to those who decide who lives or dies."

John Kiriakou—"I don't usually experience 'joy' when walking the streets of Washington D.C.. But joy is what I felt when I saw a truck urging support for Julian Assange. I first saw it on Capitol Hill in front of of the Senate office buildings—then later in Chinatown, outside the Capital Arena where Roger Waters was performing—and then again the next day at Farragut Square, arguably the most heavily trafficked place in all of D.C., I wasn't the only one who saw it. Thousands of Washingtonians did. And if it made even one go home and research Julian's case, it was worth it. I can't wait to see that truck again."

After that, the dam broke, as the thousands who follow those journalists began reposting and retweeting the billboard photos to *their* thousands of friends and followers on Facebook and Twitter.

As a result, many who may never have heard of Julian Assange were now, at least, aware of him. And some—or, hopefully, many—might even look him up on their computers and smart phones, and start wondering exactly what kind of justice our Justice Department was really pursuing.

To top it off, Roger Waters, founder of Pink Floyd and longtime Assange supporter, showed up at the August 17 street rally for Assange in front of the Justice Department and delivered a resounding thumbs up to Credico's billboard campaign.



Roger Waters gives a thumbs up to Assange mobile billboard campaign in front of the Justice Department on August 17, 2022. [Source: Photo courtesy of Steve Brown]

Waters also plans to deliver an ear-splitting, 100-decibel shoutout for Assange to more than 400,000 cheering fans during his "This Is Not a Drill" concert tour, a radical political rock extravaganza he is taking to more than 20 major U.S. and Canadian cities, including Washington D.C., New York City, Kansas City, Denver, Salt Lake City, Portland, Las Vegas, Dallas, San Francisco and Los Angeles, Montreal and Toronto.

Like those at Waters' sold-out Washington D.C. concert on August 16 (which this writer attended), his fans around the country will hear songs such as "The Bravery of Being Out of Range," accompanied by 30-foot-high video-wall images of U.S. presidents, with captions like (under Ronald Reagan), "War criminal—killed 30,000 innocents in Guatemala." And under Barack Obama, "War criminal—normalized the use of drone strikes." And finally, under Joe Biden, the caption, "War criminal—just getting started."

The cascading publicity and media attention now focused on Credico's mobile billboards have sparked an international fundraising campaign to "BUY A BILLBOARD FOR JULIAN." Its intent is to keep Credico's trucks rolling, and keep the pressure on Joe Biden, and on Attorney General Merrick Garland, day after day, until they cease their illegal persecution of Julian Assange.

Co-Founder of Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Pledges: "I'll Match Each and Every Donation to the Julian Assange Mobile Billboard Campaign"

Ben Cohen, activist co-founder of Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, intends to make sure that the provocative giant billboards calling for Julian Assange's freedom continue to roll up and down the streets of Washington DC.

In a recent message to Randy Credico (the radio journalist and political satirist who created the Julian Assange Mobile Billboard Campaign), Cohen pledged to match—not only the donations already given to the campaign—but also to personally match every new donation going forward.

Cohen urges, "If you haven't given yet, please chip in what you can <u>HERE</u> to help FREE ASSANGE NOW—and I will double it."

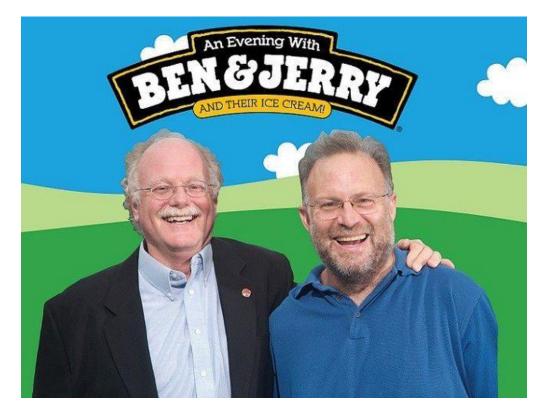
Credico's brilliant idea for a mobile billboard campaign started small; it was his own oneman "shame-on-you" protest against the Biden Justice Department for its persecution of Julian Assange. But it soon went viral, inspiring donations from all over the world that have helped increase the frequency of the billboards.

They now show up and draw crowds at every iconic site in the nation's capital—from the Department of Justice to the Washington Monument to the Capitol Building to the White House. Thousands of residents and visitors to the nation's capital have seen them.



Billboard truck driving past Washington Monument. [Source: Photo courtesy of Randy Credico]

Ben Cohen is waiting to personally match your donation



Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield, founders of Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream. [Source: tbnweekly.com]

It costs \$500 a day to keep a truck and driver patrolling the streets of D.C. with Julian Assange billboards. If you would like to join those who are helping to keep those billboard trucks rolling, you can donate to buy all-or part-of a Julian Assange billboard <u>HERE</u>.

Further, don't let Ben's generous offer go to waste. It costs a lot of money to keep trucks and drivers patrolling the streets of DC every day of the week with Julian Assange billboards. You can help keep them rolling by donating <u>HERE</u>. Ben Cohen will be delighted to match your donation.

\*

Note to readers: Please click the share buttons above or below. Follow us on Instagram and Twitter and subscribe to our Telegram Channel. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

Steve Brown is a member of the Editorial Board of CovertAction Magazine. He can be reached at <u>sbrown13@nyc.rr.com</u>.

*Featured image: Assange billboard in front of the Capitol Building. [Source: Photo Courtesy of Randy Credico]* 

The original source of this article is <u>CovertAction Magazine</u> Copyright © <u>Steve Brown</u>, <u>CovertAction Magazine</u>, 2022

## **Become a Member of Global Research**

Articles by: Steve Brown

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: <a href="mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca">publications@globalresearch.ca</a>

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca