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Investigative journalist of El PAÍS

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What was David Morales, owner of UC Global SL, the Spanish company that [spied on Julian Assange during his stay at the Ecuadorian Embassy](#) in London, doing in Alexandria (USA) ? In this town in the American State of Virginia, ten kilometers from Washington DC (District of Columbia), is the federal court that for years has been investigating the Australian cyber activist and claims his extradition [to the United Kingdom](#), where he remains imprisoned after his expulsion from the diplomatic legation in which he was held for seven years.



[Enlarge photo](#) David Morales, director and owner of UC Global. UCE GLOBAL
IN ENGLISH

- [The US trail of the man whose security firm spied on Julian Assange](#)

A study of the emails sent by Morales to several of his employees indicates that the former military man and owner of UC Global SL was in Alexandria, a city of about 145,000 inhabitants, on March 1 and 2, 2017. The IP addresses of the The aforementioned messages, to which EL PAÍS has had access, indicate that at the moment they were sent, the head of this defense and security company was in this place that welcomes the court that processes [the extradition request of](#) the founder of Wikileaks on 18 charges of spreading classified material on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan that could lead to [a sentence of 175 years in prison](#) .

Morales was in Alexandria before [Wikileaks announced the release of Vault 7](#), thousands of documents about an alleged cyber espionage program by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). A program capable of hacking Internet phones, televisions and computers produced by American companies and transforming them into microphones to spy on their users. The spread of these codes showed a huge hole in CIA security and sparked a scandal similar to those involving [Edward Snowden](#) and [Chelsea](#)

[Manning](#) . The so-called Year Zero program revealed by Wikileaks could *hack* Apple's iPhone, Microsoft's Windows, Google's Android system or Samsung TVs.

UC Global SL spied on Assange for the CIA, according to evidence and documents revealed by this newspaper. Morales allegedly gave this intelligence agency audios and videos about the activist's meetings with his lawyers and collaborators. After [the revelations of this newspaper](#) , the judge of the National Court [José de la Mata admitted a claim](#) by Assange against Morales, [ordered his arrest](#) and investigates him for the alleged crimes against privacy and against the secrecy of lawyer-client communications , bribery, money laundering and illegal possession of weapons.

Sheldon Adelson jobs

Morales frequently traveled to the United States. The IP addresses of the emails that he sent to his workers also place him in New York, Dallas, Miami, Washington, Chicago, Lakewood and Las Vegas. In the latter city, messages were sometimes sent to the hotels of [Sheldon Adelson and his casino company Las Vegas Sands](#) . The former marine elephant has worked for the billionaire for years. His company provides security for the magnate's pleasure boat when sailing in the Mediterranean, a function that Morales himself always carries out. Your company's security staff includes a former CIA chief. Adelson is a major donor to the Republican Party and a personal friend of President Donald Trump.

Despite having been hired by Senain, Ecuador's secret service, to monitor his Embassy in London, he communicated to some employees of his confidence that he also worked "for the Americans" to whom he allegedly delivered videos and audios of Assange's conversations with the people who visited him at the Embassy.

"Manage my trips to the USA with reserve," he asked his workers.

"I want to alert you to be very careful with the information we transmit ... and on the way to everyone who is careful with the information ... Senain (Ecuador's secret service) is investigating us. That is why I would like my location to be handled with reservation whenever possible, especially my trips to the USA ", he points out in an email addressed to several of his workers.

"According to what we are informed, it is suspected that the guest (Assange's name in the Embassy) is working for the Russian intelligence service, hence the profiling of visitors and assistants," he said in another of his messages. Morales gave orders to his displaced workers at the Ecuadorian Embassy in London to spy on and record [the conversations of Russian and American citizens](#) visiting the founder of Wikileaks.

On November 22, 2018, months after UC Global SL stopped serving at the embassy, Morales asked his employees if they had records of Paul Manafort's visits to Assange in 2013, 2015, and 2016. The message was titled "doubt". Manafort is an American lawyer who in 2016 joined Donald Trump's presidential campaign. The lawyer [was sentenced to three and a half years in prison](#) for various irregularities and conspiracy in his activities as a member of a pressure group in Ukraine.

Manafort never visited Assange, according to sources close to the cyber activist. The lawyer has also denied having met with the founder of Wikileaks.