

## **Netanyahu at AIPAC**

By Stephen Lendman

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Region: <u>USA</u> In-depth Report: <u>PALESTINE</u>

His Monday bluster was a warmup for what honest observers call the most outrageous address ever by a foreign official to a joint congressional session – scheduled for Tuesday, March 3 at 11:00AM EST.

Netanyahu spurned protocol. He circumvented administration control over who gets invited to address Congress.

He's persona non grata at the White House. No welcome mat greeted him on arrival. Obama refused to see him.

Nearly five dozen House and Senate members intend boycotting his address - showing unprecedented disapproval of a foreign leader visiting Washington.

Voters should demand others explain why they intend showing up to support a cold-blooded racist mass-murderer serial liar.

On the one hand, his address is a thinly veiled campaign stunt two weeks ahead of March 17 Israeli elections.

On the other, It's an anti-Iranian fear-mongering effort – intended to sabotage ongoing P5+1 talks.

It represents an unprecedented affront to US presidential authority – besides willfully lying about a Tehran nuclear weapons program his own intelligence agency (Mossad) says doesn't exist.

Annual US intelligence assessments say the same thing. Hard truths don't matter. Any excuse to bash Iran will do. Big Lies substitute for cold, hard facts.

<u>Netanyahu's AIPAC speech</u> was beginning-to-end demagogic boilerplate – full of bluster, megalomaniacal ranting, pompousness, and Big Lies.

"Israel never forgets its friends," he said. He then recited a list of individuals complicit with Israeli crimes.

He insulted Palestinians and freedom fighters everywhere calling Jerusalem Israel's "eternal undivided capital."

False! It's a UN established international city. The vast majority of countries with embassies in Israel refuse to locate them there – including America.

Netanyahu avoided explaining what he'll tell Congress on Tuesday. It's no secret. He'll lie

about a nonexistent Iranian nuclear weapons program.

He absurdly called Iran an existential threat. It hasn't attacked another country in centuries. It has no intention of doing so now.

None of its neighbors feel threatened. Tehran seeks cooperative relations with all states.

Netanyahu gives chutzpah new meaning. Despite deliberately circumventing US presidential protocol, he ludicrously claimed his speech isn't intended to show disrespect.

Or inject himself "into the American partisan debate." In 2012, he openly supported Romney. It's no secret he and Obama dislike each other.

How anyone can stand either of them they'll have to explain. They're both serial liars and war criminals multiple times over.

Israel's attorney general is investigating Netanyahu for alleged criminal use of state funds. Possible prosecution and imprisonment could follow.

He thanked Washington for "back(ing) Israel in defending itself at war and in our efforts to achieve a durable peace with our neighbors."

He ludicrously said "a potential deal with Iran could threaten the survival of Israel." He repeated the Big Lie about "Iran (being) the foremost state sponsor of terrorism in the world."

He turned truth on its head claiming "Iran vows to annihilate Israel."

Fact: Israel deplores peace. It thrives on wars and instability it creates.

Fact: Its only enemies are ones it invents.

Fact: It wages perpetual war against defenseless Palestinian civilians.

Fact It terrorizes them ruthlessly.

Fact: It incarcerates 1.8 million Gazans in the world's largest open-air prison.

Fact: Last summer it terror-bombed large parts of the Strip to rubble. it murdered or maimed thousands of its people.

Fact: Israel and Washington partner in each other's wars.

Fact: They're cold, calculated acts of premeditated aggression.

Fact: Washington provides Israel with generous funding, weapons, munitions and full support.

Netanyahu's serial lying wore thin long ago. It bears repeating. Iran threatens no one. Its nuclear program is peaceful. It has no military component. No evidence proves otherwise.

Anyone paying attention knows Netanyahu's claims are deliberate acts of deception - Big

Lies to influence Congress, the US public and his own constituents about a nonexistent Iranian threat.

"Israel lives in the world's most dangerous neighborhood," he claims. Israel and Washington bear full responsibility for violence and instability throughout the region. Both countries threaten world peace.

Common values they share aren't "liberty, equality, justice, tolerance (and) compassion," as Netanyahu claims.

They're polar opposite aims to conquer, dominate and exploit – benefitting rich and powerful interests at the expense of all others.

No two countries in world history threaten humanity's survival more. None more reflect pure evil – a scourge vital to stop before it destroys everyone in its maniacial aim for world dominance.

On Monday, the White House and State Department warned Netanyahu against revealing sensitive details he apparently knows about P5+1 talks.

Press Secretary Josh Earnest said doing so would constitute a "betrayal" of US trust

John Kerry said "(w)e are concerned by reports that suggest selected details of the ongoing negotiations will be discussed publicly in the coming days."

"I want to say clearly, doing so would make it more difficult to reach the goal that Israel and others say they share in order to get a good deal."

Deputy State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said Obama officials gave Israel detailed classified information.

She explained Kerry's remarks were directed at Netanyahu. Revealing information given Israel in confidence would be more of an affront than already

In recent weeks, US officials largely ceased keeping their Israeli counterparts informed on P5+1 talks - because of concern about Netanyahu leaking information or revealing it publicly before Congress.

On Monday, Israel's Channel 10 said Washington halted all intelligence cooperation with Israel pertaining to Iran's nuclear program.

Days before his congressional address, a blistering <u>Haaretz editorial</u> accused Netanyahu of "wrecking Israel's ties with" Washington.

It said his actions "gravely impair" what's called a special relationship. "(D)ue primarily to electoral considerations, (he's) determined to act like a wrecking ball," it stressed.

He "insist(s) on damaging Israel's most important relationship. (He's) embarrassing Barack Obama in his home court."

He'll challenge him openly "on Capitol Hill and urge (his opponents) to (sabotage) his diplomacy with Iran, just so that he can portray himself as the 'savior of the nation' back home and please his (paymaster) American billionaire Sheldon Adelson..."

Haaretz editors called him an irresponsible leader. His congressional address is meant to be a deliberate "frontal confrontation with the US president," they said.

On the one hand, his actions will have no effect on US policy, Haaretz editors maintain. On the other, they're destroying the fabric of a longstanding relationship.

His "flawed judgment" shows he's unfit to serve. Haaretz editors urged Israelis to replace him. Adding one of a new prime minister's "first tasks will be to fix what Netanyahu has destroyed"

It'll take more than a rogue prime minister to undo decades of US/Israeli partnership in high crimes against peace,

Leaders come and go. An ugly alliance of pure evil persists. A rising tide of resistance needs to confront it. Humanity's fate hangs in the balance.

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