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Subject: AICE Update: American Jews and the Netanyahu Speech

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The American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise

Our 20th Year E-Newsletter



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Myths & Facts: Online Exclusive

Did Israel Open Dams to Flood Gaza?

While it may come as no shock that [Hamas](#) officials will spin the news to slander [Israel](#), the media is expected to check their facts before printing libelous propaganda as legitimate news. Following a major winter storm last week in Israel, a swath of the [Gaza Strip](#) flooded due to heavy precipitation. A Hamas official was quick to blame Israel, saying, "The occupation forces opened the Wadi Salqa dams to sink dozens of Palestinian homes in the central region of the Gaza Strip." Other officials from Hamas were quick to confirm that Israel had opened dams in the Gaza region to purposely flood the Gazan countryside.

Predictably, many media outlets jumped on the opportunity to publish an article bashing Israel for increasing the suffering of the people of Gaza. *Al Jazeera*, *Agence-France Press*, the *Daily Mail*, and others published articles decrying Israel's actions, with the *AFP* article quoting Gaza's Ministry of the Interior, who said, "By [Israel] opening the channels they flooded many homes... We had to evacuate as quickly as possible."

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[Myths &
Facts: 2012](#)

Mitchell Bard Comments on Netanyahu Speech on Public Radio International

American Jews Have Mixed Feelings about Netanyahu Speech

If you put five Jews in a room, the old joke goes, you get six opinions. So it's no shock that Benjamin Netanyahu's speech to Congress has strongly divided opinions among Jews living in the United States. "There is a division," says Alan Lowenthal, a Democratic congressman from California. "I think that it's unfortunate that all of us who were one time on the same page were forced to make choices."

More than 50 Democratic members of Congress, including six Jews, skipped Netanyahu's speech on Tuesday. Lowenthal says he wrestled with the

decision and decided to attend, but he's angry that the speech has pitted Democrat against Republican, Jew against Jew.

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Fact of the Week

Iranian Dissident Group Presents Evidence of New Uranium Facility

The National Coalition of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), an Iranian dissident group, which has revealed evidence of Iran's nuclear program in the past, presented evidence in February 2015 that the Iranians are hiding an undisclosed uranium enrichment facility under the suburbs of Tehran since 2008. The NCRI claimed that the site, known as "Lavizan-3," had been used for enriching uranium with advanced IR-2m and IR-4 centrifuge machines. Independent sources still have not confirmed the report.

[Read More about the History of Iran's Nuclear Program at The Jewish Virtual Library](#)

March is Israel Women's History Month



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Sincerely,



Mitchell Bard
AICE Executive Director



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