

Questions for the Record
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Questions from Chairman Arlen Specter
November 8, 2005

1. What can you tell me about progress being made to designate al-Manar a Specially Designated Global Terrorist entity?

The U.S. Department of the Treasury designated al Manar, a satellite television operation owned or controlled by the Iran-funded Hizballah terrorist network, on March 23, 2006, pursuant to Executive Order 13224. Additionally designated were al Nour Radio and the Lebanese Media Group, the parent company to both al Manar and al Nour Radio.

2. What can you tell me about progress working with Saudi Arabia to remove al-Manar off Arabsat?

Al-Manar continues to be broadcast from Arabsat and Nilesat. We have urged Saudi Arabia to remove al-Manar from Arabsat and will continue to do so. To date, al-Manar has been removed from ten satellite providers:

- o HDTV Corp. – A U.S.-headquartered company that ceased broadcasting al-Manar to North America following the USG al-Manar SDGT designation in August 2006.
- o Amazonas – A Brazilian-headquartered company that ceased broadcasting al-Manar to Latin, Central and North America in December 2005.
- o TARBS Europe – The Australian-headquartered company ceased broadcasting al-Manar to the Middle East, Europe and North Africa in November 2005.
- o Globecast – A multiplexing company owned by France Telecom ceased providing al-Manar to other satellite providers in August 2005.
- o Asiasat – The Hong Kong-headquartered company ceased carrying al-Manar to Asia in August 2005.
- o Hispasat – The Spanish-owned company ceased broadcasting al-Manar to Latin America in June 2005, following the Spanish government's decision to cease providing the station.
- o New Skies Satellite – The Netherlands-owned company ceased broadcasting al-Manar to the EU in March 2005, following the decision of European national audiovisual regulators to oppose broadcasts that incite hatred and violence.
- o Intelsat – The Barbados-headquartered company ceased broadcasting al-Manar to North America in December 2004 after the State Department named it to the Terrorist Exclusion List.

- o Eutelsat – The French-owned company ceased broadcasting al-Manar to the EU in December 2004, following action by the French government.
- o TARBS – The Australian-headquartered company ceased broadcasting al-Manar to Southeast Asia and Australia in November 2003, following a decision taken by the Australian government.