

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

1/27/09

(Standup Week 194)

Tuesday, 6pm–7pm

## *Why are we in Iraq?*

**Not** because of weapons of mass destruction.

**Not** because Iraq was involved in 9/11.

**Not** because Iraq was a threat to our national security.

## *What have we gotten?*

**US military dead: 4,232 US military wounded: 30,984**

**Iraqi civilians killed: 98,730\* Money spent on war: \$594 billion**

## Who are we?

**Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War** has pledged to “Stand Up” until the war ends and the troops come home safely.

Every Tuesday evening at 6 pm (rain or shine), **Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War** assembles on the northwest corner of 8th Avenue and 24th Street to facilitate “**Chelsea Stands Up Against the War,**” a community protest against the war in Iraq.

We carry banners, signs, and candles as we gather for one hour each week to protest the war in Iraq. We distribute this newsletter, peace buttons, collect signatures on petitions and speak with our neighbors about the need to end war in Iraq. The **Stand Up** make a dramatic statement to passing vehicular traffic on 8th avenue.

**Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War** is an all-volunteer organization that wants to build the broadest possible neighborhood consensus. With that goal in mind, the organization is open to all and functions by consensus.

**Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War** is not formally affiliated with any other organization but is willing to work with all groups and individuals who are committed to ending this illegal and immoral war fought by our fellow citizens, paid for with our tax dollars, and prosecuted in our name.

\*The recent Johns Hopkins/Lancet report places the figure at 655,000+



## Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War

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## Creating a Basis for the New

By Kate Abell & Bob Martin

“A nation cannot prosper long when it favors only the prosperous. The success of our economy has always depended not just on the size of our gross domestic product, but on the reach of our prosperity...” (Barack Obama inaugural address)

We are buoyed by the sentiment in President Obama’s words. A nation cannot long prosper when it spends \$656 billion to wage war and occupy Iraq.

Nearly 100,000 Iraqi civilians and more than 4,330 U.S. soldiers have paid with their lives. Meanwhile, ExxonMobil has accumulated \$163 billion in record profits in the five-year war period. As cash flow for the oil companies skyrocketed, the Big Five used the increased income not so much for development, exploration, acquisitions or increased dividends as for buying back stock, and increasing the wealth of management and large shareholders.

In World Wars I and II and the Korean War, the U.S. imposed excess profits taxes on corporations to raise money. Franklin Roosevelt said, “I don’t want to see a single war millionaire created in the United States as a result of this world disaster.”

Unlike WW II, the Iraq War is a disaster of our own making. We need to end it now, and to negotiate with the diverse tribes in Afghanistan, not with arms but with deeds. Along with the immediate closing of Guantanamo, legislating the end of war profiteering will send a clear message to the world that the U.S. truly believes (in Pres. Obama’s words) that “our security emanates from the justness of our cause, the force of our example, the tempering qualities of humility and restraint.”



Photo by Gary Scholchet