

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

2/5/08

(Standup Week 143)

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: 3,944 **US military wounded:** 29,038

Iraqi civilians killed: 88,431* **Money spent on war:** \$500 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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GET OUT OF AFGHANISTAN

By Randy Petsche

The American invasion of Afghanistan has lasted longer than World War II. In 2002 President Bush boldly invaded one of the poorest countries in the world. Six years later the opposition Taliban controls 75% of the country.

The opening gambit was for the U. S. was to promote a coalition of Afghan thugs called the Northern Alliance. As a result of U. S. backing Afghanistan quickly became the center of the world’s poppy cultivation, its end product—heroin—permeating impoverished American communities. Having bolstered the Afghan heroin trade the Bush Administration now sees its eradication as another excuse for the U. S. expedition.

The invasion was supposed to lead to the capture of Osama Bin Laden—dead or alive. He has been nowhere to be found.

Bin Laden is now widely believed to reside in Pakistan. This creates still more problems for the Bush Administration. The Pakistani military and secret police organizations are friendly to the United States, but also heavily influenced by pro-Taliban fundamentalists. So it is not surprising that Bin Laden never gets caught despite billions of dollars in military aid to Pakistan.

In spite of this endless stream of failure there are many in the United States who think it should widen the war in Afghanistan. This is especially popular with national Democratic figures such as Hillary Clinton who would like to expand the U. S. military presence there with the savings from reducing the size of the Iraqi expedition. Barack Obama has even suggested an American invasion of Pakistan if that government remains uncooperative.

Bush, Obama and Clinton are dead wrong. There is only one answer to the “problem” of Afghanistan. Get Out!

