

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

3/10/09

(Standup Week 200)

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: 4,256 US military wounded: 31,089

Iraqi civilians killed: 99,433* Money spent on war: \$606 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

212.726.1385/chelseaneighborsunited@yahoo.com/www.chelseaneighborsunited.org

GET OUT OF IRAQ NOW

By Randy Petsche

The Obama Administration has offered a slow motion program for troop withdrawal from Iraq that may not happen, anyway. The deadline for removal of American “combat” forces has been extended from 16 to 19 months, but that is the least of the problems.

The Administration’s Plan A anticipates a “residual” force of 35,000 to 50,000 troops to remain garrisoned in Iraq through the end of 2011. But this will be subject to “conditions on the ground,” a slippery phrase that anticipates Plan B which is that all forces will not be removed according to plan.

Supposedly the residual forces will refrain from combat missions until they leave. This too will be subject to conditions on the ground. In the meantime the U. S. expedition stands at 140,000 troops combined with nearly as many civilian contractors and mercenaries and an uneasy Coalition of the Willing. The U. S. has constructed at least four vast “enduring” bases, plus the largest “embassy compound” in the history of the world.

The Administration’s plan has met with high marks from the Republican minority who see it as an outgrowth of the policies of the Bush Administration and confirms the alleged wisdom of the “troop surge.”

The surge has failed. There are more American troops stationed there than when it began over a year ago. General Petraeus has been afraid to remove them because the country may relapse into protracted civil war. The American journalists who report about the reduction in violence around the country always travel with armed bodyguards when they leave the Green Zone compound.

Once again, tell your elected political officials to remove all U. S. troops from Iraq now.



Photo by Gary Scholchet