

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

4/13/10

(Standup Week 257)

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?

In Iraq

US military dead: **4,390**
US military wounded: **31,762**
Iraqi civilians killed: **104,481***
Money spent on war: **\$745 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,037**
US military wounded: **5,225**
Afghani civilians killed: **15,386**
Money spent on war: **\$245 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

We Must Stand Up Against This Madness

By Chuck Zlatkin

It wasn't a surprise, but it was still shocking to see the video from Wikileaks that showed the unprovoked killing of unarmed civilians and Reuters journalists in Iraq by the U.S. military.

The military sanctioned the actions as following the “rules of engagement” and it only came to light because someone in the military leaked it. These acts against innocent civilians must be seen by all of us as criminal behavior.

Not only are these criminal acts of war continuing under the Obama administration, but also they are expanding. The use of drones that inflict horror and destruction to civilian populations have multiplied under Obama. The adoption of the policy to extend sanctioned assassinations to include an American citizen is something that even George W. Bush hadn't tried.

Many people were rightfully horrified and angry when criminal acts were committed under the Bush administration in Iraq. He was rightfully described as a war criminal. When do we begin to refer to Barack Obama as a war criminal?

If a President McCain had conducted the exact same moves as Obama, there would be hundreds of thousands of Americans in the streets protesting war. We have Democratic congressmen who were once committed to voting against war funding under Bush now ready to vote for the same funding under Obama.

Commentators, even those who were in opposition to the war, initially, are now trumpeting the recent Iraq “election” a success because only 38 civilians were killed and just a few of the candidates were assassinated.

What madness!

It is up to us to Stand Up against the bi-partisan war crimes that are being committed in our name.



Photo by Gary Schuchet