

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

4/21/09

(Standup Week 206)

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: 4,274 US military wounded: 31,193

Iraqi civilians killed: 99,861* Money spent on war: \$616 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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The Progressive Peace of Barack Obama

By Richard Chilton

For many centuries in both foreign and domestic relations, the ancestral practice of the sovereign Omaha Nation, an Indigenous People of the Americas, has been “Progressive Peace.”

Progressive Peace is a deliberate choice of the Omaha to negotiate peaceful resolutions of conflict. Negotiation does not mean compromise, or a giving up of something in order to achieve a greater good. Rather, the Omaha recognize a reciprocity of relationship; that two equals, whether stronger or weaker, have by virtue of their presence a point of view, a culture, a way of life that must be respected. If disagreements arise then negotiations occur on the commonality of relationship, not difference.

In recent weeks, President Barack Obama has reopened unfinished business left over from the Cold War era in suggesting the Salt III process (the old Strategic Arms Limitations Talks) and a rethinking of U.S. policy toward Cuba. Salt III was to have reduced both American and (then Soviet Union) nuclear warheads and delivery systems, and aggressively advance the nuclear test ban and non-proliferation treaties. All four proposals, which must be confirmed by Congress, are examples of Progressive Peace.

Yet by merely transferring the troops still in Iraq to the so-called NATO-led forces in the Afghanistan/Pakistan theatre, the Obama Administration continues to follow the misguided counsel of his predecessor, George Bush, and the ill-conceived “war on terror.”

In both disarmament and Cuba, Obama has kept his campaign pledge to pursue diplomacy and Progressive Peace. Why not in Afghanistan/Pakistan/Iraq?



Photo by Gary Scholchet