

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

4/29/08

(Standup Week 155)

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: 4,055 US military wounded: 29,829

Iraqi civilians killed: 90,550* Money spent on war: \$524 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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IT'S STILL ABOUT OIL

By Randy Petsche

With all the bloodshed and media propaganda about the Iraq war it's easy to forget why the whole affair began. Ask yourself this: would the government have already committed \$600 billion and 4,000 dead soldiers if the main product of Iraq was onions or figs? I think not.

When Bush took office the price of a barrel of crude oil was less than \$20. Now it is over \$100. Gas at the pump was a third of what it is today.

The inflation in oil costs has spread throughout the economy. Food prices have skyrocketed in the last two years. The inflation in oil and food prices has led to deeper recession at home and to food riots in the poorer countries.

Not everyone suffers, though. The major oil companies of the world have made nearly a trillion dollars in profits since 2002. These are on top of bloated executive compensation.

Other friends of the Bush Administration have done at least as well. The royal families of Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have raked in tens of billions in increased profits in the last six years.

The U.S. Government thinks it has invested far too much money in the Iraq war to turn back. Now it is trying to force the Iraqi government to privatize its only economic resource. Key Democrats like Senator Chuck Schumer are calling on Iraq to use its oil money to pay for its own invasion and destruction.

The invasion of Iraq has led to political instability in the Middle East and greatly strengthened the hands of the oil companies and the royal families. It has led to economic decline and can be cured in only one way. Get out of Iraq.



Photo by Gary Scholchet