

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

5/18/10

(Standup Week 262)

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: **4,397**
US military wounded: **31,790**
Iraqi civilians killed: **104,826***
Money spent on war: **\$750 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,070**
US military wounded: **5,830**
Afghani civilians killed: **15,474**
Money spent on war: **\$254 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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PROTECT NEW YORK FROM TERRORISM— GET OUT OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

By Randy Petsche

Michael F. Scheuer, former head of the Bin Laden Issue Station of the CIA, has gone on record as saying that “the United States of America remains Bin Laden’s only indispensable ally.” It is not hard to see why.

The United States has spent the last ten years invading, bombing, occupying and humiliating the Islamic countries of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Pakistan. Iraq had never experienced a suicide bombing in its six thousand year history until after President Bush invaded it in 2003.

President Obama’s drastic expansion of the NATO expedition in Afghanistan has only thrown more fuel into the fire of Islamic resentment. The expanded bombing and invasion of Pakistan, the use of unmanned drone attacks, and support for the preposterously corrupt Karzai government are a sure recipe for jihadist terrorist attacks.

The anger unleashed by the vast occupations must inevitably lead to “blowback” - the unanticipated consequences of the aggression against these countries. Our local politicians are right—some of the blowback may well come back to New York in the form of jihadist outrage.

It is not enough, though, for Commissioner Kelly, Mayor Bloomberg, and Senator Schumer to ask for more anti-terrorism money from Washington. They should hold a joint press conference and tell President Obama that he is endangering the safety and well being of New Yorkers as long as he prosecutes these wars in southern Asia. Ending the wars in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq will be a giant first step toward ending terrorist outrages.



Photo by Gary Schouhet