

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

7/13/10

(Standup Week 270)

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: **4,412**  
US military wounded: **31,874**  
Iraqi civilians killed: **105,569\***  
Money spent on war: **\$754 billion**

### In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,165**  
US military wounded: **6,772**  
Afghani civilians killed: **15,599**  
Money spent on war: **\$272 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 wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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 OIL GLUTTON

By Randy Petsche

The British Petroleum (BP) oil spill in the Gulf Coast is ending its third month with no certain end in sight. Why, you ask, is there such gluttony for oil that the waters of our southern shores must be polluted by millions of barrels of pure crude oil?

The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) is by far the largest consumer of petroleum products in the world. Its B-52 bombers consume 47,000 gallons per mission. When an F-16 fighter kicks in its afterburners it burns through \$300 worth of fuel per minute. DOD purchases three billion gallons of jet fuel per year.

The Pentagon's bloated appetite for petroleum has been greatly enhanced by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. For example, the military bases in Iraq and Afghanistan consumed 90 million gallons of oil per month in 2008. And more military bases are on the way in Afghanistan.

BP is the single largest single purveyor of petroleum products to DOD. In 2009 BP filled Pentagon contracts totaling \$2 billion—about 12% of all Pentagon petroleum contracts for the year. This was equivalent to 16% of BP's profit for the year.

The U.S. military has no interest in converting to alternative energy sources or slackening its demand for oil. Instead, it contrives phony threats to American national security so that it can make vast deals with the oil companies.

Bringing the U.S. troops and contractors back from Iraq and Afghanistan would be a good first step to reducing massive petroleum consumption and the environmental havoc and political instability it can bring.



Photo by Gary Scholchet