

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

8/9/11

(Standup Week 326)

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: **4,474**
US military wounded: **33,105**
Iraqi civilians killed: **111,596***
Money spent on war: **\$792 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,725**
US military wounded: **13,011**
Afghani civilians killed: **16,769**
Money spent on war: **\$441 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+

This was an historic week in the War(s)

By Chuck Zlatkin

History was made this week when President Obama signed the debt ceiling deal into law. The deal was supposed to cut \$400 billion in defense spending through fiscal year 2023. Unfortunately, the deal cut \$350 billion from defense through 2024, effectively giving the Pentagon \$50 billion more than it asked for over the next decade.

On a brighter note, the AFL-CIO Executive Council released a statement Aug. 3 for the first time clearly stating: “There is no way to fund what we must do as a nation without bringing our troops home from Iraq and Afghanistan. The militarization of our foreign policy has proven to be a costly mistake. It is time to invest at home.”

History was made again this week when thirty-one U.S. Special Forces troops and seven Afghan soldiers died when their helicopter was shot down during an overnight operation against Taliban insurgents in eastern Afghanistan. It was the worst single-day toll for American forces in Afghanistan since U.S. troops entered that country nearly 10 years ago, and one of the largest tolls in a single incident of either the Afghan war or the fighting in Iraq.

Finally, Afghan police said a NATO air strike killed eight civilians in the Nad Ali district of southern Helmand province on Friday. Those killed in the strike were members of a family that had fled fighting in neighboring Uruzgan province. Afghan civilians have continued to bear the brunt of the war; with casualties hitting record levels in the first half of this year. A U.N. report last month said 1,462 civilians were killed in conflict-related incidents in the first six months of 2011.



Photo by Gary Scholchet



Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War

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