

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

9/7/10

(Standup Week 278)

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: **4,417**  
US military wounded: **31,929**  
Iraqi civilians killed: **106,569\***  
Money spent on war: **\$755 billion**

### In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,273**  
US military wounded: **7,819**  
Afghani civilians killed: **15,929**  
Money spent on war: **\$296 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 End of the Iraq War: Hope or Hoax?

By Chuck Zlatkin

When President Obama addressed the nation to “talk to us about the end of our combat mission in Iraq” he counted on you accepting him at his word. Obama hopes that you will believe that the 50,000 fully armed U.S. troops are no longer engaged in combat missions. He wants you to forget that there are 100,000 fully armed private security forces still in Iraq. Just this past week the New York Times reported that, “Blackwater created a web of more than 30 shell companies or subsidiaries, in part to obtain millions of dollars in American government contracts after the security company came under intense criticism for reckless conduct in Iraq, according to Congressional investigators and former Blackwater officials.” President Obama doesn’t want you to think about the plan in 2011 for this expanding “private” army to take over the war in Iraq.

President Obama doesn’t want you to think about the new U.S. Embassy in Iraq that is now costing \$700 million to build and \$1 billion a year to maintain. The 104-acre complex is designed to be the largest embassy in the world. To put this into perspective, the embassy in Beijing built in 2008 was 10 acres. The “embassy” in Iraq is the size of Vatican City.

President Obama doesn’t want you to think too hard about all of this because he knows that U. S. troops will still be on security patrols and that American Special Operations Forces will continue their hunt for enemies. Firefights are inevitable. 150,000 armed troops and mercenaries able to engage and “defend themselves.” President Obama wants you to believe that the Iraq War is over. Do you?



Photo by Gary Schlichtel