

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

9/15/09

(Standup Week 227)

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: **4,343**
US military wounded: **31,483**
Iraqi civilians killed: **101,578***
Money spent on war: **\$682 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **830**
US military wounded: **n/a**
Afghani civilians killed: **13,004**
Money spent on war: **\$226 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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George Will—But Obama Won't

By Dave Robinsont

Even George Will gets it. In a Sept. 1 Washington Post editorial, this conservative cheerleader of our invasion/occupation of Iraq now declares it's “time to get out of Afghanistan”.

By itself, George Will saying it's time to bring our soldiers home is meaningless; if Obama actually got us out of Afghanistan, Will and other conservatives would bray that the terrorists had “won,” America had “lost,” and we will all now be murdered in our beds.

Gen. Stanley McChrystal's recent, not yet public, report is more important. Our new commander in Afghanistan reportedly takes a hard look at what it will really take to accomplish Obama's stated goals of protecting America by denying terrorists sanctuary in Afghanistan. We would have to commit to open-ended nation building that means, according to Foreign Policy magazine, “a sweeping counterinsurgency campaign aimed at protecting the Afghan population, establishing good governance and rebuilding the economy.” History is decidedly against us here. Not only is Afghanistan legendarily unforgiving to foreign occupiers, one would think that America needs to rebuild our own economy right about now.

Following the “failed state equals potential terrorist sanctuary” rationale, George Will asks, “must there (also) be nation-building invasions of Somalia, Yemen, and other sovereignty vacuums?” It's too bad George didn't ask questions like this before we invaded Iraq.

Killing more American soldiers and Afghan civilians while our nation goes broke hardly represents Change. It's closer to madness. Afghanistan is not Vietnam, but the déjà vu is unmistakable. Even George Will gets it—any hope Barack Obama will?



Photo by Gary Schochert