

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

9/21/10

(Standup Week 280)

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: **4,420**  
US military wounded: **31,951**  
Iraqi civilians killed: **106,954\***  
Money spent on war: **\$755 billion**

### In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1279**  
US military wounded: **8,041**  
Afghani civilians killed: **15,988**  
Money spent on war: **\$306 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

212.726.1385/chelseaneighborsunited@yahoo.com/www.chelseaneighborsunited.org

## SO WHO WON THE WAR IN IRAQ?

By Randy Petsche

Who won the war in Iraq? This is not an easy question to answer. Everyone knows that President Bush made a complete fool of himself when he descended onto an aircraft carrier and posed in front of a large sign declaring “Mission Accomplished.”

It is true that the U.S. deposed Saddam Hussein and made him face victor’s justice at the Hague. But this was a petty victory next to seven years of war, with thousands of American lives lost and hundreds of thousands of Iraqis killed.

The American occupation ignited longstanding sectarian disputes among the Iraqis. It caused more than four million people to leave their homes, half of them quitting the country out of fear and desperation. To this minute, residents of Baghdad are limited to three or four hours of electric power per day, face endless roadblocks and searches, and live in fear of terror bombings and kidnappings. All of this shows that it doesn’t really pay to cross the U.S. government.

Then there is the matter of a trillion dollars squandered on the war, tens of thousands of U.S. troops returning home diseased and injured, and an enduring presence of 50,000 U.S. troops sweating on four major military bases.

U.S influence declined sharply after “combat missions” were curtailed a year ago. American troops no longer go around arresting people and breaking down their doors as a matter of public administration. The Obama Administration has been unable to simply dictate to the elected Iraqi government. Even the twelve international oil companies that obtained the major drilling contracts were forced to accept terms favorable to the Iraqi sovereign oil trust.

So who really won this war?



Photo by Gary Scholichet