

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

9/23/08

(Standup Week 176)

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?

US military dead: 4,168 US military wounded: 30,642

Iraqi civilians killed: 95,622* Money spent on war: \$560 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

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

The Secret Government of the United States

By Richard Chilton

The Constitution of the United States is technically illegal; when delegates gathered in Philadelphia in May, 1787 their legal authority was to amend the Articles of Confederation, not declare a news black-out and hold a Convention in secret. When Thomas Jefferson planned the Lewis and Clark Military Expedition in 1802, Spain lay claim to the Louisiana Purchase, and the “sale to France” for land that was not theirs but still in Indigenous hands was completed secretly. When President Andrew Jackson subjected Aborigines to brutal policies in the 1830’s, he arbitrarily assumed executive powers irrespective of the legislative intent of the Congress, and the courts.

There has always been an arrogant, secretive side to American governance. With passage of the National Security Act in 1947 a parallel secret government emerged in the U.S. Through decades of Democratic /Republican bipartisanship, all three Federal branches—Legislative, Executive and Judicial—re-enforced the underwriting of both governments through corporate personhood, including the cumulative \$147 trillion national debt, brought about not through consumer credit but a war economy. Only once has existence of this parallel Secret Government been acknowledged during Oliver North’s testimony before the 1987 Iran-Contra Hearings, to which Senator Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) abruptly cut him off.

When the Project for the New American Century’s Rebuilding America’s Defenses (1997), p.51, referenced the phrase “...absent some catastrophic and catalyzing event—like a new Pearl Harbor,” what later happened with 9.11.01 continues oversight into the 21st Century of this late 1940’s structure of a secret government, assuring in 2009 a Republican/Democratic bipartisan “war on terror” in Afghanistan actually waged from neighboring Pakistan, a nuclear weapons nation-state.



Photo by Gary Scholichet