

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

10/21/08

(Standup Week 180)

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: 4,185 US military wounded: 30,802**

**Iraqi civilians killed: 96,466\* Money spent on war: \$568 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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## Afghanistan: The New Iraq

By Sarah Durand

A military victory over the Taliban is “neither feasible nor supportable”. These words were spoken a few weeks ago by Brigadier Mark Carleton-Smith, the departing commander of British forces in Afghanistan. Taliban forces are increasing their control throughout the country – their forces supplemented by anguished Afghanis whose families have been blown apart by NATO air strikes. NATO’s one supposed military advantage, air power, is the very source of increasing resistance to occupation. General Carleton-Smith understands this.

But both presidential candidates now speak of moving military forces from Iraq to Afghanistan. Neither candidate acknowledges the British observation – even though Barak Obama has pledged to consider the voices of allies in his decisions.

Will we continue to pursue the deadly folly of unwinnable war in Afghanistan and Iraq as we did in Vietnam? It’s not only lives and communities under the bombs that are destroyed – so are hopes of economic recovery. The great cost of war is always brought home. Quoting M.L. King, “I knew that America would never invest the necessary funds or energies in rehabilitation of its poor so long as adventures like Vietnam continued.”

Will the global misery of collapsing economies give elected representatives the strength to resist the control of the military-industrial complex over our government?



Photo by Gary Schochet