

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

10/27/09

(Standup Week 233)

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: **4,351**
US military wounded: **31,536**
Iraqi civilians killed: **102,096***
Money spent on war: **\$695 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **885**
US military wounded: **4,198**
Afghani civilians killed: **14,009**
Money spent on war: **\$230 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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Lt. Col Bacevich on “Obama’s War”

By Dave Robinson

Retired Lt. Col Andrew Bacevich recently spoke about Obama’s use of the term “counterinsurgency” re: Afghanistan. His response included the following:

I am baffled by the fad of counterinsurgency, and I’m especially baffled by the extent to which the American officer corps has embraced this fad...In the era after Vietnam, the officer corps believed with something close to unanimity that long, protracted campaigns were very much at odds not only with the well-being of the military as an institution, but frankly at odds with the interests of the country.

Post-Vietnam, the officer corps was committed to the proposition that wars should be infrequent, that they should be fought only for the most vital interests, and that they should be fought in a way that would produce a quick and decisive outcome.

What we have today in my judgment is just the inverse of that. War has become a permanent condition. I mean, we’ve been at war now for eight years, and for all practical purposes, nobody can say with any accuracy when war will likely come to an end. In my judgment—I know people that would disagree with this—we are now engaged in wars where we do not have vital interests at stake.

One year ago America rejected war as anything like a “permanent condition.” That’s why millions of us voted for Change. We are still waiting, and our soldiers are still killing, and still dying.

Bacevich was interviewed on the PBS show Frontline on Oct. 13 for a program entitled “Obama’s War.”



Photo by Gary Schlichter