

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

11/11/08

(Standup Week 183)

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: 4,193 US military wounded: 30,774**

**Iraqi civilians killed: 97,062\* Money spent on war: \$574 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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## Thinking about Obama's Victory on Veterans Day

By Dave Robinson

President-Elect Obama's anti-war supporters should now prepare for a vigorous effort to pressure the President-Elect to convert his campaign slogans to actual policy.

On the campaign trail, Obama promised to “end the war in Iraq”. According to his website, however:

“...a residual force will remain in Iraq and in the region to conduct targeted counter-terrorism missions against al Qaeda in Iraq and to protect American diplomatic and civilian personnel. They will not build permanent bases in Iraq, but will continue efforts to train and support the Iraqi security forces as long as Iraqi leaders move toward political reconciliation and away from sectarianism.”

Taking Obama at his written word, tens of thousands of soldiers and private contractors will remain in Iraq under his administration. And there are already permanent bases in Iraq ([www.tomdispatch.com/post/174944](http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/174944)).

Soldiers who actually do leave Iraq under an Obama administration are not necessarily coming home. They're likely redeploying elsewhere, with at least two combat brigades heading to Afghanistan, as Obama plainly told us in his July 14, 2008 New York Times op-ed:

“As president, I would pursue a new strategy, and begin by providing at least two additional combat brigades to support our effort in Afghanistan. We need more troops, more helicopters, better intelligence-gathering and more nonmilitary assistance to accomplish the mission there.”

Obama's written word should be taken more seriously than his campaign rhetoric.

Active citizens who learn from history, are intellectually honest and are truly committed to peace, must understand that America's immense military presence in Iraq and Afghanistan will largely remain in place under an Obama Administration.

The post-Bush message to peace activists is the same as it ever was: let's get to work—and don't believe the hype.