

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

11/25/08

(Standup Week 185)

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: 4,204 US military wounded: 30,832

Iraqi civilians killed: 97,272* Money spent on war: \$576 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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END OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

By Randy Petsche

The invasion of Afghanistan by the United States and its friends is now in its seventh year, even longer than the invasion of Iraq. In the past, Operation Enduring Freedom, as it is known to the military, has played the weak sister to the massive occupation of Iraq with its hundreds of thousands killed and millions displaced from their homes.

The Afghan expedition has not gone smoothly. After seven years the principal opposition force—the Taliban—still controls two thirds of the country. Opium is now the country’s only cash crop. The designated villains of the piece—Osama Bin Laden and Mullah Omar—remain at large and have even gained stature in some quarters of Islamic fundamentalism. Widespread famine is predicted for the winter of 2009. A number of European allies are considering withdrawing their forces. The periodic bombings and incursions into neighboring Pakistan threaten to de-stabilize that government as well.

The fighting goes on. On November 4, as Americans were trooping to the polls, a U. S. bombing raid killed 30 Afghans at a wedding party. Probably, the only way for the Allies to obtain a military “victory” is to conduct full scale carpet bombing in southern Afghanistan and parts of Pakistan, as well as the dispatch of an expeditionary force of 200,000 troops and “contractors.”

If the pacification of Afghanistan can “succeed” it can only be accomplished with an immense cost in human blood and financial waste. It is time to call a halt to this despicable enterprise and withdraw all foreign troops immediately.



Photo by Gary Scholchet