

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

12/7/10

(Standup Week 291)

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: **4,429**  
US military wounded: **32,937**  
Iraqi civilians killed: **108,094\***  
Money spent on war: **\$755 billion**

### In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,414**  
US military wounded: **9,583**  
Afghani civilians killed: **16,216**  
Money spent on war: **\$372 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 wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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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## Journalists Deliberately Targeted by U.S. Military?

By Jacqueline Schoenhaus-Barnett

Jose Couso was a Spanish journalist, who it is widely believed, was killed by US forces in an attack on the Palestine Hotel in Baghdad on April 8, 2003. Couso initially survived the attack and told his colleagues that the Americans had seen him, and that he felt they had fired deliberately. Before his death, he stated that he recognized the tank as the same vehicle he had been filming for five hours. A documentary made by Telecinco called “Hotel Palestine: Killing the Witness,” was broadcast on Spanish television. It included interviews with journalists who were inside the hotel.

Couso’s family has pursued a full investigation into whether the journalists were deliberately targeted by the U.S. military. They filed a criminal lawsuit in Spanish courts accusing the three soldiers who fired the shots of committing war crimes and of murdering a Spanish citizen abroad.

It has recently been leaked that embassy cables from Madrid revealed that the United States pressured the Spanish government to close the case. Javier Couso, brother of the victim, responded to the leaks by saying he is horrified that his government has conspired with a foreign government to prevent the investigation of what happened to his brother. Javier Couso says although an arrest warrant had been issued for the three soldiers implicated in the crime, Interpol refused to pursue it claiming its jurisdiction is only valid within the European zone. The Spanish Supreme Court reopened the case in July, 2010 for the third time and Javier Couso stated that he wants a fair trial and welcomes the opportunity for the soldiers to defend themselves.



Photo by Gary Schlichtel