

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

12/22/09

(Standup Week 241)

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: **4,371**
US military wounded: **31,582**
Iraqi civilians killed: **103,549***
Money spent on war: **\$711 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **936**
US military wounded: **4,566**
Afghani civilians killed: **14,099**
Money spent on war: **\$234 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

212.726.1385/chelseaneighborsunited@yahoo.com/www.chelseaneighborsunited.org

Same War Different President

By Chuck Zlatkin

Many people hoped that with the election of a Democratic majority in Congress in 2006 and the election of Barack Obama in 2008, we would be well on the road to ending wars not expanding them. It hasn't happened.

On December 7, 2009 Congressman Ron Paul said, “One has to ask, if the people who elected these leaders so obviously do not want these wars, who does? Eisenhower warned of the increasing power and influence of the military industrial complex and it seems his worst fears have come true. He believed in a strong national defense, as do I, but warned that the building up of permanent military and weapons industries could prove dangerous if their influence got out of hand. After all, if you make your money on war, peace does you no good. With trillions of dollars at stake, there is tremendous incentive to keep the decision makers fearful of every threat in the world, real or imagined, present or future, no matter how ridiculous and far-fetched. The Bush Doctrine demonstrates how very successful the war lobby was philosophically with the last administration. And they are succeeding just as well with this one, in spite of having the so-called ‘peace candidate’ in office.”¹

Just three days after being inaugurated President Barack Obama ordered a drone attack against targets in Afghanistan. Drone attacks have continued ever since. Now with the escalation of 30,000 more troops in Afghanistan, and the revelation that Blackwater is working with both the CIA and the US Joint Operations Command (JSOC) waging war in Pakistan, the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Barack Obama is not just absurd, but an insult to all peace-loving people.

¹Ron Paul, “Who Wants War?”, December 7, 2009



Photo by Gary Schlichter