

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

12/25/07

(Standup Week 137)

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: 3,897 US military wounded: 28,711

Iraqi civilians killed: 86,244* Money spent on war: \$488 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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Do they Take Christmas Day off in Iraq?

By Carla Nordstrom

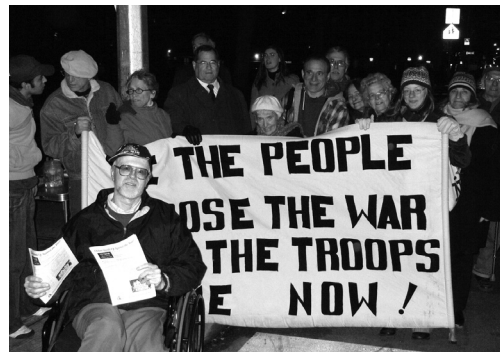
On Christmas Day in the U.S., just about everything shuts down. Whether or not you participate in holiday rituals, it is a day off for most Americans. It is not a day off for people in Afghanistan and Iraq. While our soldiers may get a special meal and a holiday show, they are in a war zone, far away from their families and friends. The people of Afghanistan and Iraq live with war; many have been killed, places are destroyed, and the dangers of everyday existence are there even on Christmas Day. It is hardly a day off for people living in a war zone.

Here we stand on the corner of 24th Street from 6:00 to 7:00pm for the 137th week. Even though it is Christmas Day, it is Tuesday and the war is not over. In the quiet of this evening there is much to think about.

Now that Iran is not planning to nuke us and Al Qaeda seems to be otherwise engaged, who is the enemy? Have the American people been lulled into believing that the surge worked and the war is no longer our concern? Do our president and presidential candidates who are piously celebrating the day care what happens to our soldiers or the people in Afghanistan and Iraq? Will this war ever end?

Christmas Day is considered to be a day of peace and good will; luxuries that do not exist during war. Until our country seriously works to end these wars, Christmas Day will be the same nightmare as every other day in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Photo by Ian Zlatkin



Representative Jerrold Nadler (8th CD), who represents Chelsea in Congress, joined the Stand Up on 12/19/06.