

‘Hitler’ versus ‘FDR’: The Battle Around Obama’s Health-Care Policy

Throughout the course of his Presidential campaign, Barack Obama put a major emphasis on “health-care reform” as a centerpiece of his Administration. But it wasn’t until approximately one month into his Presidency, that the outlines of this monstrosity, which had been presented as a way to get coverage for all Americans, began to become clear. We here outline, in summary form, the initiatives taken by the President, and his advisors, for the Nazi health-care reform, and the counter-offensive led by LaRouche PAC, which has put the President’s plan in danger of its well-deserved death. (Note: Significant turning points appear in boldface type.)

February

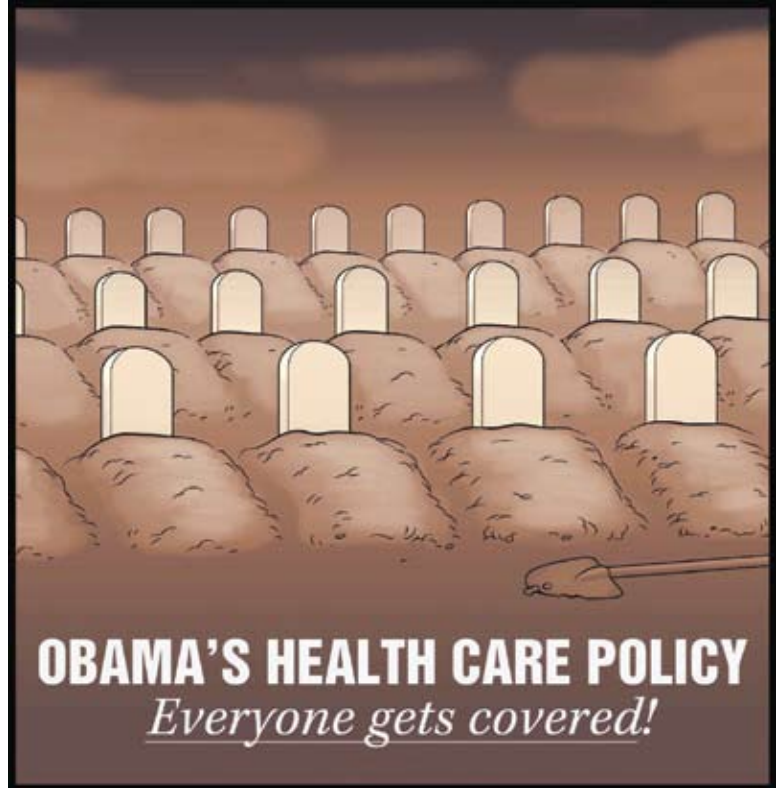
Feb. 17: Obama’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is passed, including within it the establishment of the Federal Coordinating Council on Comparative Effectiveness Research (FCCCER)—a foot in the door for imposing drastic cuts in medical care for those presumed to have lives “not worthy to be lived.”

Feb. 23: Obama convenes a Fiscal Responsibility Summit, which features Office of Management and Budget chief Peter Orszag, who emphasizes that “health-care reform is entitlement reform,” and that cuts in health-care spending are a key focus of his efforts.

Feb. 26: Obama releases his budget for fiscal 2010, which includes a preview of his health-care reform plan. The plan is presented as providing health care to all, while cutting costs, through e-records, combined with a new system of “effective treatment options” to be imposed on physicians. \$300 billion in Medicare/Medicaid cuts are explicitly called for.

In his explanation, Orszag emphasizes the need to cut \$700 billion in health-care costs, by eliminating “unnecessary” procedures.

Feb. 25-27: Prince Charles’s Center for Integrative



Chance McGee, LaRouche Youth Movement

Medicine holds an event at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, which brings together 600 people to be brainwashed on changing the health-care system from treatment, to “transformation.”

March

March 5: Obama convenes a Health Care Summit in the White House, at which proposals for getting rid of predatory Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), as demanded by the “single-payer” movement, are off the table, and cooperation with the “industry” is given top priority.

March 6: Obama holds a summit with Physicians on “health-care reform.”

March 10: Orszag testifies for cuts in medical care, including as follows:

“Given the central role of medical technology in the

growth of health-care spending, reducing or slowing that spending over the long term will probably require decreasing the pace of adopting new treatments and procedures or limiting the breadth of their application. Such changes need not involve explicit rationing, but could occur as a result of market mechanisms or policy changes that affect the incentives to develop and adopt more costly treatments.” In other words, rationing.

March 19: The Federal Coordinating Council on Comparative Effectiveness research is established. It has 15 members, many of them medical professionals, and it includes the advisor to OMB chief Orszag on health care, Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel.

April

April 2: Obama is in London for the G20 summit, rubbing noses, or backs, with the Queen and her genocidal consort Prince Philip, who explicitly calls for massive population reduction globally.

April 6: *Time* magazine releases its April 12 edition, which features an exposé of the “behavioral economists” controlling President Obama, centered around Orszag.

April 8: Obama issues an Executive Order establishing the White House Office of Health Care Reform.

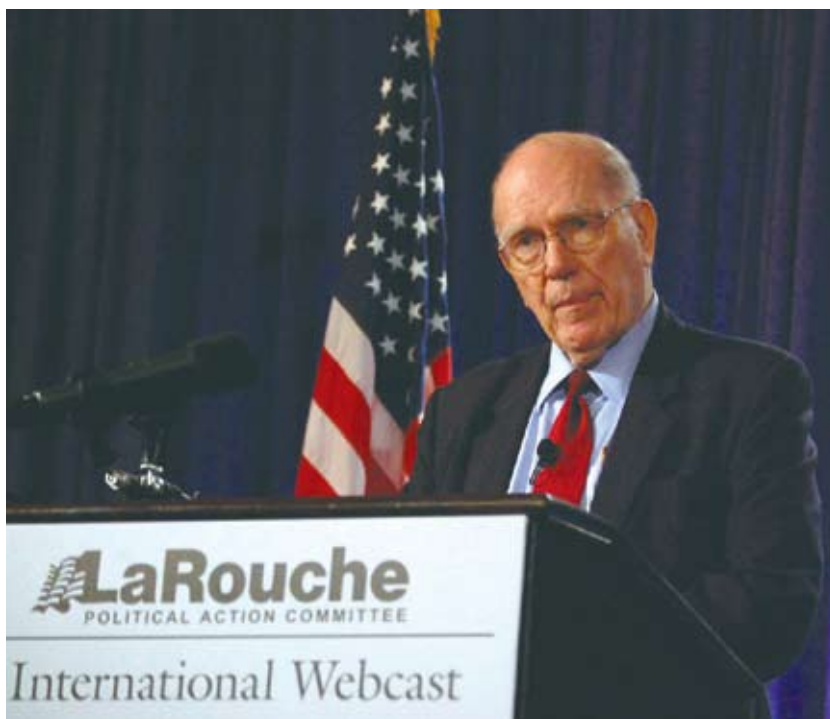
April 11: Lyndon LaRouche gives an international webcast identifying the Narcissus/Nero syndrome of the President, and the control of his economic policy by Nazi-like “behavioral economists” such as Orszag, Larry Summers, and others.

April 28: LaRouche gives another international webcast, “The Other Shoe Will Now Drop,” which includes a major focus on mobilizing against the Nazi-like health-care reform.

Sen. Max Baucus (D-Mont.) holds one of several closed door sessions with his finance committee, to try to hammer out health-care legislation.

May

May 1: Sir Michael Rawlins, M.D., chairman of the British National Institute for Health and Clinical Excel-



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis

Lyndon LaRouche, at his historic April 11 webcast, in which he identified the Narcissus/Nero syndrome of the President, and the control of his economic policy by Nazi-like “behavioral economists.”

lence (NICE), the de facto czar over health cuts, addresses a Healthcare Reform Summit, aimed at policy-makers, the media, and professionals, over the Health Channel. NICE is the model for Nazi-style cost-cutting in the U.S. today.

May 3: Obama reveals his personal adherence to the Nazi cost-cutting ethic in an interview published in the *New York Times* Sunday magazine, where he says he’s not sure that old, sick people, like his grandmother on Medicare, should be able to get medical care like hip replacements.

May 4: Baucus holds a conference call briefing for the press, in which he lays out a “fast-track” perspective for ramming through the health-care bill.

May 5: Baucus and Republican cohort Sen. Charles Grassley (Iowa) hold an open Roundtable, where “experts” talk about cutting health care through various measures.

May 7: Obama speaks on the budget plan, emphasizing his plans for cutting the deficit, including \$300 billion in Medicare and Medicaid.

May 9: LaRouche issues a call for mobilization to defeat Obama’s Nazi health-care plan, as an “existential question” for the United States. “Anything in the

direction of these budget-cutting proposals, which measure human lives in dollars and cents, and declare whole sections of the old and the sick to be ‘useless eaters,’ is a violation of human rights.”

May 11: Obama addresses so-called stakeholders in the health-care sector—insurance companies, hospitals, unionists, etc.—in a meeting convened by Service Employees International Union (SEIU) health-care chair Dennis Rivera, and proudly announces that they have agreed to cut \$2 trillion from health care over the next 10 years.

May 12: Baucus holds his last public roundtable on health care.

On the same day, the Trustees of Medicare and Social Security issue a widely ballyhooed but fraudulent report claiming that both programs are increasing at “unsustainable” rates, and therefore must be cut.

May 13: Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner comments on the Medicare and Social Security Trustees’ report, saying “The President explicitly rejects the notion that Social Security is untouchable,” in context of the need for cuts.

May 14: Baucus and other legislators hold a closed-door session on health care. At this time, it is leaked that Obama and the Democratic leaders have set a timetable for ramming through a bill by July 31, so that “reconciliation” can go on over the August recess, and the President can sign a bill on Oct. 1.

May 15: Orszag pens an op-ed in the *Wall Street Journal*, promoting his plans to bring health-care costs down through use of “comparative effectiveness research” and the fraudulent claims of the “Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care.”

May 17: Orszag appears on CNN’s Sunday morning program, pushing for health-care cuts, and making explicit that Social Security is next on the chopping block.

May 18: LaRouche issues an LPAC statement which goes out as a mass leaflet, entitled, “Dragging Their Feet for Hitler,” nailing the so-called health-care reform as Nazi medicine.

May 20: Baucus holds another closed-door session of his Senate Finance Committee on health care.



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On May 4, Sen. Max Baucus (D-Mont.), Obama’s Senate point man on health-care “reform,” outlines his “fast-track” perspective for ramming through the health-care bill, on a media conference call.

Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-W.V.) introduces S.1110, which calls for establishing the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) as an independent, Federal Reserve-type entity which can dictate what will be paid for in health care, and what won’t.

May 22: The *Financial Times*, City of London mouthpiece, publishes an interview with Orszag on his health-care-cutting plans.

Meanwhile, the Bill Moyers show features a critique of the idea that it is doctors and treatment which have driven up health costs, and focusses instead on the administrative costs of the HMOs.

May 23: Obama sends out mass e-mail calling for house meetings June 6 to mobilize for his plan, which begins with cutting costs, starting with Medicare and Medicaid.

May 24: LaRouche issues a statement, entitled “Obama’s Pound of Flesh: Act Now!” challenging U.S. citizens to take the necessary action to get Obama to dump his health-care program, and the advisors, such as Orszag and Summers, who have encouraged him in it.

May 27: The American Benefits Council meets in Washington, featuring behavioral economists talking about how to “transform” health care with cuts.

Simon Stevens, who worked at 10 Downing Street



www.senate.gov

Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-W.V.) introduced a bill on May 20, to establish MedPAC, as a Federal Reserve-type body, to dictate what medical treatments will, or won't be paid.

as Tony Blair's Health Policy Director from 1997 to 2004, announces his plan for "saving" the U.S. government \$540 billion in health-care costs over the next decade, by applying brutal cost-cutting measures to the Medicare program. Stevens ran the murderous British NICE, and now heads United HealthCare, one of the largest U.S. HMOs.

May 28: Obama holds a conference call on health care hosted by the Democratic National Committee, in which he says, "We've got to get it done this year."

June

June 2: The Administration sends out Council on Economics Advisors (CEA) Chairman Christina Romer, Orszag, Obama's health reform czar Nancy-Ann DeParle, and chief economic advisor Larry Summers, to present a CEA report on the economic impact of the health-care "reform" at a press conference. They were joined by Baucus, and all pushed for cuts. After being challenged by *EIR* at this event, the White House decided to virtually suppress the contents. (See following article.)

Romer appears later in the day at the National Press Club, to push the plan, as do former HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt and would-have-been Obama health czar (and mentor) Tom Daschle. All are confronted publicly

by *EIR* representatives on the Nazi content of the plan.

Obama meets with 20 Senators to push his plan, and sends a letter to the Congress, in which he commits himself to seeking \$200-300 billion more in Medicare and Medicaid cuts than are in the draft budget.

June 3: DeParle appears at a CQ Healthbeat conference to push the plan, during which she indicates that Obama supports Rockefeller's MedPAC proposal. The "stakeholders" begin to issue their proposed cuts in health care, including reducing the so-called "over-use" of diagnostic imaging, back treatment, and Caesarean births.

Meanwhile, Geithner is telling China that the U.S. will strengthen the dollar by cutting health-care costs.

June 5: LaRouche PAC publishes the full transcript of the June 2 "secret" press briefing, including the challenge

to Orszag and his response (see below).

June 6: Obama devotes his Saturday radio address to demanding passage of his health-care bill. It doubles as the message to the house meetings which had been called.

June 8-10: LaRouche PAC issues 200,000 copies of its pamphlet "Act Now To Stop Obama's Nazi Health Care Plan."

June 9: House Speaker Nancy Pelosi brings committee chairmen Henry Waxman (D-Calif.), George Miller (D-Calif.), and Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) into a meeting with Obama.

Meanwhile, a major event at the Brookings Institution, featuring Orszag, Baucus, and "experts," pushes comparative effectiveness research. What it comes down to, is cutting Medicare and Medicaid, and keeping the plan "deficit neutral."

On the same day, the British NICE sponsors a closed-door event at the Columbus Club in Washington, to discuss health-care reform in the British-Nazi image, under the sponsorship of the Commonwealth Club.

June 10: The Federal Coordinating Council on Comparative Effectiveness Research holds its final, mandated public meeting, in Washington, D.C., where its members, especially Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel, are confronted

with the Nazi character of their activity by *EIR*'s Anton Chaitkin. Video is made available on the Council website, for broad distribution.

There is an increase in coverage in publications such as *U.S. News & World Report* on the murderous nature of specific Obama proposals, such as reducing hospital re-admissions.

June 11: Obama is convinced to go on the stump for his plan, appearing at a town meeting in Green Bay, Wisc., where he praises Green Bay for lower per-capita health-care costs, and pushes cuts in Medicare and Medicaid.

Infighting begins among members of Congress, pitting small states with smaller per-capita costs, against states such as Florida, Texas, New York, and California, with higher per-capita costs.

June 12: Obama goes on the radio to promote, in the boldest fashion yet, his proposed cuts, which include an *additional* \$300 billion in cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, bringing the total to \$950 billion. The White House broke down the latest cuts into four categories:

- \$110 billion in across-the-board “productivity adjustments” to Medicare payment increases;
- \$106 billion cuts in Federal subsidies to hospitals. These so-called disproportionate share, or DSH payments typically go to institutions that treat a disproportionately large percentage of low-income patients, or to teaching hospitals that tend to see more complex cases;
- \$75 billion in unspecified cuts to Medicare prescription drug payments;
- \$22 billion by cutting payment rates for imaging services, skilled nursing and inpatient rehabilitation facilities, and long-term care hospitals.

June 14: U.S. media begin to reflect unrest about the size of the Obama cuts, especially for hospitals in inner cities. The head of the National Hospital Association says, “Payment cuts are not reforms.”

June 15: Obama takes his case for cuts to the American Medical Association convention in Chicago, where he emphasizes the need to cut “unnecessary” care like that which allegedly drives up per-capita costs in McAllen, Texas.

MedPAC releases a 300-page report outlining its proposals for cutbacks in Medicare and Medicaid, at an event in Washington, D.C. They are confronted by



White House/Chuck Kennedy

President Obama goes out on the stump to promote his killer cuts in health care, at a town meeting in Green Bay, Wisc., June 11.

EIR's Chaitkin, who tells them to prepare for a Nuremberg trial, like that which faced the Nazi doctors.

That evening, the doctors at the Renaissance Hospital in McAllen, Texas announce that they had sent a letter to the White House, challenging Obama's characterization of their “overspending,” and challenging him to come see for himself.

June 16: Orszag, once again, receives encouragement from the London *Financial Times*, which publishes his op-ed on health “reform's” fiscal benefits, in which he declares: “This is not the end of our commitment to fiscal responsibility. Once healthcare reform is in place, the US can then focus on other aspects of fiscal sustainability, including Social Security reform.”

California Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D) declares that she can't vote for a health-care proposal which would take away vital health-care dollars from her state, and other large states, to redistribute to others.

June 17: Baucus announces that he is forced to delay presentation of his plan, which will probably, he says, make it impossible to reach his target date of passage before August.