

The vignettes that follow, demonstrate that what we're seeing is a popular revolt, in which people of all political persuasions feel threatened by their government, and are pouring out their frustration and rage, but, at the same time, are looking for sane leadership.

### Town Meetings Across the Country

Here are reports from some of the town meetings held over the Aug. 8-9 weekend, where Americans were raising Hell:

- Rep. Mike Burgess's (R) town hall meeting in Denton, Tex., was packed with 500 people. As seen on YouTube: A woman shouts at Burgess, "I can't believe you voted on something you hadn't read! That's an outrage! You are threatening my two young daughters by doing that!"

"You're right," replied Burgess, "and your outrage is justified."

Next, a 40-year-old man, with his 8-year-old son, spoke: "We are having our future taken away from us... What political activity is equivalent to standing in front of a tank in Tiananmen Square? Why can't we get our representatives to do that? The people in Iran are not going through the system to change things. You guys must find some way to stop this—I mean, put your political career out there... Tell the Democrats there will be people marching to their front door if they don't listen."

Burgess responded, "My [GOP] leadership does not appreciate the emotion you've just showed. . . ."

Another woman stood, and, very worked up, presented a pages-long "Letter to Our Leaders," saying: "I get angrier every day. They are passing bills in the middle of the night. What do we do—vote every single person out of office? The Republicans have left us; the Democrats have left us; what do we do?"

- Rep. Rick Larsen (D) held a town hall meeting in Skagit, Wash., in a room holding 150 people. About 500 more sat on the lawn outside, listening to loudspeakers. The two-minute YouTube segment shows signs, including those of LaRouche PAC; the narrator says, "The Lyndon LaRouche PAC brought Obama as Hitler signs [showing Obama with a Hitler mustache]. They were also passing out pictures of the two world leaders chumming it up [the cover of the LPAC pamphlet, "Act Now to Stop Obama's Nazi Health Plan"]. Larsen angered constituents when he said he did not support the single-payer plan.

LPAC organizers reported that, without fail, when

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## Documentation

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# Mass Strike Explosion At Town Hall Meetings

Aug. 14—"Your government has lost the faith and trust of the American people," someone shouted out at the Aug. 12 town hall meeting in Hagerstown, Md., giving voice to the sentiment of most of those in the huge crowd, who cheered loudly, as Sen. Ben Cardin winced. This scene is one that has been repeated dozens of times across the country, while the LaRouche political movement's interventions (with the now-famous poster of Obama sporting a Hitler mustache) and literature distributions have provided leadership for the mass strike that has erupted against President Obama's Nazi health-care plan.

Despite attempts by the White House and Obama Democrats to portray the nationwide outpouring of disgust and rage against both the President and Congress, as "orchestrated" by a far-right-wing cabal, the protests are genuine, if inchoate, as millions of Americans lose their jobs, and homes, and face a future with draconian cuts in medical care.

When Senate Democratic Whip Dick Durbin tried to push the line that the town hall protesters were being orchestrated and instructed by shadowy outside forces, in an appearance on CNN's "State of the Union" Aug. 6, host John King interrupted him: "Let me ask you something—let me interrupt, Senator. Is there anything wrong with that? This country was founded on a whole series of events, including the Boston Tea Party in my hometown, where people were organized and instructed, and they were instructed to go somewhere and raise hell. Is there anything wrong with that?"



EIRNS/Kevin Pearl



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*The White House has attempted to portray the anti-Obama protests at town meetings as orchestrated by a right-wing cabal. The truth is, that desperate Americans are showing up in force to express their genuine fears about the economy, health care, etc. Shown: Scenes from Sen. Ben Cardin's town meeting in Towson, Md. Aug. 10, where LaRouche PAC organizers found 2,000 angry citizens outside the hall, which could only hold 500.*

15 minutes of the start of the event, a nearly nose-to-nose confrontation of people with opposing views became so heated they had to be separated as Shelby County sheriff's deputies and Memphis police officers called for reinforcements."

- Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D) held a town hall at King Grocery Store in Brighton, Colo. Photos show a crowd of 200-300 in front of the store. The blog Mount Virtus reports that Perlmutter "immediately went into a roped-off area of the portico, announced he'd be there for two hours, and then retreated to an even more isolated alcove with a half-dozen (apparent) constituents and bodyguards. At which point he was taunted by the non-Democrats in the crowd for being a coward, and isolating himself in a controllable space so as to avoid having to interact with the crowd directly. . . ."

- Freshman Democrat Tom Perriello had 300 people pack into an elementary school cafeteria in Bedford,

Va., for what he called the "most heated and liveliest" of his town hall meetings. The *Roanoke Times* take: "Flustered and frustrated faces filled the crowded room, and while some thanked the congressman for coming . . . it didn't stop some from heckling and yelling at him and one another. Identifying themselves as veterans, retired nurses, and caregivers of elderly family members, a majority of the speakers were against the same thing: a health care system run by the Federal government. . . . Concerns included increased red tape, mandatory end-of-life plans with government counselors, and the government's access to personal bank accounts to ensure payment for services."

One sign said: "If Obamacare is so great, sign Congress up for it FIRST." Perriello said that as the bill

someone objected to the Obama-Hitler comparison, a counter-attack was made by people who supported the organizers, reminding the opposition of the Constitution.

### 'Don't Kill My Grandmother'

- Rep. Steve Cohen's (D) town hall in Memphis, Tenn. was set to discuss Social Security and Veterans' benefits, but people jammed it to discuss health care. Bloggers report that children held up signs saying "Don't kill my 'gigi' [grandmother]." Cohen tried to assure everyone that no one would be killed. The *Memphis Commercial Appeal* reports, "Most people in the crowd of close to 500 were in loud opposition. . . . Within



*The LaRouche political movement is providing leadership to the burgeoning mass strike against the British-run policies of the Obama Administration, as evidenced by the adoption worldwide of the Obama-with-Hitler-mustache as the banner of the protests. Shown: a town hall meeting called by Rep. John Dingell (D), in Romulus, Mich., Aug. 6, as covered by ABC News.*

stands now, he's leaning toward voting against it.

On Aug. 11, Perriello faced a crowd of 1,200 people who turned out for a town hall meeting on health care, in Charlottesville, Va. Three LaRouche PAC organizers were on hand, to talk with, and get out literature to, this 80% Obama-friendly crowd. Participants nevertheless evinced an underlying mood of doubt, worry, and rage.

Fifty people lined up at each of two microphones, for two hours of questions and answers. Many were personal health-care horror stories. One line of questioning that hit home, and one that Perriello ducked, was Obama's plan to limit tests and his Nazi health-care mafia's claims there is "overuse" of essential diagnostics.

When Perriello motivated his proposal for an "insurance exchange," where "consumers" could pick and choose among insurance vendors, a person rose to denounce him, saying, "We are not consumers, we are citizens. Health care is life and death."

- Rep. Diana DeGette (D) of Denver, Colo., who headed up negotiations with the Blue Dog Dems to get a mark-up of the health-care bill out of the Energy and Commerce Committee, held only one town meeting, on Aug. 6, by telephone, that was billed as covering "everything" of concern to the district. Facethestate.com reports that DeGette "is not scheduled to meet in person

with constituents during her month home.... Town halls conducted by telephone ... virtually eliminate the possibility of disruption from angry protesters and are often tightly scripted.... U.S. Representatives John Salazar and Betsey Markey, both Democrats, and Mike Coffman, a Republican, have not yet scheduled any town hall meetings for the August break."

- Rep. Scott Murphy (D) of Saratoga Springs, N.Y. has found a new way to hold meetings with constituents, according to next right.com. Murphy announced that he held a small business roundtable to discuss health-care reform—on the previous day. He was last seen fleeing from his senior-age constituents, when he tried a "Congress-on-your-Corner" availability in Saratoga Springs.

- Democrat Joe Donnelly was mobbed by constituents at his town hall in Mishaw, Ind.

### The 'Stache Seen 'Round the World

LPAC's Obama-with-Hitler-mustache poster is now nearly as famous as the Mona Lisa. Not only has it been seen at town hall meetings across the U.S., but, just in the last week, there has been coverage around the world, as media outlets from San Francisco to Stockholm, from London to Milan, from Norway to China, and beyond, have featured the poster in their coverage of the U.S. town meetings.

- In Houston, Tex., LPAC organizers set up a large poster with Obama's photo Aug. 10, and invited people at the 500-person event to "Pin the Mustache on the President" offering stick-on 'staches. Local Channel 13 showed the photo.

- On Aug. 11, Germany's first national TV channel ARD featured the health-care brawl in the U.S., on its late evening news program, featuring an interview with an LPAC organizer, who says, "This health-care plan is a euthanasia plan." The camera then closes in on the Obama'stache poster, with the caption, "I've Changed."

- At Rep. Sam Farr’s town meeting in Monterrey, Calif., Aug. 11., people were grabbing pamphlets from the LPAC organizers, and taking photos of the Obama’stache poster.

- The worldwide media coverage includes (but is not limited to) the following: Reuters; China Daily English-language website; *Washington Post*, *Manchester Union Leader*, the Norwegian *Aftens Posten* and *Verduns Gang*; San Jose (Calif.) *Mercury News*; Hagerstown, Md. Channel 7-TV news; *San Francisco Examiner*; CNN; MSNBC; NBC; and Newbusters.org.

### **‘I Get the Sense that People Don’t Support This’**

At a town meeting of 2,500 people, in Towson, Md., Aug. 10, in which only 500 could fit into the hall, while the other 2,000 listened over loudspeakers outside, Sen. Ben Cardin (D) was forced to entertain an hour of hostile questioning, from citizens enraged at the way their government is treating them. The final question, by LaRouche PAC organizer Jerry Belsky, put him directly on the spot:

“Senator Cardin, how can you say that you will increase Medicare benefits, when you know that the purpose of the bill is to cut Medicare by \$500 billion and medical care by \$2 trillion, and that the only way you can do this is by killing people and rationing care? Obama has called for a board of experts to ration care. How can you deny that this is what Lyndon LaRouche has called the Hitler policy? If you want to cut costs, why did you not cut the \$24 trillion bail-out of Wall Street?”

The audience immediately applauded the questioner.

Cardin tried to lamely answer, once again shamelessly lying, as he had throughout the evening. “I think there is some hysterical imagery here,” he said, “but I tell you that I would never support a bill like that!”

People registered their disgust by just groaning at his answer. “He’s a baloney salesman,” said one woman.

“I get the sense that people don’t support this,” Cardin pathetically stated as he ended the meeting.

Indeed, the overflow crowd was overwhelmingly hostile to the Obama plan, and was engaged in lively discussion and debate with the LaRouche PAC organizers who set up outside, with their “Obama Mustache” poster and pamphlets exposing the Nazi roots of the health-care policy.

People rushed to the microphones, and virtually all the questions reflected fury at Obama’s health plan.

Speaker after speaker expressed their anger and frustration with the President and Congress, summarized by the statement: “Your government has lost the faith and trust of the American people,” answered by great cheers from most in the crowd.

An 11-year-old, speaking for the next generation, nailed Cardin on the “useless eater” issue, saying: “I have five grandparents, as well as my parents. If my grandfather and my father both came down with cancer, would my father get more care because he’s younger with more years of work to contribute?”

But it was Sen. Arlen Specter (D), who, in commenting on the hostile reception he’s gotten at town hall meetings in Pennsylvania Aug. 11-12, hit the nail on the head. According to Politico.com, Specter linked the source of the anger he has seen among his constituents with “the economy, the fact that millions of people have lost their jobs and millions of others are afraid of losing theirs.”