

Simon Stevens and His Mobile Death Squads

Sept. 17—Royal Family courtier Simon Stevens was Britain’s “Death Minister,” simultaneously advising Prime Minister Tony Blair and successive health ministers from 1997 to 2004.

From that post, in 1999, he established NICE, the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence, to ration health care. In 2000, he crafted the plan for creeping privatization of the National Health Service. In 2002, as fascist financiers claimed that the elderly were “clogging the beds,” Stevens arranged a National Health Service contract with UnitedHealth Group’s Evercare Hospice unit, to conduct pilot studies on how to restrict hospital access for older patients.

Based on the mind-set in the Evercare contract and Evercare’s pilot-project report, Stevens then put into effect the Liverpool Care Pathway, an experimental program for killing the frail elderly.

In 2004, Stevens left the Blair government to become chief executive of UnitedHealth Group’s European division. Then, in 2007, he moved to the United States to become chief executive of the elderly (“Ovations”) division of the company, where he oversees the Evercare Hospice unit. The Minne-

apolis-based UnitedHealth Group was founded in 1974, as an outgrowth of President Richard Nixon’s 1971 deal to establish health management organizations (HMOs).

UnitedHealth Group and its allies at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation put millions of dollars into the Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care 2008, a propaganda sheet that is demanding lower medical costs (see series by Dr. Ned Rosinsky, *EIR*, July 31, Sept. 11, 2009).

Stevens’ photograph is displayed on the website of the American Association of Retired Persons, whose 40 million members are advised to buy AARP-endorsed insurance—from Evercare. In effect, UnitedHealth has simply bought AARP for this purpose, paying for this promotion.

During Spring 2009, Stevens was all over the American media, beating the drums for austerity “reform.” Quoting the phony Dartmouth Atlas statistics, Stevens demanded \$540 billion in cuts from payments for medical services to the elderly and poor.

Working with the George Soros apparatus, Stevens is now a central player in the London-Wall Street axis that is driving President Obama’s health-care reform. *Business Week* (Aug. 17), gloating under the headline, “Why Health Insurers Are Winning,” featured a full-page photo of Stevens, overshadowing the U.S. Capitol Building.

—Anton Chaitkin