

INTERESTING TIMES

23 February 2008

In case you thought today's global warming – climate change – we're all doomed (whatever) scenario is at all anything new, here are some interesting anecdotes and comments from my learned friends in cyberspace.

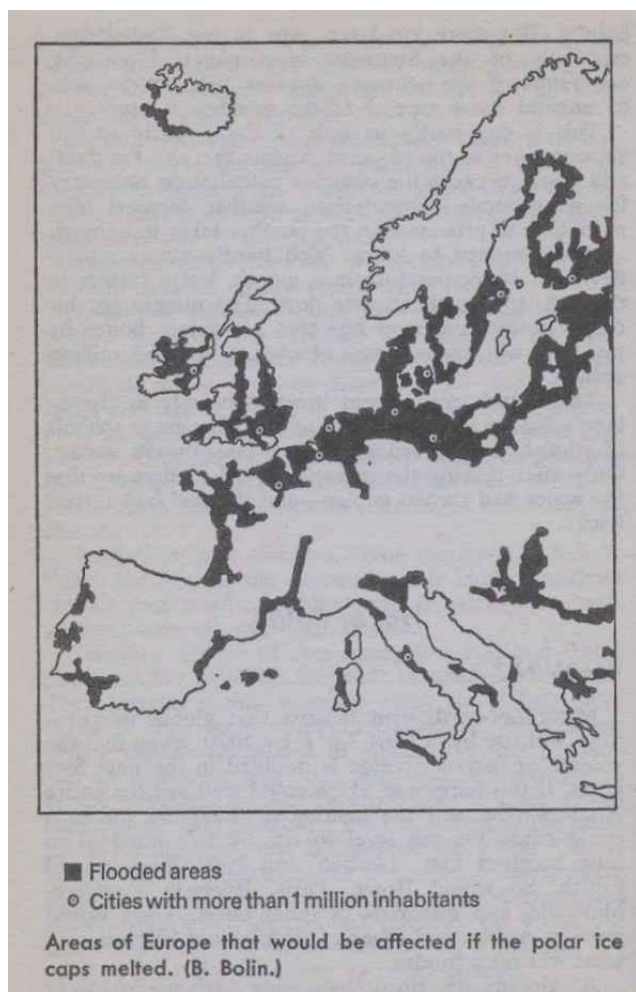
None of the comments are mine, but I do agree with all of them. Original authors' names have been removed to spare them any hardships from the Green Thought Police (who I hope will freeze in hell soon).

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The book entitled "The Weather Conspiracy - The Coming of the New Ice Age" (Ballantine Books, New York, 1977) contains information regarding the global warming - global cooling debate that took place more than three decades ago. An excerpt of this book reads (see p. 71):

"Many hot-earth men believe that global temperature will rise by at least 3.8 degree F by 2020, given that the volume of carbon dioxide is doubled in the next fifty years. If this happened, ships could well sail the entire Arctic Circle, and the melting of the polar ice caps could cause the sea level to rise by two hundred to four hundred feet. London and New York would vanish. So would Rome, Paris, Brussels, Antwerp, Marseille, and hundreds of other cities. Trees would grow in Alaska and Siberia; cattle would be raised on what was once tundra."

Page 72 of this book is copied below. The cited author B. Bolin is, probably, Bert Bolin. He became the 1st Chairman of the IPCC when it was established in 1988.



Note that Stephen Schneider strongly criticized this book
(http://www.ilovemycarbon dioxide.com/pdf/Schneider_1977.pdf)

With that great study now revealed to us, I would like to commend the following two recent peer reviewed papers; at least I presume (silly me) that SCIENCE is a peer reviewed publication of the AAAS.

Item 1: Frank J Wentz et al SCIENCE vol. 317 13 July 2007 “How Much More Rain Will Global Warming Bring? “

Using satellite observations from the SSM/I, Special Sensor Microwave Imager, Wentz et al measured increases in evaporation of water, total atmospheric water content, and total global precipitation in response to a global temperature rise over the 1987 to 2006 time frame that SSM/I data is available.

They report that as a result of a 1 Kelvin global temperature increase, evaporation, total water vapour content and total global precipitation each increase by 7%. High school student should be happy to see that their seat of the pants notion that total global precipitation and total evaporation have to match is borne out by actual experimental verification. Hey that water vapour bearing air eventually is going to rise somewhere and drop all its load. Ergo QED.

Now amazingly GCMs (computer video games) also agreed that the evaporation and total water vapour should increase by 7%, but they insist that the precipitation should only be 1% to 3%; confirming the constant 3:1 fudge factor of all GCM predictions of the future; but asserting that the precipitation should be as much as a factor of seven less than what the planet earth global climate model says it really is. Make a note to self, to not use that climate model that is off by seven. The high school students are quite miffed.

It is here conjectured, without proof (call it Smith's conjecture), that the one Kelvin increase in global mean surface temperature might result in an increase in global cloud coverage by; well maybe something like 7%, on the theory that there is good observational suggestion that precipitation is often accompanied by clouds; the real kind of clouds that darken the sky. But Wentz et al didn't look into that; hence my conjecture. And if global cloud coverage averages perhaps 30% of the globe that would imply about a 2.1% increase in the fraction of the earth covered by clouds that could reflect maybe 80% or more of incoming sunlight that strikes the clouds. A further conjecture of mine is that such a reduction in ground level insulation, is more than enough to squash any one Kelvin increase in global surface temperature; the oceans win another one for our side.

OK if you have that clear; now to item 2; also from Science 15 Feb 2008 vol. 319 from Richard A. Kerr commenting on peer reviewed works in Journal of Climate from Hadley centre and in Geophysical Research letters from Timothy Andrews and Piers Forster both of the U of Leeds UK. Talking about how to model cloud response to increasing CO₂.

The LEEDS group reported that they doubled the atmospheric CO₂ while holding the global surface temperature constant and as a result the air above the ground warmed up and some clouds evaporated letting more sunlight in to cause further warming. Definitive proof of positive feedback due to water vapour enhancing CO₂ “Forcings”. Andrews and Forster didn't say so, but one assumes that they used their computer video game to do that scientific research.

Now who was it that authorised Andrews and Forster to invent their own laws of physics and double the atmospheric CO₂ (I'll buy that) but insisting that the global surface temperature remains unchanged.

If they took the blinders off their surface temperature control knob so it could read the results of Wentz et al above and following the Smith conjecture (unproved), the surface temperature would indeed try to move up, unleashing an increase in clouds and cancelling out the effect of their CO₂ doubling.

I protest that they have no right to hold the surface temp unchanged while doubling the atmospheric CO₂; who elected them to make such decisions for the planet, which, left to its own ends, would certainly fix that pesky CO₂ PDQ.

“The Chicken Little Agenda: Debunking Expert's Lies,” published by Pelican Publishing June 2006. addresses several “hysterias” in the public venue, including global warming. (<http://thedeathhand.com/chicken-little-agenda.aspx>)

I had felt that, thirty years ago it was the consensus of the *cognoscenti* that the “carbon dioxide influences the climate” idea had been thoroughly debunked, by Dr Singer.

I was surprised that Dr Hansen and some others were able to resurrect the *fantasma* – and within an established disciple, no less. The silence, of the people who (knew) much better, was deafening.

(I would say “appalling” although this carries a judgment that I certainly don't have the authority to render.)

We certainly do live in interesting times; there's more 800 pound gorillas out there than even I can keep up with.

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