

Email 12/08 Friday 2 May 2008

Dear all,

Crime against humanity

I have attached my memo 12/08 on the consequences of the switch to biofuels in a vain attempt to control the hypothetical consequences of rising greenhouse gas emissions, as well as confirmation of the basis for the prediction of imminent severe drought sequences.

I wonder how many of you recall listening to the BBC's popular radio serial 'The Goon Show'? You will see the connection when you read the attached memo.

The global situation deteriorated rapidly during the past fortnight. As happens in this situation, the politicians have already started looking for scapegoats. Al Gore's reputation has plummeted. Concerned scientists are calling on him to justify the consequences of his environmental crusade.

Climate alarmists and environmentalists will have to take care when addressing public gatherings. Their audiences are more likely to be interested in rising food and fuel prices caused by the switch to biofuels than in conserving tadpoles and water lilies threatened by dam construction.

The memo is rather long but very important.

Kind regards,

Will

From the sidelines

Memo 12/08

Crime against humanity

Will Alexander alexwjr@iafrica.com

Friday 2 May 2008

[This memo consists of two interlinked parts that are current and go to the heart of climate alarmism. It is rather long but very important.]

This whole climate change issue is rapidly disintegrating. It is not pleasant to watch as the consequences could be grave. The unjustified switch to biofuels lies at the centre of its collapse. It is also coincident with the looming economic recession. There are other consequences. Food prices are rising. We have just been informed that the prices of petrol, diesel and paraffin are going to rise dramatically next week. The rising costs of food and paraffin will be a severe blow to the poor and disadvantaged communities of Africa who have no access to electricity. This is a global concern. The climate alarmists must now start accepting the blame for a major part of these consequences. The question is whether or not they are prepared to join the rest of us in searching for solutions to these problems. The solutions will require a dedicated multidisciplinary approach. This is something that the alarmists have studiously avoided in the past.

Now there is an even greater danger on the horizon. For the past five years I have repeatedly warned that severe droughts could be expected, starting within a year from now. These warnings fell on deaf ears. As mentioned in my last memo, this matter is now out of my hands. I have retreated to the sidelines.

The urgency of seeking solutions to the looming drought has increased within the last fortnight. The following are some recent quotes from the Internet, which describe the position. They are followed by some supporting information from my files.

"When millions of people are going hungry, it is a crime against humanity that food should be diverted to biofuels." (India's finance minister.)

"The United States and the European Union have taken a criminal path by contributing to an explosive rise in global food prices through using food crops to produce biofuels, the United Nations special rapporteur on the right to food said today."

"The Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi, said food prices were raising the spectre of famine in some countries. A conflict is emerging between foodstuffs and fuel with disastrous social conflicts and dubious environmental results."

Are we entering a drought cycle?

This is the title of my memorandum addressed to the Director-General of the Department of Water Affairs in January 1983. I was the Manager of Scientific Services in the department at that time. This was the first paragraph of my memorandum.

Any purely random phenomenon such as dice, roulette, or poker, as well as any natural phenomena with a strong random component such as rainfall and river flow, will have a grouping of high and low sequences. This is obvious, and nobody disagrees. The question in the case of rainfall and river flow is whether or not this grouping also contains a cyclical component. If it does contain a cyclical component, and if this component is strong enough, then we should be able to use it for prediction purposes.

I then concluded.

There is no doubt that the rainfall over the past 12 years has followed the general periodic pattern found by Tyson in 1970. The present period of abnormally low runoff is also in agreement with the periodic runoff pattern that I found in the runoff data for the Vaal River prior to 1978, although the onset of the period is earlier than expected.

It was the isolated, above-average runoff events that saved our bacon in the past droughts. If we are indeed entering a dry period, and if we have an uninterrupted succession of five or more years of below average runoff, we could be in for a rough time. In particular, we should be conservative in our assumptions regarding the initial filling of newly constructed dams.

This prophetic advice was followed by a succession of drought years that had very serious consequences for the water resources of this country.

I made this successful prophecy 25 years ago. With this in mind, please read the following extract from an article in the March/April 2008 volume of the Water Wheel. Try to keep a straight face.

Building dams, not a lasting solution-WWF

Nature organisation WWF has commended the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry on its programme to rehabilitate old dams, as opposed to building new ones. "WWF believes that rehabilitating our existing dams will be far more cost-effective and have lower social and ecological

consequences" the organisation said in a statement. "However WWF also believes the Minister's reasoning that dams are going to solve the looming water crisis is flawed, and that this thinking is analogous to saying that building batteries will solve the energy crisis we are currently experiencing."

According to Dr Dion Nel, manager of the WWF Sanlam Living Waters Partnership, electrical batteries could help one get through a few hours of a power break of load shedding. However, they add little to solving the problem of demand exceeding supply. He went on to explain that similar to the way batteries merely temporarily store electricity, dams are merely temporary storage facilities. Dams are only as effective as the amount of water flowing into them.

"Dams will help us get through a temporary drought event, but they will not help the increasing long-term water supply to match the growing demand. Ultimately, it all comes down to simply managing the long term supply and demand," said Dr Nel. "We need to invest in the management of our rainfall catchments and freshwater ecosystems, which are the ultimate source of our water supplies. Parallel to this we need to invest in technology and behavioural changes that lead to reducing the demands on our water supplies."

Is South Africa's future in the hands of these goons?

Return to reality

The cyclical nature of climate has long been of concern to those of us involved in water resource development in this country. My co-authors and I dealt with this in some depth in our joint paper ***Linkages between solar activity, climate predictability and water resource development*** published eleven months ago. You may recall that we found that there was a synchronous relationship between rainfall and river flow, and the acceleration and deceleration of the sun as it follows its trajectory through galactic space. This in turn was synchronous with the double sunspot cycle.

Cyclicity in solar activity has been the subject of many research publications by solar physicists and others in recent years. The problem always was the determination of a causal linkage between this activity and the climatic responses. Some unresolved problems included the causes of the well-known El Niño and La Niña phenomena. More than a decade ago, I studied the periodic behavior of the annual values of the Southern Oscillation Index. I found a very clear break in the mean values that occurred in 1977. The mean values showed a sudden decrease from then onwards. I made enquiries, but was unable to determine the cause of this sudden change.

Two days ago, on 30 April 2008, the daily electronic newsletter CCNet quoted extracts from the recently published news release distributed by scientists at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The complete report can be downloaded from the following website.

http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Newsroom/NewImages/images.php3?img_id=18012

The Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) phase shifts during the past century were:

In 1905, PDO switched to a warm phase.

In 1946, PDO switched to a cool phase.

In 1977, PDO switched to a warm phase.

I completed writing this memo and decided to wait for this afternoon's issue of CCNet for the latest information on this very important subject that goes to the heart of climate alarmism. Eight of the 15 items in today's CCNet 69/2008 - 2 May 2008, dealt with the onset of global cooling. The one by Dennis Avery published in Canada Free Press of 1 May 2008 is the most instructive. I reproduce it in full below. Note the indirect reference to our work on the double sunspot cycle. At last our work is gaining international recognition.

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(3) NEW JASON SATELLITE INDICATES 23-YEAR GLOBAL COOLING

Canada Free Press, 1 May 2008

<http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/2871>

By Dennis Avery

Now it's not just the sunspots that predict a 23-year global cooling. The new Jason oceanographic satellite shows that 2007 was a "cool" La Nina year-but Jason also says something more important is at work: The much larger and more persistent Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) has turned into its cool phase, telling us to expect moderately lower global temperatures until 2030 or so.

For the past century at least, global temperatures have tended to mirror the 20-to 30-year warmings and coolings of the north-central Pacific Ocean. We don't know just why, but the pattern of the last century is clear: the earth warmed from about 1915 to 1940, while the PDO was also warming (1925 to 46). The earth cooled from 1940 to 1975, while the PDO was cooling (1946 to 1977). The strong global warming from 1976 to 1998 was accompanied by a strong and almost-constant warming of the north-central Pacific. Ancient tree rings in Baja California and Mexico show there have been 11 such PDO shifts since 1650, averaging 23 years in length.

Researchers discovered the PDO only recently-in 1996-while searching for the reason salmon numbers had declined sharply in the Columbia River after 1977. The salmon catch record for the past 100 years gave the answer-shifting Pacific Ocean currents. The PDO favors the salmon from the Columbia for about 25 years at a time, and then the salmon from the Gulf of Alaska, but the two fisheries never thrive at the same time. Something in the PDO favors the early development of the salmon smolts from one region or the other. Other fish, such as halibut, sardines, and anchovies follow similar shifts in line with the PDO.

The PDO seems to be driven by the huge Aleutian Low in the Arctic-but we don't know what controls the Aleutian Low. Nonetheless, 22.5-year "double sunspot cycles" have been identified in South African rainfall, Indian monsoons, Australian droughts, and rains in the United States' far southwest as well. These cycles argue that the sun, not CO2, controls the earth's temperatures. [PLEASE NOTE!]

Dr. Henrik Svensmark's recent experiments at the Danish Space Research Institute seem to show that the earth's temperatures are importantly affected by the low, wet clouds that deflect more or less solar heat back into space. The number of such clouds is affected, in turn, by more or fewer cosmic rays hitting the earth. The number of earthbound cosmic rays depends on the extent of the giant magnetic wind thrown out by the sun.

All of this defies the "consensus" that human-emitted carbon dioxide has been responsible for our global warming. But the evidence for man-made warming has never been as strong as its Green advocates maintained. The earth's warming from 1915 to 1940 was just about as strong as the "scary" 1975 to 1998 warming in both scope and duration-and occurred too early to be blamed on human-emitted CO2. The cooling from 1940 to 1975 defied the Greenhouse Theory, occurring during the first big surge of man-made greenhouse emissions. Most recently, the climate has stubbornly refused to warm since 1998, even though human CO2 emissions have continued to rise strongly.

The Jason satellite is an updated and more-accurate version of the Poseidon satellite that has been monitoring the oceans since 1992, picking up ocean wind speeds, wave heights, and sea level changes. Jason is run by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and a French team.

How many years of declining world temperature would it take now-in the wake of the ten-year non-warming since 1998-to break up Al Gore's "climate change consensus"?

DENNIS T. AVERY is a senior fellow for the Hudson Institute in Washington, DC and is the Director for the Center for Global Food Issues. (<http://www.cgfi.org>) He was formerly a senior analyst for the Department of State. He is co-author, with S. Fred Singer, of Unstoppable Global Warming Every 1500 Hundred Years, Readers may write him at PO Box 202, Churchville, VA 2442

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Conclusion

This is enough reading matter for the time being. It reinforces my warning that the world could be heading towards a disastrous global drought with all its humanitarian consequences. It also demonstrates once again the huge and probably unbridgeable gap between the climate alarmists and those of us who have to struggle with very serious real-world problems.

Despite the wealth of evidence to the contrary, climate alarmists steadfastly maintain that there is no predictable periodicity in rainfall and river flow. The IPCC reports do not even mention this fundamentally important climatic property that was known and documented by the ancient Egyptians and was the basis for Joseph's biblical prophecy.

The climate alarmists obviously do not have even the most elementary knowledge of the properties of rainfall and river flow required for planning, designing and operating water supply systems. They then go further and maintain that we can improve river flow by protecting our catchments. Do they not know that planting trees reduces river flow? Do they not know that it is impossible to provide a constant supply from variable river flow without building dams? Why did the Water Research Commission publish this nonsense in its magazine Water Wheel?

To summarise

These two important aspects – the consequences of biofuels production and confirmation of the basis for our drought prediction model, completely undermine the foundations of current climate change science. These are the assumptions that undesirable greenhouse gas emissions and not solar activity are the dominant cause of climate change, and that biofuels provide the solution to the reduction of these emissions on a global scale. Both these assumptions are demonstrably false.

Furthermore:

We have developed a multi-year, hydro-meteorological prediction model that probably has global applications. This is well beyond the capability of current global climate prediction models.

Regards

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Other memos in this series:

http://www.ilovemycarbon dioxide.com/pdf/Bali_failure.pdf

http://www.ilovemycarbon dioxide.com/pdf/Memo_0208.pdf

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