

THE UNCERTAINTY OF GLOBAL WARMING

Without Al Gore, Would There Still Be a Crisis in the Air?

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Global warming is causing polar bears to drown in significant numbers. The only documented polar bear drowning was due to a freak storm. In fact, polar bear numbers are growing substantially declared the High British Court in its ruling against “An Inconvenient Truth.”

Global warming is causing the Himalayan glaciers to shrink. In September of 2006, the American Meteorological Society’s Journal of Climate reported, “Glaciers are growing in the Himalayan Mountains, confounding global warming alarmists...”

Global warming is causing the snowcap atop Mt. Kilimanjaro to shrink. In November of 2003, Nature magazine wrote, “Although its tempting to blame the ice loss on global warming, researches think that deforestation of the mountain’s foothills is the more likely culprit. Without the forest’s humidity, previously moisture-laden winds blew dry.

Global warming is causing more tornados. The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change stated in February of 2007 that there has been no scientific link established between global warming and tornados.

Global warming is causing more frequent and severe hurricanes. Hurricane expert Chris Landsea documented that hurricane activity is no higher now than in past decades. The world’s foremost hurricane expert Bill Gray reported that the number of major hurricanes making landfall on the U.S. Atlantic coast has declined in the past 40 years and further suggests that carbon dioxide may be a symptom of global warming rather than the cause. Geophysical Research reports that global warming enhances wind shear, which will actually prevent an increase in future hurricane activity.

Global warming is causing an expansion of the African deserts. In September of 2002, New Science reports, “Africa’s deserts are in ‘spectacular’ retreat...making farming viable again in what were some of the most arid parts of Africa.”

Global warming is causing a rapid meltdown of Greenland. In a 2005 study, the Journal of Glaciology reported, “the Greenland ice sheet is thinning at the margins and growing inland, with a small over-all mass gain.” In late 2006, researchers at the Danish Meteorological Institute reported that the past two decades were the coldest for Greenland since the 1910s.

Global warming is causing the Antarctic ice sheet to melt. In January of 2002, Nature magazine reported Antarctica as a whole has been dramatically cooling for decades. More recently, scientists reported in September of 2006 in the British journal Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society Series A: Mathematical, Physical, and Engineering Sciences, that satellite measurements of the Antarctic ice sheet showed significant growth between 1992 and 2003. And the U.N. Climate Change Panel reported in February of 2007 that Antarctica is unlikely to lose any ice mass during the remainder of the century. Its record-maximum growth is attributed to a slight warming this century causing precipitation to fall as snow.

Global warming is causing Peruvian glaciers’ retreat. The Heartland Institute maintains that the region has been cooling since the 1930s and other glaciers in South America are advancing.

Global warming is causing water loss in Africa’s lake Chad. NASA scientists have concluded that local population and grazing factors are the more likely culprits.

Global warming is causing the destruction of coral reefs through bleaching. Scientists have identified other causes for coral bleaching and have additionally noted that coral bleaching is a natural process by which coral continually selects ideal symbiotic algae.

He minimizes the significance of the Medieval Warm Period and the Little Ice Age. Yet, there were no fossil-burning humans around to have caused these occurrences.

He predicts massive sea level rises at coastal regions. Gore predicts that Florida will soon disappear under a 20-foot rise and that water will cover the new Twin Towers monument. The U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change predicts a mean sea-level rise of about 13 inches by 2100.

He claims that increased carbon dioxide levels precede global warming. Gore's graphs suggest that carbon dioxide levels rise first and then are followed by a rise in the earth's temperature. The Heartland Institute authors claim history shows that warming periods come first and then the carbon dioxide levels increase. Gore claims that the water heats up as the sun's rays bounce off the ice and are reflected back into the water, heating it up and releasing carbon dioxide. In 2001, an international team of scientists embarked on a mission to study the ocean floor beneath the Arctic's Gakkel Ridge and documented a "hotbed" of underwater volcanic activity that is heating up the water and releasing the stored carbon dioxide. As moisture evaporates from the heated water, the droplets fall back as either rain or ice depending on where and when it falls. In addition, recent research by Henrik Svensmark of the Danish National Space Center has shown how changes in the sun's cosmic rays and magnetic field can affect global temperature and explains that, "We have the highest solar activity we have had in at least 1,000 years."

He maintains that reducing man's carbon footprint will avert a catastrophic event. Man's contribution to carbon dioxide emissions is small compared to what nature provides through water vapor. Skeptic Richard Lindzen, an MIT climate scientist, has steadfastly maintained for years that cloud and water vapor will counteract the greenhouse emissions of human beings. Other skeptics want to know why, after rising steadily in the early 20th century, temperatures went down for the next 35 years following the Industrial Age when greenhouse gasses were at full tilt at the start of World War II.

He holds the United States accountable for not joining the Kyoto Treaty. He fails to mention that developing nations like China and India refuse to subject their countries to the Kyoto Treaty guidelines. Furthermore, the Netherlands Environment Assessment Agency reports that as of 2006 China is the chief emitter of man-made carbon dioxide.