

for the ozone fluctuations in Antarctica.³

It should not be a surprise, therefore, that the results reported on Aug. 28 by researchers using the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO), a joint project of the European Space Agency and NASA, show similar dynamic results looking at the Sun. Scientists report finding “jet streams” or “rivers” of hot, electrically charged gas (known as plasma) flowing beneath the surface of the Sun, as well as features similar to trade winds that transport gas beneath the Sun’s surface. As one of the researchers described it: “We have detected motion similar to the weather patterns in the Earth’s atmosphere. Moreover, in what is a completely new discovery, we have found a jet-like flow near the poles. This flow is totally inside the Sun. It is completely unexpected, and cannot

3. Work on tropospheric rivers has been reported in papers by Reginald E. Newell et al. in *Geophysical Research Letters*. For example, see Vol. 12, No. 24, pp. 2401-2404 (Dec. 24, 1992).

be seen at the surface.”

The point here is not just that there is something new under the Sun, but that there is a coherence to the universe that Man has to continue to discover and understand. Today we have incredible new technologies to make precise observations (if the research programs are funded to make this possible). Our ancestors, however, observed with their own eyes and conducted ingenious experiments using the tools they had available, to test their hypotheses. We know that our ancient ancestors had calculated the long solar-astronomical cycles over centuries: the seasonal precession of the equinox (a 21,000-year cycle), the tilt of the Earth’s axis (a 43,000-year cycle), and the eccentricity of the Earth’s orbit around the Sun (a 100,000-year cycle).⁴

4. For a detailed explanation of the solar astronomical cycles and how they drive climate, see Laurence Hecht, “The Coming (or Present) Ice Age,” in *21st Century*, Winter 1993-1994, p. 23.

Old hoaxes never die, but just keep killing people

After 30 years of continuous cultural bombardment, citizens of industrial nations seem to have lost the capacity to distinguish a scare story from the truth, when it comes to the environment. Correlations have become causal relationships; man-made substances have become enemies of “Nature”; industry has become a villain; all species are considered equal; and the good old days, when man was at the mercy of Nature, are revered. Meanwhile, these environmental scare stories—and the regulations that grow out of them, such as the banning of useful pesticides—continue, directly and indirectly, to kill millions of people worldwide.

What would someone who has internalized the environmentalist scare stories, do, if abandoned on a island, like the Swiss Family Robinson in the classic children’s story? Would they kill “endangered” game for food? Would they be able to use basic astronomical knowledge to keep track of time? How would they combat poisonous snakes and insects, using “natural” means?

The consequence of three decades of environmental hoaxes, including today’s global warming and ozone-depletion, is not simply that Americans have become stupefied; but that they are blinded to the Malthusian intention behind the hoaxes, and their actual effect: population reduction.

DDT is the mother of these environmental hoaxes, although not the first. (Hundreds of thousands of Ameri-

cans dumped their Thanksgiving cranberries in 1959, in response to a scare story about herbicide residues on cranberries.) DDT was banned in 1972 by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator William Ruckelshaus, for what he admitted were “political” reasons. Ruckelshaus chose to ban DDT, despite the fact that the EPA had held seven months of scientific hearings on DDT, and that the EPA’s own hearing examiner had ruled, on the basis of the voluminous scientific evidence presented, that DDT should *not* be banned.¹

Today, DDT is routinely labeled as a “killer” by the media and in the environmentalist propaganda. In fact, DDT came under fire because it was so effective in saving lives: Since its discovery in 1942, it dramatically cut the incidence of malaria and the death rate in the developing sector, saving more millions of human lives than any other man-made chemical.

Today, without the use of DDT, malaria is the world’s leading killer disease. Nearly half the world’s population is at risk from malaria, and its debilitating effects. Most of the 200 to 300 million new malaria cases each year are among children. At least 100 million people die each year, as a result, directly and indirectly, of the anti-pesticide activities of the environmentalists.²—*Marjorie Mazel Hecht*

1. For background information on DDT, see Dr. J. Gordon Edwards, “The Ugly Truth About Rachel Carson,” *21st Century Science & Technology*, Summer 1992; and Dr. J. Gordon Edwards, “Malaria: The Killer That Could Have Been Conquered,” *21st Century Science & Technology*, Summer 1993.

2. This death toll estimate was calculated by entomologist J. Gordon Edwards in 1984, and is probably much higher today.