

French vulcanologist debunks ecologists

French vulcanologist Haroun Tazieff gave an interview to Agence France-Presse in Grenoble Oct. 9 where he denounced the “panic organized” by ecologists manipulated by the large chemical firms against chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which are used in aerosols, refrigerators, climate-control equipment, and in the manufacture of synthetic foam, which they charge “without any proof” destroy the ozone layer.

The researcher was responding to the work of a team of New Zealand scientists, according to which the hole in the ozone layer observed above the Antarctic was second only to the record in 1987.

“The hole in the ozone layer can only be observed in the South Pole during October, when summer arrives in this part of the globe, after six months of night,” Haroun Tazieff explained. “Little by little, the hole fills up again and, at the end of the polar summer, it no longer exists.” For the former French Secretary of State for Major Risks, “The ecologists’ anti-CFCs theory is false: They claim that the great cold and the Sun’s ultraviolet rays dissociate the CFCs and produce chlorine monoxide (ClO). This

molecule is chemically aggressive and captures the ozone molecules (O_3) which it dissociates into one molecule of oxygen (O_2) and one atom of oxygen (O). . . .

For him, this hole has existed “for all eternity,” by reason of the absence of ultraviolet irradiation over six months of the year. It is seen over the South Pole, which is completely uninhabited, while 80% of the CFCs are manufactured and used in the Northern Hemisphere. “If the CFCs were causing damage to the ozone layer, it would be true directly overhead,” Tazieff figured. CFCs were, for a long time, only produced by the large chemical companies of the wealthy countries, but now, any small enterprise can do it, and these small companies are becoming competitors with the big ones. If you make the CFC molecules illegal, and they are replaced by another molecule more difficult to produce, you will suppress competition by poor countries, and then, the big companies can divide up the market,” he explained.

“This great fear of the year 2000, which would increase the number of cancers, is unfounded. We would do better to spend the billions of francs earmarked for replacing CFCs on something more useful,” the vulcanologist concluded.

As *EIR* has reported, the giant Du Pont Company, controlled by Edgar Bronfman, enjoys a near monopoly of products which could replace CFCs.

surprise, surprise, there is a measureable “hole” there in the amount of O_3 in the ozonosphere. After the Southern Hemisphere solstice, the Sun begins its journey northward again, and as we here in Australia slip into our autumn, the “hole” at the Antarctic Circle starts to “grow” again, and the one at the Arctic Circle starts to “shrink.” This is a natural cycle which has existed, and will continue to exist, for as long as the Earth is tilted, the atmosphere contains O_2 molecules, and ultraviolet light continues to come from the Sun to convert them to O_3 molecules. There are no laws that puny men can pass to stop the awesome forces and cycles of Nature, as King Canute learned when he attempted to “order” the tides to turn back. “Laws” to attempt to prevent the natural cycle of “holes” in the ozonosphere, fall into the same category, and should be treated with equal contempt.

So where did all this nonsense about “holes” in the ozone layer come from, anyway? Well, back in 1985, the British Climatological Team in Antarctica discovered the first “hole.” There was a relatively short bout of hysteria, as always, whipped up by a compliant media because the whole thing was in “somebody’s” interest; all front-page hype and speculation about how half the world’s population would be dead from skin cancer by the year 2000, and similar preposterous stuff. If you think back to late 1985-early 1986, you

should be able to remember it all. You should also be able to remember that it had all just died away by late 1986-early 1987, and you heard nothing more about “holes” in the ozone layer until quite recently. But do you know why? Well, I’ll tell you. It all died away because by that time the British scientists at the South Pole had been studying the phenomenon long enough to realize that it was not some hideous, dire threat to mankind’s future, but part of a natural, endless, repetitive cycle. This was actually reported in the papers, but naturally enough, not in screaming page-one headlines, but buried up on page 53 or so, somewhere between the comics and the obituaries.

What was *also* reported at the time was that the scientists, who now knew exactly what they were dealing with, were packing up in Antarctica, and moving camp to the Northern Polar regions to test their own predictions that there would be a similar “hole” there, at the opposite time of the year, thereby proving that the “holes” were not a new threat to the environment and to mankind, but part of a natural cycle. And that, of course, is exactly what they did, and that is exactly what they found. Of course, such a reassurance would not suit those who wish us to live our lives in a constant state of near panic, and therefore ever more prepared to hand over control of our lives to some form of “Big Brother” to save us