

PACIFIC ISLANDS ONCE AGAIN

Every time there is a Pacific Islands Forum they trundle out once again the conventional lies to draw attention away from the real issues. The claim always is that the main issues are "Climate Change" and the threat from sea level rise.

I have dealt many times with these issues, but they do not take a blind bit of notice, so here goes yet again.

There is the usual failure to understand that the climate is always changing and always will. For a small bribe it is always possible to find people to testify that the climate is changing, Why, we actually had a hurricane recently! It is an unfortunate and inevitable feature of the climate in the Pacific islands that they have occasional hurricanes. They always have. There is absolutely no evidence that they are more frequent now than in the past, and there is even less than no evidence that they are caused by increases of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, or that reducing these will have any effect. Yet they persist in trying to claim otherwise.

But it is the evidence on sea level that is persistently ignored. Instead of consulting this evidence we again have interviews with people, who for a small fee will testify that last week the sea came a bit higher.

The evidence that the sea level in all of the Pacific islands is not changing is, to coin a phrase, unequivocal. It is based on the most comprehensive study ever made of a small area. You should realise that most historic measurements of sea level have a tendency to be upwardly biased for a whole variety of reasons, The equipment is battered by the sea, particularly in a hurricane and tends to be displaced downwards. The land subsides from the weight of additional buildings, and from the removal of ground water and minerals. The correction, which is sometimes made, for "isostasy", geological movement, is frequently inadequate.

Many of these problems were avoided by the Pacific Island Sea Level Project which was launched by the Australians in 1991, using scientists from Flinders University, Adelaide. The design of the SEAFRAME equipment was state-of-the-art. It is illustrated in the attachment. Notice that it is kept level by GOPS equipment, something that was missing in all historic equipment.

This equipment was installed on 12 Pacific islands in the following groups

Marshall Islands	Tuvalu
Federated States of Micronesia	Samoa
Papua New Guinea	Vanuatu
Solomon Islands	Fiji
Kiribati	Tonga
Nauru	Cook Islands

There have been annual reports of progress for each of the islands. These also contain information on sea level change from other equipment covering many mother islands. There is an additional report from Niue. The latest reports can be seen at

<http://www.bom.gov.au/pacificsealevel/picreports.shtml>

A general write up of the project can be found at

http://www.bom.gov.au/pacificsealevel/presentations/briefing_paper_spslcmp_nov_2006.pdf

The attached graph appears in all of the reports and shows monthly changes at all of the SEAFRAME sites. (Not attached in this online version, see the link above.)

It is clear from this graph that there has been no change in sea level at any one of the sites since the start, which for most goes back to 1992. This is, surely, unequivocal.

Every record was interrupted in 1998 by a hurricane which gave a spurious low reading. I say spurious because I do not believe that the actual level of the sea fell at all, but the turbulence created by the hurricane around the measuring equipment prevented the establishment of a sensible average.

This event, has, however, been welcomed by the authors of each report and by all the politicians involved, because it enables the excuse to claim that it causes the desired upwards "trend" which is lovingly presented in all the reports. So everybody can claim that the sea level is actually rising, however slowly, so people might believe the absurd "projections" of the Climate modelists.

Cheers

Vincent Gray
Wellington

"To kill an error is as good a service as,
and sometimes better than,
the establishing of a new truth or fact"
Charles Darwin