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Subject: about a former Vice-Presiden,A.Gore, climatological adveture
Date: Monday, January 30, 2012 2:30:15 PM

About the interview

The following is the transcript of the live interview of Dr. Michael Rozengurt on the issue of global warming with Aleksandra Cokolovskaij of the weekly newspaper, Almanac "Panorama", Los Angeles. Later it was added by Robert Korotky, a special correspondent from Odessa, and reprinted in the International Marine Almanac "The Black Sea Rumby" (August 2010, Robert Korotky).

Date of interview: April 3, 2007

Mr. Gore, you are wrong!

Interviewer: ***Dr. Michael Rozengurt—Oceanographer and hydrologist has been a participant in many oceanographic and hydrological surveys of the Black, Azov, Caspian, and Mediterranean Seas, as well as of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. From 1978 he has been living and working on the west coast of California and today he is our guest***.

Interviewer: ***Michael, please share with us your scientific background and interests***.

Dr. Rozengurt: About 21 years I worked in the Institutions of Ukraine Academy of Sciences; authored three monographs and hundreds of scientific publications and reports, touching different effects of human activities on rivers' basins and dynamics of their continuum and gradual modification in connection with interactive relationship with coastal sea ecosystems. In the USA, since 1978, I had worked for private and public agencies, including San Francisco State University and the Department of Water Resources of California (as a consultant).

Interviewer: ***Did you teach in your new capacity?***

Dr. Rozengurt: Not much, in San Francisco State University I worked at its scientific laboratory at the Tiburon Center for Environmental Studies as a senior scientist. I had been directly involved in the studies of hydrological and biological impacts of human activities on the Sacramento–San Joaquin River Delta and other San Francisco Bay Area aquatic ecosystems with the support of the Marin County Foundation.

Interviewer: ***When you immigrated to the USA your English language was relatively acceptable?***

Dr. Rozengurt: No, but at my fourth day in the country I decided to take English classes at

the American Language Institute of San Francisco State University. The classes there went on for almost ten hours a day, it was difficult, but after four months I passed the exam that gave me the right to work at the university later on.

Interviewer: ***Michael, could you briefly describe the scale of your professional interest?***

Dr. Rozengurt: The scale of my studies of water resources in California was very much timely in terms of their effects on human populations and surrounding environments. Especially for the prognosis of situations which may take place in the near future and could affect local populations and local environments both qualitatively and quantitatively. I came to a conclusion that I needed to develop a new method of analysis of the behavior of river flows from a long term perspective. For this development I was working for the Department of Water Resources in California and other resource agencies. That is why I was very much intrigued by former Vice President Al Gore's book and film: **Inconvenient Truth**. Suffice to say, I saw the film several times and was surprised that Hollywood decided to take his word on these challenges despite the fact that Hollywood's competence on this most complicated question of the World over, i.e., climatology equals zero. That is why Gore's book, as well as his movie looks very much like that of a dilatant or a simple illiterate.

Interviewer: ***What didn't you like about the film?***

Dr. Rozengurt: I did not like the pathetic tone of tragedy, force-pumping distortion of the coming catastrophe, the unnatural scenes of destructions and inundation of cities. And the most important is the false message: if America does not take measures to solve the problem immediately, if it doesn't throw millions, billions of dollars to find a solution, the world will perish! This point of view has no grounds under it. This will be confirmed by any specialist in this field.

Interviewer: ***I think for my readers, they would like to get your point of view.***

Dr. Rozengurt: I am ready. As you know, Al Gore's report is based on a model of information which covers about 300 years. The report was deprived of professional analysis in modern statistical methods, and despite of that it proclaimed the last day of Pompeii awaits us in the near future. However, all events in nature go through phases and cycles and I, by the way, among many other scientists have researched these physics events by studying sun spot appearances on the sun's surface. It was found that on average seven to eight years of rising air temperature over the Earth substitutes the same number of years of receding temperatures. This is why the catastrophic warming, that Al Gore speculates, represents the part of natural rising phases of a cycle, which may explain the temporary global warming. This is a normal event that could be observed many times in correspondence with various climate changes.

Interviewer*: He is worried about the air quality of American metro regions, does not this problem exist*?

Dr. Rozengurt: This same problem exists in more severe ways in many European metro regions because in the United States more money is spent on air quality control, and its regulation.

Dr. Rozengurt: Yes, for example, in the center of Barcelona, Paris and London, air quality is a lot worse than that of Los Angeles. That was my personal observation during

my voyages in those cities.

Interviewer: ***So you reminded us of these cycles in nature, can you give us some examples?***

Dr. Rozengurt: For example, in the 1930s there was a global phase of warming, and in the Ukraine 5-6 million people starved to death due to the dry conditions caused by the drought. The United States also experienced a severe drought, which was known as the dust bowl era, crops were destroyed, and it was widely written about, including in the novel works of John Steinbeck, most notably the **Grapes of Wrath** where he even described cases of starvation in the US. Not to mention, the Northern hemisphere at large experienced a drought and disease outbreaks and epidemics were the norm.

What is most notable about this time is the lack of industrial infrastructure, nothing in common with today, i.e., far less motor vehicles, factories, plants and other pollution causing industries that release CO_2 and other gases. In this part of the Arctic Ocean polar bears ended up in the water without ice, but many did manage their survival at that time because it was a natural occurrence. Therefore, it is not worth to spend a lot of money on the type of project Al Gore is asking for.

There is a well-known Russian climatologist Michael Boudyko who wrote about the effects of solar activity on the Earth's climate and environment. But even before him, the great scientist professor Alexander Chizhevsky (1897-1964)[1], first demonstrated these solar phenomena through his famous book The Earthly Echo of Solar Storms. Here he investigated and described in his book and other monographs that sun spot activities affect Earth's climate in phases and cycles, also affecting the behavior of human beings and influencing the rate of epidemics. He demonstrated that we as a microcosm of the Universe are entirely in our lives beholden to the sun's activities.

The sun governs the current, the water supply, the temperature of the air, the ocean and the circulation of ocean water and air mass. This understanding was widely accepted and received already at the 1939 International Congress of Biophysics and Biocosmics. Unfortunately, Gore did not even mention these findings that later on were supported by many scientific publications. Instead he considered pathetically that man is responsible for everything.

But ice did not all of a sudden start melting –for it takes hundreds and hundreds of years, such as freezing takes hundreds of years. It is my humble opinion that all speculation about man's impact on global warming is talk related to money. Somebody wants the United States to pay for their sins in vain. Suffice it to say, the major cause is in the heavens, it will be rested upon time immemorial to decide our fate in these cooling and warming periods.

Interviewer*:* ***How would you describe sun spots?***

Dr. Rozengurt: Sun spots are a special formation whose origin is connected with protuberant blasts in the photosphere of the sun. They reach about 200,000 kilometers in diameter and can exist in average about 10 to 20 days. But the temperature in their body may be 2-5 times less than the temperature of the surrounding area. The sun spots were first described in the middle of the 18th century by the Swiss scientist Wolfe. The behavior

of solar spots are characterized by phases and cycles whose duration may go on for many years, during which magnetic hurricanes can be observed, resulting amongst other things in the ionization of atmosphere. This can affect many types of human activities, which can be only observed and changed by human intervention.

In order to speak about future catastrophes and try to prevent them, it is necessary to have a genuine picture of the world in which we live, and not only of the Earth, but of nearby outer space as well. We are tiny part of the universe, grain of dust and nothing more. And it would be extremely erroneous to believe that human activity in some way is what mainly influences the processes taking place in our atmosphere. Everything is determined by the Sun—the current of waters, the temperatures of air and oceans and the circulation of air masses. Therefore I take such a categorical position as far as the report of Gore is concerned. Nothing of the above-mentioned is taken into account! He thinks that we are responsible for everything that is atmospherically happening to us.

And of what value is the picture which he painted: all of a sudden the ice melts and water floods our cities? The ice doesn't melt in one minute! This process lasts for decades and the consequences are not felt at once. To my mind, all this rotates around the money. The country is being convinced to spend billions of dollars in order to prevent something, which may not happen at all. Therefore one can easily understand the Congress and the President, who are not in a hurry to support this fruitless initiative. One of the eruptions of a volcano like that of “Mount St. Helens,” which took place in 1980, surpassed the amount of exhaust gases produced by all the cars of the planet. The smoke, dust and gases rose to the upper layers of atmosphere and formed a tight screen for some months.

So, even if we create ecologically clean transport, we cannot be protected against pollution of air as a result of cataclysms beyond our control. When eruptions of volcanoes take place and this happens throughout the world, millions of tons of dust rise in the air. The effects of this were demonstrated by scientists of Kansas University who provide the data obtained from rings of a Sequoia tree trunk 250 years of age. Then there was a period of a 40 year drought, which resulted in massive death, but man as you can see, is not to be blamed for it. I want to state that the nature of cataclysms is a very well organized system, which has a cyclic character and it doesn't depend on us. It may easily mean that "The Biblical Flood" was not a myth, but reality, which ranks among such scrapes. I've read a lot of literature about this and many authors support the opinion that it was exactly so. One can believe that in billions of years the energy of the Sun will get exhausted and that it will be a very hard time for mankind. But to start collecting the money for that time looks like absurdity.

interviewer: What about the ozone hole? [2]

Dr. Rozengurt: There is a last argument of zealous defenders of the nature against the man's influence. Although, while the discussion was going on, while the search "Who's guilty?" and "What's to be done?" went on, the ozone hole closed down. Why? So far it's unknown. But, it is quite clear today that it is not our concern, at least not for our time of living. Cosmic processes occur on such a scale of time that their behavior is beyond our comprehension. Only dilettante may think that ozone hole was formed within a weekend due to the teamwork of all the refrigerators on the planet on Saturday and Sunday. This process and similar ones take millenniums to bring about the results. As for the hole, it was formed by itself without our interference, and it disappeared also without our

knowledge, despite the fact that the usage of Freon didn't decrease and nobody stopped using their refrigerators either.

We were also being scared that the ozone hole contributes to the development of cancer. The hole was discovered over the Antarctic continent more than ten years ago. Since that time there are many stations where Russian, American, Australian specialists are working and nobody developed a cancer yet within these years. Was it announced that there were many cases of cancer among the scientists working in the zone of the Ozone hole? No, it wasn't. And by the way, they regularly had undervent the medical tests.

Interviewer: Does it mean that the mankind is not able to help itself?

Dr. Rozengurt: Well, why not? We can and we do help ourselves. But we have to deal with the actual problems, which can be solved within the time of one generation. But we shouldn't be trying to prevent all possible future environmental catastrophes, i.e. ***reduction ad absurdum***. This is my opinion, though I do not pretend to say the last word or possess the final truth. But I like to emphasize that many well-known scientists have not supported Gore's ideas as the reasons of global warming as well as his prognosis on the matter.

In this regard, I think that any of Gore's attempts to speak about climatology are a bit illiterate and smell of politics. Note that today there are more important environmental and social aspects to discuss and study, namely the allocation of water resources, food supply, atomic energy production, the motion of asteroids in our direction and else.

Footnotes

1. Professor Alexander Chizhevsky (1897-1964)

He was one of the outstanding scientists, who at the beginning of the last century had studied the relation between the Sun spot activities and their effect on the Earth's environment.

On February 28th and on May 16th of 1939, the doctor Luis Boraile, the Chairman of the International Congress of Biophysicists and other specialists, sent from New-York two special letters. The first was an invitational letter to attend the First International Congress as follows: The American Society of Biophysics and Space-Biology to the Consul-General of the USSR.

East 61st Street, New York, USA. February 28, 1939.

Your Excellence,

International Congress of Biophysics and Biocosmics will take place on 11-17 of September of 1939, in New York. It will represent the gathering of scientists of almost all countries of the World, who devoted their work to the progress of biophysical and related sciences, concerning improvement of life conditions at Earth. In this regard, American Society of Biophysics and Organizational Committee of International Congress are would be honoured, if you, the professor A. L. Chizhevsky, are accepting from this year, the position of an honourable President. We'll be extremely grateful, if the Government of the USSR would wish to send the official delegates to our congress.

With Best Regards.

On the 16th of May was the second letter to the name of the professor Chizhevsky

We have the honor to inform You about this today and

to look forward to Your arrival in New-York in September this year.

By the time of the invitation the professor Chizhevsky was already well-known in the scientific world due to his research of solar-terrestrial relations and solar cycles, their influence onto the nature and the society as a whole. Beside the articles on these researches, which were translated into German, French and English languages, professor Chizhevsky published several books.

The most known became his books 1. Epidemical catastrophes and periodical activity of the Sun (1930) and 2. Physical factors of historical process: The effect of space factors upon the behaviour of organized human mass and the world historical process, beginning from fifth century before Christ and up to this time: Brief layout of research and theory (1924). The first book was published twice in the second half of the twentieth century under the title: **The Earthly Echo of Solar Storms**. As for the second one, it gave a pretext for accusing the professor that he was inclined towards astrology, which later, in the 1930s was officially prohibited in the country. Of course the professor was a scientist and he had similar relation to astrology, as the author of this article to the shamans. But such was the time!

In 1939 Alexander Chizhevsky didn't get permission to go to New York, and three years later he was arrested on the groundless accusation and exiled to the town of Karaganda (Kazakhstan). Professor Chizhevsky came back to Moscow in 1958 and was working as a scientific consultant till the 20th of December 1964, when he died.

2. Reprinted from Russian – American weekly **Almanac** "Panorama", and Russian International Almanac—"The Black Sea Rumby"