

2007

Andrew C. Revkin, The New York Times, on 2nd of October 2007,
"Arctic Melt Unnerves the Experts"
<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/10/02/science/earth/02arct.html>



The stark shrinking of the Arctic ice cap during summer 2007 was the article's concern, expressing –inter alias – the following:

___Over all, the floating ice dwindling to an extent unparallel in a century or more, by several estimates.

___One geologist summarized it in this way: "Our stock in trade seems be going away."

___Scientists are also unnerved by the summer's implications for the future, and their ability to predict it.

___Still, many of those scientists said they were becoming convinced that the system is heading towards a new, more watery state, and that human-caused global warming is playing a significant role.

___Other important factors were warm winds flowing from Serbia around a high-pressure system parked over the ocean.

**A HOT TOPIC at www.arctic-warming.com,
on 26th October 2007 commented as it follows:**

Recently the NYT journalist Andrew C. Revkin has elaborated the rapid decline of Arctic sea ice and found that the "Arctic Melt Unnerves the Experts". That needn't to be if more attention had been given to the extreme Arctic warming phase for two decades during the first half of the last Century.

Only few days ago WCR discussed the "Greenland Climate: Now vs. Then, Part I. Temperatures" (Subject to a 'Special Page' at this Chapter 6), before World War II because the island had been warm, presumably even warmer, than it is presently, wondering "that this fact seems largely ignored by alarmist scientists". The article demonstrates that within a few years in the early 1920s, the typical average temperature rose by about 2°C. This is an important finding, but "peanuts" in comparison to the warming of Spitsbergen.

The even more important question may be in which region the warming actually started and when. On one hand one needs warm water that the Golf Currents supply to the West coast of Spitsbergen, on the other hand one needs to take into account the prevailing sea-ice conditions from December to April, as shown in a graphic. Actually, the East coast of Greenland is largely cut off from the open sea during the winter season, while in the West of Spitsbergen the sea remains ice free high into the North. The brisk warming trend only started after the year 1920, while the warming at Spitsbergen to the year 1918, latest to Januarys 1919.

By now one can only hope that the early Arctic warming receives further attention, as the climate debate should be based on understanding why the Arctic climate changed suddenly only 90 years ago. It is not enough just to claim that it happened in due natural course, as WCR did on the 22nd of October 2007 when discussing Andrew C. Revkin article.