

LETTER BY PIERRE DUPUCH

When the Crystal Palace was being built, and I was a member of the House of Assembly, I condemned the building of one of the Crystal Palace Towers on the beach, one of the most beautiful beaches in The Bahamas. I said then that the building of such a structure on the beach would cause it to erode and would block the sun's rays for those enjoying the beach in the afternoon.

I was called foolish. After all, the Army Corps of Engineers had said it was ok. Furthermore, the developers had been required to deposit one million dollars, which would be used to restore the beach if by any chance they were wrong.

Years later the beach not only eroded but the tower built on the beach became unstable. A groin was extended across the beach to save the hotel but in the process further destroyed the beach. Before retiring from the House of Assembly, I pointed out the destruction and asked where the million-dollars to restore the beach was. The reply was, "what million-dollars?"

My conclusion was that it had either "gone South" or had never existed.

We now fast forward to today and Bahamar, which is funded by the China Export Import Bank. All their advertising has been that they were to remove the offensive structures and "restore the beach." On close scrutiny, however, one will find that they are in the process of "destroying" the beach, not "restoring" it.

It appears that they are now extending the groins into the sea and putting swimming pools where the beach once was. The high water mark was the Bahamian's last bastion to maintain access to our beaches; what they are now doing is eliminating the "high water mark" and thus closing access to the beach because it'll no longer be there.

The PLP will say that the FNM caused it; the FNM will say the PLP caused it. Who cares who caused it? It is happening and must be dealt with now.

Following is a letter I received concerning what is happening to Cable Beach. Please read it; absorb it; cry; and demand that your representative do something about it. Remember, this is our country that God gave us to hand onto our children. The foreigner is welcome to share it with us, but not to take it from us.