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COVER

Graphic representation of large-scale fluctuations in the ocean and atmosphere referred to as El Niño. The event is characterized by excessively warm ocean water (fourth panel) off the coast of Peru (second panel). During El Niño warm water accumulation is excessive, upwelling ceases completely, and large anchovy fishery (bottom panel) almost ceases. Coastal birds (middle panel), which depend on fish for food, die in large numbers. This natural catastrophe is linked to large-scale variations in the tropical atmosphere (upper panel). See Science, 2 January, page 22. [Design by W. C. Patzert, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, and Calvin Woo, HUMANGRAPHIC, San Diego.]