

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,000

Stranger Than Science.

2

00:00:05,000 --> 00:00:10,000

Incredible but true events that have baffled mankind since the day they happened.

3

00:00:10,000 --> 00:00:12,000

Narrated by Frank Edward.

4

00:00:12,000 --> 00:00:18,000

For half a century science has been recording strange radio beams from elsewhere in the universe.

5

00:00:18,000 --> 00:00:21,000

Are they signals from outer space?

6

00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:24,000

I'll have the full report for you in just a moment.

7

00:00:25,000 --> 00:00:35,000

Radio signals from outer space are not new, but they are just as mystifying today as they were when Marconi first picked them up more than 50 years ago.

8

00:00:35,000 --> 00:00:46,000

The father of wireless was conducting some experiments on his yacht in the Mediterranean when he detected signals which he regarded as code, meaningless to him.

9

00:00:46,000 --> 00:00:53,000

He instructed one of his coworkers to make a public statement on the matter at a scientific and business banquet in New York.

10

00:00:53,000 --> 00:01:00,000

Marconi's remarkable telegram was read, it created some headlines, and then was quietly dropped.

11

00:01:00,000 --> 00:01:12,000

Nikola Tesla, the famed Yugoslav electrical wizard, also reported receiving cryptic code signals which were most numerous and strong when the aerial was turned toward the planet Mars.

12

00:01:12,000 --> 00:01:18,000

Like Marconi, Tesla had no qualms about making a public report on his findings.

13

00:01:18,000 --> 00:01:23,000

If Mars was trying to reach us, these scientists felt that we should know about it.

14

00:01:23,000 --> 00:01:33,000

In 1924, engineers for RCA admitted that they too had picked up these mysterious chatterings, which did not fit the patterns of any known code,

15

00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:37,000

but which bore the earmarks of being intelligently conceived.

16

00:01:37,000 --> 00:01:41,000

The signals were recorded by RCA, discussed, then filed and forgotten.

17

00:01:41,000 --> 00:01:48,000

But they were suddenly recalled by a remarkable experience which befell the scientists in the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington.

18

00:01:48,000 --> 00:01:58,000

Scarcely more than a year after the RCA incident, the Naval Research experts were testing the Jenkins process while recording wireless signals on photographic film.

19

00:01:58,000 --> 00:02:04,000

Out of the ether came a weird chirping that made no sense in terms of intelligible code.

20

00:02:04,000 --> 00:02:08,000

But when the film was developed, the scientists were astounded at the results.

21

00:02:08,000 --> 00:02:18,000

Instead of recording as intermittent dots and dashes, the weird code had arrived in such a fashion that it was recorded in the form of faces,

22

00:02:18,000 --> 00:02:23,000

crude caricatures to be sure, but faces beyond the doubt.

23

00:02:23,000 --> 00:02:31,000

In 1926, the United States government financed a project which was designed to contact Mars by radio if possible.

24

00:02:31,000 --> 00:02:39,000

Scientists from Johns Hopkins University, aided by radio experts from both the Navy and the Signal Corps, selected a spot in Nebraska.

25

00:02:39,000 --> 00:02:46,000

There they spent hundreds of thousands of dollars constructing a powerful transmitter and delicate receiving steps.

26

00:02:46,000 --> 00:02:54,000

For two weeks they sent radio signals in the direction of Mars and waited hopefully for some indication that they had been heard.

27

00:02:54,000 --> 00:02:59,000

The net result, according to the official statement, was inconclusive.

28

00:02:59,000 --> 00:03:05,000

Thirty years later, great observatories all over the world were installing costly radio telescopes,

29

00:03:05,000 --> 00:03:09,000

huge metallic dishes that can be focused on individual planets.

30

00:03:09,000 --> 00:03:19,000

On June 4, 1956, the Naval Observatory in Washington announced that it had succeeded in making what it called the first radio contact with Venus,

31

00:03:19,000 --> 00:03:27,000

a contact which led them to believe that Venus had a surface temperature about equal to that of boiling water.

32

00:03:27,000 --> 00:03:37,000

Ohio State University reported that its radio astronomer, Dr. John Krauss, had used their radio telescope to receive two types of signals,

33

00:03:37,000 --> 00:03:46,000

including the Class II signals, which, said the university, have many of the characteristics of a terrestrial radio transmitting station.

34

00:03:46,000 --> 00:03:51,000

These signals, which Dr. Krauss said resembled radio telegraphy in many ways,

35

00:03:51,000 --> 00:03:59,000

were received only when the giant radio telescope at the university was trained precisely on Venus.

36

00:03:59,000 --> 00:04:04,000

One of the strangest, and perhaps one of the most significant of these bizarre broadcast incidents,

37

00:04:04,000 --> 00:04:13,000

occurred in England in 1953, when many television viewers were startled to see on their screens the station identification card

38

00:04:13,000 --> 00:04:19,000

and call letters of television station KLEE in Houston, Texas.

39

00:04:19,000 --> 00:04:25,000

The signals came in strongly throughout a large portion of the British Isles during two consecutive days,

40

00:04:25,000 --> 00:04:31,000

and many viewers recorded the freak broadcast by photographing the picture on their television sets.

41

00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:38,000

Notified of the unusual reception, the British broadcast engineers had no difficulty picking up the same signal.

42

00:04:38,000 --> 00:04:44,000

Now freak long-range television pickups are rather more common than most viewers realize,

43

00:04:44,000 --> 00:04:52,000

and the British authorities attached no unusual significance to the reception of KLEE until they contacted the Texas station.

44

00:04:52,000 --> 00:04:54,000

Then they got a real shock.

45

00:04:54,000 --> 00:04:57,000

KLEE went off the air in 1950.

46

00:04:57,000 --> 00:05:07,000

The successor to KLEE notified the British that no KLEE identification card had been televised at any time since 1950,

47

00:05:07,000 --> 00:05:11,000

three years before the picture was picked up in Britain.

48

00:05:11,000 --> 00:05:17,000

The officials in Britain ruled out the possibility that it could have been a pointless practical joke,

49

00:05:17,000 --> 00:05:20,000

which would have cost at least \$100,000 to perpetrate.

50

00:05:20,000 --> 00:05:22,000

Where did the signal come from?

51

00:05:22,000 --> 00:05:25,000

Why was it being only to the British Isles?

52

00:05:25,000 --> 00:05:29,000

The chief engineer for the British Broadcasting Company said,

53

00:05:29,000 --> 00:05:34,000

Our investigation leaves us with but one possibility, however incredible,

54

00:05:34,000 --> 00:05:43,000

that these signals were transmitted to us purposefully and intelligently from a source and for a purpose presently unknown.