

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:29,960

What was the sea monster that attacked and mauled this American warship?

2

00:00:29,960 --> 00:00:39,280

Did a giant octopus as big as Piccadilly Circus come ashore on this beach?

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00:00:39,280 --> 00:00:44,600

Did the legendary serpent of the sea appear to this Cornish fisherman?

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00:00:44,600 --> 00:00:47,120

Out come the air about three feet away from the body.

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00:00:47,120 --> 00:00:48,120

How'd he look at us?

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00:00:48,120 --> 00:00:53,800

I was hoping it didn't look away and he just disappeared.

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00:00:53,800 --> 00:00:59,640

Mysteries from the files of Arthur C. Clarke, author of 2001 and inventor of the communications

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00:00:59,640 --> 00:01:00,640

satellite.

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00:01:00,640 --> 00:01:05,840

Now in retreat in Sri Lanka after a lifetime of science, space and writing, he ponders

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00:01:05,840 --> 00:01:08,960

the riddles of this and other worlds.

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00:01:08,960 --> 00:01:15,120

I'm standing in front of my bungalow on the extreme southern tip of Sri Lanka.

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00:01:15,120 --> 00:01:20,600

Just over a hundred years ago, according to the London Times, which is not prone to sensational

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00:01:20,600 --> 00:01:28,840

reporting, a schooner, the pearl, of 150 tons sailed from Gaul harbour, which is the next

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00:01:28,840 --> 00:01:31,400

bay to here.

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00:01:31,400 --> 00:01:38,520

That schooner sailed past here into the Bay of Bengal and there she was attacked and

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00:01:38,520 --> 00:01:41,920

sunk by a giant squid.

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00:01:41,920 --> 00:01:47,880

This was observed from a P&O liner which rescued some of the survivors from the schooner.

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00:01:47,880 --> 00:01:54,440

It's an incredible story, but when one considers the enormous amount of unexplored ocean, there

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00:01:54,440 --> 00:02:01,240

are 6,000 miles of empty sea from here to the icy walls of Antarctica.

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00:02:01,240 --> 00:02:07,720

One can believe that out there lurked unknown and perhaps gigantic monsters still unknown

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00:02:07,720 --> 00:02:08,520

to science.

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00:02:24,440 --> 00:02:44,960

The late Lieutenant Ari Grimani Cox was returning home to England in 1942 when he encountered

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00:02:44,960 --> 00:02:50,480

one of the Second World War's most nightmarish sea stories.

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00:02:50,480 --> 00:02:56,280

His troopship was sunk by a German raider in the South Atlantic.

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00:02:56,280 --> 00:03:00,520

Cox found himself on a fragile raft beset by sharks.

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00:03:00,520 --> 00:03:04,040

After five days came a sinister assault.

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00:03:04,040 --> 00:03:07,960

Cox showed the evidence later to a friend.

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00:03:07,960 --> 00:03:13,160

When I looked at his leg, he pulled up his trousers and I could see scars the size of

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00:03:13,160 --> 00:03:18,920

a penny, which is about an inch and a quarter of the old penny, were dotted at intervals

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00:03:18,920 --> 00:03:19,920

all the way up his leg.

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00:03:19,920 --> 00:03:27,280

And his white scars sunk quite deep into the flesh where the skin had been pulled off.

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00:03:27,280 --> 00:03:33,120

Before he died in 1971, Cox told the story to his sisters as well as to his friend, a

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00:03:33,120 --> 00:03:35,200

biologist Professor Clowdsley Thompson.

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00:03:35,200 --> 00:03:37,600

Yes, he didn't show me that.

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00:03:37,600 --> 00:03:38,600

He did that.

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00:03:38,600 --> 00:03:42,160

Well, he was you and his sisters.

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00:03:42,160 --> 00:03:44,160

And this was in the mess.

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00:03:44,160 --> 00:03:50,880

There were 12 of them on the raft initially and only three survived to the end of the

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00:03:50,880 --> 00:03:51,880

five days.

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00:03:51,880 --> 00:03:56,920

And one of the most horrifying things that happened while they were lying there, dying

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00:03:56,920 --> 00:04:06,160

one by one from thirst was one evening when they were attacked by giant squid.

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00:04:06,160 --> 00:04:12,800

An enormous shape appeared beside the raft and a huge arm came over and snatched one

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00:04:12,800 --> 00:04:17,200

of the men and tore him off the raft before anybody could do anything to save him.

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00:04:17,200 --> 00:04:22,000

And presumably he was eaten and they were still barely recovering from the shock of

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00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:23,000

this.

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00:04:23,000 --> 00:04:27,760

When another arm or tentacle came over the side of the raft, he'd saw it slid against

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00:04:27,760 --> 00:04:35,640

the starlit sky and it fastened itself on him around his leg and around his body, particularly

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00:04:35,640 --> 00:04:39,280

his right leg because that's where the scars mainly were that he showed me.

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00:04:39,280 --> 00:04:42,520

But I believe he said they were on the rest of his body as well.

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00:04:42,520 --> 00:04:45,400

And he'd have been pulled off just like the others.

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00:04:45,400 --> 00:04:49,880

Only fortunately by that time people were alert and so they grabbed on and held him.

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00:04:49,880 --> 00:04:54,520

And instead of him being pulled over the side, the circus pulled lumps of skin off his body.

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00:04:54,520 --> 00:05:06,080

And this is what caused these massive number of scars all over him.

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00:05:06,080 --> 00:05:13,680

On her maiden voyage out of San Diego, the US Navy frigate Stein also had a weird encounter.

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00:05:13,680 --> 00:05:18,280

The Stein's anti-submarine sonar gear suddenly went US unserviceable.

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00:05:18,280 --> 00:05:20,440

She sailed home.

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00:05:20,440 --> 00:05:25,120

Once the family reunions were over and the ship was in dry dock, Petty Officer Ira Carpenter

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00:05:25,120 --> 00:05:28,360

went down to examine the underwater dome.

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00:05:28,360 --> 00:05:39,280

We noticed that there were some quite long scratches starting from the front and the

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00:05:39,280 --> 00:05:42,960

side and down underneath the dome itself.

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00:05:42,960 --> 00:05:47,200

The longest one I would say was about four feet long.

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00:05:47,200 --> 00:05:54,520

At the bottom of each one of these cuts, or at least 90% of the cuts, was something embedded

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00:05:54,520 --> 00:05:59,080

underneath the rubber coating itself.

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00:05:59,080 --> 00:06:01,280

Of course I was interested in determining what that was.

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00:06:01,280 --> 00:06:05,520

I had never seen anything like this before.

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00:06:05,520 --> 00:06:09,000

This type of damage was brand new to me.

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00:06:09,000 --> 00:06:16,520

So I used my knife to pick out this foreign object underneath the no file coating.

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00:06:16,520 --> 00:06:19,280

And it looked to me like it was a claw.

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00:06:19,280 --> 00:06:23,240

And I quipped to my SW officer at the time and said, look here.

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00:06:23,240 --> 00:06:29,680

It looks like we have been attacked by a bunch of small alligators.

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00:06:29,680 --> 00:06:31,320

Navy biologist F.G. Wood.

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00:06:31,320 --> 00:06:37,840

This is a small piece of the no file covering that was taken from the sonar dome of this

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00:06:37,840 --> 00:06:39,240

ship.

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00:06:39,240 --> 00:06:46,080

In many of these cuts were found teeth or claws such as this one.

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00:06:46,080 --> 00:06:53,120

And it's apparent that whatever did this damage grasped the dome and ripped all the way through

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00:06:53,120 --> 00:06:56,680

this rubber covering to the metal below.

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00:06:56,680 --> 00:07:05,760

The claw looked like it had been wrenched out of whatever had put it there.

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00:07:05,760 --> 00:07:12,640

I think that it must be from a squid because squids do have claws or hooks.

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00:07:12,640 --> 00:07:20,200

Similar to this, nothing else that is known in the ocean has structures of this kind.

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00:07:20,200 --> 00:07:25,160

This doesn't rule out something that we haven't found yet because undoubtedly there are creatures

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00:07:25,160 --> 00:07:30,600

in the sea that are not yet known to science.

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00:07:30,600 --> 00:07:35,880

The stein has since remained unscathed.

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00:07:35,880 --> 00:07:41,280

But although no full grown giant squid has ever been caught, a hint of what such creatures

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00:07:41,280 --> 00:07:47,560

may be like seems to surface oddly about every 30 years in the far north, in the cold waters

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00:07:47,560 --> 00:07:49,760

of the Labrador current.

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00:07:49,760 --> 00:07:55,200

This is St. John's Newfoundland, the wartime convoy base on Canada's Atlantic coast and

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00:07:55,200 --> 00:08:02,560

headquarters for Dr. Frederick Aldrich and his team.

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00:08:02,560 --> 00:08:07,280

This is a giant squid of the species Architeuthis Dux.

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00:08:07,280 --> 00:08:12,960

It came ashore on November the 22nd, 1979, as in Brendon's on Collier's Island in Bonavista

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00:08:12,960 --> 00:08:13,960

Bay, Newfoundland.

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00:08:14,480 --> 00:08:16,120

It's an immature female.

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00:08:16,120 --> 00:08:21,000

It is a small female, but it is a giant squid.

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00:08:21,000 --> 00:08:26,440

During World War II, as ships would leave the harbor, they would be torpedoed by submarines

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00:08:26,440 --> 00:08:31,160

and when the survivors would go over the sides and hit the life rafts, giant squid would

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00:08:31,160 --> 00:08:39,280

surface, pull them off of the rafts and take them to their deaths under the surface.

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00:08:39,280 --> 00:08:45,280

I cannot help but speculate that what we know about squid and its attraction to red,

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00:08:45,280 --> 00:08:52,600

I just wonder if the red life jacket of the traditional May West life jacket might not

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00:08:52,600 --> 00:08:57,680

have been a contributing factor in the death of those seamen.

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00:08:57,680 --> 00:09:02,920

These are typical suckers on an arm of a giant squid and you'll see that in addition to

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00:09:02,920 --> 00:09:11,280

the suction cup, each sucker is fitted with a ring of teeth so that when this sucker is

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00:09:11,280 --> 00:09:20,240

applied to either prey or predator, these teeth are set and anchored into the flesh

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00:09:20,240 --> 00:09:26,360

at the same time that the suction cup makes contact with the flesh of the other animal.

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00:09:26,360 --> 00:09:33,360

The entrance to the mouth is guarded by these large beaks, much like the beaks of a parrot

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00:09:33,360 --> 00:09:38,440

and they tear pieces off of the prey or the predator as the case may be.

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00:09:38,440 --> 00:09:45,480

The tongues and the lips of sperm whales bear sucker scars which are approximately 12 inches

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00:09:45,480 --> 00:09:47,480

in diameter.

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00:09:47,480 --> 00:09:53,920

I believe that giant squid reach an approximate maximum size of something like 150 feet.

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00:09:53,920 --> 00:10:01,560

If this is 20 feet long, well then it's almost eight times longer than this in overall length

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00:10:01,560 --> 00:10:07,320

and that's a big squid.

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00:10:07,320 --> 00:10:13,400

Now that we know that the giant squid is attracted to red, I'm making sure that my equipment

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00:10:13,400 --> 00:10:16,880

is an appropriate color, yellow.

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00:10:16,880 --> 00:10:22,840

Whatever size giant squid may reach, it does now seem that there really are giant octopuses

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00:10:22,840 --> 00:10:27,480

and that this man, Professor Joseph Genaro of New York University, has evidence that

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00:10:27,480 --> 00:10:32,200

one came ashore on this Florida beach in 1896.

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00:10:32,200 --> 00:10:37,040

It was a local doctor, DeWitt Webb, who took charge of the carcass at Anastasia Beach, St.

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00:10:37,040 --> 00:10:38,040

Augustine.

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00:10:38,040 --> 00:10:43,080

He and his helpers had to use four horses plus three sets of blocks and tackle to move

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00:10:43,080 --> 00:10:50,480

the body six tons or more up the beach.

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00:10:50,480 --> 00:10:58,200

The mere stump of the one remaining tentacle was truly awesome, 32 feet long.

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00:10:58,200 --> 00:11:03,000

Perhaps an effective example of the size of the octopus which might be represented by

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00:11:03,000 --> 00:11:09,600

Webb's find would be to first look at the common octopus in this position and realize

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00:11:09,600 --> 00:11:18,000

that Webb's octopus would actually stretch tip to tip from here to the red car up the

123

00:11:18,000 --> 00:11:20,200

beach.

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00:11:20,200 --> 00:11:26,160

Part of the material eventually landed in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.

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00:11:26,160 --> 00:11:32,560

And all that remains of the octopus of the deep is this piece of tissue.

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00:11:32,560 --> 00:11:42,280

Notice that it is sinewy and fibrous in its structure, something in the nature of beef

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00:11:42,280 --> 00:11:44,160

or soup meat.

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00:11:44,160 --> 00:11:51,240

When I examined these tissues, I found that that pattern looked at in the polarizing light

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00:11:51,240 --> 00:11:57,000

of the polarizing microscope was most similar to that of the true octopus.

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00:11:57,000 --> 00:12:06,600

All this gives me strong reason to believe that what Dr. Webb found was indeed a gigantic

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00:12:06,600 --> 00:12:11,040

specimen of octopus.

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00:12:11,040 --> 00:12:15,480

Almost every year surprising discoveries are made in the ocean.

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00:12:15,480 --> 00:12:23,840

As recently as 1976, the U.S. Navy accidentally dredged up a totally unknown and quite large

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00:12:23,840 --> 00:12:29,560

shark, the ferocious looking mega mouth weighing almost a ton.

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00:12:29,560 --> 00:12:35,160

And for centuries there have been reports of the so-called Great Sea Serpent.

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00:12:35,160 --> 00:12:42,000

Stories of captains have recorded such sightings in their ship's logs.

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00:12:42,000 --> 00:12:46,920

And no skipper makes an entry in his log without a very good reason.

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00:12:46,920 --> 00:12:51,920

This happened to a Norwegian ship, and this was the monster reported by HMS Daedalus.

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00:12:51,920 --> 00:12:56,320

The crew of the city of Baltimore saw the head of a serpent in the Gulf of Aden, and

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00:12:56,320 --> 00:13:02,880

the bow sprit of the British banner was chewed up by a serpent in 1860.

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00:13:02,880 --> 00:13:07,200

The only systematic attempt to analyze reports of the sea serpent has been launched by two

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00:13:07,200 --> 00:13:11,520

Canadian scientists, John Seybert and Paul Leblanc.

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00:13:11,520 --> 00:13:14,640

They've concentrated on the coastal waters off Vancouver.

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00:13:14,640 --> 00:13:16,040

Dozens of sightings were reported.

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00:13:16,040 --> 00:13:31,080

There were at least 25 of them who would describe species not really known to marine biology.

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00:13:31,080 --> 00:13:36,440

Seybert, a 30 minute flight north of Vancouver, is the location of yet another report needing

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00:13:36,440 --> 00:13:37,440

investigation.

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00:13:37,440 --> 00:13:57,160

A local boy, John Andrews, was fishing off a pier when his sighting occurred.

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00:13:57,160 --> 00:13:59,440

Could you tell us exactly what it looked like?

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00:13:59,440 --> 00:14:05,280

I guess it looked pretty much like a long snake-like thing with fins on it.

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00:14:05,280 --> 00:14:10,440

And at first sight of it, I saw a head about a foot and a half long, about eight, nine

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00:14:10,440 --> 00:14:19,440

inches wide, and it had large cat-like eyes, and they reflected light like a cat, and they

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00:14:19,440 --> 00:14:21,120

could move in opposite directions.

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00:14:21,120 --> 00:14:22,680

One was looking at me and one at the bottom.

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00:14:22,680 --> 00:14:29,360

And then I noticed that it was the thickness of my thigh, almost foot around.

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00:14:29,360 --> 00:14:30,360

The body of the animal?

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00:14:30,360 --> 00:14:31,360

Yeah.

158

00:14:31,360 --> 00:14:34,360

Yeah, the body itself.

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00:14:34,360 --> 00:14:39,920

And it was after it had swam underneath me, I noticed that it was probably about 40 or

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00:14:39,920 --> 00:14:40,920

50 feet long.

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00:14:40,920 --> 00:14:41,920

Did it have fins?

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00:14:41,920 --> 00:14:49,520

Yeah, it had two in the front, two in the back, and it swam undulated like up and down

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00:14:49,520 --> 00:14:51,720

instead of side to side.

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00:14:51,720 --> 00:14:53,800

And it swam right under me.

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00:14:53,800 --> 00:14:56,120

It's difficult to say what kind of creature John saw.

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00:14:56,120 --> 00:15:00,960

It certainly doesn't match well with any kind of known mammal or any kind of known fish,

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00:15:00,960 --> 00:15:02,120

for that matter.

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00:15:02,120 --> 00:15:09,400

The long snake-like body suggests that it's not a mammal, but its up and down undulation

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00:15:09,400 --> 00:15:12,080

motion is typically mammalian.

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00:15:12,080 --> 00:15:16,520

We found that there were about three main categories of strange animals which had been

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00:15:16,520 --> 00:15:17,520

reported.

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00:15:17,520 --> 00:15:22,880

One of them was serpentine, of the kind that John Andrews described to us.

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00:15:22,880 --> 00:15:28,120

There was another one with a long neck and rather coarse hair of like coconut fibers,

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00:15:28,120 --> 00:15:31,040

as it was described by one witness.

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00:15:31,040 --> 00:15:38,200

And a third category also had a long neck, but was sometimes mentioned to have a mane,

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00:15:38,200 --> 00:15:43,400

and sometimes also mentioned to have horns, with a head looking like that of a sheep or

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00:15:43,400 --> 00:15:52,800

like that of a giraffe.

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00:15:52,800 --> 00:15:59,440

None of the witnesses in the survey were professional artists, but it's clear enough from the drawings

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00:15:59,440 --> 00:16:05,880

in their questionnaires what they thought they saw.

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00:16:05,880 --> 00:16:10,000

This is John Andrews' sketch of his sighting.

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00:16:10,000 --> 00:16:17,320

Margaret Stout saw this in 1961, and David Miller saw this creature off Discovery Island.

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00:16:17,320 --> 00:16:23,720

But it may be that the body of such a sea monster has fallen into the hands of man.

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00:16:23,720 --> 00:16:29,240

In September 1977, this Japanese fishing boat was off the east coast of New Zealand when

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00:16:29,240 --> 00:16:32,880

it trawled up in its nets a mystifying carcass.

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00:16:32,880 --> 00:16:37,960

The Japanese TV networks were excited enough to helicopter teams out o' the South Pacific

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00:16:37,960 --> 00:16:51,080

and winch their reporters down onto the ship at sea.

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00:16:51,080 --> 00:16:56,560

On the deck of the Zuyo Maru, the skipper talked to journalists.

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00:16:56,560 --> 00:17:02,760

On April 25th at about 10.30, we noticed something big caught in the nets.

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00:17:02,760 --> 00:17:06,480

It was a red, fleshy object which smelled very strongly.

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00:17:06,480 --> 00:17:11,520

I didn't know what it was, so I went for my camera and flash gun.

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00:17:11,520 --> 00:17:15,080

Sadly, the body itself was afterwards thrown back.

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00:17:15,080 --> 00:17:20,520

But early in 1980, one of the world's leading fisheries experts, Professor Fujio Yasuda,

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00:17:20,520 --> 00:17:26,640

arrived for a conference in London with such evidence as remains.

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00:17:26,640 --> 00:17:32,320

This is all the evidence about the unknown creature, dredged from the sea by the Zuyo

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00:17:32,320 --> 00:17:38,400

Maru off New Zealand on the 25th of April 1977.

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00:17:38,400 --> 00:17:43,080

These photographs were taken by Mr. Yano of Taiyo Fisheries.

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00:17:43,080 --> 00:17:47,960

The real half of the body was rotten and dropped off.

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00:17:47,960 --> 00:17:56,480

As you can see in this photograph, the surface of the body is covered with a fat-like substance.

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00:17:56,480 --> 00:18:06,520

This is the drawing made by Mr. Yano after measuring the creature.

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00:18:06,520 --> 00:18:14,000

I can't think of any known fish which has this shape.

201

00:18:14,000 --> 00:18:23,320

I can't tell what this creature is, but I assure you that it is completely unknown to us.

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00:18:23,320 --> 00:18:26,960

But sea monsters don't only materialize in the remote oceans.

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00:18:26,960 --> 00:18:31,960

In 1976, just 30 miles off the lizard in Cornwall, two fishermen George Vinnicombe and

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00:18:31,960 --> 00:18:33,960

John Cox also met a monster.

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00:18:33,960 --> 00:18:41,560

Well, at once, teaming 30 miles off, 25 to 30 miles off, saw what I thought was an upturned

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00:18:41,560 --> 00:18:43,760

boat on the horizon.

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00:18:43,760 --> 00:18:46,160

So we went over to investigate.

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00:18:46,160 --> 00:18:50,160

When we got closer, we could see it wasn't an upturned boat.

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00:18:51,000 --> 00:18:54,000

Well, neither was seen before.

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00:18:54,000 --> 00:19:00,000

It was dark in color and had sort of humps on the back.

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00:19:00,000 --> 00:19:08,000

I should say it was between 15 and 18 feet in length and rising above the sea about 3 feet.

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00:19:08,000 --> 00:19:11,000

It was a flat, calm day.

213

00:19:11,000 --> 00:19:13,000

There was no disturbance on the sea at all.

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00:19:13,000 --> 00:19:20,000

When we got up closer, a little closer, I came a stern, a bar of management up.

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00:19:20,000 --> 00:19:26,840

After water, about 3 feet from this body, head appeared out of the water.

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00:19:26,840 --> 00:19:33,840

And it was a thing I've never seen before, after about 40 years of sea.

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00:19:33,840 --> 00:19:37,840

And it gradually sank in the water and disappeared.

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00:19:37,840 --> 00:19:42,840

But after talking about it, the only thing we could explain it was it was one of the

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00:19:42,840 --> 00:19:44,840

very much like a prehistoric animal.

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00:19:44,840 --> 00:19:49,840

The whole thing I suppose would have weighed several tons.

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00:19:49,840 --> 00:19:53,840

And equal in size, I should think the boat we were in.

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00:19:53,840 --> 00:19:57,840

The boat was certainly 2 feet long.

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00:19:57,840 --> 00:20:06,840

Although whales and many sea creatures occasionally come ashore, there seem to be few records of a stranded sea monster.

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00:20:06,840 --> 00:20:13,840

One of the most celebrated, however, occurred in 1808 beneath the cliffs of the island of Stronsa in Orkney.

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00:20:13,840 --> 00:20:19,840

Precise drawings were made of the Stronsa beast at the time and its dimensions were carefully measured.

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00:20:19,840 --> 00:20:26,840

More than 50 witnesses swore to what they had seen.

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00:20:26,840 --> 00:20:36,840

Today, among the other exotic exhibits at the Royal Scottish Museum in Edinburgh, is a piece of the backbone of the Stronsa beast.

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00:20:36,840 --> 00:20:40,840

It's now in the care of Dr. Jeff Swinney.

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00:20:40,840 --> 00:20:44,840

This was an animal which was described as being some 55 feet long.

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00:20:44,840 --> 00:20:51,840

It was described as having a mane of hair running down the full length of the back, a tiny little head, a long neck.

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00:20:51,840 --> 00:21:05,840

And many of the eyewitnesses, all the eyewitnesses who gave evidence on what they saw of this monster, quite reasonably interpreted this as being a totally new beast,

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00:21:05,840 --> 00:21:08,840

a creature that they were completely unfamiliar with.

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00:21:08,840 --> 00:21:21,840

Well, in the December of 1977, I was fortunate enough in being able to examine a beast which was stranded on the shore of the Tay near Carnousty.

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00:21:21,840 --> 00:21:25,840

These are the vertebrae of that animal, a basking shark.

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00:21:25,840 --> 00:21:34,840

And I think the inevitable conclusion is that the animal which was stranded in Stronsa, in the Orkneys, was a basking shark.

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00:21:34,840 --> 00:21:42,840

What tends to happen when a basking shark dies and the carcass rots is that the cartilages which are supporting the snout here tend to drop away.

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00:21:42,840 --> 00:21:51,840

So these go, the snout goes, the large area here which contains the gill tissues falls away.

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00:21:51,840 --> 00:21:53,840

So all that lot goes.

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00:21:53,840 --> 00:22:01,840

And what we're left with is a small skull in this region on a long vertebrae, a long vertebral column here,

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00:22:01,840 --> 00:22:05,840

which tends to give the appearance of a very small headed creature with a long neck.

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00:22:05,840 --> 00:22:09,840

The fins tend to fray out.

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00:22:12,840 --> 00:22:20,840

And in the case of a male, another set of what might appear to be limbs would be in this region here.

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00:22:20,840 --> 00:22:22,840

And the lower lobe of the tail tends to fall away.

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00:22:22,840 --> 00:22:28,840

So what we're left with is this small headed, long necked creature with this long tapering body.

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00:22:31,840 --> 00:22:36,840

But a rotting basking shark certainly doesn't explain the beast with great teeth.

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00:22:36,840 --> 00:22:44,840

The basking sharks are tiny, which came ashore also in Scotland at Gourac on the River Clyde in 1942.

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00:22:44,840 --> 00:22:47,840

Being wartime, the Royal Navy wouldn't permit photographs.

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00:22:47,840 --> 00:22:52,840

And finally, the beast was taken to the grounds of the municipal incinerator.

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00:22:52,840 --> 00:22:58,840

On the orders of the Barras-Aveir Charles Rankin, it was chopped up and buried under what is now the football pitch

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00:22:58,840 --> 00:23:02,840

of St Nenian's Roman Catholic primary school, Gourac.

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00:23:02,840 --> 00:23:03,840

Mr. Rankin.

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00:23:03,840 --> 00:23:11,840

I can't see that this carcass was a rotting basking shark.

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00:23:11,840 --> 00:23:16,840

In the first place, this animal showed no signs of rotting.

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00:23:16,840 --> 00:23:19,840

It was an absolutely complete unmarked.

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00:23:19,840 --> 00:23:27,840

The monster measured approximately 28 feet from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail.

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00:23:27,840 --> 00:23:33,840

The body, as it lay in the ground, was approximately 5 to 6 feet deep.

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00:23:33,840 --> 00:23:40,840

The body could be described as having three parts, the body, the neck and the tail,

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00:23:40,840 --> 00:23:46,840

and the neck and tail tapered very gradually away from the body.

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00:23:46,840 --> 00:23:54,840

The animal had teeth, about perhaps that size, and on both jaws.

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00:23:54,840 --> 00:24:02,840

In the stomach of the creature was a small portion of what I took to be a semen's jersey.

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00:24:02,840 --> 00:24:09,840

It was an open-knitted portion of some knitted material.

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00:24:09,840 --> 00:24:20,840

And the other thing, strangely enough, was the corner of what can be described as an old-fashioned tablecloth,

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00:24:20,840 --> 00:24:28,840

and it was complete with tassels.

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00:24:28,840 --> 00:24:35,840

The evidence for still unknown sea monsters is almost overwhelming.

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00:24:35,840 --> 00:24:41,840

As for the Great Sea Serpent, it too probably exists, except that it may not be a serpent,

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00:24:41,840 --> 00:24:46,840

and there may be several different types of animal involved.

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00:24:46,840 --> 00:24:50,840

The solution to this old mystery may come quite soon.

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00:24:50,840 --> 00:24:55,840

At this moment, the two greatest powers on Earth are trying to develop sonar systems,

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00:24:55,840 --> 00:25:02,840

which will make the seas transparent so they can track each other's nuclear submarines.

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00:25:02,840 --> 00:25:07,840

Those systems will locate the sea serpent if it exists.

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00:25:07,840 --> 00:25:14,840

Indeed, at this moment, the evidence for its existence may be somewhere in the Pentagon or the Kremlin.

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00:25:16,840 --> 00:25:22,840

The evidence for its existence may be somewhere in the Pentagon or the Kremlin.

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00:25:22,840 --> 00:25:28,840

The evidence for its existence may be somewhere in the Pentagon or the Kremlin.

274

00:25:28,840 --> 00:25:34,840

The evidence for its existence may be somewhere in the Pentagon or the Kremlin.

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00:25:34,840 --> 00:25:40,840

The evidence for its existence may be somewhere in the Pentagon or the Kremlin.

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00:25:40,840 --> 00:25:45,840

The Extraordinary Wisdom of the Ancients