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

A mysterious craft rises out of the jungle.

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

Some say it's some of the best footage of UAP they've ever seen.

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00:00:09,000 --> 00:00:14,000

Does its weird behavior give away the secrets of UFO engineering?

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00:00:14,000 --> 00:00:20,000

The reason that we would see these objects tilting is because there was an anti-gravity pocket

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00:00:20,000 --> 00:00:23,000

that they would need to tilt into before they travel.

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00:00:23,000 --> 00:00:29,000

When Russians fight aliens, there can only be one winner.

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00:00:29,000 --> 00:00:36,000

Witnesses claim that the soldiers were not just killed but petrified as in literally turned to stone.

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00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:42,000

If this really happened, there are weapons out there far more terrifying than atomic bombs.

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00:00:42,000 --> 00:00:47,000

And what lurks beneath the waters of UFO Island?

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00:00:47,000 --> 00:00:52,000

Catalina Island has a rightful claim to being one of the weirdest places in America.

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00:00:52,000 --> 00:00:58,000

One former commander commented that it was so top secret they couldn't even tell their wives about it.

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00:00:58,000 --> 00:01:03,000

Others have implied this is some kind of alien UFO base.

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00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:09,000

UFOs, once the stuff of science fiction, now caught on camera.

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00:01:09,000 --> 00:01:14,000

Finally forcing governments to reveal what they know.

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00:01:14,000 --> 00:01:20,000

UAPs aren't unexplained, but they are real.

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00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:23,000

Many of these phenomena have been cited in training ranges.

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00:01:23,000 --> 00:01:26,000

We're very much concerned about safety of flight.

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00:01:26,000 --> 00:01:33,000

So let's just speculate for one moment that these things, whatever they are, are here to do not very good things.

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00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:40,000

Impossible engineering, terrifying encounters, sinister cover-ups.

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00:01:40,000 --> 00:01:45,000

This is evidence of the unexplained.

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00:01:57,000 --> 00:02:03,000

November 22nd 2007, Costa Rica.

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00:02:03,000 --> 00:02:10,000

A 35 year old man is working on a house in Tarbaca, half an hour from the capital San Jose.

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00:02:10,000 --> 00:02:18,000

Marvin Badiya is working on a table outside when he hears a loud buzzing noise.

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00:02:18,000 --> 00:02:22,000

William, William, William, William.

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00:02:22,000 --> 00:02:27,000

He sees this disc hovering in the sky and films it.

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00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:29,000

William.

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00:02:29,000 --> 00:02:32,000

Looks totally out of place.

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00:02:32,000 --> 00:02:39,000

The object's surface appears white, but Badiya says it had a texture similar to polished aluminium.

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00:02:39,000 --> 00:02:44,000

It appears to be spinning or rotating.

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00:02:44,000 --> 00:02:50,000

Some say it's some of the best footage of UAP they've ever seen.

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00:02:50,000 --> 00:02:54,000

The film has been thoroughly examined and confirmed as authentic.

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00:02:54,000 --> 00:02:58,000

This object is not CGI.

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00:02:58,000 --> 00:03:04,000

It has no identifiable propulsion, exhaust or traditional aerodynamics.

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00:03:04,000 --> 00:03:09,000

As far as we know, nothing that flies like this exists.

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00:03:09,000 --> 00:03:15,000

But what really excites UFO investigators are the very last frames of the footage.

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00:03:15,000 --> 00:03:19,000

The craft makes a peculiar manoeuvre as it leaves the frame.

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00:03:19,000 --> 00:03:26,000

What's really interesting is the UFO tilt as it flies away.

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00:03:26,000 --> 00:03:36,000

This tilting movement seems to confirm a claim by one of the most controversial figures in the UFO world, Bob Lazar.

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00:03:36,000 --> 00:03:42,000

Bob Lazar is one of the most notorious characters in the history of UFOs.

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00:03:42,000 --> 00:03:44,000

To some, he is a hero.

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00:03:44,000 --> 00:03:48,000

To others, he is nothing but a hoaxer.

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00:03:48,000 --> 00:03:57,000

He claims to have worked at Area 51, the top secret US military base in the middle of the Nevada desert.

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00:03:57,000 --> 00:04:05,000

Bob Lazar claims that he was hired to work at a site called S4, a subsidiary site to Area 51.

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00:04:05,000 --> 00:04:14,000

And he claims the reason he was hired was to reverse engineer alien technology.

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00:04:14,000 --> 00:04:23,000

Area 51, which began life during the Cold War, was known for top secret work in surveillance and reconnaissance.

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00:04:23,000 --> 00:04:32,000

It saw the development of the infamous U-Turn, the high-altitude spy play.

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00:04:32,000 --> 00:04:39,000

But Lazar claims this was a cover.

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00:04:39,000 --> 00:04:50,000

He says he began work in the late 1980s with a team studying alien craft, one of which had been retrieved from an archaeological site.

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00:04:50,000 --> 00:04:56,000

Their job was to work out how they flew.

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00:04:56,000 --> 00:05:01,000

And his supposed recollection of these objects are extremely detailed.

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00:05:01,000 --> 00:05:10,000

He claims that the saucers are divided into two levels and the reactor that powers it is on the

upper level.

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00:05:10,000 --> 00:05:18,000

Lazar claims that the craft also had an antenna extending to the top and surrounded by three gravity amplifiers.

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00:05:18,000 --> 00:05:30,000

These connected to gravity emitters which can rotate 180 degrees to create a gravity beam or anti-gravity wave.

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00:05:30,000 --> 00:05:38,000

Lazar claims that the tilt is vital to a UFO's mode of propulsion.

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00:05:38,000 --> 00:05:56,000

The footage shot of the tilting flying saucer in Costa Rica seems to show this so-called anti-gravity method of flight, almost exactly as Lazar described it.

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00:05:56,000 --> 00:06:08,000

Lazar claims that the reason that we would see these objects tilting is because there was an anti-gravity pocket that they would need to tilt into before they travel.

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00:06:08,000 --> 00:06:15,000

By manipulating the position of the pocket, the craft can in theory alter its direction of travel.

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00:06:15,000 --> 00:06:25,000

When you look at that film from Costa Rica, what really strikes you is the tilt as the craft moves away.

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00:06:26,000 --> 00:06:34,000

Lazar's claims of secret UFO testing activity at Area 51 have been derided by officials.

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00:06:34,000 --> 00:06:47,000

The US military denied that Bob ever worked for them at Area 51 and his academic qualifications, which included a masters in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, were put into doubt.

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00:06:48,000 --> 00:06:58,000

But recently, a series of patents were filed by an aerospace engineer at the Pentagon that have caused consternation in the scientific community.

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00:06:58,000 --> 00:07:06,000

The first patent in the series is a so-called high-frequency gravitational wave generator.

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00:07:06,000 --> 00:07:23,000

Ostensibly, this high-frequency gravitational wave generator works on the premise that artificially created electromagnetic fields could be intersected, which could in turn generate waves of anti-gravity force.

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00:07:23,000 --> 00:07:31,000

Anti-gravity crafts do not need to have wings or propellers like current planes.

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00:07:32,000 --> 00:07:41,000

A craft like this would be inside its own gravity pocket. It would travel quite unlike anything we currently experience on Earth.

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00:07:41,000 --> 00:07:48,000

The object travels with no reference to the physical constraints and forces outside its anti-gravity pocket.

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00:07:48,000 --> 00:07:56,000

It makes possible extraordinary velocities and turns that would tear normal craft and their passengers to pieces.

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00:07:57,000 --> 00:08:06,000

Anti-gravity can revolutionize travel. All these patents, dubbed as UFO patents, are being pursued by the US Navy.

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00:08:07,000 --> 00:08:20,000

The patents are the work of a man called Dr. Salvatore Pays. He's an American aerospace engineer who for most of his career has been working directly for the US Department of Defense.

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00:08:21,000 --> 00:08:30,000

The alien origin story could be a bizarre way of covering up real next-level American technology.

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00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:39,000

Dr. Pays Patents bear a really striking resemblance to technology that Lazar said he deconstructed.

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00:08:40,000 --> 00:08:48,000

Perhaps it's possible that the craft in the 2007 clip is an early, covert test of such technologies.

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00:08:48,000 --> 00:08:59,000

If the US is testing its own anti-gravity craft in the remote jungles of Costa Rica, it seems it could have been doing so for a long time.

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00:09:00,000 --> 00:09:12,000

In 1971, a photographer from the government's mapping team, surveying the land for a hydroelectric project, accidentally photographed a mysterious disc-shaped object.

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00:09:12,000 --> 00:09:18,000

It was hovering over the country in a very similar manner to the craft filmed in 2007.

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00:09:18,000 --> 00:09:27,000

The Costa Rican authorities did not claim it as their own technology, and the US government also remained silent.

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00:09:28,000 --> 00:09:31,000

Who knows what this person actually caught on film?

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00:09:31,000 --> 00:09:37,000

It certainly right now, whatever, seems like something that's well out of reach of our capabilities.

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00:09:45,000 --> 00:09:54,000

A weapon that instantly turns living human beings to stone has excited the imagination of writers for centuries.

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00:09:55,000 --> 00:09:58,000

The concept of petrification itself is not a new one.

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00:09:58,000 --> 00:10:04,000

In classic Greek mythology, perhaps the most famous story of petrification is Medusa,

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00:10:04,000 --> 00:10:10,000

the woman with that crazy snake hair who can turn anyone she makes eye contact with into stone.

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00:10:12,000 --> 00:10:15,000

But of course, that's just a mythological story.

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00:10:18,000 --> 00:10:23,000

But a new report suggests a truth stranger than any legend.

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00:10:24,000 --> 00:10:29,000

The substance of the report seems to defy the laws of physics.

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00:10:30,000 --> 00:10:38,000

Flesh and blood turn to stone, an enemy that is indefeatable and unknowable.

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00:10:39,000 --> 00:10:48,000

The 1993 report was said to have been uncovered by a CIA spy working in Russia at the demise of the

Soviet Union.

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00:10:48,000 --> 00:10:56,000

The file was reported to be among the documents that found their way to the CIA after the KGB was disbanded.

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00:10:57,000 --> 00:11:05,000

According to the report, these soldiers are under normal training exercise when a UFO appears above them.

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00:11:05,000 --> 00:11:14,000

And one of the soldiers fires a surface-to-air missile at this object, bringing it down.

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00:11:15,000 --> 00:11:18,000

Which is an extraordinary act of hostility.

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00:11:19,000 --> 00:11:26,000

From the wreckage of this alleged alien craft, it's said that five humanoid figures emerge.

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00:11:26,000 --> 00:11:30,000

They're described as having huge heads and large black eyes.

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00:11:31,000 --> 00:11:36,000

What happens next sounds completely insane.

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00:11:36,000 --> 00:11:45,000

The five beings merge together to form a bright, white, spherical ball of pure energy.

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00:11:45,000 --> 00:11:49,000

And it blasts 23 soldiers.

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00:11:50,000 --> 00:11:53,000

The explosion engulfs the Soviet soldiers.

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00:11:54,000 --> 00:12:00,000

As the survivors try and help their foreign comrades, they make an horrific discovery.

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00:12:01,000 --> 00:12:13,000

What's really scary is that the witnesses claim that the soldiers were not just killed but petrified, as in literally turned to stone.

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00:12:14,000 --> 00:12:21,000

Imagine your flesh, your body turning to stone. It's literally being petrified.

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00:12:21,000 --> 00:12:28,000

The CIA writes that if this report corresponds to reality, this is an extremely menacing case.

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00:12:31,000 --> 00:12:37,000

The report shows that the soldiers' bodies were transferred to a specialist research institute.

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00:12:38,000 --> 00:12:46,000

Specialists concluded that whatever had caused the explosion was a technology unknown to man.

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00:12:47,000 --> 00:12:53,000

And the result of it is that it had converted the soldiers' bodies to a substance resembling limestone.

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00:12:55,000 --> 00:12:59,000

Turn to stone by a medusor like Adidas.

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00:13:01,000 --> 00:13:08,000

Given the way that this report is set out, it would definitely suggest that there's some kind of war.

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00:13:08,000 --> 00:13:11,000

And that would certainly explain America's interest.

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00:13:12,000 --> 00:13:18,000

Stories of death by petrification may have fascinated humans for millennia.

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00:13:19,000 --> 00:13:25,000

But scientists in the real world have struggled to come up with any such deadly device.

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00:13:25,000 --> 00:13:31,000

Really the only earthly process we have that's even closer to petrification is fossilization.

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00:13:33,000 --> 00:13:38,000

But that is almost impossible to weaponize because it's so slow.

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00:13:39,000 --> 00:13:42,000

We're all familiar with the idea of fossils.

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00:13:42,000 --> 00:13:47,000

A fossil is any organic matter that's preserved after the organism has died.

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00:13:47,000 --> 00:13:52,000

So a mosquito that's trapped in amber, that's a fossil, but it's not a petrified fossil.

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00:13:53,000 --> 00:14:00,000

Natural fossilization, at its quickest, can turn organic material to stone in 10,000 years.

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00:14:01,000 --> 00:14:05,000

The natural question is, is there a way to speed it up?

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00:14:05,000 --> 00:14:08,000

And it turns out, yes there is.

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00:14:08,000 --> 00:14:17,000

Scientists have discovered that by soaking wood in acid for two days, placing it in silica for two days and then baking it, you can get silicon carbide.

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00:14:18,000 --> 00:14:22,000

This is completely solid and the whole process takes just five days.

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00:14:23,000 --> 00:14:32,000

But even if what we're seeing here is a new process of petrification, it would have to happen over a fairly long scale.

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00:14:32,000 --> 00:14:35,000

And what we're seeing here is something instant.

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00:14:36,000 --> 00:14:42,000

But a recent study in Japan has found another way a living thing can be turned to stone.

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00:14:42,000 --> 00:14:45,000

And it's a truly horrifying process.

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00:14:45,000 --> 00:14:50,000

The Japanese have recently discovered a medusa virus which infects victims.

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00:14:52,000 --> 00:14:56,000

This virus targets organic matter on a molecular level.

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00:14:57,000 --> 00:15:04,000

Infecting it and changing its chemical structure, it effectively becomes a statue of itself.

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00:15:05,000 --> 00:15:17,000

If this biological process could be repeated on a mass scale and weaponized, it could provide a terrifying explanation for what occurred in Siberia.

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00:15:17,000 --> 00:15:23,000

What we know is, while petrification isn't instant, deadly bioweapons can be.

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00:15:24,000 --> 00:15:27,000

The medusa virus was discovered in a hot spring.

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00:15:28,000 --> 00:15:35,000

Most viruses react to heat, whether it disarms them or whether they use heat as a catalyst.

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00:15:36,000 --> 00:15:44,000

Perhaps it's no coincidence that the supposed alien petrification weapon began with a massive ball of light.

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00:15:45,000 --> 00:15:48,000

The other aspect that's important here is the explosion.

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00:15:49,000 --> 00:15:52,000

Could that have been the trigger here?

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00:15:53,000 --> 00:16:04,000

If Russian scientists studying the petrified bodies could reverse engineer the technique used to do this, they would have a powerful and devastating weapon.

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00:16:04,000 --> 00:16:10,000

It would explain why the Russians never made this public, but it would be very worrying for the future of warfare.

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00:16:11,000 --> 00:16:20,000

But the report, with its aliens, wonder weapons and soldiers turned to stone, could be nothing more than a piece of military deception.

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00:16:21,000 --> 00:16:26,000

The Russian state has a grim track record of deceiving its own citizens.

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00:16:28,000 --> 00:16:36,000

In 1989 in Vernezh, reports emerged of Russian schoolchildren encountering a mysterious spacecraft.

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00:16:36,000 --> 00:16:43,000

They said that a humanoid figure emerged from the craft and fired a gun at a boy.

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00:16:44,000 --> 00:16:52,000

The unnerving report says the boy vanished and only reappeared after the aliens had returned to their craft and taken off.

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00:16:53,000 --> 00:17:05,000

This incident was reported in tasks the official news agency, but scientists dispatched the area later found much higher than normal levels of radioactive cesium in the environment.

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00:17:06,000 --> 00:17:10,000

So this story might have been a way to cover up a nuclear accident of some sort.

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00:17:13,000 --> 00:17:26,000

Perhaps the far-fetched sounding story of a dazzling ball of light turning soldiers to stone in Siberia was put out as a cover for a man-made tragedy the authorities wanted to cover up.

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00:17:27,000 --> 00:17:40,000

Could this have been a nuclear test gone wrong? I mean nuclear explosions produce a heat so intense they can absolutely vaporize anything they encounter.

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00:17:42,000 --> 00:17:53,000

Although Russia has used UFOs as a cover story for its grisly mistakes in the past, in this instance there's a flaw in the theory. The report was never made public.

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00:17:56,000 --> 00:18:05,000

A Russian cover-up, if thought necessary, would have happened almost immediately. They wanted to distract people from what was really going on.

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00:18:05,000 --> 00:18:14,000

This kind of UFO story would have been shouted from the rooftops, not buried and nearly forgotten. Even the CIA version isn't declassified until several decades later.

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00:18:15,000 --> 00:18:28,000

No country wants to admit it lacks military dominance in its own borders. If a population faced a devastating weapon with the mythical power of Medusa, there'd be no fairy tale ending.

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00:18:31,000 --> 00:18:42,000

Russia remains quite secretive about this and the KGB report on the incident is still classified and hasn't been made public, so it's possible that we'll never really know the truth of what went on here.

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00:18:45,000 --> 00:18:51,000

The KGB report on the incident is still classified and has been made public.

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00:18:51,000 --> 00:18:57,000

2021. A weird disappearance in La Pampa, Argentina.

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00:18:57,000 --> 00:19:06,000

On the 16th of November the family of Omerik, a woman in her 50s, wake to find her missing from her home in Jacinta Arrao's La Pampa.

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00:19:07,000 --> 00:19:17,000

Hermes' husband calls her phone. The call is answered, but there's no sound, just this disconcerting buzzing noise.

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00:19:17,000 --> 00:19:23,000

He calls the police, reports that she's gone.

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00:19:23,000 --> 00:19:29,000

The police mount a search and they bring in sniffer dogs to follow her trail.

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00:19:29,000 --> 00:19:38,000

Although her husband has actually told them she doesn't really walk very well and she really couldn't have gone that far on foot without being helped.

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00:19:38,000 --> 00:19:50,000

But the dogs do nevertheless pick up a trail and now it gets quite strange because they lose the scent really quite abruptly after about 150 metres.

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00:19:50,000 --> 00:19:53,000

That's around 500 feet from her house.

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00:19:54,000 --> 00:20:00,000

The next day the police bring the family incredible news.

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00:20:00,000 --> 00:20:15,000

Emma has been found. She's in a state of shock, unable to communicate verbally and what's even weirder is that she was discovered 40 miles away in a town called Guatrate.

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00:20:16,000 --> 00:20:25,000

When Omer's able to speak again she explains what she can remember. She'd woken in the night and she'd had some tea.

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00:20:25,000 --> 00:20:33,000

And then she'd checked her phone and she noticed it had some kind of weird interference. And then she says that the power went out.

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00:20:33,000 --> 00:20:46,000

Emma stepped outside and when she did she was met by an enormous blast of sound like a gust of wind and a bright light so bright that she had to close her eyes.

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00:20:46,000 --> 00:20:52,000

That was the last thing she could remember until she woke up in Guatrate.

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00:20:52,000 --> 00:21:02,000

A weird story made even weirder by its eerie similarity to another disappearance in the very same province nearly 40 years previously.

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00:21:02,000 --> 00:21:13,000

What we have with Julio Platner is a very creepy, very detailed account of what he believed to be an alien abduction.

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00:21:13,000 --> 00:21:22,000

Julio says he was at work on a farm. At around 7.30 that evening he got out of his pickup truck to open up the back gate.

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00:21:22,000 --> 00:21:35,000

As he did he's suddenly blinded by a bright light. He doesn't see a vehicle or a craft of any kind but he believes that he's been taken on board a ship.

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00:21:37,000 --> 00:21:42,000

He claims he finds himself in a room that reminds him of a kind of operating theatre.

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00:21:42,000 --> 00:21:51,000

The room was lit by a bright white light that was very clear but didn't hurt the eyes and didn't seem to have an apparent source.

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00:21:51,000 --> 00:22:01,000

He was put in a kind of suspended dentist chair and he was attended to, he said, by four beings.

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00:22:01,000 --> 00:22:08,000

He identified one of them as female because they presented as similar to human form.

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00:22:09,000 --> 00:22:19,000

From what he remembers he can't move but the female among them approached him, touched him and took a blood sample.

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00:22:21,000 --> 00:22:25,000

After this Julio Platner's memories came to an abrupt end.

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00:22:27,000 --> 00:22:36,000

Julio comes to find himself back inside his pickup truck. He's 12 miles away from where he started at the gate.

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00:22:39,000 --> 00:22:49,000

The next day Julio follows his truck. Now he knows that they're his tracks because his vehicle has three tires with tread and one that's worn smooth.

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00:22:50,000 --> 00:23:01,000

What he sees is that his tracks end a meter and a half away from the gate and don't reappear again until 12 miles later where he woke up.

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00:23:02,000 --> 00:23:14,000

Two strange disappearances. Julio Platner and Irma Rick in the same province four decades apart.

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00:23:14,000 --> 00:23:25,000

Local people in La Pampa ask themselves whether Irma Rick was abducted by the same entities that Platner says abducted him in the early 1980s.

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00:23:26,000 --> 00:23:32,000

As with any abduction story you've got to ask is this person telling the truth?

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00:23:33,000 --> 00:23:40,000

A person claiming to be abducted may not be lying but simply a victim of a bizarre medical condition.

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00:23:41,000 --> 00:23:45,000

Irma Rick's case could also perhaps be explained by a fugue state.

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00:23:45,000 --> 00:23:51,000

Now this is where a body basically goes on automatic pilot. We're unconscious of what we're doing.

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00:23:51,000 --> 00:23:58,000

Sometimes the only clue that we've done anything at all is that our clothes are dirty or that someone says they've seen us.

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00:24:01,000 --> 00:24:06,000

It's a state where you're totally unaware unconscious of what you're doing.

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00:24:08,000 --> 00:24:14,000

Doctors find people who suffer from a fugue are often reacting to a previous traumatic event.

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00:24:14,000 --> 00:24:19,000

Some people lose a sense of time for hours or even days.

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00:24:22,000 --> 00:24:29,000

In 1985 Jodie Roberts of Tacoma, USA vanished from her home.

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00:24:30,000 --> 00:24:40,000

She was found 12 years later with a new life, new identity and no memory of her previous existence.

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00:24:41,000 --> 00:24:53,000

The interesting thing for me is that the interpretation of what happens to people depends so much on their culture and the stories that are available from around them.

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00:24:54,000 --> 00:25:02,000

In pre-modern times fairies were said to kidnap humans who would return from fairyland with unaccounted for missing time.

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00:25:03,000 --> 00:25:07,000

Perhaps these experiences could have been examples of a fugue state.

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00:25:10,000 --> 00:25:19,000

Julio Platner may have entered a fugue state and his mind rationalized his bizarre absence by creating a story about alien abduction.

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00:25:20,000 --> 00:25:27,000

But the explanation that Irma Rick was somehow influenced by this historic case nearby doesn't seem to fit.

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00:25:28,000 --> 00:25:36,000

Her family say that Irma's medical conditions mean that walking that 40 miles, whether asleep or awake, would have been absolutely impossible.

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00:25:36,000 --> 00:25:42,000

Four million people claim to have been abducted by aliens.

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00:25:43,000 --> 00:25:52,000

Harvard psychiatrist Professor John Mack says that many of these accounts contain key similarities that couldn't be explained by coincidence.

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00:25:54,000 --> 00:26:00,000

Irma is said to have shied away from publicity after news of her bizarre disappearance leaked.

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00:26:01,000 --> 00:26:10,000

Investigators are keen to talk to her and to study her mobile phone, which could carry a record of her travels during her missing hours.

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00:26:12,000 --> 00:26:23,000

Of course we don't know what's gone on in La Pampa yet, but it's clear that given the history and given the circumstances, we really should be investigating further.

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00:26:31,000 --> 00:26:43,000

Friday, the 15th of April, 2022, residents of Southern California report an ominous shaking in the earth, around 18 miles from the town of Avalon.

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00:26:44,000 --> 00:26:46,000

Many people assume it was an earthquake.

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00:26:48,000 --> 00:26:51,000

But the incident doesn't seem to be as it first appeared.

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00:26:51,000 --> 00:27:01,000

The United States Geological Survey first documents a tremor reaching around four on the Richter scale, but they then backtrack.

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00:27:03,000 --> 00:27:08,000

Shortly afterwards, the USGS says the event was not triggered by an earthquake.

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00:27:09,000 --> 00:27:18,000

What actually triggered this event isn't made clear and speculation runs wild, in part because of where this is, just off the coast of Catalina Island.

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00:27:21,000 --> 00:27:27,000

Santa Catalina Island is a small, inhabited island, just 40 miles off the coast of Los Angeles.

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00:27:28,000 --> 00:27:31,000

It's only 22 miles across and 8 miles wide.

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00:27:32,000 --> 00:27:43,000

With its hotels, water sports and harborside restaurants, it doesn't immediately present as a place where strange things happen, but appearances can be deceptive.

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00:27:45,000 --> 00:27:50,000

Catalina Island has a rightful claim to being one of the weirdest places in America.

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00:27:52,000 --> 00:28:01,000

It has a reputation for UFO sightings, and they're often spotted by the Navy. It's like an aquatic area 51.

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00:28:04,000 --> 00:28:13,000

There's a real pattern of unidentified submerged objects, interacting with water in a way we're completely, technically unfamiliar with.

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00:28:14,000 --> 00:28:19,000

Unexplained sightings off this mountainous island stretch back several decades.

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00:28:20,000 --> 00:28:32,000

On the 14th of June, 1992, a local group saw a collection of UFOs, but this wasn't a normal UFO sighting. These seemed to come right out of the water.

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00:28:34,000 --> 00:28:43,000

There was a blaze of light, and several disc-like shapes emerged out of the water in complete silence.

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00:28:44,000 --> 00:28:49,000

One caller that filmed the Coast Guard said he had never been so terrified in his life.

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00:28:50,000 --> 00:28:59,000

And he even asked first if anything strange had been reported before telling his own story. You know, clearly worried he'd be viewed as mad.

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00:29:01,000 --> 00:29:09,000

But perhaps the most disturbing incident occurred off the island in 1945, at the end of World War II.

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00:29:10,000 --> 00:29:27,000

The USS Willard Keith was an Allen M. Sumner class destroyer of the US Navy. Now, in terms of the technology of the time, this kind of vessel was pretty impressive in terms of its weaponry, equipment and power.

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

She's on her way along the coast of Catalina Island, part of a routine run.

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00:29:40,000 --> 00:29:43,000

They identify a possible enemy submarine.

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00:29:44,000 --> 00:29:48,000

Everyone suddenly flies into action as they try to identify the threat.

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00:29:50,000 --> 00:29:55,000

The one thing that the Willard Keith can identify is that it's very, very large.

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00:29:57,000 --> 00:30:07,000

One of the crew said that when the sonars picked the vessel up, the captain's coordinates estimated it was 352 feet, two feet longer than the ship.

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00:30:09,000 --> 00:30:15,000

The only known submarines of a similar size were of the Japanese submarine fleet.

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00:30:17,000 --> 00:30:22,000

Japan began World War II with one of the most powerful submarine fleets on the planet.

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00:30:25,000 --> 00:30:32,000

It included in its number the largest submarine of the war, the 400 foot long I-400 class.

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00:30:33,000 --> 00:30:40,000

But in March 1945, only one was active and it wasn't in the vicinity of Santa Catalina Island.

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00:30:43,000 --> 00:30:47,000

At the time, all they could say with certainty was that this was not a US submarine.

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00:30:48,000 --> 00:30:55,000

So the decision was made to launch some anti-submarine warfare weapons called depth charges.

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00:30:58,000 --> 00:31:00,000

Twelve of these were launched.

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00:31:03,000 --> 00:31:06,000

And reports then came of a direct hit.

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00:31:07,000 --> 00:31:13,000

An oily substance appears on the surface of the sea, a sign that the target has been destroyed.

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00:31:14,000 --> 00:31:17,000

When they report the incident, something odd happens.

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00:31:18,000 --> 00:31:27,000

When the crew returned to San Francisco, all 350 were brought onto deck and they were told to forget what had happened that day.

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00:31:28,000 --> 00:31:37,000

To this day, the origin of this huge unknown object lurking beneath the waters down the coast from Santa Catalina Island has not been identified,

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00:31:38,000 --> 00:31:40,000

nor has its wreckage been found.

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00:31:41,000 --> 00:31:47,000

But perhaps this pattern of strange events over seven decades is explained by the history of this rocky outcrop

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00:31:48,000 --> 00:31:51,000

and the strategic significance of its location.

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00:31:52,000 --> 00:31:56,000

It's just visible from the Californian coast, around 45 miles from Los Angeles,

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00:31:57,000 --> 00:32:01,000

a nearby Edwards Air Force Base, home of the Air Force Test Center.

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00:32:03,000 --> 00:32:05,000

It was a good place for covert testing.

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00:32:06,000 --> 00:32:14,000

The Office of Strategic Services or OSS, now used by the CIA, held many of its initial training sessions there

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00:32:15,000 --> 00:32:17,000

and new technologies such as SCUBA was developed.

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00:32:18,000 --> 00:32:24,000

One former commander commented that it was so top secret that they couldn't even tell their wives about it.

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00:32:27,000 --> 00:32:35,000

Given Catalina's position and the way it's been used, could these anomalies be some kind of military testing that is still classified?

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00:32:37,000 --> 00:32:41,000

The possibility of a covert military technology test gone wrong

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00:32:42,000 --> 00:32:47,000

might explain the reaction of the crew of the USS Willard Keith received.

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00:32:51,000 --> 00:32:56,000

But then, in 2014, a discovery is made near the coast of Catalina

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00:32:58,000 --> 00:33:03,000

and it's too vast, too deep and too old to be anything to do with the US military.

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00:33:04,000 --> 00:33:11,000

There appears to be a structure spotted in a somewhat unorthodox way on Google Earth by a local man.

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00:33:12,000 --> 00:33:18,000

The structure, about 2,000 feet below the surface, is a massive three miles wide.

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00:33:19,000 --> 00:33:26,000

This structure could be a rare natural phenomenon, but radio reporter Jimmy Church was among local people who commented

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00:33:26,000 --> 00:33:29,000

that the precision of it makes this seem improbable.

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00:33:30,000 --> 00:33:34,000

A first look led some locals to conclude it could be Greek.

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00:33:34,000 --> 00:33:41,000

It's got pillar-like objects holding it up. The top is almost perfectly oval, which is unusual in nature.

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00:33:44,000 --> 00:33:50,000

Scientists cannot agree on a natural cause, but geophysical research mapping the area

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00:33:50,000 --> 00:33:54,000

revealed that these structures predate humankind.

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00:33:55,000 --> 00:34:04,000

These ancient, gargantuan structures are estimated to be between 16 and 18 million years old.

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00:34:04,000 --> 00:34:07,000

So they're not human, much less Greek.

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00:34:08,000 --> 00:34:14,000

So who was it designed by? Wasn't human beings? Was it some other form of life?

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00:34:15,000 --> 00:34:19,000

Recently, others have implied this is some kind of alien UFO base.

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00:34:19,000 --> 00:34:23,000

This would in theory explain some of the sorts of sightings we've seen

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00:34:23,000 --> 00:34:30,000

and would also correlate to a need for a military presence. Perhaps the government even knows.

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00:34:32,000 --> 00:34:39,000

Whatever the government knows about the mysterious tremor that came from this area in April 2022,

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00:34:39,000 --> 00:34:41,000

they're still not publicly saying.

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00:34:42,000 --> 00:34:48,000

But just three months later, on July 15th, the United States Deputy Secretary of Defense

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00:34:48,000 --> 00:34:58,000

confirmed a new initiative for investigation into anomalous, unidentified, submerged and transmedium objects.

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00:34:59,000 --> 00:35:05,000

They are specifically interested in areas related to military installations, training areas,

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00:35:05,000 --> 00:35:12,000

and special use airspace, areas like Santa Catalina Island.

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00:35:12,000 --> 00:35:17,000

Perhaps they are including this massive and ominous shape at the bottom of the sea.

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00:35:18,000 --> 00:35:23,000

These structures could be some kind of bizarre, natural phenomenon.

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00:35:23,000 --> 00:35:26,000

We can't be sure. Perhaps we never will.

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00:35:36,000 --> 00:35:39,000

March 2021.

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00:35:40,000 --> 00:35:43,000

Fargradals-Vietel volcano, Iceland.

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00:35:45,000 --> 00:35:49,000

Newly active, the crater and eruption is being monitored.

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00:35:51,000 --> 00:35:58,000

There's a camera set up to monitor the volcano and that seems to record two bright objects.

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00:35:59,000 --> 00:36:03,000

This isn't lava or any other kind of normal ejector.

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00:36:06,000 --> 00:36:16,000

It turns out this isn't the first time weird objects have been filmed flying into or out of or around volcanoes.

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00:36:17,000 --> 00:36:23,000

These strange volcanic, unidentified flying objects seem to be a regular occurrence.

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00:36:23,000 --> 00:36:28,000

You've got these stories coming from volcanoes in Guatemala, from Italy and from Spain.

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00:36:28,000 --> 00:36:32,000

So it's something that's occurring all over the world.

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00:36:33,000 --> 00:36:41,000

But why would UFOs, perhaps containing intelligent life forms, be entering a live volcano?

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00:36:42,000 --> 00:36:50,000

There are over 1,300 active volcanoes on the Earth's land masses and many more deep below the ocean.

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00:36:51,000 --> 00:36:58,000

All are fueled by molten rock produced by the high pressure and high temperature of the Earth's volatile core.

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00:36:59,000 --> 00:37:06,000

This is a place where you've got temperatures reaching as high as 2,200 degrees Fahrenheit. That is very hot.

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00:37:06,000 --> 00:37:10,000

Any living thing that we know of would be fried.

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00:37:12,000 --> 00:37:16,000

But that might not be the case on other planets.

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00:37:17,000 --> 00:37:22,000

Not other planets in our solar system, but on planets beyond.

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00:37:22,000 --> 00:37:30,000

55 Cancri is one of our neighbours. It's a binary star system with two stars, one like our Sun.

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00:37:31,000 --> 00:37:35,000

And it's only 40 light years away, so in galactic terms, that's nothing.

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00:37:36,000 --> 00:37:41,000

Spinning around it is an exoplanet of a type that astronomers call a super-Earth.

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00:37:41,000 --> 00:37:45,000

It's about twice the diameter of Earth and about eight times as massive.

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00:37:46,000 --> 00:37:57,000

This exoplanet, a planet external to our solar system, 55 Cancri E, also known as Janssen, was first discovered in 2004.

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00:37:58,000 --> 00:38:03,000

Astronomers have used a Hubble Space Telescope to look at the exoplanet and its atmosphere.

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00:38:04,000 --> 00:38:09,000

This planet does have an atmosphere and it actually might be thick and kind of Earth-like.

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00:38:09,000 --> 00:38:12,000

It's got nitrogen, oxygen and even some water.

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00:38:13,000 --> 00:38:18,000

But there is one big difference between Janssen and planet Earth.

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00:38:19,000 --> 00:38:23,000

This planet is very, very hot. It's something like 4000 degrees Fahrenheit.

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00:38:24,000 --> 00:38:26,000

It's just beyond anything we can imagine.

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00:38:27,000 --> 00:38:32,000

This planet has got oceans, but they're not oceans of water, they are oceans of lava.

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00:38:33,000 --> 00:38:38,000

The conditions mean instant death for everything that we understand currently as life.

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00:38:42,000 --> 00:38:48,000

Life on Earth is based on DNA and on proteins being arranged in different orders.

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00:38:49,000 --> 00:38:57,000

And it's all rather delicate, so if you put too much heat into it, these proteins fall apart and life would become impossible.

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00:38:58,000 --> 00:39:06,000

But Janssen's super-heated chemical stew could be the perfect petri dish for a totally different form of existence.

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00:39:07,000 --> 00:39:16,000

In theory, Janssen's extraordinary conditions could be the breeding ground for heretofore unknown form of life.

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00:39:17,000 --> 00:39:20,000

All life as we understand it on Earth is carbon-based.

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00:39:21,000 --> 00:39:32,000

But new research suggests the unnerving possibility that inorganic material, non-carbon-based matter, can be given life-like characteristics.

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00:39:33,000 --> 00:39:38,000

There's a scientist in Great Britain who's working on creating living creatures out of inorganic matter.

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00:39:40,000 --> 00:39:45,000

Lee Cronin at Glasgow University has been experimenting with inorganic matter and trying to bring it to life.

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00:39:46,000 --> 00:39:50,000

He's been running experiments with molybdenum oxide and iron oxide.

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00:39:51,000 --> 00:39:59,000

Professor Cronin's work aims to reproduce the evolution of organic material by triggering similar processes in inorganic material.

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00:40:00,000 --> 00:40:09,000

These things are completely dead, so what Cronin is doing is looking at how inorganic cells can take on kind of life-like properties.

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00:40:10,000 --> 00:40:16,000

Such a form of life would take a configuration very different from anything we've ever seen before.

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00:40:17,000 --> 00:40:26,000

At some point, we're not going to be able to distinguish between the two, and at that point we'd be forced to recognize that it is, by all the definitions we currently use, alive.

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00:40:27,000 --> 00:40:35,000

The inorganic life forms Cronin is working on might give us an idea of what to expect on planets like 55 Cancri E.

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00:40:36,000 --> 00:40:44,000

The advantages that inorganic molecules might have over organic molecules is the wider range of conditions that they could potentially live in.

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00:40:44,000 --> 00:40:57,000

If you had a life form that was based on silicon rather than carbon, much like glass, it would be resistant to much higher temperatures. But how would it actually operate?

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00:40:58,000 --> 00:41:06,000

After billions of years on this fiery planet, could evolution have produced creatures as advanced or more advanced than our own cold-wet earth?

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00:41:07,000 --> 00:41:16,000

Such beings would have adapted and evolved to the conditions around them just as we have adapted and evolved to live in the conditions around us.

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00:41:18,000 --> 00:41:25,000

It would be impossible to conceive of them having something like a skeleton, so it would be a lot more like an amorphous blob.

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00:41:26,000 --> 00:41:38,000

With blistering air for the precipitating metal and oceans of molten rock and metals like iron, these life forms might even be made of metal themselves.

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00:41:39,000 --> 00:41:52,000

Rather than muscles for movement, a metal-based life form could potentially manipulate electromagnetic energy from within its own body, and that means they could potentially do so with objects outside their body as well.

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00:41:52,000 --> 00:41:57,000

If they are good at working metal, they would be able to potentially make structures.

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

They'd be able to build things out of more or less liquid, engineering that we are in no way capable of. All of this would be powered by the tremendous amount of energy pouring in from their star.

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00:42:13,000 --> 00:42:21,000

Civilizations, whatever their chemical composition, must surely at some point look towards space.

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00:42:22,000 --> 00:42:27,000

But if they were to ever reach Earth, they'd face another set of problems.

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00:42:28,000 --> 00:42:36,000

The surface of Earth would be as inhospitable to a Janssenite as their planet would be to us.

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00:42:37,000 --> 00:42:43,000

The potential beings of Janssen would probably look at Earth and see a frigid vision of hell.

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00:42:44,000 --> 00:42:48,000

But there would be one place on the planet where they might feel at home. Volcanoes.

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00:42:49,000 --> 00:42:58,000

We often assume that extraterrestrial beings would be interested in us, but perhaps if they exist, these beings would only really be interested in Earth's hot core.

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00:42:59,000 --> 00:43:13,000

Science fiction writer Jules Verne's masterpiece *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* speculated in 1864 that volcanoes might lead to huge, habitable cavities deep within the Earth.

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00:43:14,000 --> 00:43:19,000

In fact, plunge down a volcano and you soon encounter flows of magma.

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00:43:20,000 --> 00:43:25,000

Liquid rock that could, with some engineering, be a gateway to the layer below.

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00:43:25,000 --> 00:43:31,000

The Earth's so-called outer core, an uncharted ocean of liquid metal.

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00:43:32,000 --> 00:43:37,000

The Earth's molten outer core starts at 1800 miles inside the planet.

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00:43:38,000 --> 00:43:44,000

It has temperatures of 4000 degrees, about the same as the surface of Janssen.

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00:43:46,000 --> 00:43:52,000

It would mean instant death for any of us, but it might be paradise for this form of alien life.

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00:43:53,000 --> 00:44:01,000

This 1400 mile deep ocean is a potential habitat far greater than any ocean or land mass on the surface.

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00:44:02,000 --> 00:44:08,000

The molten nickel and iron liquid swirls and eddies in a similar way to the cool seas above.

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00:44:09,000 --> 00:44:15,000

And the magnetic field down here has been estimated to be 50 times stronger than on the surface.

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00:44:16,000 --> 00:44:20,000

Perfect for creatures that rely on this force for movement.

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00:44:21,000 --> 00:44:27,000

The liquid metal aliens could be beneath our feet right now and would be totally unaware of their presence.

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00:44:28,000 --> 00:44:34,000

The only time we'd even see them was when they're exiting or entering the liquid part of Earth, maybe via volcanoes.

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