

1

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

An absolute labyrinth down here.

2

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

Looks like there's a number of tunnels down here

3

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

that they haven't fully cleared.

4

00:00:14,000 --> 00:00:16,000

None of this has been reinforced.

5

00:00:16,000 --> 00:00:18,000

Yeah, that's all \*\*\*\* in there.

6

00:00:19,000 --> 00:00:21,000

Okay, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back.

7

00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:23,000

Something's letting loose down there.

8

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

Here we go, here we go.

9

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

Let's go, let's get out of here. It's letting go.

10

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

Here's a question.

11

00:00:35,000 --> 00:00:38,000

What's the most valuable object to ever be stolen?

12

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

You might think it's a rare Picasso or a massive diamond,

13

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

but in fact, it is something bigger, much bigger.

14

00:00:47,000 --> 00:00:49,000

Our story begins with the Nazis.

15

00:00:49,000 --> 00:00:55,000

From 1933 to 1945, the Third Reich systematically plundered art from across Europe.

16

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

Amidst the stolen hoard is one object more precious than all the rest.

17

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

Actually, it's not an object at all.

18

00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:05,000

It's an entire room.

19

00:01:06,000 --> 00:01:08,000

The Amber Chamber.

20

00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:16,000

Crafted entirely of amber, gold, and precious stones,

21

00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:21,000

the Amber Chamber was once displayed in St. Petersburg's Catherine Palace,

22

00:01:21,000 --> 00:01:24,000

where it was dubbed the Eighth Wonder of the World.

23

00:01:26,000 --> 00:01:29,000

1941, war rages across Europe,

24

00:01:29,000 --> 00:01:32,000

and Hitler's forces have invaded the Soviet Union.

25

00:01:34,000 --> 00:01:37,000

Curators are forced to abandon the Catherine Palace.

26

00:01:37,000 --> 00:01:40,000

The Nazis disassemble and pack the amber room into crates,

27

00:01:40,000 --> 00:01:44,000

load it onto a train, and send it to Konigsberg Castle in Germany.

28

00:01:46,000 --> 00:01:48,000

The castle is then bombed by the Allies,

29

00:01:50,000 --> 00:01:53,000

and the entire amber room vanishes.

30

00:01:53,000 --> 00:01:55,000

It's location a mystery.

31

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

But recently, experts in Russia and Germany have discovered new evidence

32

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

the Amber Chamber survived the war,

33

00:02:04,000 --> 00:02:07,000

as well as clues that may point to its exact location.

34

00:02:08,000 --> 00:02:12,000

Conspiracy theories abound, but I want to find real answers.

35

00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:15,000

Not to mention, the chance of documenting potential breakthroughs

36

00:02:15,000 --> 00:02:19,000

in the hunt for the world's most valuable missing object.

37

00:02:24,000 --> 00:02:27,000

My name is Josh Gates,

38

00:02:28,000 --> 00:02:31,000

with a degree in archaeology and a passion for exploration.

39

00:02:33,000 --> 00:02:36,000

I have a tendency to end up in some very strange situations.

40

00:02:36,000 --> 00:02:39,000

There has got to be a better way to make a living.

41

00:02:40,000 --> 00:02:42,000

My travels have taken me to the ends of the Earth,

42

00:02:42,000 --> 00:02:45,000

as I investigate the greatest legends in history.

43

00:02:45,000 --> 00:02:47,000

You're going to fly, let's go.

44

00:02:47,000 --> 00:02:49,000

This is Expedition Unknown.

45

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

St. Petersburg, the grand vision of Peter the Great.

46

00:02:58,000 --> 00:03:01,000

It's one of the most colorful cities on the planet,

47

00:03:01,000 --> 00:03:05,000

boasting stunning Baroque architecture and fairy tale palaces.

48

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

In short, it's the beating cultural heart of Mother Russia.

49

00:03:11,000 --> 00:03:14,000

This is it, St. Petersburg, one of the world's all-time great cities,

50

00:03:14,000 --> 00:03:17,000

home of Pushkin, home of Tchaikovsky, home of Gandalf, apparently.

51

00:03:17,000 --> 00:03:19,000

All the greats.

52

00:03:20,000 --> 00:03:24,000

And it didn't take long before I got exposed to the local culture.

53

00:03:24,000 --> 00:03:27,000

I feel like you're not wearing any clothes under here, is that true?

54

00:03:27,000 --> 00:03:29,000

Oh, beautiful, perfect.

55

00:03:29,000 --> 00:03:33,000

What is going on?

56

00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:37,000

Sweet hat, check.

57

00:03:37,000 --> 00:03:39,000

You like it? Yeah? You and me.

58

00:03:39,000 --> 00:03:42,000

Captain, first mate. Here we go.

59

00:03:45,000 --> 00:03:48,000

I'm apparently in the opening of a James Bond film.

60

00:03:50,000 --> 00:03:55,000

With 300 years of history all around me, it's time to begin my quest.

61

00:03:55,000 --> 00:04:01,000

This is where the mystery of the Amber Chamber begins, right here at Catherine's Palace.

62

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

Welcome to the Summer Palace.

63

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

Originally constructed in 1717 as a modest vacation home for Catherine I,

64

00:04:09,000 --> 00:04:15,000

the Amber Room was moved here in 1755, where it became a symbol of peace and unity.

65

00:04:15,000 --> 00:04:18,000

That is, until the Nazis showed up.

66

00:04:20,000 --> 00:04:24,000

Inside I've arranged to meet with historian Vladimir Chekanov and a translator

67

00:04:24,000 --> 00:04:27,000

to get a first-hand look at the scene of the crime.

68

00:04:27,000 --> 00:04:29,000

It's stunning though, it's just beautiful.

69

00:04:29,000 --> 00:04:31,000

How many rooms in the palace?

70

00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:33,000

How many rooms in the palace?

71

00:04:33,000 --> 00:04:36,000

About a few thousand rooms.

72

00:04:42,000 --> 00:04:44,000

Is it possible? It is possible.

73

00:04:44,000 --> 00:04:46,000

Everything is possible in Russia.

74

00:04:47,000 --> 00:04:50,000

As it turns out, maybe anything is possible in Russia.

75

00:04:50,000 --> 00:04:55,000

The palace boasts a seemingly endless collection of dining rooms, portrait galleries,

76

00:04:55,000 --> 00:04:58,000

and slightly over-the-top home decorating.

77

00:04:58,000 --> 00:05:02,000

It also contains something else, a reconstruction of the stolen Amber Room.

78

00:05:10,000 --> 00:05:13,000

So this is it, this is the Amber Room.

79

00:05:13,000 --> 00:05:15,000

This is incredible, look at this place.

80

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

And this is just a replica.

81

00:05:18,000 --> 00:05:22,000

The impressive facsimile took 24 years of work by Russian craftsmen.

82

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

The price tag? \$12 million.

83

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

It's a lot of rubles, but these sparkling panels are merely copies.

84

00:05:29,000 --> 00:05:32,000

Today the original would be priceless.

85

00:05:35,000 --> 00:05:38,000

What did this room look like when the Nazis arrived?

86

00:05:41,000 --> 00:05:46,000

Before the curators left, they wall-papered the entire room to hide it from the Nazis.

87

00:05:46,000 --> 00:05:51,000

After three days in the castle, the Nazis became suspicious.

88

00:05:51,000 --> 00:05:56,000

So they took their knives and cut through it, exposing the beautiful Amber beneath.

89

00:05:56,000 --> 00:06:02,000

Six low-level Nazi soldiers and one commanding officer dismantled the room.

90

00:06:02,000 --> 00:06:05,000

It took 36 hours and filled 22 crates.

91

00:06:05,000 --> 00:06:12,000

The crates were loaded onto trucks and moved to a train which took them to the castle in Königsberg.

92

00:06:13,000 --> 00:06:17,000

So we know that the room went there, and then after that, we don't know.

93

00:06:17,000 --> 00:06:20,000

Do you think it was destroyed or do you think it's still out there somewhere?

94

00:06:21,000 --> 00:06:25,000

It was hidden somewhere in the basement of Königsberg.

95

00:06:25,000 --> 00:06:27,000

Do you think it's still in Kaliningrad?

96

00:06:27,000 --> 00:06:30,000

It was used for gold.

97

00:06:30,000 --> 00:06:35,000

If you want to find the Amber Room, follow the rails. Go straight to Kaliningrad.

98

00:06:35,000 --> 00:06:36,000

Thank you very much.

99

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

Thank you.

100

00:06:41,000 --> 00:06:46,000

Vladimir and other experts believe the Nazis buried the room in secret passageways below the castle.

101

00:06:47,000 --> 00:06:52,000

It's an intriguing idea, and I plan to hop the next train to Kaliningrad to investigate.

102

00:06:52,000 --> 00:06:55,000

That is, if I can figure out how to buy a ticket.

103

00:06:55,000 --> 00:07:00,000

Okay, I can probably work a Russian automated ticket machine.

104

00:07:00,000 --> 00:07:07,000

Okay, from, this is St. Petersburg, to the Klingon home world, I think.

105

00:07:07,000 --> 00:07:09,000

This makes perfect sense, obviously.

106

00:07:09,000 --> 00:07:10,000

Purchase.

107

00:07:10,000 --> 00:07:12,000

Pretty sure I just opened the checking account.

108

00:07:12,000 --> 00:07:14,000

I don't really even know what's happening.

109

00:07:14,000 --> 00:07:15,000

Bam.

110

00:07:15,000 --> 00:07:17,000

Okay, I have a ticket.

111

00:07:17,000 --> 00:07:20,000

I don't know to where, but I have a ticket.

112

00:07:22,000 --> 00:07:28,000

I'm expecting the worst, but at the platform, I find an artifact nearly as beautiful as the Amber Chamber.

113

00:07:28,000 --> 00:07:30,000

The Red Arrow.

114

00:07:33,000 --> 00:07:34,000

This is a train.

115

00:07:34,000 --> 00:07:40,000

This is some seriously cool, cold war, badass Russian technology here.

116

00:07:40,000 --> 00:07:43,000

She's been running for a while, and she's been running for a while.

117

00:07:43,000 --> 00:07:48,000

She's been reliably riding these rails since 1931, comes in candy apple red,

118

00:07:48,000 --> 00:07:51,000

and blasts the hymn of St. Petersburg when it's time to board.

119

00:07:56,000 --> 00:07:58,000

Eat your heart out, Amtrak.

120

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

This was even compartment four.

121

00:08:05,000 --> 00:08:07,000

Oh, look at this action.

122

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

I got box lunches and wrapped buns and, I don't know, Russian lotto scratchers.

123

00:08:17,000 --> 00:08:18,000

What else could you need?

124

00:08:18,000 --> 00:08:19,000

This is a lap of luxury here.

125

00:08:19,000 --> 00:08:24,000

It's 140 degrees in this car, but other than that, it's awesome.

126

00:08:26,000 --> 00:08:30,000

The Red Arrow pulls out of the station along the same rails that shipped Russia's greatest prize

127

00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:34,000

into the heart of Nazi Germany, and it might still be out there.

128

00:08:34,000 --> 00:08:39,000

Just six months ago, German authorities discovered 1,500 paintings stolen by the Nazis

129

00:08:39,000 --> 00:08:41,000

stashed in a German apartment.

130

00:08:41,000 --> 00:08:45,000

Collectively, they're worth more than a billion dollars.

131

00:08:45,000 --> 00:08:48,000

Who's to say the Amber Chamber can't be next?

132

00:08:50,000 --> 00:08:54,000

The journey from St. Petersburg will take me along the western edge of Russia,

133

00:08:54,000 --> 00:08:58,000

skirting through Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania before arriving in Kaliningrad,

134

00:08:58,000 --> 00:09:02,000

which, though it's geographically disconnected, is part of Russia.

135

00:09:03,000 --> 00:09:06,000

All told, the train ride will cover 600 miles.

136

00:09:06,000 --> 00:09:08,000

That's 16 hours.

137

00:09:08,000 --> 00:09:10,000

Not that I'm counting.

138

00:09:18,000 --> 00:09:21,000

It's a new day as I finally arrive in Kaliningrad.

139

00:09:22,000 --> 00:09:25,000

Though, sadly, I'm still wearing the same shirt.

140

00:09:25,000 --> 00:09:29,000

But as I make my way through the jumble of Prussian forts, German walls,

141

00:09:29,000 --> 00:09:34,000

and Soviet apartment buildings, I'm reminded what a confusing place Kaliningrad is.

142

00:09:34,000 --> 00:09:37,000

It was once a powerful German city called Konigsberg,

143

00:09:37,000 --> 00:09:41,000

but in the aftermath of World War II, it was parceled out to the Soviets.

144

00:09:41,000 --> 00:09:46,000

Think of it as the Russian Alaska, but with less snow and more linen statues.

145

00:09:49,000 --> 00:09:52,000

It's also the last known location of the Amber Room.

146

00:09:52,000 --> 00:09:55,000

Whether the chamber is still here remains to be seen,

147

00:09:55,000 --> 00:09:59,000

but one thing is clear, there is plenty of amber around.

148

00:09:59,000 --> 00:10:02,000

From Amber Saints to Amber Hedgehogs, I mean, they've got it all.

149

00:10:02,000 --> 00:10:06,000

The Amber Ships Wheel Clock?

150

00:10:06,000 --> 00:10:08,000

I mean, come on.

151

00:10:08,000 --> 00:10:11,000

The St. Elephant never forgets, and neither will your wife,

152

00:10:11,000 --> 00:10:13,000

when you buy her this for your wedding anniversary.

153

00:10:13,000 --> 00:10:15,000

Also, you'll be sleeping in the car.

154

00:10:15,000 --> 00:10:19,000

There it is, the old Amber Seahorse Ashtray.

155

00:10:19,000 --> 00:10:22,000

This is an amber frame, and this is amber.

156

00:10:22,000 --> 00:10:25,000

She's a dancer, but she's got a heart of gold.

157

00:10:25,000 --> 00:10:29,000

I'm not saying this, girls, adult dancer.

158

00:10:29,000 --> 00:10:31,000

I just hope she is.

159

00:10:33,000 --> 00:10:35,000

I'm literally covered in amber.

160

00:10:35,000 --> 00:10:38,000

I mean, it is hot in this city. Seriously.

161

00:10:38,000 --> 00:10:42,000

Forget the amber. Do you have any air conditioning around here?

162

00:10:42,000 --> 00:10:44,000

Okay, thank you.

163

00:10:44,000 --> 00:10:48,000

A man could get lost in Kaliningrad's treasure trove of amber chachkis,

164

00:10:48,000 --> 00:10:50,000

but I'm looking for the real deal.

165

00:10:50,000 --> 00:10:55,000

It's time to explore what remains of the amber room's last documented location.

166

00:10:55,000 --> 00:10:57,000

Though you wouldn't know it today,

167

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

Konigsberg Castle was once the epicenter of the city.

168

00:11:00,000 --> 00:11:02,000

It was also a Nazi stronghold.

169

00:11:02,000 --> 00:11:05,000

After the amber chamber was stolen and shipped here from Russia,

170

00:11:05,000 --> 00:11:08,000

it was displayed for the elite of the Third Reich.

171

00:11:08,000 --> 00:11:14,000

But in 1945, a British-led Allied attack reduced the castle to ruins.

172

00:11:14,000 --> 00:11:18,000

Today, it's an eerie void that sits silently at the heart of the city.

173

00:11:18,000 --> 00:11:21,000

At one end stands the foreboding House of the Soviets.

174

00:11:21,000 --> 00:11:23,000

Known locally as the Monster,

175

00:11:23,000 --> 00:11:27,000

it has the dubious honor of being considered the ugliest building ever built.

176

00:11:27,000 --> 00:11:31,000

Even worse, construction was abandoned in the 1980s

177

00:11:31,000 --> 00:11:34,000

after it was revealed that it was literally sinking into the ground.

178

00:11:37,000 --> 00:11:40,000

Parts of the original castle sit under this behemoth,

179

00:11:40,000 --> 00:11:44,000

and there has long been a rumor that there may be tunnels that lead to the amber chamber.

180

00:11:44,000 --> 00:11:46,000

But is it true?

181

00:11:46,000 --> 00:11:48,000

I'll need to get inside to find out.

182

00:11:48,000 --> 00:11:51,000

All I have to do is get past the local security guard.

183

00:11:53,000 --> 00:11:54,000

Hi.

184

00:11:54,000 --> 00:11:55,000

Go!

185

00:11:56,000 --> 00:11:57,000

Potom!

186

00:12:05,000 --> 00:12:07,000

I'm in the former German city of Königsberg,

187

00:12:07,000 --> 00:12:10,000

where I'm hot on the trail of the missing amber chamber,

188

00:12:10,000 --> 00:12:14,000

an entire room stolen from Russia by the Nazis in World War II.

189

00:12:14,000 --> 00:12:16,000

The Third Reich moved it here,

190

00:12:16,000 --> 00:12:20,000

in a castle that was then bombed to pieces by the Allies.

191

00:12:20,000 --> 00:12:24,000

I'm trying to get inside an abandoned building built over the ruins

192

00:12:24,000 --> 00:12:27,000

to see if there's any evidence the chamber could still be here.

193

00:12:32,000 --> 00:12:33,000

Hi.

194

00:12:33,000 --> 00:12:34,000

No!

195

00:12:35,000 --> 00:12:36,000

Potom!

196

00:12:37,000 --> 00:12:39,000

Well, that didn't go exactly as I hoped.

197

00:12:39,000 --> 00:12:40,000

What happened there?

198

00:12:40,000 --> 00:12:44,000

It's times like this when I'm grateful to have a Russian translator lurking in the background

199

00:12:44,000 --> 00:12:45,000

and just off camera.

200

00:12:45,000 --> 00:12:46,000

Why don't you talk to him for a minute?

201

00:12:46,000 --> 00:12:47,000

I'll wait over here.

202

00:12:48,000 --> 00:12:52,000

We'll let my translator here talk to that gentleman for a moment and see what happens.

203

00:12:56,000 --> 00:12:58,000

Okay, so it's not looking good.

204

00:12:58,000 --> 00:12:59,000

Here, stop filming.

205

00:12:59,000 --> 00:13:01,000

But after being asked to shut down my cameras,

206

00:13:01,000 --> 00:13:04,000

followed by a lengthy negotiation,

207

00:13:04,000 --> 00:13:05,000

I'm being allowed inside.

208

00:13:05,000 --> 00:13:06,000

Let's perceive it.

209

00:13:06,000 --> 00:13:07,000

Eva.

210

00:13:09,000 --> 00:13:13,000

I've gone from being shut out entirely to having full run of the place,

211

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

and what a place it is.

212

00:13:15,000 --> 00:13:17,000

First, I'm going to check the basement to find out

213

00:13:17,000 --> 00:13:20,000

if there really are any secret passages down there.

214

00:13:21,000 --> 00:13:24,000

Going downstairs, it gets very dark, very quick.

215

00:13:24,000 --> 00:13:26,000

There's no electricity here.

216

00:13:29,000 --> 00:13:30,000

Really dangerous.

217

00:13:30,000 --> 00:13:33,000

Just open staircases, no railings left.

218

00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:36,000

It's damn creepy down here,

219

00:13:36,000 --> 00:13:39,000

but if the rumors are true, the amber room could be within reach.

220

00:13:42,000 --> 00:13:44,000

I mean, it is just pitch black down here.

221

00:13:49,000 --> 00:13:53,000

This is the basement level.

222

00:13:57,000 --> 00:13:59,000

Looks like a dead end.

223

00:13:59,000 --> 00:14:04,000

So this is it, the end of the line down here in the basement of the house of the Soviets.

224

00:14:04,000 --> 00:14:09,000

It's nothing but garbage and razor wire, and there's nothing down here.

225

00:14:09,000 --> 00:14:15,000

It just ends in poured concrete slab, and no doors, no passages, just end of the line.

226

00:14:16,000 --> 00:14:19,000

My search didn't reveal any secret passages that I can see,

227

00:14:19,000 --> 00:14:22,000

but before I leave, I'm making a quick climb to the roof

228

00:14:22,000 --> 00:14:26,000

to get a view of the castle's footprint that extends beyond the house of the Soviets.

229

00:14:26,000 --> 00:14:29,000

The building is literally falling apart,

230

00:14:29,000 --> 00:14:34,000

and as you can see, there's just cracks and huge sections of concrete that have tumbled off.

231

00:14:37,000 --> 00:14:39,000

And the roof.

232

00:14:41,000 --> 00:14:42,000

Wow.

233

00:14:43,000 --> 00:14:46,000

Well, bad building, grave view.

234

00:14:47,000 --> 00:14:50,000

From the roof, you can see the ghostly outline of Königsberg Castle.

235

00:14:50,000 --> 00:14:53,000

The Nazis brought the amber room here in 1941,

236

00:14:53,000 --> 00:14:58,000

but at the end of the war, the ancient fortress was demolished by the Allies.

237

00:14:58,000 --> 00:15:01,000

This is all that's left of Königsberg Castle.

238

00:15:01,000 --> 00:15:04,000

Other than that, it's just been utterly destroyed.

239

00:15:04,000 --> 00:15:08,000

Many believe the amber room lies hidden somewhere beneath the ruins.

240

00:15:08,000 --> 00:15:13,000

They've just recently started excavating this area over here to get down to some of the basement

levels.

241

00:15:13,000 --> 00:15:17,000

Even now, some 70 years later, the Russians are still looking.

242

00:15:19,000 --> 00:15:20,000

Crazy.

243

00:15:21,000 --> 00:15:27,000

Avenir Azayanov is the chief historian for the castle's excavation on the other side of the courtyard.

244

00:15:27,000 --> 00:15:33,000

So far, they've turned up rare artifacts from precious past and even stonework from the Middle Ages.

245

00:15:33,000 --> 00:15:36,000

But what about the amber chamber? Is it still here?

246

00:15:36,000 --> 00:15:38,000

Take me back in time a little bit.

247

00:15:38,000 --> 00:15:40,000

Today we're standing in what looks like ruins,

248

00:15:40,000 --> 00:15:44,000

but what would this castle have looked like before 1944?

249

00:15:44,000 --> 00:15:48,000

We know that the amber is the castle's main source of history.

250

00:15:48,000 --> 00:15:53,000

We know that the amber room was here in this castle, yes?

251

00:15:58,000 --> 00:16:05,000

143 items from the amber room arrived in Königsberg along with three boxes filled with pieces of amber.

252

00:16:05,000 --> 00:16:09,000

They set up the room on the first floor on the southern part of the King's Castle.

253

00:16:09,000 --> 00:16:14,000

The amber panels were within 500 feet of where we are standing now.

254

00:16:14,000 --> 00:16:18,000

Have any substantial pieces of the amber panels ever been found?

255

00:16:25,000 --> 00:16:29,000

What they found in the summer of 1945 was small pieces,

256

00:16:29,000 --> 00:16:33,000

but none of the bronze connectors holding the pieces together were ever found.

257

00:16:34,000 --> 00:16:37,000

Which means the masterpiece might have been moved to Germany.

258

00:16:37,000 --> 00:16:42,000

There is a German historian who believes the amber room is hidden in the forest near Oswald.

259

00:16:42,000 --> 00:16:48,000

And further south, a treasure hunter has good evidence that parts of the room might be buried in a mine.

260

00:16:48,000 --> 00:16:51,000

Thank you very much for your time. I appreciate it.

261

00:16:51,000 --> 00:16:55,000

Thank you so much.

262

00:16:55,000 --> 00:17:00,000

His team believes that there are two solid leads for possible locations for the amber chamber.

263

00:17:00,000 --> 00:17:02,000

Both are in Germany.

264

00:17:05,000 --> 00:17:10,000

After eight hours aboard the train, it's clear that we're not in Russia anymore.

265

00:17:10,000 --> 00:17:13,000

Station stop Berlin.

266

00:17:17,000 --> 00:17:21,000

Few places have had a more dramatic turnaround than this storied city.

267

00:17:21,000 --> 00:17:26,000

This was once the tightly regimented nerve center of the Nazi Empire.

268

00:17:26,000 --> 00:17:31,000

Today, it's absolutely alive with a youthful artistic pulse.

269

00:17:31,000 --> 00:17:35,000

Even the Berlin Wall, once a gray, monolithic symbol of division,

270

00:17:35,000 --> 00:17:39,000

is now a kaleidoscopic canvas for free expression.

271

00:17:39,000 --> 00:17:42,000

I'd love to stay a while, but my train is rolling on.

272

00:17:48,000 --> 00:17:52,000

A few stops later, I disembark in the quaint town of Oswald, Germany.

273

00:17:52,000 --> 00:17:54,000

Good day. Hello.

274

00:17:54,000 --> 00:17:57,000

Hello. Can I make an breakfast?

275

00:18:01,000 --> 00:18:03,000

Alright, look at that.

276

00:18:03,000 --> 00:18:07,000

I mean, that is the largest bun that you have available.

277

00:18:07,000 --> 00:18:10,000

Okay, I'll take it. Look at that.

278

00:18:13,000 --> 00:18:16,000

Bratwurst? Check.

279

00:18:16,000 --> 00:18:19,000

Let's go treasure hunting.

280

00:18:23,000 --> 00:18:26,000

This is author and historian Matthias Gluba.

281

00:18:26,000 --> 00:18:31,000

He has a compelling new theory that the amber room was transported here to Oswald by train,

282

00:18:31,000 --> 00:18:34,000

along with some seriously dangerous cargo.

283

00:18:34,000 --> 00:18:37,000

Okay, what have we got here?

284

00:18:37,000 --> 00:18:43,000

This is a classified aerial photograph taken by the US Air Force in 1945.

285

00:18:43,000 --> 00:18:49,000

It details the transport of two massive cannons from Konigsberg to Avisweider by train.

286

00:18:49,000 --> 00:18:53,000

The cannons he's talking about are known as Dora and Gustav.

287

00:18:53,000 --> 00:18:56,000

They are the two biggest guns ever built.

288

00:18:56,000 --> 00:19:02,000

They were designed to ride on existing rail lines and fired 16,000-pound projectiles.

289

00:19:02,000 --> 00:19:07,000

Had Hitler been able to deploy them, they may have changed the outcome of the war.

290

00:19:07,000 --> 00:19:10,000

Tell me how this links to the amber chamber.

291

00:19:10,000 --> 00:19:14,000

Train cars were used to transport the components of each gun.

292

00:19:14,000 --> 00:19:20,000

But along with the cannons, there are reports that they also loaded the convoy with a secret cargo.

293

00:19:20,000 --> 00:19:27,000

It turns out Gluba has uncovered a previously top-secret document that just might point right to the treasure.

294

00:19:33,000 --> 00:19:39,000

In 1941, the Nazis stole a priceless piece of Russian art, a room crusted with amber and gold.

295

00:19:39,000 --> 00:19:43,000

It may have been moved by train to Germany, where it vanished.

296

00:19:44,000 --> 00:19:51,000

Historian Matthias Gluba has uncovered new evidence that the amber chamber could be here in the German town of Oswald.

297

00:19:51,000 --> 00:19:58,000

This is a top-secret Air Force intelligence photo from 1945 that Matthias dug out of the archives in Berlin.

298

00:19:59,000 --> 00:20:03,000

46 train cars were used to transport the components of each gun.

299

00:20:04,000 --> 00:20:09,000

But along with the cannons, there are reports that the convoy was traveling with a secret cargo.

300

00:20:09,000 --> 00:20:17,000

This photo shows six extra cars on the train that were unaccounted for on official documents, but rumored to be carrying wooden crates.

301

00:20:18,000 --> 00:20:22,000

So when the Allied forces made it here, what did they find when they made it to this depot?

302

00:20:22,000 --> 00:20:28,000

The rail cars carrying the pieces of the gun were all still full of their cargo.

303

00:20:29,000 --> 00:20:32,000

However, six of the rail cars were completely empty.

304

00:20:32,000 --> 00:20:37,000

And do you think it's possible that the chamber could have been taken off these rail cars and hidden somewhere?

305

00:20:37,000 --> 00:20:39,000

I think it's highly likely.

306

00:20:40,000 --> 00:20:45,000

If the chamber was taken out of those wagons, where could they possibly have hidden it around here, that the Allies wouldn't have found it?

307

00:20:46,000 --> 00:20:47,000

Is this Allied's glen there?

308

00:20:47,000 --> 00:20:51,000

There was a road that led from the train depot towards the Bunker in the forest.

309

00:20:51,000 --> 00:20:55,000

That would be the perfect place to hide the boxes carrying the amber room.

310

00:20:55,000 --> 00:20:56,000

Are these bunkers still there?

311

00:20:56,000 --> 00:20:59,000

Some were bombed, but for the most part, yes.

312

00:21:00,000 --> 00:21:04,000

If these documents are accurate, the amber room could be hidden in these forgotten bunkers.

313

00:21:04,000 --> 00:21:09,000

It doesn't take long for me to hike up to the forests, and Gluba has loaned me a German map of the Nazi compound.

314

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

So, I came in off the road here.

315

00:21:15,000 --> 00:21:18,000

There should be a series of these bunkers on my left on this trail.

316

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

This might be one here.

317

00:21:24,000 --> 00:21:26,000

You see how this whole thing is moving?

318

00:21:28,000 --> 00:21:29,000

It's moving.

319

00:21:29,000 --> 00:21:30,000

This might be one here.

320

00:21:32,000 --> 00:21:35,000

You see how this whole thing rises up like that?

321

00:21:35,000 --> 00:21:37,000

Yep, it is. It definitely is. Check this out.

322

00:21:39,000 --> 00:21:41,000

These are big concrete blocks.

323

00:21:48,000 --> 00:21:50,000

Looks like more bunker pieces here.

324

00:21:52,000 --> 00:21:53,000

Same thing.

325

00:21:54,000 --> 00:21:56,000

There's just nothing left here.

326

00:21:57,000 --> 00:21:59,000

When the Allies came in here, they just took these things down.

327

00:21:59,000 --> 00:22:01,000

You can see how thick these walls used to be.

328

00:22:01,000 --> 00:22:05,000

And now it's just a big open crater, just totally bombed to pieces.

329

00:22:07,000 --> 00:22:09,000

Okay, that's one down. Just keep checking them off.

330

00:22:12,000 --> 00:22:16,000

The Nazis were obsessed with the amber room, and they would have done anything to keep it.

331

00:22:16,000 --> 00:22:22,000

Most of these bunkers were destroyed near the end of World War II, but based on Matthias' promising leads,

332

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

I'm excited to see if one could still be intact.

333

00:22:26,000 --> 00:22:32,000

Okay, according to the map, there's supposed to be a really huge underground area

334

00:22:32,000 --> 00:22:35,000

that may not have been bombed somewhere in these woods.

335

00:22:44,000 --> 00:22:46,000

Oh, look at this. Check this out.

336

00:22:46,000 --> 00:22:50,000

Another one. This one's not collapsed. It's like a chimney.

337

00:22:50,000 --> 00:22:54,000

I mean, I don't know where that goes, but it's huge down there.

338

00:22:54,000 --> 00:22:56,000

That's freaky.

339

00:22:56,000 --> 00:23:00,000

This looks like one of the bunkers, and it may still be in one piece.

340

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

Unfortunately, I can't fit inside.

341

00:23:02,000 --> 00:23:06,000

But with a little jury rigging, my camera can do the work for me.

342

00:23:15,000 --> 00:23:18,000

I thought camera's under water. See what it sees.

343

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

I mean, it's crazy. It's like a f\*\*\*ing horror movie.

344

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

I am like halfway convinced I'm going to see a skeleton down here.

345

00:23:29,000 --> 00:23:30,000

Okay, come out.

346

00:23:34,000 --> 00:23:36,000

I want to see what's on this thing.

347

00:23:38,000 --> 00:23:39,000

A little musty.

348

00:23:42,000 --> 00:23:44,000

Let's see what we got here.

349

00:23:44,000 --> 00:23:49,000

As I play back the footage, I'm hoping for any signs of treasure or for another entrance.

350

00:23:49,000 --> 00:23:53,000

You see debris, branches. Water looks pretty filthy.

351

00:23:53,000 --> 00:23:55,000

It's like a big domed bunker.

352

00:23:56,000 --> 00:23:58,000

Can't tell how deep the water is, but...

353

00:23:59,000 --> 00:24:00,000

Oh, right there.

354

00:24:01,000 --> 00:24:02,000

Look at that!

355

00:24:09,000 --> 00:24:11,000

It's a huge room. It looks domed.

356

00:24:12,000 --> 00:24:16,000

It's like a big domed bunker. Can't tell how deep the water is.

357

00:24:17,000 --> 00:24:20,000

The amber room could be right under my feet.

358

00:24:21,000 --> 00:24:22,000

Oh, right there.

359

00:24:23,000 --> 00:24:24,000

Look at that!

360

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

That looks like another opening right there.

361

00:24:26,000 --> 00:24:28,000

Might be another one of these chimney things.

362

00:24:28,000 --> 00:24:31,000

Let's go see if we can figure out where the light source is coming from.

363

00:24:43,000 --> 00:24:44,000

Oh, look at this!

364

00:24:45,000 --> 00:24:46,000

This is it!

365

00:24:47,000 --> 00:24:50,000

This is the other light that I was seeing from down there. Huge opening.

366

00:24:53,000 --> 00:24:55,000

This is a much better view down there.

367

00:24:55,000 --> 00:24:57,000

I can see some sort of...

368

00:24:57,000 --> 00:24:59,000

Looks like a metal container even.

369

00:25:02,000 --> 00:25:04,000

And just debris everywhere.

370

00:25:05,000 --> 00:25:07,000

This is definitely that entrance that I was seeing the light from down there.

371

00:25:07,000 --> 00:25:08,000

It's all one chamber.

372

00:25:09,000 --> 00:25:10,000

Much bigger entrance though.

373

00:25:10,000 --> 00:25:12,000

Fortunately or unfortunately,

374

00:25:12,000 --> 00:25:14,000

I think I can fit down this one.

375

00:25:14,000 --> 00:25:16,000

So, I should get down there and check it out.

376

00:25:19,000 --> 00:25:20,000

It's getting dark.

377

00:25:21,000 --> 00:25:24,000

And, it's about to get a whole lot darker.

378

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

Let's go check this out.

379

00:25:28,000 --> 00:25:31,000

I break out boots and what few supplies I have.

380

00:25:31,000 --> 00:25:32,000

Okay.

381

00:25:33,000 --> 00:25:34,000

This is gonna be terrible.

382

00:25:43,000 --> 00:25:44,000

This is terrible.

383

00:25:48,000 --> 00:25:50,000

It all spires all over the wall.

384

00:25:50,000 --> 00:25:52,000

As I descend into the depths of a bunker

385

00:25:52,000 --> 00:25:54,000

that was crawling with Nazis 70 years ago,

386

00:25:54,000 --> 00:25:58,000

I can't help but feel a little uneasy at what I might discover.

387

00:25:59,000 --> 00:26:00,000

Okay, I'm down.

388

00:26:02,000 --> 00:26:03,000

Holy f\*\*k!

389

00:26:03,000 --> 00:26:05,000

Look at this place.

390

00:26:07,000 --> 00:26:09,000

God, it's huge down here.

391

00:26:09,000 --> 00:26:10,000

It goes way back.

392

00:26:11,000 --> 00:26:13,000

It's just filled with debris.

393

00:26:13,000 --> 00:26:14,000

Muck and gunk.

394

00:26:14,000 --> 00:26:15,000

I mean, it's really bad.

395

00:26:27,000 --> 00:26:28,000

Whatever this is.

396

00:26:31,000 --> 00:26:34,000

I mean, it's probably the grossest water I've ever been in.

397

00:26:36,000 --> 00:26:38,000

There's gasoline or oil in the water.

398

00:26:39,000 --> 00:26:43,000

Oh, this whole piece of concrete that I'm on is totally unstable.

399

00:26:52,000 --> 00:26:55,000

This whole piece of concrete just wants to flip over.

400

00:26:55,000 --> 00:26:58,000

It's the only thing on here that's stable at this point.

401

00:27:03,000 --> 00:27:05,000

Oh, that just drops right off there, doesn't it?

402

00:27:05,000 --> 00:27:08,000

I managed to sort through as much of the debris as I can.

403

00:27:08,000 --> 00:27:11,000

But it's mostly twisted metal and military scraps.

404

00:27:11,000 --> 00:27:14,000

No sign of priceless artistic treasure.

405

00:27:14,000 --> 00:27:17,000

I think with this bunker being burned out the way it is,

406

00:27:17,000 --> 00:27:19,000

I think this might be another dead end,

407

00:27:19,000 --> 00:27:22,000

and I think it's probably not that safe to stay down here

408

00:27:22,000 --> 00:27:26,000

because this air feels really stale and smells really chemically.

409

00:27:26,000 --> 00:27:29,000

So I think I'm going to get the hell on out of here.

410

00:27:33,000 --> 00:27:35,000

While Gloobus theory is compelling,

411

00:27:35,000 --> 00:27:39,000

this particular bunker is trashed and was likely burned during the war.

412

00:27:39,000 --> 00:27:41,000

Still, with more time and resources,

413

00:27:41,000 --> 00:27:45,000

who knows what other relics could be found in these decaying structures.

414

00:27:51,000 --> 00:27:56,000

That is not where the amber chamber is,

415

00:27:56,000 --> 00:27:58,000

but it is pretty amazing.

416

00:27:59,000 --> 00:28:00,000

Wow.

417

00:28:01,000 --> 00:28:04,000

Can I get like 40 gallons of Purell, please?

418

00:28:05,000 --> 00:28:09,000

It's late and I'm beat, but German trains wait for no man.

419

00:28:13,000 --> 00:28:15,000

That'd be a long day of running around.

420

00:28:23,000 --> 00:28:26,000

A few hours later, the sun is up again, and so am I.

421

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

I'm disembarking to meet with an ex-CIA informant turned treasure hunter,

422

00:28:32,000 --> 00:28:35,000

who has details about what may be the most promising search

423

00:28:35,000 --> 00:28:37,000

for the amber chamber ever mounted.

424

00:28:40,000 --> 00:28:44,000

I can't help but notice an unguarded border to the Czech Republic,

425

00:28:44,000 --> 00:28:46,000

or the bar on the other side.

426

00:28:46,000 --> 00:28:48,000

Bucket list item number 237,

427

00:28:48,000 --> 00:28:51,000

illegally enjoy a beer in the Czech Republic.

428

00:28:51,000 --> 00:28:52,000

Check please.

429

00:28:53,000 --> 00:28:55,000

Check please, nobody.

430

00:28:56,000 --> 00:28:57,000

Okay, where were we?

431

00:28:57,000 --> 00:28:59,000

Ah yes, the ex-spy.

432

00:28:59,000 --> 00:29:01,000

Helmut Ganzel's espionage days are behind him,

433

00:29:01,000 --> 00:29:05,000

but he's managed to come into possession of a previously unpublished letter

434

00:29:05,000 --> 00:29:07,000

written by a German soldier,

435

00:29:07,000 --> 00:29:09,000

who was secretly transporting boxes from Königsberg

436

00:29:09,000 --> 00:29:13,000

to the nearby city of Ducznodorf in 1945.

437

00:29:15,000 --> 00:29:17,000

So these documents are written by a soldier,

438

00:29:17,000 --> 00:29:19,000

and he's driving this truck,

439

00:29:19,000 --> 00:29:21,000

and what does he say in the letter specifically?

440

00:29:21,000 --> 00:29:24,000

The letter describes a very mysterious shipment

441

00:29:24,000 --> 00:29:26,000

that came out from Königsberg.

442

00:29:27,000 --> 00:29:31,000

The boxes, it was kept very secret, nobody could talk about.

443

00:29:31,000 --> 00:29:33,000

Does he say how many crates there were?

444

00:29:33,000 --> 00:29:35,000

No, four trucks.

445

00:29:35,000 --> 00:29:36,000

Four trucks worth?

446

00:29:36,000 --> 00:29:37,000

So a lot.

447

00:29:37,000 --> 00:29:39,000

And did he see inside the boxes?

448

00:29:39,000 --> 00:29:40,000

He saw only one box,

449

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

and that's what they saw, that is kind of the mirror.

450

00:29:43,000 --> 00:29:44,000

That's a tantalizing detail,

451

00:29:44,000 --> 00:29:46,000

because we know that a lot of the amber chamber

452

00:29:46,000 --> 00:29:49,000

had these ornate mirrors and reflective pieces.

453

00:29:49,000 --> 00:29:52,000

A secret transport, two weeks and only going tonight,

454

00:29:52,000 --> 00:29:54,000

I think it was the amber.

455

00:29:56,000 --> 00:30:00,000

And where does he say that this secret shipment ends?

456

00:30:00,000 --> 00:30:02,000

About eight kilometers from Deutsche Neu-Dorf.

457

00:30:02,000 --> 00:30:04,000

In Deutsche Neu-Dorf, there are tunnels,

458

00:30:04,000 --> 00:30:05,000

about three kilometers.

459

00:30:05,000 --> 00:30:07,000

I'm sorry, does three kilometers of tunnels?

460

00:30:07,000 --> 00:30:10,000

I would say even more, if you put all together.

461

00:30:10,000 --> 00:30:14,000

The probability that they put it in there is very high.

462

00:30:14,000 --> 00:30:17,000

So if I'm going down there to Deutsche Neu-Dorf,

463

00:30:17,000 --> 00:30:19,000

who should I meet, who should I intersect with?

464

00:30:19,000 --> 00:30:22,000

Heinz Peterhaustern, he's the mayor of the town.

465

00:30:22,000 --> 00:30:24,000

And he's involved with the search?

466

00:30:24,000 --> 00:30:25,000

He is the search, right?

467

00:30:25,000 --> 00:30:26,000

He is.

468

00:30:26,000 --> 00:30:27,000

He is the search.

469

00:30:27,000 --> 00:30:29,000

So if helmets right, the Nazis hit the amber room

470

00:30:29,000 --> 00:30:31,000

in a German mine in Deutsche Neu-Dorf.

471

00:30:33,000 --> 00:30:35,000

And since my train doesn't run that way,

472

00:30:35,000 --> 00:30:38,000

I'm taking a more local mode of transportation.

473

00:30:38,000 --> 00:30:41,000

I've all gone to protect my mother,

474

00:30:41,000 --> 00:30:43,000

now I ain't got a bit of to my name.

475

00:30:43,000 --> 00:30:45,000

So I'm shooting this man,

476

00:30:45,000 --> 00:30:47,000

I walk somebody and say,

477

00:30:47,000 --> 00:30:49,000

you're all his bitch.

478

00:30:49,000 --> 00:30:52,000

Now this is what I call a bike,

479

00:30:52,000 --> 00:30:55,000

riding in style through the German countryside.

480

00:30:55,000 --> 00:30:57,000

This baby here is state of the art.

481

00:31:05,000 --> 00:31:07,000

I've just lost a few parts.

482

00:31:07,000 --> 00:31:09,000

Come on girl.

483

00:31:09,000 --> 00:31:12,000

I'm tearing across the German countryside

484

00:31:12,000 --> 00:31:14,000

on the hunt for a priceless relic,

485

00:31:14,000 --> 00:31:16,000

known as the amber chamber.

486

00:31:16,000 --> 00:31:18,000

After pulling the bike off the road,

487

00:31:18,000 --> 00:31:21,000

I hiked through the woods only to find this.

488

00:31:23,000 --> 00:31:27,000

Heavy equipment and a group armed with high-tech scanners.

489

00:31:27,000 --> 00:31:29,000

One of the team members

490

00:31:29,000 --> 00:31:31,000

had a very good idea of what to do

491

00:31:31,000 --> 00:31:33,000

with the German mine.

492

00:31:33,000 --> 00:31:35,000

And I was able to find the right place

493

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

to take the bike.

494

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

One of the team members, Paul,

495

00:31:40,000 --> 00:31:42,000

introduces me to Peter Hausstein,

496

00:31:42,000 --> 00:31:44,000

the mayor of Deutsch-Nedorf.

497

00:31:44,000 --> 00:31:46,000

Hello, Peter, nice to meet you.

498

00:31:46,000 --> 00:31:48,000

What's going on up here?

499

00:31:48,000 --> 00:31:50,000

It seems like you guys have a full-scale operation going here.

500

00:32:04,000 --> 00:32:06,000

Right under our feet,

501

00:32:06,000 --> 00:32:08,000

we have a lot of mines,

502

00:32:08,000 --> 00:32:11,000

and we think it's in one of these mines underneath the ground.

503

00:32:11,000 --> 00:32:14,000

And so have you been able to get inside the mines at all,

504

00:32:14,000 --> 00:32:16,000

or you're just trying to find a way down into them?

505

00:32:16,000 --> 00:32:18,000

This is Bergwerk-Vertunasstall,

506

00:32:18,000 --> 00:32:20,000

deckname Orfe.

507

00:32:20,000 --> 00:32:22,000

Well, you have to understand, there was a factory here.

508

00:32:22,000 --> 00:32:24,000

This factory is where the shipments from Konigsberg

509

00:32:24,000 --> 00:32:26,000

were said to have been brought.

510

00:32:26,000 --> 00:32:28,000

But it wasn't until 15 years ago

511

00:32:28,000 --> 00:32:31,000

that anyone in the town knew that the factory had a secret.

512

00:32:31,000 --> 00:32:34,000

It had been built atop a massive silver mine

513

00:32:34,000 --> 00:32:37,000

that was found nearly 300 years earlier.

514

00:32:37,000 --> 00:32:39,000

Coincidence? Probably not,

515

00:32:39,000 --> 00:32:42,000

since there was an entrance to the mine in the bowels of the factory.

516

00:32:42,000 --> 00:32:44,000

So what was being hidden down there?

517

00:32:45,000 --> 00:32:49,000

What Peter then did with the support of the people and the government

518

00:32:49,000 --> 00:32:53,000

is to remove that factory and find the way to the entrance.

519

00:32:53,000 --> 00:32:56,000

Have you been able to enter any of the mine from above,

520

00:32:56,000 --> 00:32:58,000

or only the one entrance where the factory was?

521

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

I often didn't think of it.

522

00:33:01,000 --> 00:33:03,000

This is a pretty impressive operation.

523

00:33:03,000 --> 00:33:05,000

I mean, you've got heavy equipment up here,

524

00:33:05,000 --> 00:33:07,000

you've got very high-tech gear.

525

00:33:07,000 --> 00:33:09,000

Do you need any help? I'd be happy to run that thing.

526

00:33:11,000 --> 00:33:13,000

Can I maybe put this thing in?

527

00:33:13,000 --> 00:33:15,000

No, come on. Really?

528

00:33:15,000 --> 00:33:19,000

I promise you that you just made a huge mistake, sir.

529

00:33:19,000 --> 00:33:21,000

I'm definitely going to break this thing.

530

00:33:21,000 --> 00:33:23,000

I'll find that chamber right now.

531

00:33:23,000 --> 00:33:25,000

This is crazy.

532

00:33:25,000 --> 00:33:28,000

I swear I have my German excavator driver's license.

533

00:33:28,000 --> 00:33:29,000

Okay?

534

00:33:29,000 --> 00:33:30,000

Oh, that's awesome.

535

00:33:30,000 --> 00:33:31,000

If I do find the amber room,

536

00:33:31,000 --> 00:33:34,000

let's hope I don't crush it with my new toy.

537

00:33:34,000 --> 00:33:37,000

Okay. This is...

538

00:33:37,000 --> 00:33:39,000

This doesn't look very complicated.

539

00:33:39,000 --> 00:33:42,000

I've seen aliens. This is exactly like the thing from aliens, right?

540

00:33:42,000 --> 00:33:45,000

So this is...

541

00:33:45,000 --> 00:33:48,000

Uh-huh. Bucket goes down, bucket goes up.

542

00:33:48,000 --> 00:33:50,000

Arm goes up, arm goes down.

543

00:33:50,000 --> 00:33:52,000

What does this one do?

544

00:33:52,000 --> 00:33:53,000

It turns the machine.

545

00:33:53,000 --> 00:33:56,000

Is this like a rocket launcher or a...

546

00:33:56,000 --> 00:33:58,000

Horn? Got it.

547

00:33:58,000 --> 00:33:59,000

Found the horn.

548

00:33:59,000 --> 00:34:01,000

Okay, here we go.

549

00:34:07,000 --> 00:34:09,000

I'm doing good. Look at this.

550

00:34:09,000 --> 00:34:11,000

Good.

551

00:34:11,000 --> 00:34:13,000

Guys, can I join your team permanently?

552

00:34:13,000 --> 00:34:15,000

Absolutely, you can.

553

00:34:15,000 --> 00:34:17,000

This is a multinational effort,

554

00:34:17,000 --> 00:34:20,000

Germans and Americans working together in harmony.

555

00:34:20,000 --> 00:34:23,000

I'd like to apologize for that phone tapping thing.

556

00:34:23,000 --> 00:34:26,000

So, no sign of the amber chamber just yet.

557

00:34:26,000 --> 00:34:28,000

We're down about 15, 20 feet here.

558

00:34:28,000 --> 00:34:31,000

Any chance you can show me what's underneath us here?

559

00:34:31,000 --> 00:34:34,000

I'm a little eager to get down there and see what you got.

560

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

Absolutely, you can.

561

00:34:35,000 --> 00:34:36,000

Yeah?

562

00:34:36,000 --> 00:34:37,000

Oh, come on.

563

00:34:37,000 --> 00:34:40,000

All right. I'll just leave all this running,

564

00:34:40,000 --> 00:34:43,000

because otherwise I'm going to drive into this hole and kill myself.

565

00:34:43,000 --> 00:34:44,000

Okay, all right.

566

00:34:44,000 --> 00:34:46,000

I love the mare.

567

00:34:46,000 --> 00:34:48,000

The mare says goes.

568

00:34:48,000 --> 00:34:50,000

Let's go, guys.

569

00:34:53,000 --> 00:34:56,000

Just beyond the tree line, the mare leads me to a building

570

00:34:56,000 --> 00:34:58,000

where the old factory once stood.

571

00:34:58,000 --> 00:35:02,000

Beneath our feet are purportedly miles of pitch black serpentine tunnels.

572

00:35:05,000 --> 00:35:06,000

Wow.

573

00:35:06,000 --> 00:35:08,000

The mare is willing to give me unprecedented access

574

00:35:08,000 --> 00:35:11,000

to the deepest point of the mine that they've been able to reach.

575

00:35:12,000 --> 00:35:15,000

I'm excited, but I'm not sure this yellow coat or hard hat

576

00:35:15,000 --> 00:35:19,000

is much of a match for the thousands of tons of rock above my head.

577

00:35:20,000 --> 00:35:21,000

Yeah?

578

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

We look good.

579

00:35:22,000 --> 00:35:23,000

We're done.

580

00:35:25,000 --> 00:35:26,000

This is the mine.

581

00:35:26,000 --> 00:35:28,000

Oh, yeah, it is.

582

00:35:28,000 --> 00:35:29,000

Oh my God.

583

00:35:29,000 --> 00:35:32,000

So, yeah, obviously this is the entrance here.

584

00:35:32,000 --> 00:35:36,000

This door was once hidden behind a factory wall in Nazi Germany.

585

00:35:36,000 --> 00:35:40,000

Now that it's been revealed, it's time to see what secrets are inside.

586

00:35:41,000 --> 00:35:43,000

That is terrifying looking.

587

00:35:43,000 --> 00:35:44,000

Lead on.

588

00:35:44,000 --> 00:35:46,000

Here we go.

589

00:35:52,000 --> 00:35:54,000

This is crazy.

590

00:35:54,000 --> 00:35:55,000

There's no doubt about it.

591

00:35:55,000 --> 00:35:59,000

This is a mine, a creepy, secret and very old mine.

592

00:35:59,000 --> 00:36:02,000

This is actually really old stonework.

593

00:36:02,000 --> 00:36:03,000

It's amazing.

594

00:36:03,000 --> 00:36:05,000

It's like it's cut out of the rock,

595

00:36:05,000 --> 00:36:08,000

but then you see these sort of beautiful arches and tunnels

596

00:36:08,000 --> 00:36:10,000

from when they built this mine out of the rock.

597

00:36:10,000 --> 00:36:12,000

And it's like, it's like a rock.

598

00:36:12,000 --> 00:36:13,000

It's like a rock.

599

00:36:13,000 --> 00:36:14,000

It's like a rock.

600

00:36:14,000 --> 00:36:15,000

It's like a rock.

601

00:36:15,000 --> 00:36:16,000

It's like a rock.

602

00:36:16,000 --> 00:36:17,000

It's like a rock.

603

00:36:17,000 --> 00:36:18,000

It's like a rock.

604

00:36:18,000 --> 00:36:19,000

It's like a rock.

605

00:36:19,000 --> 00:36:20,000

It's like a rock.

606

00:36:20,000 --> 00:36:23,000

There are arches and tunnels from when they built this mine out, I think.

607

00:36:23,000 --> 00:36:24,000

None of the stuff's new.

608

00:36:24,000 --> 00:36:26,000

It was built out this way originally, it looks like.

609

00:36:30,000 --> 00:36:33,000

These tools were used by the very first people who built this mine

610

00:36:33,000 --> 00:36:35,000

in the 17th century.

611

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

Back then, it was being explored for silver and copper deposits.

612

00:36:39,000 --> 00:36:40,000

I mean, this was there.

613

00:36:40,000 --> 00:36:42,000

This was the high-tech tools of the day, right?

614

00:36:42,000 --> 00:36:43,000

They didn't have more.

615

00:36:43,000 --> 00:36:46,000

And using just this, how much progress would they make?

616

00:36:46,000 --> 00:36:48,000

Maybe six meters a year.

617

00:36:48,000 --> 00:36:49,000

18 feet a year.

618

00:36:49,000 --> 00:36:52,000

We're working through 500 years of work.

619

00:36:52,000 --> 00:36:53,000

It's like a time machine.

620

00:36:53,000 --> 00:36:54,000

It is like a time machine.

621

00:36:54,000 --> 00:36:55,000

That's amazing.

622

00:36:55,000 --> 00:36:58,000

And despite their slow progress in carving these tunnels,

623

00:36:58,000 --> 00:37:02,000

what they accomplished down here is nothing short of breathtaking.

624

00:37:03,000 --> 00:37:05,000

It's like coming into a big chamber.

625

00:37:05,000 --> 00:37:06,000

Oh my God.

626

00:37:07,000 --> 00:37:08,000

Look at this.

627

00:37:09,000 --> 00:37:11,000

Look at this place.

628

00:37:11,000 --> 00:37:12,000

Are you kidding me?

629

00:37:12,000 --> 00:37:14,000

This is unbelievable.

630

00:37:14,000 --> 00:37:16,000

Look at the stonework.

631

00:37:16,000 --> 00:37:18,000

I mean, this is like Lord of the Rings down here.

632

00:37:18,000 --> 00:37:19,000

How tall is this room?

633

00:37:19,000 --> 00:37:21,000

It's in 30 meters.

634

00:37:21,000 --> 00:37:23,000

About 30 meters high from here.

635

00:37:23,000 --> 00:37:24,000

Almost 100 feet tall.

636

00:37:24,000 --> 00:37:28,000

And all of this looks like it's hand-laid brick and arches.

637

00:37:28,000 --> 00:37:30,000

When were these arches made?

638

00:37:30,000 --> 00:37:31,000

It was hundreds of years.

639

00:37:31,000 --> 00:37:32,000

17th century?

640

00:37:32,000 --> 00:37:34,000

Yeah, 17th century, exactly.

641

00:37:34,000 --> 00:37:36,000

Do you guys have a dragon down here?

642

00:37:36,000 --> 00:37:38,000

No, we haven't found one yet.

643

00:37:38,000 --> 00:37:40,000

It's like something out of a movie.

644

00:37:40,000 --> 00:37:42,000

This place is totally insane.

645

00:37:43,000 --> 00:37:46,000

Speaking of insane, I can't help but notice the pumps

646

00:37:46,000 --> 00:37:49,000

that are being used to drain water out of a mine.

647

00:37:49,000 --> 00:37:51,000

And so this is keeping the mine from flooding?

648

00:37:51,000 --> 00:37:52,000

Exactly.

649

00:37:52,000 --> 00:37:54,000

Okay, so let's hope that keeps working.

650

00:37:54,000 --> 00:37:58,000

Without these systems in place, the mine could flood at any moment.

651

00:38:02,000 --> 00:38:03,000

That looks safe.

652

00:38:03,000 --> 00:38:04,000

That's a lot of water.

653

00:38:04,000 --> 00:38:06,000

I think it's going to be a lot of water.

654

00:38:06,000 --> 00:38:08,000

I think it's going to be a lot of water.

655

00:38:08,000 --> 00:38:09,000

It's safe.

656

00:38:12,000 --> 00:38:17,000

You can see they've just jammed everything from steel rods to parts of trees.

657

00:38:17,000 --> 00:38:20,000

Try to keep the chamber from collapsing.

658

00:38:21,000 --> 00:38:23,000

How old are these supports, Paul?

659

00:38:23,000 --> 00:38:26,000

How old are these arches?

660

00:38:26,000 --> 00:38:28,000

350 years.

661

00:38:28,000 --> 00:38:29,000

350 years.

662

00:38:30,000 --> 00:38:31,000

This looks up to code.

663

00:38:33,000 --> 00:38:34,000

Charles, come on.

664

00:38:34,000 --> 00:38:35,000

I'm coming.

665

00:38:35,000 --> 00:38:36,000

I'm coming.

666

00:38:36,000 --> 00:38:37,000

Here, Charles.

667

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

Okay, here you go.

668

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

The water still separates us from this treasure.

669

00:38:40,000 --> 00:38:43,000

So they want to go in here in this shaft

670

00:38:43,000 --> 00:38:45,000

because they suppose there's another room.

671

00:38:45,000 --> 00:38:48,000

Are you saying that there's another level underneath this?

672

00:38:48,000 --> 00:38:49,000

New floor.

673

00:38:49,000 --> 00:38:51,000

Yeah, exactly what you're saying.

674

00:38:53,000 --> 00:38:56,000

It's all flooded down there, but you can see that it does.

675

00:38:56,000 --> 00:38:58,000

It goes into another chamber.

676

00:38:58,000 --> 00:39:01,000

Okay, so we can't get down in this area yet,

677

00:39:01,000 --> 00:39:03,000

but we can keep pushing forward.

678

00:39:07,000 --> 00:39:09,000

Looks like there's a number of tunnels down here

679

00:39:09,000 --> 00:39:11,000

that they haven't fully cleared,

680

00:39:11,000 --> 00:39:16,000

so he's taking us down to areas that have not been explored.

681

00:39:17,000 --> 00:39:19,000

Okay, so left.

682

00:39:19,000 --> 00:39:20,000

Leaked?

683

00:39:20,000 --> 00:39:21,000

Okay.

684

00:39:21,000 --> 00:39:22,000

I caught him.

685

00:39:22,000 --> 00:39:24,000

Okay, here we go.

686

00:39:25,000 --> 00:39:28,000

An absolute labyrinth down here.

687

00:39:30,000 --> 00:39:32,000

The mine is getting smaller and more claustrophobic.

688

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

I've been walking for what seems like hours,

689

00:39:34,000 --> 00:39:38,000

and I know there's no way I could ever find my way to the surface alone.

690

00:39:38,000 --> 00:39:42,000

Finally, we come to what looks like an opening, sealed by rubble.

691

00:39:43,000 --> 00:39:46,000

No one has explored beyond this point.

692

00:39:46,000 --> 00:39:48,000

Could the amber room be here?

693

00:39:48,000 --> 00:39:50,000

There's only one way to find out.

694

00:39:50,000 --> 00:39:51,000

It goes up, yeah?

695

00:39:51,000 --> 00:39:52,000

Yes.

696

00:39:52,000 --> 00:39:53,000

Yeah, bring it down.

697

00:39:55,000 --> 00:39:56,000

You got it?

698

00:40:01,000 --> 00:40:02,000

Easy, sliding back.

699

00:40:05,000 --> 00:40:06,000

Yeah?

700

00:40:07,000 --> 00:40:08,000

Oh, it opens up.

701

00:40:08,000 --> 00:40:10,000

It definitely opens up here.

702

00:40:10,000 --> 00:40:13,000

This looks super sketchy, all this stuff.

703

00:40:13,000 --> 00:40:15,000

None of this has been reinforced.

704

00:40:15,000 --> 00:40:17,000

This is all old from the mine.

705

00:40:19,000 --> 00:40:22,000

It looks like part of a ladder, maybe.

706

00:40:22,000 --> 00:40:23,000

Careful, careful, careful.

707

00:40:23,000 --> 00:40:25,000

None of this looks like it's in good shape.

708

00:40:25,000 --> 00:40:28,000

This too, it's collapsed though.

709

00:40:30,000 --> 00:40:32,000

Yeah, that's all in there.

710

00:40:33,000 --> 00:40:36,000

Oh, oh, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back.

711

00:40:36,000 --> 00:40:37,000

Something's a little loose down there.

712

00:40:37,000 --> 00:40:38,000

Here.

713

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

Definitely not safe.

714

00:40:41,000 --> 00:40:43,000

Here we go, here we go.

715

00:40:44,000 --> 00:40:47,000

Let's go, let's get out of here, it's letting go.

716

00:40:53,000 --> 00:40:55,000

Hey, nice work.

717

00:40:55,000 --> 00:40:56,000

Let's get out of here.

718

00:40:56,000 --> 00:40:59,000

The mine is too unstable for us to go any further,

719

00:40:59,000 --> 00:41:02,000

and frankly, we're probably lucky to have made it back to here.

720

00:41:02,000 --> 00:41:04,000

The amber chamber's back there,

721

00:41:04,000 --> 00:41:07,000

and I gotta tell you, I am halfway convinced it could be.

722

00:41:07,000 --> 00:41:11,000

It's gonna need a lot of reinforcing of these walls to get to.

723

00:41:11,000 --> 00:41:13,000

It's not safe in there at all.

724

00:41:13,000 --> 00:41:17,000

This is as far as my journey is gonna take me.

725

00:41:17,000 --> 00:41:22,000

If I'm being honest, I can't help but feel that the amber room could really be here.

726

00:41:22,000 --> 00:41:25,000

But if it is, it's not going to be found today.

727

00:41:25,000 --> 00:41:28,000

The Nazis may have won this round, but I'll be back.

728

00:41:28,000 --> 00:41:30,000

Or at least the mayor will.

729

00:41:32,000 --> 00:41:36,000

In the end, what's so compelling about the amber chamber is not what's been lost,

730

00:41:36,000 --> 00:41:39,000

but what so many have labored passionately to find.

731

00:41:39,000 --> 00:41:45,000

In St. Petersburg, craftsmen have toiled for decades to recreate the pride of a nation.

732

00:41:45,000 --> 00:41:50,000

In Kaliningrad, relics stolen to a once mighty castle are being recovered.

733

00:41:50,000 --> 00:41:56,000

And deep beneath the surface, a historic mine is slowly revealing its own long-buried secrets.

734

00:41:58,000 --> 00:42:03,000

It seems fitting that the Nazis' divisive aim to covet and destroy great cultural treasures

735

00:42:03,000 --> 00:42:09,000

has only served to unite nations in a cooperative effort to preserve their heritage.

736

00:42:09,000 --> 00:42:12,000

There's no real, hard evidence that the amber chamber was destroyed,

737

00:42:12,000 --> 00:42:17,000

and as more masterpieces continue to turn up nearly three-quarters of a century after the war,

738

00:42:17,000 --> 00:42:20,000

perhaps the amber chamber is still out there,

739

00:42:20,000 --> 00:42:24,000

waiting patiently for someone to bring it back into the light.