

1

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

We are descending down towards the bottom. There's a pirate ship down here somewhere.

2

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

Well, we got a wreck down here. Big wreck! This looks like a carrier chest. It's armed so we won't off the level.

3

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

When most people hear the name Captain Morgan, it conjures up the image of a drunken, amiable pirate with a leg up on a cask of his namesake rum.

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00:00:40,000 --> 00:00:47,000

But Sir Henry Morgan was all too real. He was, in short, the most successful pirate in history.

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00:00:47,000 --> 00:00:59,000

But in 1671, Morgan steers his flagship, the Satisfaction, onto a razor-sharp reef off the coast of Panama, where it sinks and is lost for centuries.

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

But now, there are reports that it may have been found.

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

Recently, a team from Texas State University, led by underwater archaeologist Fritz Hanselman, located and raised six cannons that may be from Morgan's ship.

8

00:01:13,000 --> 00:01:16,000

Then, they made a truly shocking find.

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00:01:17,000 --> 00:01:21,000

The remains of an entire 17th century vessel. But is it Morgan's?

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00:01:21,000 --> 00:01:27,000

Inside the hull are nearly 100 unopened chests, just waiting to be brought to the surface.

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00:01:30,000 --> 00:01:40,000

While I'd be lying if I said I didn't have visions of pirate treasure dancing in my head, I'm also hopeful to understand the man behind the rum label, who was Morgan.

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00:01:40,000 --> 00:01:50,000

Does he deserve to be remembered as a daring privateer or reviled as a bloodthirsty pirate? The answers, and perhaps his pirate ship, are waiting in the Caribbean.

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00:01:50,000 --> 00:02:03,000

My name is Josh Gates. With a degree in archaeology and a passion for exploration.

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00:02:03,000 --> 00:02:08,000

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

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00:02:08,000 --> 00:02:11,000

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

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00:02:11,000 --> 00:02:17,000

My travels have taken me to the ends of the earth as I investigate the greatest legends in history.

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00:02:17,000 --> 00:02:19,000

We're going to try and let's go.

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00:02:19,000 --> 00:02:21,000

This is Expedition Unknown.

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00:02:29,000 --> 00:02:35,000

Panama. A sun-soaked sliver of land dividing the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

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00:02:35,000 --> 00:02:44,000

I touch down in the city of Cologne and pick up a used but heavily modified jeep to begin my journey in search of Captain Morgan's flagship.

21

00:02:45,000 --> 00:02:50,000

It's like 30 feet off the ground. I'm literally going to need like a running star to get into this thing.

22

00:02:54,000 --> 00:03:00,000

I have not one, but two CBs for some reason. Je-je-je-hello? Hello? Hello?

23

00:03:06,000 --> 00:03:08,000

This is the greatest car I've ever been in.

24

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

Even though this is a 340 year old cold case, I'm still putting out an APB for my lead suspect.

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00:03:15,000 --> 00:03:20,000

Looking for Captain Morgan's flagship. Does anybody see the satisfaction?

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00:03:22,000 --> 00:03:28,000

A minor programming note for those of you watching with young children be advised that tonight's program is rated R.

27

00:03:30,000 --> 00:03:33,000

Come on! A little pirate humor?

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00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:36,000

Okay, now that I've got that out of my system, we can move on.

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00:03:39,000 --> 00:03:45,000

As I make my way outside of town, I soon pass by the haunting remains of Spanish forts.

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00:03:45,000 --> 00:03:49,000

To understand why they're here, we need to step back in time.

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

Welcome to the 17th century. Spain is the most powerful country in the region,

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

controlling nearly all of Central and Upper South America, Florida, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

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

Spain's power is due in large measure to the seemingly limitless supplies of gold and silver,

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00:04:09,000 --> 00:04:13,000

which conquistadors are hauling out of Peru and Bolivia in South America.

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00:04:13,000 --> 00:04:18,000

But in order to get these riches back to Spain, they need to get them into the Atlantic.

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00:04:20,000 --> 00:04:26,000

Using slaves to march their riches to Panama, they establish a new world capital on the Pacific coast, Panama City.

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00:04:26,000 --> 00:04:31,000

Then, mules bring the loot 52 miles from the Pacific to the Atlantic side,

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00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:35,000

where it's loaded onto galleons in the town of Portobello, bound for Spain.

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

This is Portobello. It was actually named by Columbus, who sailed in the Bay here hundreds and hundreds of years ago.

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00:04:44,000 --> 00:04:51,000

It's a little tumble down today, but during the 17th century, this was one of the most critical cities for the Spanish,

41

00:04:51,000 --> 00:04:55,000

and it was the very first place that Captain Morgan decided to attack in Panama.

42

00:04:57,000 --> 00:05:02,000

Panama is a washing machine of cultures.

43

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

The Congo Dancers in the streets are the descendants of the Cimorones,

44

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

runaway slaves who won hard-fought freedom from their Spanish captors.

45

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

It's part Afro-Panamanian religious revival and part village people reunion.

46

00:05:18,000 --> 00:05:21,000

Giant life preserver dancing in the streets. Why not?

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00:05:23,000 --> 00:05:27,000

But it's at the edge of town where Portobello reveals its once powerful defenses.

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

So why did this sleepy port need to be armed to the teeth?

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00:05:32,000 --> 00:05:34,000

One word. Pirates.

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00:05:36,000 --> 00:05:41,000

The 17th century is the golden age of pirates, and no man is more notorious than Captain Henry Morgan,

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00:05:41,000 --> 00:05:44,000

flying under the flag of the English Royal Navy.

52

00:05:44,000 --> 00:05:50,000

Spain has a stranglehold on the Caribbean, but other European empires are hiring privateers like Morgan

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00:05:50,000 --> 00:05:53,000

to weaken the Spanish through plunder and havoc.

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00:05:54,000 --> 00:05:58,000

Captain Morgan's first attack on Panama took place here in Portobello.

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00:05:58,000 --> 00:06:03,000

Historian Juan David Morgan has his own take on the legendary pirate.

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

What's your impression of Morgan, the man, the real man?

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00:06:06,000 --> 00:06:11,000

Since his early years, he wanted to become a man of the sea.

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00:06:11,000 --> 00:06:14,000

Morgan was not a pirate, he was a privateer.

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00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:19,000

And the difference between a privateer and a pirate is simply that someone is commissioning you to do this, right?

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00:06:19,000 --> 00:06:20,000

Exactly.

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00:06:20,000 --> 00:06:26,000

Just to be clear, privateers like Captain Morgan were awarded hefty commissions from the crown for their life-risking work.

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00:06:26,000 --> 00:06:32,000

A single seized enemy ship could earn each crew member a year's wages or much, much more.

63

00:06:33,000 --> 00:06:37,000

But Morgan was not a good navigator, and that's why he's on three boats.

64

00:06:37,000 --> 00:06:44,000

Right. It's amazing, we think of Morgan as this swashbuckling pirate out at sea, but really he wasn't much of a navigator.

65

00:06:44,000 --> 00:06:47,000

He was a commander over land.

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

Morgan's assault on Portobello was successful because the Spanish never saw him coming.

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00:06:52,000 --> 00:06:59,000

In July of 1666, he and his men landed three miles away and attacked Portobello on foot from behind.

68

00:06:59,000 --> 00:07:04,000

Morgan's next move was unexpected, brazen and incredibly risky.

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00:07:04,000 --> 00:07:10,000

He held the entire city hostage and threatened to burn it if the Spanish didn't pay him to leave.

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

Infuriated but helpless, the governor of Panama City agreed to pay up, and in return, Morgan sailed out of the harbor a free and rich man.

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00:07:19,000 --> 00:07:24,000

Morgan's attack on Portobello was audacious, but he was just getting warmed up.

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00:07:24,000 --> 00:07:28,000

He didn't just want to aggravate the Spanish, he wanted to destroy them.

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00:07:29,000 --> 00:07:35,000

To do that, he set his sights just down the coast on another Spanish fortress, known as San Lorenzo.

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00:07:35,000 --> 00:07:39,000

And it's here that Morgan's ship might be lying in its watery grave.

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00:07:39,000 --> 00:07:46,000

I'm going to learn the truth about Morgan's flagship. I have to go find the people that are

actively engaged in looking for it.

76

00:07:46,000 --> 00:07:53,000

I'm meeting with Fritz Hanselman and his team from Texas State who are on the cutting edge of trying to find the satisfaction.

77

00:07:54,000 --> 00:07:58,000

So 17th century, what's going on here? Why does this fort exist here?

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00:07:58,000 --> 00:08:06,000

Well, this fort here is what protected all the gold and silver that were coming from South America and the Pacific over to this side in the Caribbean and then later on to Spain.

79

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

So for the Spanish, pretty critical fort?

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

Absolutely, and this is what was constructed to keep out guys like Henry Morgan.

81

00:08:13,000 --> 00:08:17,000

So when Morgan shows up here, what's his move? How does he get into this place?

82

00:08:17,000 --> 00:08:22,000

He sends three ships with 470 men to launch a terrestrial assault.

83

00:08:22,000 --> 00:08:25,000

So they cross this peninsula to the fort and they attack from the rear.

84

00:08:25,000 --> 00:08:31,000

Our flaming arrow went into the munition stockpile inside the fort and exploded it.

85

00:08:31,000 --> 00:08:33,000

So you got lucky?

86

00:08:33,000 --> 00:08:38,000

Yeah, I mean true to the story of Morgan, he gets lucky in all sorts of different circumstances.

87

00:08:38,000 --> 00:08:41,000

But his luck didn't last forever.

88

00:08:41,000 --> 00:08:43,000

That's when disaster strikes.

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00:08:43,000 --> 00:08:48,000

And so Morgan ran his flagship of satisfaction aground, then four of their ships followed suit.

90

00:08:48,000 --> 00:08:51,000

So they just kind of had to pile up on these rocks.

91

00:08:51,000 --> 00:08:52,000

Wow.

92

00:08:52,000 --> 00:08:55,000

Five of Morgan's vessels strike the Lajas reef.

93

00:08:55,000 --> 00:08:59,000

And while he manages to escape, the ships all sink.

94

00:08:59,000 --> 00:09:01,000

You can see the reef right here.

95

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

Right down here where those white caps are.

96

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

Exactly.

97

00:09:04,000 --> 00:09:06,000

That's the reef where Morgan and his ship ran aground.

98

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

So the big question is where did they end up?

99

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

They already recovered a wooden chest and a sword blade.

100

00:09:13,000 --> 00:09:18,000

Their recent discovery of several cannons was a turning point in recent investigations.

101

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

And what's the general hypothesis now of the cannons?

102

00:09:21,000 --> 00:09:23,000

We believe that they're Henry Morgans.

103

00:09:23,000 --> 00:09:25,000

We've got three that look to be English.

104

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

There are markings on them that indicate that they are mid to late 17th century.

105

00:09:29,000 --> 00:09:33,000

Near the cannons, the archaeologists also noticed wooden timbers.

106

00:09:33,000 --> 00:09:39,000

And we realize, it looks like what we have is a piece of ship hull and there's chests in the ship hull.

107

00:09:39,000 --> 00:09:41,000

And so, you know, of course, we're ecstatic.

108

00:09:41,000 --> 00:09:43,000

Ecstatic is an understatement.

109

00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:50,000

His team found dozens of possible treasure chests, but they're fragile, badly overgrown, and have yet to be analyzed.

110

00:09:50,000 --> 00:09:55,000

And with so many wrecks in the bay, they can't be sure they have the right boat.

111

00:09:56,000 --> 00:10:02,000

I'm thrilled that Fritz has invited me to join his convoy through the rainforest and down to the beach to continue their search.

112

00:10:03,000 --> 00:10:06,000

But before we can get there, we hit a roadblock.

113

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

Literally.

114

00:10:09,000 --> 00:10:11,000

That's a big tree.

115

00:10:17,000 --> 00:10:24,000

I'm in Panama, where I've joined a team of archaeologists on the search for the sunken flagship of legendary pirate Captain Morgant.

116

00:10:24,000 --> 00:10:27,000

We're about to dive into the waters where the ship went down.

117

00:10:27,000 --> 00:10:31,000

But before we can get there, we run into a minor roadblock.

118

00:10:32,000 --> 00:10:34,000

That's a big tree.

119

00:10:34,000 --> 00:10:36,000

Okay, major roadblock.

120

00:10:37,000 --> 00:10:43,000

There's not exactly an alternate route, so the only thing we can do is dismantle this enormous tree one hack at a time.

121

00:10:43,000 --> 00:10:45,000

This happens a lot here.

122

00:10:45,000 --> 00:10:48,000

Apparently, trees are already really saturated with humid and rains.

123

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

Part of the jungle just falls into the road.

124

00:10:50,000 --> 00:10:52,000

It may take a little while to clear.

125

00:10:52,000 --> 00:10:56,000

Unfortunately, we don't exactly have the best tools for the job.

126

00:10:56,000 --> 00:10:59,000

I have this thing done in no time.

127

00:10:59,000 --> 00:11:02,000

Finally, some reinforcements arrive on the scene.

128

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

Ah! F\*\*\*, ants! F\*\*\*!

129

00:11:12,000 --> 00:11:16,000

There's a lot of very bitey ants in here as well.

130

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

What am I doing? I have a huge jeep with giant tires.

131

00:11:21,000 --> 00:11:27,000

Once we've cleared the road, it's a short drive to the Chagras River, just below Fort San Lorenzo.

132

00:11:30,000 --> 00:11:34,000

I'm hoping to explore the intriguing wreck where the cannons were recovered.

133

00:11:34,000 --> 00:11:38,000

But first, I want to see where Captain Morgant's ship ran aground.

134

00:11:38,000 --> 00:11:43,000

The reef is right there. So he was coming in toward the fort and just smashed it right up on the reef.

135

00:11:43,000 --> 00:11:45,000

Okay, what's our first move, Fritz?

136

00:11:45,000 --> 00:11:47,000

First thing we've got to do is survey the sea floor.

137

00:11:47,000 --> 00:11:50,000

That's the reef where Morgant lost his ships. There's got to be something down there.

138

00:11:52,000 --> 00:11:57,000

Unfortunately, scores of ships have wrecked here, and the swirling current is still not as good as it seems.

139

00:11:57,000 --> 00:11:59,000

The ship is now in the ocean.

140

00:11:59,000 --> 00:12:01,000

The ship is now in the ocean.

141

00:12:01,000 --> 00:12:03,000

The ship is now in the ocean.

142

00:12:04,000 --> 00:12:12,000

Unfortunately, scores of ships have wrecked here, and the swirling currents could have carried the satisfaction nearly anywhere along the coast.

143

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

But the team has a high-tech tool to narrow down their search.

144

00:12:15,000 --> 00:12:19,000

This is a magnetometer. It detects the ambient magnetic field of the Earth.

145

00:12:19,000 --> 00:12:25,000

And anything that would cause any deviations to that, anything ferrous, anything iron, it will detect.

146

00:12:25,000 --> 00:12:29,000

Unfortunately, I'm only semi-fluent in Nerdspeak.

147

00:12:29,000 --> 00:12:36,000

Alright, I'm following about 10% of what you're saying, but basically, I think what we're saying here is, we throw this torpedo in the water.

148

00:12:36,000 --> 00:12:38,000

And it will detect iron.

149

00:12:38,000 --> 00:12:40,000

So, in other words, a great way to detect shipwrecks.

150

00:12:40,000 --> 00:12:43,000

Yes, now I can follow. Now you're talking my language.

151

00:12:43,000 --> 00:12:46,000

And then back through this cable, it feeds to a laptop here.

152

00:12:46,000 --> 00:12:54,000

Yep, this thing is just collecting the raw data, and we'll just go back and forth and get the coverage in the entire reef area, and hopefully those iron objects will pop up.

153

00:12:54,000 --> 00:12:57,000

Am I like never going to have kids right now?

154

00:12:57,000 --> 00:13:01,000

I'm just right in my crotch. Let's get this thing in the water.

155

00:13:01,000 --> 00:13:05,000

High levels of iron on the sea floor can indicate debris from a wrecked ship.

156

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

While Fritz's team has already discovered one wreck, it may not be the satisfaction, and they're still looking for other promising leads.

157

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

With the real-time GPS, it is tracking where we're moving, where that little bird right there, and

we're just going to mow the lawn on these grid lines.

158

00:13:20,000 --> 00:13:23,000

Back and forth, back and forth. And where's the reef on here?

159

00:13:23,000 --> 00:13:25,000

The reef is right here, right in front of us.

160

00:13:25,000 --> 00:13:27,000

And we're going to try to not smash into that.

161

00:13:27,000 --> 00:13:28,000

Exactly.

162

00:13:28,000 --> 00:13:29,000

That's the most important part of the survey.

163

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

Certainly much, yes.

164

00:13:30,000 --> 00:13:31,000

Okay.

165

00:13:33,000 --> 00:13:36,000

Are there other boats that you know of that have sank here?

166

00:13:36,000 --> 00:13:41,000

Yeah, absolutely. We have between 20 and 30 wrecks if you know of that have been recorded having wrecked in this area.

167

00:13:41,000 --> 00:13:43,000

That makes it a lot more complicated.

168

00:13:43,000 --> 00:13:47,000

It does, especially with all the modern debris and whatnot. It's like looking for a needle in a stack sometimes.

169

00:13:47,000 --> 00:13:54,000

After dozens of passes with the magnetometer, and only discrete readings on the receiver, we're on the verge of calling it quits.

170

00:13:54,000 --> 00:13:58,000

We've decided to make one last pass along the edge of the reef before moving on.

171

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

Whoa, whoa, whoa, what's that? Fritz, what is that?

172

00:14:02,000 --> 00:14:03,000

Right there.

173

00:14:03,000 --> 00:14:04,000

That's a big hit.

174

00:14:04,000 --> 00:14:07,000

That's a pretty good spike, though. It's probably well over a thousand gammas.

175

00:14:07,000 --> 00:14:10,000

Some serious iron objects down there, so we need to go check that out.

176

00:14:10,000 --> 00:14:11,000

All right, great.

177

00:14:11,000 --> 00:14:12,000

Yeah.

178

00:14:12,000 --> 00:14:13,000

Let's go dive.

179

00:14:13,000 --> 00:14:16,000

A reading of this size could signify a shipwreck.

180

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

Fritz and I quickly throw on our dive gear to investigate.

181

00:14:25,000 --> 00:14:33,000

The visibility doesn't look very good, but we are descending down to the fourth bottom.

182

00:14:38,000 --> 00:14:43,000

Diving in murky conditions in an area with a history of shark attacks is slightly unsettling.

183

00:14:43,000 --> 00:14:48,000

But it turns out that visions of lost pirate treasure are a pretty decent motivator.

184

00:14:49,000 --> 00:14:54,000

We're at the bottom, and we're heading toward the anomaly that we recorded from the mag.

185

00:14:54,000 --> 00:14:58,000

We've reached the bottom, but haven't found the source of the hit on the magnetometer.

186

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

Fritz and I fan out and continue looking.

187

00:15:03,000 --> 00:15:05,000

Yeah, we don't see any ticking anything up.

188

00:15:05,000 --> 00:15:09,000

Whatever we saw from the boat, we're not seen down here.

189

00:15:09,000 --> 00:15:13,000

We canvass the area and are about to abort the dive operation when...

190

00:15:14,000 --> 00:15:16,000

Whoa, we got a wreck down here, Fritz.

191

00:15:16,000 --> 00:15:17,000

Big wreck.

192

00:15:19,000 --> 00:15:24,000

Finally, the source of the hit on the magnetometer, and it's exactly what we're looking for.

193

00:15:25,000 --> 00:15:26,000

A massive shipwreck.

194

00:15:26,000 --> 00:15:29,000

They're looking at the nose to get it.

195

00:15:29,000 --> 00:15:35,000

Seeing this wreck is a huge rush, but now we need to determine if this is a boat from Captain Morgan's fleet

196

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

or some other historic shipwreck.

197

00:15:41,000 --> 00:15:44,000

This appears to be a huge boiler system.

198

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

Obviously, this is not Captain Morgan's technology.

199

00:15:48,000 --> 00:15:49,000

Pretty cool.

200

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

It's a massive shipwreck in any event.

201

00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:58,000

This type of modern boiler wasn't in use until hundreds of years after Morgan sailed the high seas.

202

00:16:00,000 --> 00:16:02,000

All right, we're just about out of air here.

203

00:16:02,000 --> 00:16:05,000

Let's head back to the surface and make a plan from there.

204

00:16:06,000 --> 00:16:10,000

With our tanks running low, we ascend to the surface to replenish our air.

205

00:16:15,000 --> 00:16:20,000

Wow, that is amazing.

206

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

A ton of debris down there, stuff all over the place, and eventually lead us to a huge wreck.

207

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

But definitely not a pirate ship, so the search continues.

208

00:16:29,000 --> 00:16:34,000

Fritz's team recently discovered another wreck that could be Captain Morgan's ship.

209

00:16:34,000 --> 00:16:40,000

As the seas get rougher, we hurry to the site, and I'm beginning to understand why so many boats have sunk here.

210

00:16:45,000 --> 00:16:50,000

We're descending now.

211

00:16:50,000 --> 00:16:53,000

Visibility is very bad.

212

00:16:56,000 --> 00:16:59,000

It's just small pieces of rock and debris here.

213

00:16:59,000 --> 00:17:03,000

Let's just keep exploring around and see if we can find something else.

214

00:17:03,000 --> 00:17:06,000

There's a pirate ship down here somewhere.

215

00:17:06,000 --> 00:17:11,000

We cautiously move forward in the haze when suddenly an amazing sight comes into view.

216

00:17:12,000 --> 00:17:15,000

Holy s\*\*\*, look at this.

217

00:17:15,000 --> 00:17:19,000

Oh my god. This looks like a pirate chest.

218

00:17:19,000 --> 00:17:26,000

Nestled on the bottom is an honest-to-god 17th century wooden chest, and nearby, there are more.

219

00:17:26,000 --> 00:17:28,000

Lots more.

220

00:17:28,000 --> 00:17:31,000

It's just problems and problems of chest scare.

221

00:17:31,000 --> 00:17:37,000

It's absolutely unbelievable to be looking at one chest of hundreds and hundreds of years ago.

222

00:17:37,000 --> 00:17:39,000

It's crazy.

223

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

So amazing. What do you think is inside it?

224

00:17:42,000 --> 00:17:45,000

We don't know. That's what we want to think of.

225

00:17:45,000 --> 00:17:47,000

We're the next party that won't be a god.

226

00:17:47,000 --> 00:17:53,000

Over time, the wooden containers have become encrusted and are impossible to open without destroying them.

227

00:17:53,000 --> 00:17:57,000

Fritz's team has already moved one chest to Panama City where it awaits analysis.

228

00:17:57,000 --> 00:17:59,000

That's so cool.

229

00:17:59,000 --> 00:18:06,000

Until this boat is identified, the rest must remain on the bottom to be preserved, so we've got to comb the wreck for other artifacts.

230

00:18:06,000 --> 00:18:11,000

We've got something over here. We've definitely got something here.

231

00:18:17,000 --> 00:18:23,000

I've traveled to Panama on a mission to find the satisfaction, the sunken flagship of legendary pirate Captain Morgan.

232

00:18:23,000 --> 00:18:25,000

Oh Fritz, what is that? Right there.

233

00:18:25,000 --> 00:18:27,000

That's a big hit.

234

00:18:27,000 --> 00:18:32,000

I've joined a team of archaeologists who found a wreck that might just fit the bill.

235

00:18:32,000 --> 00:18:35,000

It's just rows and rows of chests in.

236

00:18:35,000 --> 00:18:37,000

Hundreds and hundreds of years old.

237

00:18:37,000 --> 00:18:41,000

It's far too ugly, unbelievable. That's so cool.

238

00:18:41,000 --> 00:18:44,000

And I think we've made another discovery.

239

00:18:45,000 --> 00:18:47,000

We definitely got something here.

240

00:18:47,000 --> 00:18:51,000

It looks like a heart shoe.

241

00:18:51,000 --> 00:18:55,000

You're all there, man. It's actually a mule shoe.

242

00:18:55,000 --> 00:18:58,000

Amazing. It's perfectly preserved.

243

00:18:58,000 --> 00:19:04,000

Alongside the mule shoe, we've also found a heavily encrusted metal fragment that we can't yet identify.

244

00:19:04,000 --> 00:19:08,000

If you look close, you can see the planking underneath the roof.

245

00:19:08,000 --> 00:19:13,000

Along with these finds, I'm stunned to see actual planks of wood from the hull of the ship.

246

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

That this is still so well preserved after more than 300 years is nothing short of astonishing.

247

00:19:20,000 --> 00:19:24,000

Okay, Josh, if you can stop that thing here in this table here.

248

00:19:24,000 --> 00:19:29,000

I'm also getting a crash course and doing field work on the ocean floor.

249

00:19:29,000 --> 00:19:35,000

We deploy underwater metal detectors to scan the area, and I even try my hand at mapping the wreck.

250

00:19:35,000 --> 00:19:38,000

Friends, what do you think that is?

251

00:19:42,000 --> 00:19:47,000

Ceramic shards like this are often key to decoding archaeological wrecks.

252

00:19:47,000 --> 00:19:50,000

Let's get this stuff off to the surface.

253

00:19:50,000 --> 00:19:54,000

Despite the challenging conditions, it was a successful dive.

254

00:19:55,000 --> 00:20:03,000

The mule shoe, ceramic shard, and the metal fragment could provide valuable information on dating the shipwreck and determining its origin.

255

00:20:06,000 --> 00:20:08,000

That's great.

256

00:20:08,000 --> 00:20:09,000

Nice sight, huh?

257

00:20:09,000 --> 00:20:10,000

Amazing.

258

00:20:10,000 --> 00:20:15,000

Fritz and his team will transport the incredibly fragile relics to their lab in Panama City.

259

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

We'll analyze them along with their other recent finds.

260

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

Meanwhile, I'm continuing my quest to understand Morgan.

261

00:20:23,000 --> 00:20:28,000

Having survived his shipwreck, he carried on up the Chagras River toward Panama City.

262

00:20:28,000 --> 00:20:30,000

And I'm following his route.

263

00:20:34,000 --> 00:20:39,000

I'm headed to meet a group of Embraer Indians, a tribe native to this region.

264

00:20:39,000 --> 00:20:43,000

So this is the Chagras River. This is kind of the original Panama Canal.

265

00:20:43,000 --> 00:20:49,000

If you were trying to get goods either from Panama City out to the coast or trying to get inland, this is the river that you used.

266

00:20:49,000 --> 00:20:56,000

So Morgan, after he loses his ship, puts together the largest pirate army ever assembled, 1,500 men.

267

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

And he goes down this river toward Panama City.

268

00:21:03,000 --> 00:21:11,000

Along the banks, just these impenetrable rainforests, howler monkeys, and native tribes, small groups of Spanish attacking them.

269

00:21:11,000 --> 00:21:14,000

This would have been a really intense and difficult journey for him.

270

00:21:15,000 --> 00:21:23,000

While Spain methodically exploited and enslaved the native people in the Americas, there are very few reports as to how Captain Morgan fared against them.

271

00:21:25,000 --> 00:21:34,000

According to accounts of the journey, Morgan ordered his men to make the trip with very few supplies, believing he could steal whatever food or water they needed along the way.

272

00:21:35,000 --> 00:21:41,000

Over 300 years later, I'm curious to learn if Captain Morgan's legacy lives on in native lore.

273

00:21:45,000 --> 00:21:54,000

These are the Embera, one of several indigenous tribes that have roamed Central America since time immemorial.

274

00:21:55,000 --> 00:21:58,000

Hola, hola, nice to meet you.

275

00:21:58,000 --> 00:21:59,000

Hola.

276

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

Cuáles tu nombre?

277

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

Claudia.

278

00:22:01,000 --> 00:22:02,000

Claudia, Josh.

279

00:22:02,000 --> 00:22:03,000

Nice to meet you.

280

00:22:03,000 --> 00:22:04,000

Nice to meet you.

281

00:22:04,000 --> 00:22:05,000

Look at this, wow.

282

00:22:05,000 --> 00:22:16,000

What a welcome, thank you very much.

283

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

As the welcome party turns into a full blown dance party, perhaps I'm getting more than I bargained for.

284

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

And what does the dance signify?

285

00:22:24,000 --> 00:22:25,000

The marriage.

286

00:22:25,000 --> 00:22:27,000

Marriage, am I getting married right now?

287

00:22:27,000 --> 00:22:28,000

Yes.

288

00:22:28,000 --> 00:22:32,000

Alright, well, nice spot I guess, settle down.

289

00:22:32,000 --> 00:22:39,000

It's using that when we have a big home, when it's new, we celebrate this music for that.

290

00:22:39,000 --> 00:22:40,000

Got it.

291

00:22:40,000 --> 00:22:41,000

Hola.

292

00:22:41,000 --> 00:22:42,000

Hi.

293

00:22:42,000 --> 00:22:44,000

I guess this is my family now.

294

00:22:50,000 --> 00:22:55,000

If this were three centuries ago, it's likely that I wouldn't have survived getting out of the boat.

295

00:22:56,000 --> 00:23:03,000

Considering the atrocities committed to Panama's indigenous peoples, the Embaraz Hospitality is overwhelming.

296

00:23:07,000 --> 00:23:11,000

In a nearby hut, I sit down with a village elder and his son.

297

00:23:11,000 --> 00:23:13,000

Thank you very much for having me here today.

298

00:23:13,000 --> 00:23:15,000

I really appreciate your hospitality.

299

00:23:15,000 --> 00:23:22,000

After he wrecked his ship, Captain Morgan passed through here on the Chagros River to Panama City.

300

00:23:22,000 --> 00:23:24,000

How do you look back on Morgan?

301

00:23:24,000 --> 00:23:25,000

I don't know.

302

00:23:25,000 --> 00:23:26,000

I don't know what to say.

303

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

I don't know what to say.

304

00:23:28,000 --> 00:23:29,000

I don't know what to say.

305

00:23:29,000 --> 00:23:33,000

We have many problems with the captain.

306

00:23:33,000 --> 00:23:39,000

The Embra try to not see that Morgan, like a friend or something, is like the enemy.

307

00:23:39,000 --> 00:23:40,000

As an enemy?

308

00:23:40,000 --> 00:23:41,000

Yes.

309

00:23:41,000 --> 00:23:42,000

No different than the Spanish?

310

00:23:42,000 --> 00:23:43,000

No different to the Spanish.

311

00:23:43,000 --> 00:23:48,000

Captain Morgan's plan of stealing supplies from the native Indians backfired.

312

00:23:48,000 --> 00:23:53,000

Not only were they able to flee their villages before the pirates arrived, they bettered them in combat.

313

00:23:53,000 --> 00:24:00,000

Between the natives and small garrisons of Spanish soldiers, more than a hundred of Morgan's men died and routed to Panama City.

314

00:24:02,000 --> 00:24:08,000

Today, I'm thrilled to see that long after the Spanish Empire is gone, tribes like the Embra endure.

315

00:24:08,000 --> 00:24:10,000

They even have a tattoo parlor.

316

00:24:10,000 --> 00:24:13,000

Before leaving, they insist on giving me something to remember my visit.

317

00:24:14,000 --> 00:24:16,000

I'm hoping this guy does lower back tattoos as well.

318

00:24:16,000 --> 00:24:19,000

I'm thinking about getting maybe a dolphin back there.

319

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

Back on the Chagras River, I continue retracing Morgan's path to Panama City.

320

00:24:29,000 --> 00:24:35,000

In 1671, it took his crew more than ten days to cross from the Atlantic to the Pacific side.

321

00:24:38,000 --> 00:24:42,000

While I'd like to stay true to the captain's journey, I need to pick up the pace a bit.

322

00:24:46,000 --> 00:24:52,000

After all, I've got a pirate treasure chest and other artifacts waiting to be analyzed in Panama City.

323

00:24:52,000 --> 00:24:58,000

The results could prove once and for all, if Captain Morgan's lost ship has finally been found.

324

00:25:07,000 --> 00:25:13,000

I'm in Panama, retracing Captain Morgan's journey across the country on his mission to ransack Panama City.

325

00:25:14,000 --> 00:25:21,000

I was following his trail by canoe up the Chagras River, but I think it's time to pick up the pace in a slightly faster vehicle

326

00:25:21,000 --> 00:25:23,000

that covers the same route.

327

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

Welcome aboard the famed Panama Canal Railway.

328

00:25:31,000 --> 00:25:34,000

While the Chagras River may have been the original transportation system,

329

00:25:34,000 --> 00:25:39,000

this historic rail line was the backbone that helped build modern Panama.

330

00:25:41,000 --> 00:25:44,000

The train basically slices across the Isthmus of Panama.

331

00:25:44,000 --> 00:25:47,000

It's pretty incredible. You start in the Caribbean on the Atlantic side.

332

00:25:47,000 --> 00:25:51,000

This takes us all the way across over to Panama City and the Pacific.

333

00:25:55,000 --> 00:25:59,000

It's a breathtaking ride and a great place to pick up a little part-time work.

334

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

I'm now the bartender.

335

00:26:06,000 --> 00:26:08,000

Get my tip jar out here.

336

00:26:08,000 --> 00:26:10,000

Hot coffee, folks. Hot coffee.

337

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

It's pretty booze back here.

338

00:26:14,000 --> 00:26:19,000

Having retraced Captain Morgan's route across the Isthmus, Panama City comes into view.

339

00:26:19,000 --> 00:26:22,000

And it's absolutely stunning.

340

00:26:33,000 --> 00:26:36,000

Forget whatever image you have of the so-called developing world.

341

00:26:36,000 --> 00:26:39,000

Panama City is the shining star of Central America.

342

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

This steamy tropical boom town is crawling with foreign investors,

343

00:26:43,000 --> 00:26:45,000

expat fortune seekers and cranes,

344

00:26:45,000 --> 00:26:49,000

reshaping a futuristic skyline that seems to grow before your eyes.

345

00:26:51,000 --> 00:26:53,000

Welcome to Panama.

346

00:26:55,000 --> 00:26:56,000

Gracias.

347

00:26:56,000 --> 00:26:59,000

Sir, are you available to travel with me all the time?

348

00:27:01,000 --> 00:27:05,000

How is it that Panama is richer than every other Central American nation put to the table?

349

00:27:05,000 --> 00:27:09,000

How is it that Panama is richer than every other Central American nation put together?

350

00:27:09,000 --> 00:27:10,000

Simple.

351

00:27:11,000 --> 00:27:13,000

They have a canal.

352

00:27:19,000 --> 00:27:21,000

Okay, let's see if I can steer this thing through.

353

00:27:24,000 --> 00:27:25,000

Hello, come in.

354

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

Think I may have just broken the Panama Canal.

355

00:27:30,000 --> 00:27:33,000

Thankfully, I'm only maneuvering a cargo ship through a simulator.

356

00:27:33,000 --> 00:27:37,000

We're all fine here. We're all fine. How are you?

357

00:27:39,000 --> 00:27:42,000

Welcome to the Miraflores locks of the Panama Canal.

358

00:27:42,000 --> 00:27:47,000

This modern marvel is a jaw-dropping testament to human spirit and ingenuity.

359

00:27:47,000 --> 00:27:50,000

This is the Pacific Ocean. Over there is the Atlantic Ocean.

360

00:27:50,000 --> 00:27:53,000

As ships come into these locks, they get closed in.

361

00:27:53,000 --> 00:27:56,000

They flood the locks, raising the ships up more than 50 feet.

362

00:27:56,000 --> 00:27:59,000

This gate that we're standing on then opens.

363

00:27:59,000 --> 00:28:02,000

Ship passes into the next lock and into the next ocean.

364

00:28:03,000 --> 00:28:04,000

Crazy.

365

00:28:05,000 --> 00:28:11,000

In 1902, the U.S. began construction on the most audacious engineering project in human history.

366

00:28:11,000 --> 00:28:20,000

20,000 French and 6,000 American workers died trying to rejoin the two great oceans of the world, forever changing international trade.

367

00:28:21,000 --> 00:28:30,000

Boats that once had to sail around the treacherous tip of South America in the era of Captain Morgan could suddenly take an 8,000-mile shortcut through the heart of two continents.

368

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

Trophy case, obviously. This thing wins best canal every year.

369

00:28:38,000 --> 00:28:41,000

From the Miraflores locks, it's a short trip to Panama City.

370

00:28:41,000 --> 00:28:44,000

The nation's capital is booming thanks to the canal.

371

00:28:44,000 --> 00:28:50,000

In the shadow of opulent modern skyscrapers sits Casco Viejo, the historic district of Panama City.

372

00:28:50,000 --> 00:28:56,000

It's a tumble down maze of colonial facades and cobblestone streets that's still brimming with activity.

373

00:28:57,000 --> 00:29:00,000

Kids got stuff to do. Place is a big.

374

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

Street vendors, pedal regional crafts and surprising hidden treasures.

375

00:29:06,000 --> 00:29:09,000

Found it. It was right here the whole time.

376

00:29:09,000 --> 00:29:11,000

Lots smaller than I thought.

377

00:29:11,000 --> 00:29:12,000

Episode over.

378

00:29:13,000 --> 00:29:17,000

When visiting Panama, it's an obligation to pick up one of the country's signature Panama hats.

379

00:29:18,000 --> 00:29:21,000

However, finding the right fit can take a little time.

380

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

I don't think I have a huge head.

381

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

Hello. How are you?

382

00:29:33,000 --> 00:29:34,000

Oh, there we go.

383

00:29:34,000 --> 00:29:35,000

How much is it?

384

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

\$700.

385

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

\$700?

386

00:29:37,000 --> 00:29:38,000

\$700.

387

00:29:38,000 --> 00:29:39,000

\$700.

388

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

This is a \$700 hat.

389

00:29:40,000 --> 00:29:42,000

Why is it made out of unicorn hair?

390

00:29:42,000 --> 00:29:48,000

Since my salary won't cover a hat that cost as much as a flat screen TV, I opt for a more affordable choice.

391

00:29:49,000 --> 00:29:51,000

Oh yeah, that's it right there.

392

00:29:51,000 --> 00:29:53,000

That's the one. I could pull this off.

393

00:29:53,000 --> 00:29:54,000

I think.

394

00:29:55,000 --> 00:29:57,000

Looks like an elector, but.

395

00:30:04,000 --> 00:30:10,000

Walking through town, it's hard to not be struck by the intersection of Panama's past and future.

396

00:30:10,000 --> 00:30:17,000

Though Casco Viejo looks ancient, it's actually new compared to the original city, of which there is almost nothing left.

397

00:30:18,000 --> 00:30:22,000

This is the final chapter of Morgan's brazen raid on Panama.

398

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

When he reached the metropolis in 1670, his dwindling, half-starved army actually managed to overrun the Spanish on their home turf.

399

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

In the aftermath, the entire city burned to the ground.

400

00:30:36,000 --> 00:30:42,000

Some accounts blame Morgan for setting the city ablaze, while others believe the retreating Spanish were accountable.

401

00:30:42,000 --> 00:30:45,000

Either way, this is all that's left.

402

00:30:45,000 --> 00:30:50,000

One lone church tower is the last building standing from the original Panama City.

403

00:30:54,000 --> 00:30:59,000

Here, I'm meeting with Tomás Mendez-Azabel, director of Panama's Anthropology Museum,

404

00:30:59,000 --> 00:31:05,000

to hear the brutal truth about Captain Morgan's final raid on Panama and his lasting legacy for Panamanians.

405

00:31:06,000 --> 00:31:09,000

So this is the original Panama City.

406

00:31:09,000 --> 00:31:10,000

Yeah, exactly.

407

00:31:10,000 --> 00:31:11,000

Not a lot left.

408

00:31:11,000 --> 00:31:15,000

No, no. What you see is what Morgan left after the attack.

409

00:31:15,000 --> 00:31:20,000

We have this image of him as this kind of mythic figure, this larger-than-life kind of swashbuckling guy.

410

00:31:20,000 --> 00:31:23,000

His image in the U.S. is so ridiculous.

411

00:31:23,000 --> 00:31:24,000

They're so cool.

412

00:31:24,000 --> 00:31:25,000

They're so cool.

413

00:31:25,000 --> 00:31:27,000

And he's like such a player.

414

00:31:27,000 --> 00:31:30,000

And he's like this good time frat boy.

415

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

What's the local viewpoint on him here?

416

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

In Panama, it's the same.

417

00:31:35,000 --> 00:31:38,000

What's the local viewpoint on him here?

418

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

In Panama, everybody knows Morgan.

419

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

Irata Morgan and Irata Morgan.

420

00:31:42,000 --> 00:31:43,000

He's everywhere.

421

00:31:43,000 --> 00:31:45,000

But a villain?

422

00:31:45,000 --> 00:31:46,000

For sure, yeah.

423

00:31:46,000 --> 00:31:50,000

The attack costs a lot of death and destruction, so yeah, for sure he's a villain.

424

00:31:50,000 --> 00:31:53,000

Between 3,000 and 4,000 people actually died.

425

00:31:53,000 --> 00:31:55,000

They tortured a ton of people, he's asking them for their gold,

426

00:31:55,000 --> 00:31:59,000

squeezing somebody's head till their eyes popped out because he wouldn't say what his treasure was.

427

00:31:59,000 --> 00:32:01,000

If you were a woman, that was even worse.

428

00:32:02,000 --> 00:32:04,000

That kind of detail, we're widely known,

429

00:32:04,000 --> 00:32:08,000

I think his image would be less than our rock star.

430

00:32:08,000 --> 00:32:12,000

The Spanish despised Morgan for the destruction of Panama.

431

00:32:12,000 --> 00:32:16,000

But even though his success was born through extreme terror and violence,

432

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

to the English, he was a hero.

433

00:32:18,000 --> 00:32:21,000

They even knighted him and made him Lieutenant Governor of Jamaica,

434

00:32:21,000 --> 00:32:24,000

where he died fat, rich, and in his own bed.

435

00:32:24,000 --> 00:32:27,000

Almost unheard of for a pirate.

436

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

With a better understanding of Morgan's controversial legacy,

437

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

I head to the National Institute of Culture back in the city

438

00:32:34,000 --> 00:32:36,000

to reunite with archaeologist Fritz Hanselman.

439

00:32:36,000 --> 00:32:41,000

His team has been working to prepare the artifacts from the shipwreck for analysis.

440

00:32:41,000 --> 00:32:42,000

Jacinto!

441

00:32:42,000 --> 00:32:43,000

How are you?

442

00:32:43,000 --> 00:32:44,000

Welcome to Panama.

443

00:32:44,000 --> 00:32:45,000

Thank you, thank you.

444

00:32:45,000 --> 00:32:46,000

How are you?

445

00:32:46,000 --> 00:32:50,000

Jacinto is essentially the godfather of archaeological artifacts here in this country.

446

00:32:50,000 --> 00:32:51,000

How much is it?

447

00:32:51,000 --> 00:32:52,000

It's mine.

448

00:32:52,000 --> 00:32:54,000

Let's take a look at all the other stuff we've got.

449

00:32:54,000 --> 00:32:57,000

Along with the items we pulled up from the wreck,

450

00:32:57,000 --> 00:32:59,000

he's got some amazing evidence to share with me.

451

00:32:59,000 --> 00:33:01,000

This is really cool.

452

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

Look at that, whoa!

453

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

That's amazing!

454

00:33:10,000 --> 00:33:13,000

I'm at the National Institute of Culture in Panama City

455

00:33:13,000 --> 00:33:17,000

to examine the wealth of relics found by Fritz and his team.

456

00:33:17,000 --> 00:33:19,000

This is really cool.

457

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

Look at that, whoa!

458

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

That's amazing!

459

00:33:24,000 --> 00:33:26,000

That's a pirate cannon right there.

460

00:33:26,000 --> 00:33:28,000

This is one of the guns that we recovered from the reef

461

00:33:28,000 --> 00:33:31,000

where Morgan ran his ships aground.

462

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

We have six guns all together.

463

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

Some look to be English and some look to be French.

464

00:33:36,000 --> 00:33:37,000

But if these were in the same spot,

465

00:33:37,000 --> 00:33:40,000

most likely they came from the same vessel or vessels.

466

00:33:40,000 --> 00:33:45,000

So these are the first tangible evidence of Morgan's attack on Panama in 1671.

467

00:33:45,000 --> 00:33:47,000

It's amazing.

468

00:33:47,000 --> 00:33:49,000

Along with the cannons,

469

00:33:49,000 --> 00:33:53,000

Fritz's team has been preparing the items recovered during our dive.

470

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

These are the artifacts that we recovered the other day from the shipwreck.

471

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

So here we have our mules shoe

472

00:33:58,000 --> 00:34:02,000

and here we have the ceramics with the neck rim of the jar.

473

00:34:02,000 --> 00:34:04,000

And this, we don't quite know what it is yet.

474

00:34:04,000 --> 00:34:06,000

This concretion could be a spike.

475

00:34:06,000 --> 00:34:10,000

It could be some sort of weird conglomerate, a metal.

476

00:34:10,000 --> 00:34:12,000

Along with these incredible pieces

477

00:34:12,000 --> 00:34:16,000

is the locked chest salvaged during an earlier dive.

478

00:34:16,000 --> 00:34:20,000

This I recognized because we saw a whole bunch of them down on the ocean floor the other day.

479

00:34:20,000 --> 00:34:22,000

I wanted to scoop them up.

480

00:34:22,000 --> 00:34:24,000

How many of them left on the boat, you think?

481

00:34:24,000 --> 00:34:26,000

We have over a hundred chests still on that ship.

482

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

And this has never been scanned.

483

00:34:28,000 --> 00:34:29,000

We don't know what's in this.

484

00:34:29,000 --> 00:34:33,000

We don't know what's in this and we want to see if we can tell what's in it without causing any damage.

485

00:34:33,000 --> 00:34:35,000

With an X-ray machine lined up,

486

00:34:35,000 --> 00:34:40,000

all we have to do is figure out how to get our back-breakingly heavy 300-year-old cargo to the facility.

487

00:34:40,000 --> 00:34:42,000

Easier said than done.

488

00:34:46,000 --> 00:34:48,000

Man, that is funky.

489

00:34:48,000 --> 00:34:50,000

It smells like pirates for sure.

490

00:34:53,000 --> 00:34:55,000

Oh!

491

00:34:55,000 --> 00:35:00,000

After years at the bottom of the sea, these relics have become incredibly fragile.

492

00:35:00,000 --> 00:35:02,000

Look, look, look, look.

493

00:35:02,000 --> 00:35:07,000

Exposure to air or drying out can irreparably damage these priceless artifacts.

494

00:35:07,000 --> 00:35:08,000

Good.

495

00:35:09,000 --> 00:35:10,000

Nothing to see here.

496

00:35:10,000 --> 00:35:13,000

Just a couple guys with a 300-year-old treasure chest.

497

00:35:13,000 --> 00:35:15,000

Where do I try to check this thing with United Airlines?

498

00:35:18,000 --> 00:35:20,000

Good. Stop, stop, stop.

499

00:35:23,000 --> 00:35:25,000

Oh my God, it's somebody.

500

00:35:25,000 --> 00:35:27,000

Get me a beer.

501

00:35:27,000 --> 00:35:31,000

With our booty in tow, we're on our way with our unusual payload.

502

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

Alright, so, the plan now.

503

00:35:33,000 --> 00:35:34,000

Straight to the airport.

504

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

Crack the chest open.

505

00:35:36,000 --> 00:35:37,000

To the Bahamas.

506

00:35:37,000 --> 00:35:38,000

I wish.

507

00:35:38,000 --> 00:35:41,000

What will you say to the police officer if we get pulled over?

508

00:35:41,000 --> 00:35:42,000

And he looks in the back.

509

00:35:42,000 --> 00:35:44,000

Would you like a cut?

510

00:35:44,000 --> 00:35:46,000

Smoking like a true pirate.

511

00:35:52,000 --> 00:35:53,000

Okay, here we go.

512

00:35:53,000 --> 00:35:58,000

Having never attempted this procedure before, the archaeological team has no idea what to expect.

513

00:36:01,000 --> 00:36:08,000

What we're trying to do is take the x-ray that works for the human body and adapt it and make it work for archaeological artifacts.

514

00:36:08,000 --> 00:36:09,000

Right.

515

00:36:09,000 --> 00:36:14,000

First, we'll analyze the items we found on our dive, the muleshoe and the strange encrusted item.

516

00:36:15,000 --> 00:36:17,000

Looks like we're having a baby, for instance.

517

00:36:19,000 --> 00:36:20,000

Please be a pirate.

518

00:36:20,000 --> 00:36:21,000

Please be a pirate.

519

00:36:25,000 --> 00:36:26,000

Eureka.

520

00:36:27,000 --> 00:36:32,000

The x-ray proves effective in cutting through hundreds of years of built-up coral and corrosion.

521

00:36:32,000 --> 00:36:35,000

You can see the holes where they nail it into the...

522

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

That's amazing.

523

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

Looks like they're countersink.

524

00:36:37,000 --> 00:36:43,000

Countersinking is a process where pre-cut holes allow nails and screws to sit flush with the surface.

525

00:36:43,000 --> 00:36:47,000

In this case, the technique might help identify who made the artifact.

526

00:36:47,000 --> 00:36:49,000

How do you tell if they're countersink?

527

00:36:49,000 --> 00:36:54,000

Well, you can kind of see a little bit of shadowing around the edges of the square for each of the various holes,

528

00:36:54,000 --> 00:36:58,000

which is typical of the Spanish muleshoes or horseshoes.

529

00:36:58,000 --> 00:37:00,000

British tend not to be countersink.

530

00:37:01,000 --> 00:37:05,000

The encrusted fragment also reveals its identity.

531

00:37:05,000 --> 00:37:10,000

This could be a piece of a sword that's in a scabbard or wrapped up in something.

532

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

It's really cool, Dom, you cut through all those concretions and there's just like a blade under there.

533

00:37:17,000 --> 00:37:18,000

Chest time?

534

00:37:18,000 --> 00:37:20,000

I want to get at the chest.

535

00:37:22,000 --> 00:37:25,000

This thing's too heavy to not have some part of something in it.

536

00:37:25,000 --> 00:37:30,000

Finally, it's time to scan the chest to team salvage from the shipwreck.

537

00:37:30,000 --> 00:37:35,000

The contents of this container could reveal once and for all if we found the satisfaction.

538

00:37:35,000 --> 00:37:41,000

As we place the chest on the x-ray, my mind is racing, thinking about the mysteries that could be revealed.

539

00:37:49,000 --> 00:37:51,000

The chest is now complete.

540

00:37:54,000 --> 00:37:57,000

Gently, this thing's too heavy to not have some part of something in it.

541

00:38:08,000 --> 00:38:10,000

Ah, I cut a hole.

542

00:38:11,000 --> 00:38:16,000

Not much. We see the outline of it, but it doesn't really penetrate the chest at all.

543

00:38:16,000 --> 00:38:18,000

No, it's a little bit of a surface.

544

00:38:19,000 --> 00:38:20,000

What does he think the problem is?

545

00:38:20,000 --> 00:38:24,000

It's too thick. It's the density of the pantelio.

546

00:38:26,000 --> 00:38:27,000

It's too dense.

547

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

Frustratingly, the chest and its contents are too dense for the x-ray to penetrate.

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00:38:32,000 --> 00:38:37,000

These are the breaks when it comes to the slow and careful process of archaeological preservation.

549

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

But at least the other artifacts we were able to get a really good look at.

550

00:38:40,000 --> 00:38:42,000

Absolutely, I mean, we've got a lot of data here.

551

00:38:42,000 --> 00:38:46,000

Next step is to take that info and try and figure out how to make sense of it.

552

00:38:47,000 --> 00:38:52,000

Finding the well-preserved cargo from a 17th century vessel is nothing short of amazing.

553

00:38:52,000 --> 00:38:58,000

But have we gathered enough information from these artifacts to determine whether or not they're from the satisfaction?

554

00:38:58,000 --> 00:39:03,000

After careful examination, I've asked Fritz to give me his expert analysis.

555

00:39:03,000 --> 00:39:05,000

The satisfaction was a friendship.

556

00:39:06,000 --> 00:39:13,000

So in looking at this wreck, what do the photos, the artifacts, the x-rays, what do they tell us about the origin of this vessel?

557

00:39:13,000 --> 00:39:18,000

Looking at that neck shirt, basically we're looking at a Spanish olive jar.

558

00:39:18,000 --> 00:39:23,000

Basically the Tupperware or the water bottle of 16th to 18th century Spanish.

559

00:39:23,000 --> 00:39:28,000

So we're in the right time period, but a Spanish type of ceramic, not French.

560

00:39:28,000 --> 00:39:29,000

Exactly.

561

00:39:29,000 --> 00:39:32,000

Artifact number two is the mule shoe that we recovered when we were on our dive.

562

00:39:32,000 --> 00:39:33,000

Right.

563

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

These are countersunk, and that's a technique that only the Spanish used.

564

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

The English didn't use it, the French didn't use it.

565

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

And so again, we have another artifact that we've recovered from the wreck that's Spanish in origin.

566

00:39:44,000 --> 00:39:45,000

Okay.

567

00:39:45,000 --> 00:39:49,000

Also significant as what we are seeing is what we aren't seeing.

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00:39:49,000 --> 00:39:54,000

We know the satisfaction was 120 tons and it also carried 22 guns.

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00:39:54,000 --> 00:39:57,000

And honestly, we aren't seeing any guns anywhere on this shipwreck.

570

00:39:57,000 --> 00:40:00,000

The only weapon we have are a few sword blades.

571

00:40:00,000 --> 00:40:04,000

Because the cannons which were recovered were taken from the reef, but not found near the wreck.

572

00:40:04,000 --> 00:40:05,000

Exactly.

573

00:40:05,000 --> 00:40:08,000

The million dollar question then, is this the satisfaction?

574

00:40:08,000 --> 00:40:11,000

I can answer that in one word. No.

575

00:40:11,000 --> 00:40:14,000

But that's not the end of the story.

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00:40:14,000 --> 00:40:20,000

In looking over all the evidence, we have made what is an extremely exciting discovery.

577

00:40:20,000 --> 00:40:25,000

That's actually the manifest of a ship called *Moistra Señora de Encarnación*.

578

00:40:25,000 --> 00:40:29,000

A lot of the chests match up to what we're seeing in the document.

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00:40:29,000 --> 00:40:36,000

And it sank just off of the Chagras River in the general area of where the shipwreck is.

580

00:40:36,000 --> 00:40:43,000

The Encarnación was the same kind of vessel that Christopher Columbus used when he first sailed over to the western hemisphere.

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00:40:43,000 --> 00:40:44,000

That's amazing.

582

00:40:44,000 --> 00:40:51,000

Fritz's analysis is that this shipwreck appears to be the Encarnación and not part of Morgan's fleet.

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00:40:51,000 --> 00:40:56,000

However, that does little to diminish the significance of this incredible find.

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00:40:57,000 --> 00:41:05,000

This pristine 17th century shipwreck may be the single best preserved vessel of its kind ever found.

585

00:41:05,000 --> 00:41:09,000

In addition, it offers a glimpse into the world of Captain Morgan.

586

00:41:09,000 --> 00:41:13,000

But the question remains, where is the satisfaction?

587

00:41:13,000 --> 00:41:16,000

We know the reef of the boat wreck bound.

588

00:41:16,000 --> 00:41:19,000

There's a record of the boat wrecking. It has to be there.

589

00:41:19,000 --> 00:41:20,000

Yeah, absolutely.

590

00:41:20,000 --> 00:41:22,000

It just feels like it is so within reach.

591

00:41:22,000 --> 00:41:24,000

The ships are out there.

592

00:41:24,000 --> 00:41:26,000

I'm sure we're going to find it eventually.

593

00:41:26,000 --> 00:41:27,000

Thanks Fritz.

594

00:41:27,000 --> 00:41:28,000

Yeah, thank you Josh.

595

00:41:28,000 --> 00:41:29,000

Appreciate it.

596

00:41:29,000 --> 00:41:32,000

Morgan was a complex man living in an unforgiving age.

597

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

To some, he's a hero, a rum-guzzling renegade who lived by his own terms.

598

00:41:37,000 --> 00:41:43,000

To others, he is an unrepentant killer, motivated by insatiable bloodlust and greed.

599

00:41:44,000 --> 00:41:46,000

Perhaps, he was both.

600

00:41:47,000 --> 00:41:51,000

The stage for his exploits is a country with its own mysterious duality,

601

00:41:51,000 --> 00:41:57,000

at the crossroads of oceans and continents, and at the forefront of a brilliant economic future.

602

00:41:57,000 --> 00:42:04,000

Speaking of the future, Fritz Hanselman and his team have over a hundred other potential wrecks to investigate off the coast.

603

00:42:04,000 --> 00:42:08,000

And it's only a matter of time before Morgan's ship is found.

604

00:42:08,000 --> 00:42:12,000

And perhaps it's fitting that the boat has remained elusive.

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00:42:12,000 --> 00:42:16,000

The satisfaction is, after all, its own buried treasure.

606

00:42:16,000 --> 00:42:20,000

It will take determination, daring, and more than a little luck

607

00:42:20,000 --> 00:42:26,000

to find a boat belonging to someone as shrouded in mystery as the pirate Captain Henry Morgan.