

1

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

Think of it as the Pearl Harbor of Japan.

2

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

It is their most important base.

3

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

Take me back in time.

4

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

What would it have been like if I was standing on this dock in February of 1944?

5

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

You'd probably be running for cover.

6

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

That's when the U.S. launched Operation Hailstone.

7

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

Wow.

8

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

We obviously routed the Japanese forces here, but not without a cost.

9

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

We're talking about 200 who are killed or missing.

10

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

Nobody has found any of the U.S. planes. None of them.

11

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

We document the sites so that their human remains can ultimately be recovered.

12

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

Those are submarine torpedoes. All mine were.

13

00:00:47,000 --> 00:00:48,000

You found an eyewitness?

14

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

Yes.

15

00:00:49,000 --> 00:00:50,000

A living eyewitness?

16

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

Yes.

17

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

We died here in service to our country, and we have to keep looking for them.

18

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

There could be bones, dog tags, anything.

19

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

Hey guys, come here.

20

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

Dive, dive, dive.

21

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

Okay, she's down.

22

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

Oh, wow.

23

00:01:04,000 --> 00:01:08,000

That's a plane. This is unbelievable.

24

00:01:08,000 --> 00:01:11,000

It's a good chance he's still in the plane.

25

00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:13,000

Wow, that is haunting.

26

00:01:21,000 --> 00:01:28,000

December 7th, 1941, a day that still lives in infamy.

27

00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:33,000

The U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor was blindsided by Japanese forces.

28

00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:38,000

In only 90 tragic minutes, the course of history was forever altered.

29

00:01:39,000 --> 00:01:44,000

The attack killed over 2,400 American service members,

30

00:01:44,000 --> 00:01:48,000

crippled our Navy, and pulled the country into World War II.

31

00:01:48,000 --> 00:01:52,000

Few, however, know of America's ferocious counterattack.

32

00:01:53,000 --> 00:01:59,000

In February 1944, a fleet of aircraft carriers launched Operation Hailstone,

33

00:01:59,000 --> 00:02:05,000

a daring offensive targeting a crucial Japanese base on a remote collection of Pacific islands

34

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

called Truck Lagoon, where U.S. forces decimated Imperial Japan's fleet.

35

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

It was a critical victory, but it came at a cost.

36

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

More than 40 American planes were lost in the assault,

37

00:02:19,000 --> 00:02:24,000

as well as 200 servicemen who went and remain missing in action.

38

00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:31,000

Not a single lost U.S. plane from Hailstone has been located,

39

00:02:31,000 --> 00:02:35,000

but now a group of scientists and historians called Project Recover

40

00:02:35,000 --> 00:02:40,000

is determined to find the most valuable aircraft in the world.

41

00:02:41,000 --> 00:02:45,000

They've designed our lost heroes and helped bring them home.

42

00:02:45,000 --> 00:02:49,000

Using cutting-edge sonar technology and groundbreaking artificial intelligence,

43

00:02:49,000 --> 00:02:53,000

they're scanning the vast ocean floor for undiscovered wrecks.

44

00:02:53,000 --> 00:02:56,000

And on land, they're making major breakthroughs,

45

00:02:56,000 --> 00:03:02,000

locating actual eyewitnesses who could lead them to the remains of American POWs.

46

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

So all hands, man your battle stations,

47

00:03:05,000 --> 00:03:10,000

and join me on a historic expedition into World War II's Pacific Theater,

48

00:03:10,000 --> 00:03:15,000

seeking warriors who may be gone, but must never be forgotten.

49

00:03:19,000 --> 00:03:21,000

My name is Josh Gates.

50

00:03:21,000 --> 00:03:22,000

Hello!

51

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

Explorer.

52

00:03:23,000 --> 00:03:24,000

Here goes nothing.

53

00:03:24,000 --> 00:03:25,000

Adventurer.

54

00:03:25,000 --> 00:03:26,000

Woo-hoo-hoo!

55

00:03:26,000 --> 00:03:27,000

Oh, that's a long way down.

56

00:03:27,000 --> 00:03:31,000

And a guy who ends up in some very strange situations.

57

00:03:31,000 --> 00:03:33,000

I'm alive for now!

58

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

With a degree in archaeology and a passion for the unexplained,

59

00:03:36,000 --> 00:03:41,000

I travel to the ends of the earth, investigating the greatest legends in history.

60

00:03:41,000 --> 00:03:43,000

Ready to rock and roll!

61

00:03:43,000 --> 00:03:45,000

This is Expedition Unknown.

62

00:03:54,000 --> 00:03:59,000

I begin my mission to find lost World War II heroes in an unlikely place,

63

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

a genteel Southern charmer, Charleston, South Carolina.

64

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

Well, we are obviously a long way from the Pacific Theater

65

00:04:07,000 --> 00:04:11,000

and the waters of Operation Hailstone, but there's a reason for that.

66

00:04:11,000 --> 00:04:14,000

I'm here in Charleston to visit with one of the great heroes of that battle,

67

00:04:14,000 --> 00:04:18,000

who retired here after completing active service in 1970.

68

00:04:18,000 --> 00:04:21,000

She is one of America's most decorated veterans.

69

00:04:21,000 --> 00:04:22,000

Her name?

70

00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:24,000

The USS Yorktown.

71

00:04:24,000 --> 00:04:26,000

The USS Yorktown.

72

00:04:30,000 --> 00:04:35,000

872 feet long and weighing in at 27,000 tons.

73

00:04:35,000 --> 00:04:40,000

Even in retirement, this aircraft carrier is an imposing sight.

74

00:04:40,000 --> 00:04:45,000

On the flight deck, I meet professor of military history, Kyle Sinisi.

75

00:04:45,000 --> 00:04:47,000

Dr. Sinisi, how you doing?

76

00:04:47,000 --> 00:04:48,000

I'm doing fine.

77

00:04:48,000 --> 00:04:49,000

I'm Josh.

78

00:04:49,000 --> 00:04:50,000

Nice to meet you.

79

00:04:50,000 --> 00:04:51,000

Pleasure.

80

00:04:51,000 --> 00:04:53,000

I gotta say, this is an incredible ship.

81

00:04:53,000 --> 00:04:55,000

This is an airport on the water.

82

00:04:55,000 --> 00:04:57,000

And this was purpose built for World War II.

83

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

They actually started construction on the Yorktown six days before Pearl Harbor itself.

84

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

Wow.

85

00:05:04,000 --> 00:05:09,000

On December 7, 1941, Japan, like its infamous Axis partners,

86

00:05:09,000 --> 00:05:12,000

struck first and declared war afterwards.

87

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

Everyone knows that Japan attacks us at Pearl Harbor.

88

00:05:15,000 --> 00:05:19,000

I don't think as many people know why Japan attacked us at Pearl Harbor.

89

00:05:19,000 --> 00:05:20,000

Well, Japan had a destiny.

90

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

Or at least they believe they had a destiny.

91

00:05:22,000 --> 00:05:24,000

And that was to rule East Asia and Southeast Asia.

92

00:05:24,000 --> 00:05:26,000

And what does taking us out at Pearl Harbor do?

93

00:05:26,000 --> 00:05:32,000

They saw us as an obstacle to the conquest of all those islands between Japan and Australia.

94

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

Right, because those are full of resources.

95

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

Yes.

96

00:05:36,000 --> 00:05:42,000

Six months after Pearl Harbor, Japan has control over almost 6 million square miles of territory,

97

00:05:42,000 --> 00:05:46,000

including the Philippines, Thailand, and Korea.

98

00:05:46,000 --> 00:05:50,000

I think we have some understanding of what it takes to fight a land war.

99

00:05:50,000 --> 00:05:52,000

But an ocean war is entirely different.

100

00:05:52,000 --> 00:05:54,000

What do you need to be successful in the Pacific Theater?

101

00:05:54,000 --> 00:05:56,000

You need to be able to project power.

102

00:05:56,000 --> 00:05:57,000

You need a Navy.

103

00:05:57,000 --> 00:05:58,000

You need battleships.

104

00:05:58,000 --> 00:06:02,000

You need aircraft carriers, something like the USS Yorktown,

105

00:06:02,000 --> 00:06:04,000

and the planes that she carried aboard.

106

00:06:04,000 --> 00:06:05,000

You want to go take a look at them?

107

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

Love to.

108

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

Yeah, come on.

109

00:06:09,000 --> 00:06:13,000

Kyle takes me below deck to see some of the legendary aircraft

110

00:06:13,000 --> 00:06:15,000

that carried out Operation Hale Stone.

111

00:06:15,000 --> 00:06:17,000

Wow, this is extraordinary.

112

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

Look at this.

113

00:06:24,000 --> 00:06:26,000

They were high tech for their day.

114

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

At a time when using aircraft flown from carriers was a radical new approach to warfare.

115

00:06:32,000 --> 00:06:34,000

Josh, here, I think we got an airplane you're quite familiar with.

116

00:06:34,000 --> 00:06:36,000

Yes, this is the Avenger, right?

117

00:06:36,000 --> 00:06:40,000

I actually had a chance a few years ago to take a ride in one of these, which was a huge thrill.

118

00:06:41,000 --> 00:06:42,000

Unbelievable.

119

00:06:43,000 --> 00:06:44,000

This is sick.

120

00:06:46,000 --> 00:06:47,000

This thing's a beast.

121

00:06:47,000 --> 00:06:54,000

It is a torpedo bomber, and one of the things that really tips you off to how big this thing is are the folding wings.

122

00:06:54,000 --> 00:06:57,000

Right, that's the only way this thing can fit on an aircraft carrier, right?

123

00:06:57,000 --> 00:06:58,000

Pretty much.

124

00:06:58,000 --> 00:06:59,000

Incredible.

125

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

Along with the Avenger, Kyle shows me other planes that flew at Truck Lagoon, including the Hellcat, Corsair,

126

00:07:06,000 --> 00:07:09,000

and the SBD Dauntless Dive Bomber.

127

00:07:09,000 --> 00:07:13,000

It was one heck of a rugged and effective aircraft during the war,

128

00:07:13,000 --> 00:07:17,000

although many of the aircrew thought that SBD stood for slow but deadly.

129

00:07:17,000 --> 00:07:22,000

And it would eventually wind up sinking more Japanese shipping than anything else that we had in our inventory.

130

00:07:22,000 --> 00:07:24,000

Wow, so very successful plane.

131

00:07:24,000 --> 00:07:25,000

Absolutely.

132

00:07:26,000 --> 00:07:36,000

From 1941 to 1943, American planes launching from carriers like the Yorktown were used to roll back Japan's advance across the Pacific,

133

00:07:36,000 --> 00:07:38,000

in places like Midway and Guadalcanal.

134

00:07:39,000 --> 00:07:48,000

By February of 1944, we're closing in on Japan itself, but a major obstacle remains, the Japanese naval base at Truck Lagoon.

135

00:07:49,000 --> 00:07:56,000

And let's talk about how this and these other planes were used at this place, Truck, Operation Hailstone.

136

00:07:56,000 --> 00:07:57,000

Yeah, Truck Lagoon.

137

00:07:57,000 --> 00:07:58,000

It's hard to find on a map.

138

00:07:59,000 --> 00:08:03,000

But think of it about 2,000 miles southeast of Japan.

139

00:08:03,000 --> 00:08:05,000

How important was this base to the Japanese?

140

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

Oh, it is their most important base.

141

00:08:07,000 --> 00:08:11,000

Think of it as the Pearl Harbor of Japan.

142

00:08:11,000 --> 00:08:15,000

You could find up to 60% of their combined fleet here.

143

00:08:15,000 --> 00:08:17,000

So take me through it. What happens?

144

00:08:17,000 --> 00:08:29,000

We put together one of the largest naval forces ever assembled, nine aircraft carriers, seven battleships, dozens of auxiliary vessels, and ultimately, 560 aircraft.

145

00:08:29,000 --> 00:08:33,000

We fly in and we will sink dozens of their ships.

146

00:08:33,000 --> 00:08:37,000

We will knock out 275 of the aircraft.

147

00:08:38,000 --> 00:08:44,000

And we will kill up to 4,600 of their soldiers, sailor, and airman.

148

00:08:44,000 --> 00:08:45,000

Wow.

149

00:08:45,000 --> 00:08:46,000

And US losses?

150

00:08:46,000 --> 00:08:47,000

They're fairly minimal.

151

00:08:47,000 --> 00:08:53,000

We're talking about 42 aircraft and about 200 who are killed or missing.

152

00:08:53,000 --> 00:08:56,000

We have a lot of these guys who are just simply MIA missing.

153

00:08:56,000 --> 00:08:59,000

That is a characteristic of all of our casualties.

154

00:08:59,000 --> 00:09:04,000

And especially in the Pacific because we're there in planes and then we're gone.

155

00:09:05,000 --> 00:09:07,000

Our nation made a promise to these missing servicemen.

156

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

No man left behind.

157

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

And now a new effort is underway to make good on that promise.

158

00:09:13,000 --> 00:09:20,000

Well, I'm headed out to truck to meet with a group that's trying to recover some of these lost planes and hopefully bring some closure to these MIA stories.

159

00:09:20,000 --> 00:09:23,000

Well, thank you and good luck. It's a long flight out there.

160

00:09:23,000 --> 00:09:33,000

This mission requires a journey of more than 8,000 miles from Charleston to the middle of the Pacific.

161

00:09:33,000 --> 00:09:44,000

It begins with a two hour flight through Chicago and then nine hours across the US and thousands of miles of ocean to a critical layover on the island of Oahu, Hawaii.

162

00:09:45,000 --> 00:09:53,000

It is a few minutes before 8 a.m. on December 7, 1941.

163

00:09:53,000 --> 00:10:01,000

Just another sunny day here at the US Naval Base in Pearl Harbor and then the distant sound of engines.

164

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

Hundreds of Japanese planes launched from six aircraft carriers in one of the most audacious surprise attacks in history.

165

00:10:14,000 --> 00:10:22,000

Almost our entire Pacific fleet is gathered here and caught unaware.

166

00:10:22,000 --> 00:10:27,000

Our aircraft on nearby runways are also sitting ducks and are quickly destroyed.

167

00:10:27,000 --> 00:10:32,000

In fact, only six US planes will make it in the air to repel the first wave.

168

00:10:32,000 --> 00:10:39,000

19 American vessels in the harbor are damaged or destroyed, including eight battleships.

169

00:10:39,000 --> 00:10:43,000

But the USS Arizona takes the most lethal blow.

170

00:10:43,000 --> 00:10:52,000

An armor piercing bomb penetrates the ship's ammunition stores, setting off an explosion that will kill 1177 men.

171

00:10:52,000 --> 00:10:58,000

A day later, 134,000 Americans would enlist in the military.

172

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

In 1962, a memorial was built over the ghostly remains of the wreck.

173

00:11:14,000 --> 00:11:17,000

Today, it's a hallowed tomb.

174

00:11:17,000 --> 00:11:25,000

A lasting reminder of the greatest sacrifice our servicemen and women make for this country.

175

00:11:33,000 --> 00:11:41,000

The attack on Pearl Harbor decimated our Pacific fleet and yet within two years, the US roared back and turned the tables.

176

00:11:41,000 --> 00:11:45,000

Striking Japan at their most critical base.

177

00:11:47,000 --> 00:11:53,000

There's only one way to get there, aboard a famous route that's considered the least direct flight on Earth.

178

00:11:53,000 --> 00:11:56,000

Welcome to the Island Hopper. Here we go.

179

00:11:57,000 --> 00:12:05,000

This is United Flight 154, originated by Continental in 1968 as a vital mail and supply run.

180

00:12:05,000 --> 00:12:08,000

It's a great way to earn those valuable frequent flyer miles.

181

00:12:08,000 --> 00:12:11,000

Coollest airplane route ever.

182

00:12:11,000 --> 00:12:25,000

The 20-hour circuit departs from Honolulu and hops across the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, the Caroline Islands, and onto Guam before going back to Hawaii to start all over again.

183

00:12:25,000 --> 00:12:35,000

Four pilots are aboard this 737, as well as, and I'm not kidding, critical spare parts and a dedicated mechanic, since the islands have neither.

184

00:12:35,000 --> 00:12:39,000

Oh, and there's even an additional navigation instrument in the cockpit.

185

00:12:44,000 --> 00:12:52,000

The first leg is a jaunty little hop over a stretch of ocean nearly as wide as the United States, which requires a slight watch adjustment.

186

00:12:52,000 --> 00:12:59,000

Alright, we are approaching the international date line. It is about 10 a.m. on Wednesday. Wait for it.

187

00:12:59,000 --> 00:13:09,000

It is now 10 a.m. on Thursday. We just lost 24 hours. The worst part is, this is true, it's one of my camera guy's birthdays on Wednesday.

188

00:13:09,000 --> 00:13:11,000

God, what a rip.

189

00:13:14,000 --> 00:13:23,000

The first speck of land is the 3.7 square mile island of Majuro, capital of the Marshall Islands, where we're on the ground just long enough to take in the sights.

190

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

Welcome to Majuro!

191

00:13:26,000 --> 00:13:28,000

It's beautiful here.

192

00:13:29,000 --> 00:13:31,000

Okay, let's go.

193

00:13:31,000 --> 00:13:36,000

The next destination is only an hour away, the island of Kwajalan.

194

00:13:37,000 --> 00:13:46,000

It was one of the first Japanese territories to fall to Allied forces. Unfortunately, I don't get to disembark here because it's now a top secret missile test site.

195

00:13:50,000 --> 00:13:52,000

Okay, moving on.

196

00:13:56,000 --> 00:14:07,000

Another hour to the volcanic island of Kosarai, where we touched down just long enough to take off again for another hour in the air as we fly to the stunning capital of Micronesia.

197

00:14:11,000 --> 00:14:17,000

Alright, we've got about 10 minutes to take in the beautiful tropical island of Panaphe.

198

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

Island Hopper Pro Tip, always keep an eye on your pilot.

199

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

Come on, let's go.

200

00:14:25,000 --> 00:14:27,000

Coming!

201

00:14:27,000 --> 00:14:28,000

Jeez.

202

00:14:28,000 --> 00:14:31,000

Short one. We're almost there.

203

00:14:31,000 --> 00:14:33,000

Thank you.

204

00:14:33,000 --> 00:14:39,000

Next stop is where I get off, the remote truck lagoon, though today it's known as Chuk.

205

00:14:39,000 --> 00:14:43,000

Turns out that in the 40s we got the name wrong and it's stuck.

206

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

Chuk, that's all, should be coming into view.

207

00:14:52,000 --> 00:14:54,000

Wow, look at that.

208

00:14:54,000 --> 00:15:07,000

However you pronounce it, Chuk is a stunner, a 145-mile diameter atoll, a circular barrier reef protecting an 800-square-mile lagoon with 16 tropical islands.

209

00:15:08,000 --> 00:15:10,000

We're landing on this one, Weno.

210

00:15:12,000 --> 00:15:18,000

On a runway built by Imperial Japan, and it's here that our tour of paradise gets a little bumpy.

211

00:15:19,000 --> 00:15:23,000

Hey ladies and gentlemen, knocking straight ahead is the airport. We'll be landing shortly.

212

00:15:25,000 --> 00:15:31,000

The airfield here is perfect for World War II fighter planes, commercial airliners, not so much.

213

00:15:31,000 --> 00:15:38,000

In fact, in 2018, an Air New Guinea 737 shorted the runway and ended up in almost 100 feet of water.

214

00:15:41,000 --> 00:15:43,000

Now, it's my turn to roll the dice.

215

00:15:44,000 --> 00:15:49,000

Next stop is either truck or truck lagoon.

216

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

Brakes, brakes, brakes, brakes, brakes.

217

00:15:59,000 --> 00:16:07,000

I'm flying over the Pacific Islands of Micronesia, hunting for the remains of missing inaction servicemen from World War II.

218

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

We're coming in to land on a short airstrip originally built by the Japanese before the age of jet airliners, which means we need to slow down fast.

219

00:16:21,000 --> 00:16:23,000

Brakes, brakes, brakes, brakes, brakes.

220

00:16:31,000 --> 00:16:35,000

We hope you enjoy your time in Chuk or wherever your travels take you.

221

00:16:36,000 --> 00:16:38,000

Well, we're here.

222

00:16:39,000 --> 00:16:47,000

Happy to not be in the water just yet, I disembark from an awesome flight aboard the island hopper and am immediately transported into the past.

223

00:16:52,000 --> 00:16:57,000

World War II may have ended decades ago, but here the wounds are still fresh.

224

00:16:57,000 --> 00:17:04,000

Ghostly shells of Japanese ships, derelict structures and rusted out artillery batteries dot the shores.

225

00:17:04,000 --> 00:17:09,000

Hidden in the depths lie the remains of American servicemen and their aircraft.

226

00:17:09,000 --> 00:17:16,000

I head down to a dock to meet the team from Project Recover that aims to find these heroes and help bring them home.

227

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

Hey guys, how are you?

228

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

Hey, John.

229

00:17:18,000 --> 00:17:19,000

Hey.

230

00:17:19,000 --> 00:17:20,000

What's going on?

231

00:17:20,000 --> 00:17:21,000

Very good to see you again as well.

232

00:17:21,000 --> 00:17:24,000

Last time I saw you, we were on a different island off the coast of California.

233

00:17:24,000 --> 00:17:25,000

At a cap island.

234

00:17:25,000 --> 00:17:26,000

That's right.

235

00:17:26,000 --> 00:17:32,000

I first worked with Colin on the hunt for a World War II torpedo bomber lost off the coast of California.

236

00:17:32,000 --> 00:17:37,000

And now, half a world away, I'm meeting more members of this remarkable team.

237

00:17:37,000 --> 00:17:41,000

And Josh, I want to introduce you to Mark Moline, the co-founder of Project Recover.

238

00:17:41,000 --> 00:17:42,000

Great to meet you, Mark.

239

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

And Dan Davis, the lead archaeologist for this mission.

240

00:17:45,000 --> 00:17:46,000

Awesome.

241

00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:49,000

Project Recover's mission takes them all over the world.

242

00:17:49,000 --> 00:17:57,000

To date, they have helped repatriate more than 17 MIAs and located more than 65 World War II aircraft.

243

00:17:58,000 --> 00:18:01,000

And so let's talk about your mission here in Chuk.

244

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

This was once known as Truck Lagoon.

245

00:18:03,000 --> 00:18:08,000

And this island here and the other islands we see out here, these were all occupied by the Japanese.

246

00:18:08,000 --> 00:18:11,000

There would have been Japanese ships and planes all over the place here, right?

247

00:18:11,000 --> 00:18:12,000

Yeah.

248

00:18:12,000 --> 00:18:16,000

This was a major Japanese naval base that we actually didn't even know that much about.

249

00:18:16,000 --> 00:18:21,000

The guys who were flying in here on 17 February were really flying into a mystery.

250

00:18:21,000 --> 00:18:27,000

That mystery turned out to be the most formidable Japanese naval base in the Pacific.

251

00:18:27,000 --> 00:18:33,000

Within the barrier reef of the Atoll, the Japanese transformed the islands of truck,

252

00:18:33,000 --> 00:18:36,000

along with dozens of military buildings.

253

00:18:36,000 --> 00:18:43,000

They built five airfields supporting hundreds of aircraft, including a vast fleet of deadly Japanese zeros.

254

00:18:43,000 --> 00:18:47,000

There were also facilities for sea planes and submarines.

255

00:18:47,000 --> 00:18:55,000

And the lagoon itself often had as many as a thousand ships, all defended by anti-aircraft guns on shore.

256

00:18:56,000 --> 00:18:57,000

Take me back in time.

257

00:18:57,000 --> 00:19:01,000

What would it have been like if I was standing on the stock in February of 1944?

258

00:19:01,000 --> 00:19:05,000

Yeah, if you're here 17 February 1944, you'd probably be running for cover.

259

00:19:09,000 --> 00:19:13,000

That's when the U.S. launched Operation Hailstone, a major carrier-borne attack on Truck Lagoon.

260

00:19:13,000 --> 00:19:18,000

In a reverse of Pearl Harbor, it was now the Japanese who never saw it coming.

261

00:19:18,000 --> 00:19:25,000

And our motto of carriers, battleships, destroyers and subs descended on truck in a series of attacks.

262

00:19:25,000 --> 00:19:34,000

And our flyboys got the drop on enemy forces, sinking more than 50 ships and destroying over 400 planes.

263

00:19:34,000 --> 00:19:41,000

And in terms of the numbers, we obviously routed the Japanese forces here, but not without a cost, right?

264

00:19:41,000 --> 00:19:46,000

So between Hailstone and the subsequent operations, how many U.S. personnel went missing here?

265

00:19:46,000 --> 00:19:49,000

We lost 42 planes and around 200 people.

266

00:19:49,000 --> 00:19:51,000

200 people are missing here.

267

00:19:51,000 --> 00:19:56,000

And presumably, many of those remains are sunk out here in the atoll, yes?

268

00:19:56,000 --> 00:19:58,000

Now, there are of course known wrecks out here.

269

00:19:58,000 --> 00:20:02,000

The Japanese lost a ton of ships in this attack, many of which are plotted out here.

270

00:20:02,000 --> 00:20:04,000

What about these American planes though?

271

00:20:04,000 --> 00:20:07,000

Up until now, nobody has found any of the U.S. planes.

272

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

None of them?

273

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

No.

274

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

Wow.

275

00:20:10,000 --> 00:20:11,000

That's incredible.

276

00:20:11,000 --> 00:20:12,000

That's remarkable.

277

00:20:12,000 --> 00:20:15,000

Somewhere in these waters lie the lost heroes of Hailstone.

278

00:20:15,000 --> 00:20:22,000

Their stories untold and remains unclaimed almost 80 years later.

279

00:20:22,000 --> 00:20:23,000

It's a big mission.

280

00:20:23,000 --> 00:20:24,000

Where do we begin?

281

00:20:24,000 --> 00:20:31,000

We have over five years now conducted archival research of action reports, war diaries,

282

00:20:31,000 --> 00:20:33,000

declassified documents from World War II.

283

00:20:33,000 --> 00:20:37,000

And in fact, we actually have some targets to get started with already.

284

00:20:37,000 --> 00:20:38,000

We have targets.

285

00:20:38,000 --> 00:20:41,000

What we do in our mission today is to go figure out what those are.

286

00:20:41,000 --> 00:20:42,000

Okay, should we get on the water?

287

00:20:42,000 --> 00:20:43,000

Sounds like a great idea.

288

00:20:43,000 --> 00:20:44,000

Either way, please.

289

00:20:49,000 --> 00:20:54,000

While it may be called a lagoon, the waters here are about the size of Rhode Island.

290

00:20:54,000 --> 00:20:59,000

In 2019, the project recover team deployed cutting edge autonomous underwater vehicles

291

00:20:59,000 --> 00:21:04,000

to sonar scan sections of the lagoon that had never been searched.

292

00:21:04,000 --> 00:21:06,000

They got back promising data.

293

00:21:06,000 --> 00:21:09,000

Unfortunately, COVID stopped their mission short.

294

00:21:09,000 --> 00:21:15,000

Now, we have an incredible opportunity to interrogate these targets for the very first time.

295

00:21:16,000 --> 00:21:19,000

How many targets would you say there are that are promising?

296

00:21:19,000 --> 00:21:20,000

Ten, ten or twelve.

297

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

Can we take a look at the data?

298

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

Sure.

299

00:21:22,000 --> 00:21:23,000

Yeah, here?

300

00:21:23,000 --> 00:21:24,000

Yep.

301

00:21:24,000 --> 00:21:27,000

This is the first one that we're thinking about diving on today.

302

00:21:27,000 --> 00:21:29,000

So something there for sure, very distinct shape.

303

00:21:29,000 --> 00:21:33,000

Yeah, so we call this rabbit ears based on previous experience.

304

00:21:33,000 --> 00:21:34,000

It looks like a propeller.

305

00:21:34,000 --> 00:21:36,000

We're one of the propellers vertical.

306

00:21:36,000 --> 00:21:38,000

It's casting a vertical shadow.

307

00:21:38,000 --> 00:21:43,000

And the other one sort of casting this angular shape and it definitely looks like this sort of rabbit.

308

00:21:43,000 --> 00:21:44,000

Right.

309

00:21:44,000 --> 00:21:45,000

So looks like a propeller.

310

00:21:45,000 --> 00:21:46,000

It does.

311

00:21:46,000 --> 00:21:49,000

Might not be a propeller, but that's what we hope it is.

312

00:21:49,000 --> 00:21:50,000

Yeah.

313

00:21:50,000 --> 00:21:51,000

Okay, let's go see what it is.

314

00:21:51,000 --> 00:21:52,000

Okay.

315

00:21:57,000 --> 00:22:03,000

We motor about a half a mile across the lagoon toward our mystery sonar hit until we arrive

316

00:22:03,000 --> 00:22:06,000

at the coordinates that Mark has waited years to investigate.

317

00:22:06,000 --> 00:22:07,000

Okay, we're getting to the right.

318

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

Okay, slow down.

319

00:22:09,000 --> 00:22:12,000

When our vessel is directly on top of the target.

320

00:22:12,000 --> 00:22:13,000

Down.

321

00:22:16,000 --> 00:22:19,000

Colin tosses a weighted shot line over the bow.

322

00:22:19,000 --> 00:22:23,000

This will be our guide down to the target and our lifeline back to the boat.

323

00:22:29,000 --> 00:22:35,000

Dan and I drop in while Mark monitors the comms topside.

324

00:22:37,000 --> 00:22:40,000

Okay, I'm following the line down.

325

00:22:43,000 --> 00:22:44,000

Down.

326

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

Down we go.

327

00:22:46,000 --> 00:22:54,000

Hopefully we nailed the position as the saying goes off by an inch off by a mile and at this depth over 100 feet.

328

00:22:54,000 --> 00:22:59,000

Our bottom time is limited to about 15 minutes to avoid decompression sickness.

329

00:22:59,000 --> 00:23:00,000

This is topside.

330

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

What are the conditions down there over?

331

00:23:04,000 --> 00:23:06,000

This ability is okay.

332

00:23:06,000 --> 00:23:08,000

Maybe 20, 25 feet.

333

00:23:08,000 --> 00:23:10,000

Time is tight.

334

00:23:10,000 --> 00:23:14,000

So we drop down fast, making a beeline to the ocean floor.

335

00:23:14,000 --> 00:23:16,000

Sandy bottom, fairly featureless.

336

00:23:16,000 --> 00:23:17,000

Nothing yet.

337

00:23:19,000 --> 00:23:21,000

Josh, why don't you swim west for a little bit?

338

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

I'll stay here with the shot line.

339

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

Copy that.

340

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

I'll let you know if I see anything.

341

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

We're going to look around.

342

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

Topside copy.

343

00:23:28,000 --> 00:23:32,000

We got less than 10 minutes down here to find this thing.

344

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

Oh, Dan, I think I got something.

345

00:23:40,000 --> 00:23:43,000

You see that dark shape right there.

346

00:23:43,000 --> 00:23:44,000

Right there.

347

00:23:46,000 --> 00:23:48,000

Topside, we got something here.

348

00:23:48,000 --> 00:23:50,000

Something big.

349

00:23:50,000 --> 00:23:51,000

All right.

350

00:23:52,000 --> 00:23:54,000

Dan, get over here.

351

00:23:54,000 --> 00:23:55,000

Take a look at that.

352

00:23:55,000 --> 00:23:58,000

Topside, we got something here.

353

00:23:58,000 --> 00:23:59,000

All right.

354

00:23:59,000 --> 00:24:01,000

What does it look like?

355

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

Can't tell yet.

356

00:24:02,000 --> 00:24:03,000

Swim it over to it.

357

00:24:03,000 --> 00:24:10,000

I'm with Project Recover on a mission to find missing World War II airmen in truck lagoon Micronesia.

358

00:24:10,000 --> 00:24:16,000

100 feet down, we're investigating a promising sonar target that looked like a bent propeller.

359

00:24:16,000 --> 00:24:18,000

Something big.

360

00:24:18,000 --> 00:24:20,000

Not a propeller.

361

00:24:20,000 --> 00:24:22,000

It's an anchor.

362

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

This is huge.

363

00:24:26,000 --> 00:24:27,000

It's massive.

364

00:24:27,000 --> 00:24:30,000

We have a massive anchor down here.

365

00:24:30,000 --> 00:24:32,000

It's got the standard flukes.

366

00:24:32,000 --> 00:24:34,000

Looks like a massive Admiralty anchor.

367

00:24:34,000 --> 00:24:38,000

It's insane that this is just sitting down here.

368

00:24:38,000 --> 00:24:40,000

This is a big anchor.

369

00:24:40,000 --> 00:24:42,000

It's a big anchor.

370

00:24:42,000 --> 00:24:44,000

It's a big anchor.

371

00:24:44,000 --> 00:24:48,000

It's insane that this is just sitting down here.

372

00:24:48,000 --> 00:24:49,000

This is period though.

373

00:24:49,000 --> 00:24:51,000

Yes, World War II.

374

00:24:51,000 --> 00:24:55,000

I can definitely be from the Imperial Japanese Navy.

375

00:24:55,000 --> 00:24:58,000

I wonder if this was let go from a ship during the attack.

376

00:24:58,000 --> 00:25:01,000

Maybe trying to escape could be.

377

00:25:02,000 --> 00:25:09,000

As the Allied Armada descended on truck lagoon, Japanese ships fled, cutting anchor to escape the bombardment.

378

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

That's great.

379

00:25:10,000 --> 00:25:13,000

Take as many photos as you can and come back up to the surface.

380

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

The anchor is an important find, giving battlefield archaeologists and historians another puzzle piece to reconstruct the story of Operation Hale Stone.

381

00:25:35,000 --> 00:25:37,000

Monster anchor down there.

382

00:25:37,000 --> 00:25:38,000

Nice job.

383

00:25:38,000 --> 00:25:39,000

Huge.

384

00:25:39,000 --> 00:25:40,000

We got one stone on our target down.

385

00:25:40,000 --> 00:25:41,000

Yep.

386

00:25:41,000 --> 00:25:42,000

Several more to go.

387

00:25:42,000 --> 00:25:43,000

That's right.

388

00:25:44,000 --> 00:25:45,000

We're back on the boat.

389

00:25:45,000 --> 00:25:56,000

We return to our sonar targets with barely enough time to dry off before we're on top of another one.

390

00:25:56,000 --> 00:25:58,000

So next target, what do we got?

391

00:25:58,000 --> 00:26:02,000

For the next target, I think we should focus on this debris field.

392

00:26:02,000 --> 00:26:04,000

Looks to be about 25 feet in length.

393

00:26:04,000 --> 00:26:07,000

Now, when you look at that, you don't immediately think that's an airplane.

394

00:26:07,000 --> 00:26:08,000

No.

395

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

But sometimes that's what this stuff looks like, right?

396

00:26:10,000 --> 00:26:11,000

Yeah.

397

00:26:11,000 --> 00:26:17,000

These planes sometimes hit the surface at high speeds, and so what you have is a distributed debris pile.

398

00:26:17,000 --> 00:26:18,000

That could be an aircraft.

399

00:26:18,000 --> 00:26:19,000

Yeah.

400

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

And then I can't help but notice what's this weird thing over here.

401

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

We have what looks like a man-made object about 150 feet away from that debris pile.

402

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

Long shadow, which means it has some height.

403

00:26:29,000 --> 00:26:31,000

And it's also about 10 feet in diameter.

404

00:26:31,000 --> 00:26:32,000

10 feet in diameter.

405

00:26:32,000 --> 00:26:33,000

Okay, so two for one.

406

00:26:33,000 --> 00:26:35,000

We hit one target and then rush over to the other.

407

00:26:35,000 --> 00:26:36,000

Yes, we could.

408

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

It'll have to be a quick swim, but I think we can do it.

409

00:26:38,000 --> 00:26:39,000

Okay.

410

00:26:42,000 --> 00:26:45,000

We circle back around to the coordinates,

411

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

release another shot line,

412

00:26:56,000 --> 00:26:58,000

and waste no time dropping down.

413

00:27:06,000 --> 00:27:08,000

Okay, passing 30 feet.

414

00:27:09,000 --> 00:27:12,000

Visibility is deteriorating a little.

415

00:27:14,000 --> 00:27:16,000

We are just passing 50 feet.

416

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

Coming up on 80 feet, should be able to see the bottom here soon.

417

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

Holy s***, we are right on top of something.

418

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

We threw that shot line right into the round target.

419

00:27:35,000 --> 00:27:37,000

Dan, what is this thing?

420

00:27:37,000 --> 00:27:38,000

I have no idea.

421

00:27:38,000 --> 00:27:40,000

Let me drop down and take a look.

422

00:27:40,000 --> 00:27:41,000

Copy that.

423

00:27:42,000 --> 00:27:43,000

Is it wreckage?

424

00:27:43,000 --> 00:27:45,000

It looked round on the sonar.

425

00:27:45,000 --> 00:27:46,000

Over.

426

00:27:46,000 --> 00:27:48,000

It's definitely round.

427

00:27:48,000 --> 00:27:51,000

It does not look aviation at all.

428

00:27:53,000 --> 00:27:54,000

Ah, I got it.

429

00:27:54,000 --> 00:27:55,000

What is it?

430

00:27:55,000 --> 00:27:56,000

It's a mooring buoy.

431

00:28:01,000 --> 00:28:03,000

So what would this have been used for?

432

00:28:04,000 --> 00:28:07,000

The Japanese didn't build a lot of big docks around here,

433

00:28:07,000 --> 00:28:09,000

so the big ships would come in and tie off,

434

00:28:09,000 --> 00:28:11,000

and they would offload supplies that way.

435

00:28:12,000 --> 00:28:16,000

Okay, so impressive, but not what we're looking for.

436

00:28:18,000 --> 00:28:20,000

One sonar mystery is solved.

437

00:28:20,000 --> 00:28:24,000

Now we quickly swim toward the target that looks like a debris field.

438

00:28:27,000 --> 00:28:29,000

The heading is 115.

439

00:28:29,000 --> 00:28:30,000

Okay.

440

00:28:30,000 --> 00:28:31,000

Okay.

441

00:28:32,000 --> 00:28:34,000

Dan drags the shot line behind us

442

00:28:34,000 --> 00:28:36,000

so we can quickly find our way back to the boat.

443

00:28:37,000 --> 00:28:38,000

It's getting deeper here.

444

00:28:38,000 --> 00:28:40,000

Yeah, we're going to need to surface soon.

445

00:28:42,000 --> 00:28:44,000

I can see something up ahead.

446

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

Hold on, we've got a dark mass ahead.

447

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

Does it look man-made?

448

00:28:49,000 --> 00:28:51,000

Looks natural to me.

449

00:28:51,000 --> 00:28:53,000

I don't see any metal.

450

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

It's definitely geological.

451

00:28:55,000 --> 00:28:57,000

So we've got a World War II mooring,

452

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

and what looks like a natural formation.

453

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

Dan, you ready to go?

454

00:29:02,000 --> 00:29:03,000

Let's do it.

455

00:29:03,000 --> 00:29:05,000

Yeah, let's start making our way up.

456

00:29:06,000 --> 00:29:10,000

The anchor and the mooring paint a picture of where Japanese forces

457

00:29:10,000 --> 00:29:12,000

were positioned during hailstone

458

00:29:12,000 --> 00:29:15,000

and where American pilots may have attacked.

459

00:29:15,000 --> 00:29:20,000

This valuable intel may ultimately aid the search for MIAs.

460

00:29:21,000 --> 00:29:23,000

Okay, two more targets down.

461

00:29:23,000 --> 00:29:24,000

All right.

462

00:29:24,000 --> 00:29:25,000

Plenty more to go.

463

00:29:25,000 --> 00:29:26,000

Nice shot, guys.

464

00:29:26,000 --> 00:29:28,000

When did the beers come out?

465

00:29:28,000 --> 00:29:30,000

When we get back.

466

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

Oh, okay.

467

00:29:31,000 --> 00:29:32,000

I wasn't sure.

468

00:29:34,000 --> 00:29:37,000

With the sun setting, we motor back across the lagoon

469

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

and return to port.

470

00:29:43,000 --> 00:29:46,000

By the light of a new day, we're back out on the water.

471

00:29:46,000 --> 00:29:50,000

To find missing planes, Project Recover uses more than just sonar.

472

00:29:50,000 --> 00:29:54,000

They also rely on something even more powerful, local knowledge.

473

00:29:56,000 --> 00:29:58,000

Josh, I want to introduce you to Mason Fritz.

474

00:29:58,000 --> 00:29:59,000

Mason, hello.

475

00:29:59,000 --> 00:30:00,000

Hello.

476

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

Mason is our local investigator here in Chuuk.

477

00:30:02,000 --> 00:30:05,000

He is an essential part of the Project Recover team

478

00:30:05,000 --> 00:30:08,000

because there are more than a dozen populated islands here in Chuuk,

479

00:30:08,000 --> 00:30:11,000

and we need to be able to liaise with local people

480

00:30:11,000 --> 00:30:14,000

in order to get local stories about American aircraft

481

00:30:14,000 --> 00:30:16,000

or personnel who might have washed ashore.

482

00:30:16,000 --> 00:30:17,000

Got it.

483

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

So today we're heading to Fonipongas,

484

00:30:19,000 --> 00:30:21,000

which is another island in the Atoll here,

485

00:30:21,000 --> 00:30:24,000

where Mason has uncovered a story that's connected to an MIA.

486

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

I found an eyewitness.

487

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

You found an eyewitness?

488

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

Yes.

489

00:30:27,000 --> 00:30:28,000

Okay.

490

00:30:28,000 --> 00:30:31,000

An eyewitness account of an American MIA

491

00:30:31,000 --> 00:30:34,000

would be a massive step forward for Project Recover.

492

00:30:34,000 --> 00:30:36,000

Of course, at the time of Hailstone,

493

00:30:36,000 --> 00:30:39,000

all of the people of Chuuk were unwilling eyewitnesses

494

00:30:39,000 --> 00:30:42,000

to a war they had no desire in waging.

495

00:30:42,000 --> 00:30:46,000

The Japanese took control of these islands in World War I, right?

496

00:30:46,000 --> 00:30:47,000

Yes.

497

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

And what was that relationship like between the Japanese

498

00:30:49,000 --> 00:30:50,000

and the Chuukese people?

499

00:30:50,000 --> 00:30:54,000

There was a very good relationship between the Japanese and the Chuukese

500

00:30:54,000 --> 00:30:58,000

because the Japanese were here not for military purpose.

501

00:30:58,000 --> 00:31:02,000

They were here to turn this place into a commercial site.

502

00:31:02,000 --> 00:31:05,000

When the Japanese start building up this area for military,

503

00:31:05,000 --> 00:31:08,000

that's when the hardships start coming in for the Chuukese.

504

00:31:08,000 --> 00:31:09,000

Right.

505

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

And it was very hard, right?

506

00:31:10,000 --> 00:31:12,000

It was very hard.

507

00:31:12,000 --> 00:31:16,000

As the war ramped up, many Chuukese were forced out of their homes

508

00:31:16,000 --> 00:31:19,000

to make room for tens of thousands of Japanese soldiers.

509

00:31:19,000 --> 00:31:23,000

Facing food shortages and forced to work for the war effort,

510

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

it is estimated that more than a thousand local islanders died,

511

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

victims of a war they were simply living in the middle of.

512

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

And so how do the people of Chuuk look at Operation Hailstone

513

00:31:35,000 --> 00:31:39,000

and the American assault on the Japanese forces here?

514

00:31:39,000 --> 00:31:43,000

They're really thankful because a lot of the atrocities they face

515

00:31:43,000 --> 00:31:49,000

during that buildup of military all the way until the attack on the lagoon,

516

00:31:49,000 --> 00:31:51,000

it's like freedom for them.

517

00:31:51,000 --> 00:31:54,000

You know, the attack really liberates the locals.

518

00:31:54,000 --> 00:31:57,000

Not only that, but it forges a bond that continues

519

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

with many Micronesians now serving in the U.S. armed forces.

520

00:32:01,000 --> 00:32:04,000

We have more young men and women from Micronesia

521

00:32:04,000 --> 00:32:09,000

are joining the U.S. military per capita than many other states

522

00:32:09,000 --> 00:32:10,000

in the United States.

523

00:32:10,000 --> 00:32:11,000

Wow.

524

00:32:11,000 --> 00:32:13,000

This relationship has really endured.

525

00:32:15,000 --> 00:32:19,000

We're hoping that our eyewitness can continue that spirit of cooperation.

526

00:32:19,000 --> 00:32:22,000

To talk to him, we're motoring about 30 minutes from Weno

527

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

to the western side of the Atoll and the island of Funapongas.

528

00:32:29,000 --> 00:32:34,000

We arrive at the shores of the lush island and tie up at an old Japanese dock.

529

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

For most of us, World War II is history,

530

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

but for the people living here, it's still eerily present.

531

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

Children play in the remains of war machinery used three generations before.

532

00:32:47,000 --> 00:32:51,000

But the people of Funapongas remember, including Mason's witness,

533

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

Ontario Rauwit.

534

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

Hi, I'm Josh.

535

00:32:54,000 --> 00:32:55,000

Ontario.

536

00:32:55,000 --> 00:32:56,000

Ontario, nice to meet you.

537

00:32:56,000 --> 00:32:57,000

Colin.

538

00:32:57,000 --> 00:33:00,000

Ontario, I understand you've got a story about something that was

539

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

witnessed in World War II.

540

00:33:01,000 --> 00:33:06,000

I heard that there was an American airman who came to this island on a raft.

541

00:33:06,000 --> 00:33:10,000

My grandfather was a man who was a man of the word.

542

00:33:10,000 --> 00:33:12,000

My grandfather knew a little bit of English.

543

00:33:12,000 --> 00:33:14,000

That's why they brought the airman to him.

544

00:33:14,000 --> 00:33:18,000

And those people that brought him here, did they see a plane crash?

545

00:33:18,000 --> 00:33:22,000

They said that they saw a crash between here and Udott.

546

00:33:22,000 --> 00:33:24,000

And Mason, Udott is this island?

547

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

Yes, Udott is this island.

548

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

So somewhere in between these two islands is a missing plane?

549

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

I can't believe it.

550

00:33:30,000 --> 00:33:32,000

This is incredible.

551

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

An American airman who was brought to my grandfather by some other native

552

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

people from this island.

553

00:33:47,000 --> 00:33:51,000

I'm interviewing the grandson of a local man who aided a downed American

554

00:33:51,000 --> 00:33:54,000

airman during World War II.

555

00:33:54,000 --> 00:33:58,000

So your grandfather was able to protect this guy for how long?

556

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

Four couple of days.

557

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

And then what, the Japanese found out?

558

00:34:01,000 --> 00:34:03,000

The Japanese came to my grandfather's house.

559

00:34:03,000 --> 00:34:08,000

They forced their way inside the house and they beat up my grandfather

560

00:34:08,000 --> 00:34:12,000

to the American guy away from my grandfather's house.

561

00:34:12,000 --> 00:34:13,000

Wow.

562

00:34:13,000 --> 00:34:14,000

Incredible.

563

00:34:14,000 --> 00:34:18,000

And so considering it was a risk, why do you think your grandfather tried to protect him?

564

00:34:18,000 --> 00:34:25,000

During that time, the Turkish people were treated by the Japanese very, very badly.

565

00:34:25,000 --> 00:34:29,000

The people of Duke, they knew that the American would save them.

566

00:34:29,000 --> 00:34:30,000

And what about a name?

567

00:34:30,000 --> 00:34:32,000

What did your grandfather call him?

568

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

The name of the airman was Frederick.

569

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

Frederick?

570

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

Frederick.

571

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

Oh my God.

572

00:34:37,000 --> 00:34:38,000

Frederick?

573

00:34:38,000 --> 00:34:39,000

Yes, there is definitely a Frederick.

574

00:34:39,000 --> 00:34:40,000

There is.

575

00:34:40,000 --> 00:34:41,000

Oh yes.

576

00:34:41,000 --> 00:34:42,000

Among the missing.

577

00:34:42,000 --> 00:34:43,000

Among the missing in truck.

578

00:34:43,000 --> 00:34:45,000

I mean, we know these names back and forth, 199 of them.

579

00:34:45,000 --> 00:34:46,000

Right.

580

00:34:46,000 --> 00:34:47,000

And I know one of them is definitely Frederick.

581

00:34:47,000 --> 00:34:48,000

There is a Frederick.

582

00:34:48,000 --> 00:34:49,000

There's a Frederick.

583

00:34:49,000 --> 00:34:50,000

Frederick McKenzie.

584

00:34:50,000 --> 00:34:52,000

And I'm shocked to hear that this was Frederick.

585

00:34:52,000 --> 00:34:54,000

It's the only Frederick that's missing.

586

00:34:54,000 --> 00:34:56,000

Is it a single pilot aircraft that he's in?

587

00:34:56,000 --> 00:34:58,000

No, it's actually, it's an Avenger.

588

00:34:58,000 --> 00:35:00,000

It's a three crewman torpedo bomber.

589

00:35:00,000 --> 00:35:01,000

He's in an Avenger.

590

00:35:01,000 --> 00:35:02,000

Wow.

591

00:35:02,000 --> 00:35:04,000

And were there any other crewmen on the life raft?

592

00:35:04,000 --> 00:35:05,000

No, he was alone.

593

00:35:05,000 --> 00:35:06,000

Just a single guy.

594

00:35:06,000 --> 00:35:10,000

So that means that in this strait between these two islands,

595

00:35:10,000 --> 00:35:12,000

there may be an Avenger and two crewmen.

596

00:35:12,000 --> 00:35:15,000

And to hear that possibly he crashed in between these two

597

00:35:15,000 --> 00:35:17,000

islands, it's a huge break.

598

00:35:22,000 --> 00:35:24,000

This is incredible.

599

00:35:24,000 --> 00:35:27,000

Thank you so much for sharing this story.

600

00:35:27,000 --> 00:35:29,000

Really, it's incredible.

601

00:35:29,000 --> 00:35:30,000

Thank you.

602

00:35:30,000 --> 00:35:34,000

Gunner Frederick McKenzie was stationed on the USS Bunker Hill

603

00:35:34,000 --> 00:35:38,000

as part of the VT 17 torpedo squadron.

604

00:35:38,000 --> 00:35:42,000

Thanks to entero, we now know how his story of service ends,

605

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

not at the bottom of truck Lagoon,

606

00:35:44,000 --> 00:35:47,000

but as a POW who never came home.

607

00:35:47,000 --> 00:35:49,000

As for the rest of the crew,

608

00:35:49,000 --> 00:35:53,000

Radio man Stanley S Stump and pilot Newton B.

609

00:35:53,000 --> 00:35:56,000

Berks may still be out there waiting to be found.

610

00:35:59,000 --> 00:36:01,000

To see if we can locate them,

611

00:36:01,000 --> 00:36:04,000

we get back on the water and link up with Mark and two other

612

00:36:04,000 --> 00:36:07,000

members of the project recover team who are bringing

613

00:36:07,000 --> 00:36:10,000

cutting edge tech to scan our new target area.

614

00:36:10,000 --> 00:36:13,000

Okay, so let's talk about this sonar.

615

00:36:13,000 --> 00:36:14,000

I assume that's this thing here.

616

00:36:14,000 --> 00:36:15,000

Yeah, that's what we got.

617

00:36:15,000 --> 00:36:16,000

Can we see it?

618

00:36:16,000 --> 00:36:17,000

Yeah, let's see it.

619

00:36:17,000 --> 00:36:18,000

Let's go.

620

00:36:20,000 --> 00:36:23,000

I feel like a kid on Christmas as project recover breaks out

621

00:36:23,000 --> 00:36:25,000

their latest AUV.

622

00:36:25,000 --> 00:36:26,000

Look at this thing.

623

00:36:26,000 --> 00:36:27,000

This is insane.

624

00:36:27,000 --> 00:36:28,000

What are we looking at here?

625

00:36:28,000 --> 00:36:30,000

So this is an autonomous underwater vehicle.

626

00:36:30,000 --> 00:36:31,000

We're on AUV.

627

00:36:31,000 --> 00:36:33,000

I remember the last time I worked with project recover,

628

00:36:33,000 --> 00:36:35,000

you had an AUV named Barry.

629

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

What's this one called?

630

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

This one's called Killer and its partner is Hunter.

631

00:36:39,000 --> 00:36:40,000

Hunter Killer.

632

00:36:40,000 --> 00:36:41,000

Killer?

633

00:36:41,000 --> 00:36:42,000

Oh, you've really stepped things up here.

634

00:36:42,000 --> 00:36:44,000

You're not fooling around anymore.

635

00:36:44,000 --> 00:36:46,000

If I were to go online and pick up one of these bad boys,

636

00:36:46,000 --> 00:36:48,000

this would set me back about how much?

637

00:36:48,000 --> 00:36:49,000

About 700K.

638

00:36:49,000 --> 00:36:50,000

\$700,000.

639

00:36:50,000 --> 00:36:52,000

You get pre-shipping though.

640

00:36:52,000 --> 00:36:53,000

Oh, that's good.

641

00:36:53,000 --> 00:36:54,000

I would hope so.

642

00:36:54,000 --> 00:36:56,000

We have some amazing innovation here.

643

00:36:56,000 --> 00:36:58,000

One of them is the INS here,

644

00:36:58,000 --> 00:37:00,000

the inertial navigation system,

645

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

which is analogous to a cruise missile underwater.

646

00:37:03,000 --> 00:37:04,000

And by autonomous,

647

00:37:04,000 --> 00:37:07,000

we mean this thing is not attached to the boat in any way.

648

00:37:07,000 --> 00:37:08,000

It's on its own.

649

00:37:08,000 --> 00:37:09,000

Yeah, it's fully independent.

650

00:37:09,000 --> 00:37:11,000

It's basically a mini submarine.

651

00:37:11,000 --> 00:37:12,000

Yeah, exactly.

652

00:37:12,000 --> 00:37:13,000

So we give it a path to follow,

653

00:37:13,000 --> 00:37:15,000

kind of like mowing the lawn,

654

00:37:15,000 --> 00:37:16,000

rows back and forth,

655

00:37:16,000 --> 00:37:17,000

and it follows those.

656

00:37:17,000 --> 00:37:19,000

And in terms of today's mission,

657

00:37:19,000 --> 00:37:20,000

what's our plan?

658

00:37:20,000 --> 00:37:23,000

We're going to scan the sea floor between the two islands.

659

00:37:23,000 --> 00:37:24,000

We'll be out about six hours

660

00:37:24,000 --> 00:37:25,000

and get about a mile,

661

00:37:25,000 --> 00:37:26,000

square mile of coverage.

662

00:37:26,000 --> 00:37:28,000

And really, this is not just you searching here.

663

00:37:28,000 --> 00:37:30,000

Probably nobody's searched here before, right?

664

00:37:30,000 --> 00:37:31,000

Yeah, I think it's safe to say

665

00:37:31,000 --> 00:37:33,000

that nobody's seen the sea floor here.

666

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

All right, let's get this thing in the water.

667

00:37:34,000 --> 00:37:35,000

All right.

668

00:37:38,000 --> 00:37:39,000

You're going ahead there.

669

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

And it's away.

670

00:37:44,000 --> 00:37:45,000

Look at that.

671

00:37:45,000 --> 00:37:46,000

There she goes.

672

00:37:47,000 --> 00:37:48,000

Dive, dive, dive.

673

00:37:49,000 --> 00:37:50,000

Okay, she's down.

674

00:37:52,000 --> 00:37:55,000

The AUV, affectionately known as Killer,

675

00:37:55,000 --> 00:37:56,000

is in the water.

676

00:37:56,000 --> 00:37:58,000

And it begins its six-hour program

677

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

scanning through our search zone.

678

00:38:01,000 --> 00:38:03,000

Normally, I take this time to read

679

00:38:03,000 --> 00:38:05,000

or let's not get ourselves sleep,

680

00:38:05,000 --> 00:38:08,000

but instead, Mark tells me to suit up for a dive.

681

00:38:08,000 --> 00:38:10,000

I'm not sure what's beneath us,

682

00:38:10,000 --> 00:38:12,000

but I'm certainly intrigued to find out.

683

00:38:26,000 --> 00:38:29,000

Josh, there's something I want you to see.

684

00:38:29,000 --> 00:38:30,000

Copy that.

685

00:38:30,000 --> 00:38:31,000

I'm right behind you.

686

00:38:34,000 --> 00:38:37,000

Josh, do you see that bottom cut you, DeVille?

687

00:38:37,000 --> 00:38:39,000

Yeah, I'm almost on top of it.

688

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

That's not the sea floor,

689

00:38:44,000 --> 00:38:45,000

and that's the side of a ship.

690

00:38:46,000 --> 00:38:47,000

Side of a ship?

691

00:38:47,000 --> 00:38:48,000

How is that possible?

692

00:38:48,000 --> 00:38:49,000

That's all I can see.

693

00:38:56,000 --> 00:38:57,000

It's enormous.

694

00:38:57,000 --> 00:38:58,000

Oh, my word.

695

00:39:03,000 --> 00:39:06,000

Josh, you're hovering above the Hayon Maroon,

696

00:39:06,000 --> 00:39:08,000

the largest wreck in Trefligud.

697

00:39:10,000 --> 00:39:11,000

There it is on the side.

698

00:39:11,000 --> 00:39:12,000

Look at that.

699

00:39:12,000 --> 00:39:13,000

Hayon Maroon.

700

00:39:18,000 --> 00:39:20,000

This started out as a huge passenger liner.

701

00:39:20,000 --> 00:39:23,000

It got converted to a submarine tender during the war.

702

00:39:26,000 --> 00:39:29,000

Almost twice as long as the Statue of Liberty is tall,

703

00:39:29,000 --> 00:39:32,000

this behemoth was sent to the bottom of truck Lagoon

704

00:39:32,000 --> 00:39:35,000

by two pairs of bombs from American aircraft.

705

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

That's the propeller.

706

00:39:42,000 --> 00:39:44,000

Yeah, it's about as big as my house.

707

00:39:46,000 --> 00:39:48,000

Oh, man, it's terrifying.

708

00:39:48,000 --> 00:39:50,000

Yeah, the propeller gives you an idea

709

00:39:50,000 --> 00:39:52,000

of how big this ship actually is.

710

00:39:55,000 --> 00:39:56,000

I'm going to go over there.

711

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

Where do you see the inside of this?

712

00:40:02,000 --> 00:40:04,000

All right, here we go.

713

00:40:07,000 --> 00:40:09,000

Remember, she's right on our port side,

714

00:40:09,000 --> 00:40:11,000

so it's easy to get this oriented.

715

00:40:12,000 --> 00:40:13,000

I'll stay close.

716

00:40:13,000 --> 00:40:16,000

We swim along a now sideways deck that stretches the length of the ship.

717

00:40:16,000 --> 00:40:20,000

It's disorienting as what feels like the floor below is a wall

718

00:40:20,000 --> 00:40:23,000

dotted with windows leading to the ship's interior.

719

00:40:26,000 --> 00:40:28,000

Yeah, do you see those long tubes beneath you?

720

00:40:28,000 --> 00:40:29,000

I do.

721

00:40:29,000 --> 00:40:30,000

What are those?

722

00:40:30,000 --> 00:40:32,000

Those are spare ships.

723

00:40:32,000 --> 00:40:34,000

They're just the same size.

724

00:40:34,000 --> 00:40:36,000

They're just the same size.

725

00:40:36,000 --> 00:40:38,000

They're just the same size.

726

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

They're just the same size.

727

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

Yeah, what are those?

728

00:40:41,000 --> 00:40:44,000

Those are spare submarine periscopes.

729

00:40:45,000 --> 00:40:46,000

Unbelievable.

730

00:40:47,000 --> 00:40:48,000

That is crazy.

731

00:40:51,000 --> 00:40:54,000

Again, there's pitch black in here.

732

00:40:54,000 --> 00:40:58,000

It's so eerie everywhere you point your light.

733

00:40:58,000 --> 00:41:02,000

You just see twisted metal going off into the darkness.

734

00:41:05,000 --> 00:41:07,000

Yeah, be careful what you touch.

735

00:41:11,000 --> 00:41:14,000

Mark, what are these cylinders?

736

00:41:14,000 --> 00:41:17,000

Those are submarine torpedoes.

737

00:41:17,000 --> 00:41:19,000

Now, what do you touch those?

738

00:41:22,000 --> 00:41:25,000

Mark, are those torpedoes live?

739

00:41:33,000 --> 00:41:35,000

As the host of Expedition Unknown,

740

00:41:35,000 --> 00:41:37,000

I've been to over 100 different countries.

741

00:41:37,000 --> 00:41:40,000

I've seen everything from the base camp of Everest

742

00:41:40,000 --> 00:41:42,000

and the moai of Easter Island

743

00:41:42,000 --> 00:41:44,000

to the Amazonian rainforest

744

00:41:44,000 --> 00:41:47,000

and the frozen tundra of Siberia.

745

00:41:47,000 --> 00:41:49,000

But on the remote island of Kosarai,

746

00:41:49,000 --> 00:41:52,000

I'm finally going someplace I've never been.

747

00:41:57,000 --> 00:41:59,000

I've waited my whole life to look in there.

748

00:41:59,000 --> 00:42:01,000

Where the bags go?

749

00:42:02,000 --> 00:42:04,000

All right, this one is all beer.

750

00:42:04,000 --> 00:42:06,000

Be careful with that one, all right?

751

00:42:06,000 --> 00:42:08,000

You can have a few.

752

00:42:08,000 --> 00:42:10,000

Precious cargo.

753

00:42:13,000 --> 00:42:16,000

Mark, are those torpedoes live?

754

00:42:16,000 --> 00:42:18,000

Yeah, everything in there is live.

755

00:42:18,000 --> 00:42:20,000

Oh, my word.

756

00:42:21,000 --> 00:42:23,000

I'm in Micronesia's Truck Lagoon,

757

00:42:23,000 --> 00:42:27,000

searching for the wreckage of American planes from World War II.

758

00:42:27,000 --> 00:42:30,000

A massive Japanese ship called the Haiyan Maru

759

00:42:30,000 --> 00:42:33,000

has lain here since 1944,

760

00:42:33,000 --> 00:42:36,000

along with its still live ordinance.

761

00:42:36,000 --> 00:42:38,000

All right, I'm giving that a white birth.

762

00:42:38,000 --> 00:42:41,000

Okay, maybe we're done in this room.

763

00:42:41,000 --> 00:42:43,000

Let's keep moving.

764

00:42:48,000 --> 00:42:52,000

Jots, I wanted to show you this to give you a sense of scale.

765

00:42:52,000 --> 00:42:55,000

This is only one of 50 ships

766

00:42:55,000 --> 00:42:58,000

that went down in Truck Lagoon during the war.

767

00:42:58,000 --> 00:43:01,000

And the targets we're looking for are a lot smaller

768

00:43:01,000 --> 00:43:03,000

and a lot more defined.

769

00:43:03,000 --> 00:43:06,000

All right, should we go try and find them?

770

00:43:06,000 --> 00:43:09,000

Yeah, let's go. Let's do it.

771

00:43:18,000 --> 00:43:21,000

We return Ostruck to the vessel,

772

00:43:21,000 --> 00:43:24,000

where the AUV has finished running its long sonar sweep

773

00:43:24,000 --> 00:43:26,000

through the search zone.

774

00:43:26,000 --> 00:43:29,000

There it is. Oh, she's up, okay.

775

00:43:29,000 --> 00:43:33,000

Now it's time to collect the drone and review the data.

776

00:43:33,000 --> 00:43:35,000

Okay, one, two, three.

777

00:43:35,000 --> 00:43:37,000

Okay. Okay.

778

00:43:37,000 --> 00:43:39,000

Hopefully we have some data.

779

00:43:39,000 --> 00:43:40,000

Into the dock.

780

00:43:40,000 --> 00:43:42,000

Nice job. Nice work.

781

00:43:45,000 --> 00:43:47,000

Hours later, back at Project Recovers,

782

00:43:47,000 --> 00:43:49,000

makeshift headquarters on Weno.

783

00:43:49,000 --> 00:43:52,000

I'm anxious to learn if Killer found the Downed Avenger

784

00:43:52,000 --> 00:43:54,000

reported by a local eyewitness,

785

00:43:54,000 --> 00:43:56,000

or anything else for that matter.

786

00:43:56,000 --> 00:43:58,000

Hey, guys. Hey, Mark. Hey, Josh.

787

00:43:58,000 --> 00:44:00,000

Hey, how's it going? It was good. We collected a lot of data.

788

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

That's the big question. You got data?

789

00:44:02,000 --> 00:44:04,000

Yeah, yeah, good data. It looks really clean.

790

00:44:04,000 --> 00:44:05,000

Let's figure it out.

791

00:44:05,000 --> 00:44:07,000

So this footprint here is what we scanned today,

792

00:44:07,000 --> 00:44:10,000

just about a square mile, with inch to two inch resolution.

793

00:44:10,000 --> 00:44:13,000

So cool. So how do we unpack this huge amount of data?

794

00:44:13,000 --> 00:44:15,000

Traditionally, we would go through it line by line,

795

00:44:15,000 --> 00:44:17,000

just like the AUV ran the mission today.

796

00:44:17,000 --> 00:44:21,000

And then we see about 250 feet on each side of where the AUV is.

797

00:44:21,000 --> 00:44:24,000

The scanning may be autonomous, thanks again, Killer,

798

00:44:24,000 --> 00:44:27,000

but historically, the analysis has been very manual.

799

00:44:27,000 --> 00:44:31,000

With researchers needing to stare at every inch of the ocean floor

800

00:44:31,000 --> 00:44:33,000

as it scrolls by.

801

00:44:33,000 --> 00:44:35,000

Long night. Get my jammies on?

802

00:44:35,000 --> 00:44:36,000

Well, maybe not.

803

00:44:36,000 --> 00:44:38,000

I mean, Layla brings a new tool to the table,

804

00:44:38,000 --> 00:44:40,000

and we're trying to try that out.

805

00:44:40,000 --> 00:44:43,000

While the rest of the world is using artificial intelligence

806

00:44:43,000 --> 00:44:46,000

to cheat on their homework and make trippy art projects,

807

00:44:46,000 --> 00:44:50,000

Layla has found a purpose for AI that's incredibly useful.

808

00:44:50,000 --> 00:44:52,000

So I'm putting together a machine learning model,

809

00:44:52,000 --> 00:44:54,000

which is a type of artificial intelligence

810

00:44:54,000 --> 00:44:58,000

that's going to automatically tell us where planes and debris are

811

00:44:58,000 --> 00:45:01,000

in the sonar in two to three minutes.

812

00:45:01,000 --> 00:45:03,000

That sounds like witchcraft. How is that possible?

813

00:45:03,000 --> 00:45:07,000

Over several months, I've fed the model previous data from past missions,

814

00:45:07,000 --> 00:45:11,000

and it's learned what planes look like and what debris looks like.

815

00:45:11,000 --> 00:45:15,000

So it's able to discriminate between what's a rock or a piece of coral

816

00:45:15,000 --> 00:45:17,000

and what could be wreckage.

817

00:45:17,000 --> 00:45:18,000

Exactly.

818

00:45:18,000 --> 00:45:19,000

And does it work?

819

00:45:19,000 --> 00:45:21,000

Well, that's what we're here to find out.

820

00:45:21,000 --> 00:45:23,000

This is our first time running it in the field.

821

00:45:23,000 --> 00:45:26,000

And we legitimately have no idea what this is going to find.

822

00:45:26,000 --> 00:45:27,000

No, we have no idea.

823

00:45:27,000 --> 00:45:31,000

And so we decide to cross our fingers and power on SkyNet.

824

00:45:31,000 --> 00:45:32,000

Boom.

825

00:45:32,000 --> 00:45:34,000

Faster than you can say,

826

00:45:34,000 --> 00:45:36,000

good Lord, we're all going to be replaced by machines.

827

00:45:36,000 --> 00:45:41,000

The AI has scanned thousands of sonar images and compiled the results.

828

00:45:41,000 --> 00:45:43,000

So each of these dots is a production?

829

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

Yeah, so each of these dots is where the model thinks

830

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

that there's something associated with an aircraft.

831

00:45:48,000 --> 00:45:49,000

Wow.

832

00:45:49,000 --> 00:45:51,000

Item one.

833

00:45:51,000 --> 00:45:53,000

Something down there.

834

00:45:53,000 --> 00:45:55,000

You can see the really rounded edges.

835

00:45:55,000 --> 00:45:57,000

It could be a part of a plane or a ship.

836

00:45:57,000 --> 00:45:59,000

This is an anchorage area, so there's a lot of debris there.

837

00:45:59,000 --> 00:46:01,000

Because it has this kind of elongated shape,

838

00:46:01,000 --> 00:46:04,000

it thinks maybe that's a plane, but you think it's not?

839

00:46:04,000 --> 00:46:05,000

No, no way.

840

00:46:05,000 --> 00:46:09,000

OK, well, all right, next up.

841

00:46:09,000 --> 00:46:10,000

Yeah, this is interesting.

842

00:46:10,000 --> 00:46:12,000

It could be something two to 300 feet,

843

00:46:12,000 --> 00:46:14,000

so I definitely don't think it's aircraft.

844

00:46:14,000 --> 00:46:17,000

So not necessarily a plane, but could be man-made?

845

00:46:17,000 --> 00:46:18,000

Could be man-made.

846

00:46:18,000 --> 00:46:20,000

The search continues.

847

00:46:20,000 --> 00:46:26,000

One by one, we dismiss each hit as coral, debris, or junk.

848

00:46:26,000 --> 00:46:30,000

And then we see something incredible.

849

00:46:30,000 --> 00:46:32,000

Ooh, that is a plane.

850

00:46:32,000 --> 00:46:33,000

That's a plane.

851

00:46:33,000 --> 00:46:34,000

That has to be a plane, right?

852

00:46:34,000 --> 00:46:36,000

Wait, can you go closer to that?

853

00:46:36,000 --> 00:46:37,000

Yeah.

854

00:46:37,000 --> 00:46:38,000

Shut up, dad.

855

00:46:38,000 --> 00:46:39,000

That's a plane.

856

00:46:39,000 --> 00:46:40,000

It's not like a plane.

857

00:46:40,000 --> 00:46:43,000

That's a plane, for sure, right?

858

00:46:43,000 --> 00:46:44,000

See the wings here?

859

00:46:44,000 --> 00:46:45,000

That's the tail section.

860

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

I mean, that's a plane.

861

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

That's a plane.

862

00:46:47,000 --> 00:46:48,000

That's a plane.

863

00:46:48,000 --> 00:46:50,000

And I can tell you, it looks like a World War II plane.

864

00:46:50,000 --> 00:46:52,000

Could this be the plane that we're looking for here?

865

00:46:52,000 --> 00:46:53,000

It's in the right area.

866

00:46:53,000 --> 00:46:55,000

We are in the right spot, and there is a plane there.

867

00:46:55,000 --> 00:46:58,000

Yeah, I still can't believe that it's an actual plane staring us in the face.

868

00:46:58,000 --> 00:46:59,000

We can dive that.

869

00:46:59,000 --> 00:47:01,000

We can dive that tomorrow.

870

00:47:01,000 --> 00:47:05,000

And based on the location, too, it's never been seen before.

871

00:47:05,000 --> 00:47:06,000

Right.

872

00:47:06,000 --> 00:47:09,000

So whatever that is, nobody's been down there to look at it.

873

00:47:09,000 --> 00:47:11,000

Not in 80 years.

874

00:47:11,000 --> 00:47:12,000

Wow.

875

00:47:12,000 --> 00:47:13,000

That's awesome.

876

00:47:18,000 --> 00:47:23,000

Next time on Expedition Unknown.

877

00:47:23,000 --> 00:47:27,000

The search for missing World War II heroes continues.

878

00:47:27,000 --> 00:47:33,000

On a group of remote Pacific islands, an eyewitness reveals buried secrets.

879

00:47:33,000 --> 00:47:37,000

After they tied them, he heard the explosion.

880

00:47:37,000 --> 00:47:39,000

The man were dead.

881

00:47:39,000 --> 00:47:41,000

Our team explores land.

882

00:47:41,000 --> 00:47:44,000

Josh, there's a maze of these tunnels all throughout the mountains.

883

00:47:44,000 --> 00:47:45,000

This is crazy.

884

00:47:45,000 --> 00:47:50,000

And see to find those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

885

00:47:50,000 --> 00:47:52,000

Honestly, I'm speechless.

886

00:47:52,000 --> 00:47:54,000

No question we've got an American plane here.

887

00:47:54,000 --> 00:47:58,000

This is the first American plane found in Truffle Go.