

1

00:00:00,289 --> 00:00:16,794

This series presents information based in part on theory and conjecture.

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00:00:16,794 --> 00:00:23,696

The producer's purpose is to suggest some possible explanations, but not necessarily

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00:00:23,696 --> 00:00:30,699

the only ones to the mysteries we will examine.

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00:00:30,699 --> 00:00:41,702

The ruin of Castle Urquhart in the highlands of Northern Scotland dominates the shore of a lake shrouded by mystery.

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00:00:41,702 --> 00:00:49,705

The murky waters have hidden a persistent and puzzling tale for 1400 years.

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00:00:49,705 --> 00:00:53,706

The lake is called Loch Ness.

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00:00:53,706 --> 00:01:14,712

It is said that here lives a monster that can make the surface of the lake boil with foam.

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00:01:14,712 --> 00:01:18,714

What is beneath the surface of the lock?

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00:01:18,714 --> 00:01:36,719

We will be closer to knowing the answer, closer for having discovered new evidence in search of the Loch Ness monster.

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00:01:36,719 --> 00:01:38,720

Hello, I'm Leonard Nimoy.

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00:01:38,720 --> 00:01:47,723

Few of the great mysteries we will explore in this series are as compelling as the accounts of an unknown beast which lives in a picturesque Scottish lake.

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00:01:47,723 --> 00:01:57,726

A compelling mystery because in spite of the many sightings over hundreds of years, there was little evidence until recently to support the possibility of the creature being real.

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00:01:57,726 --> 00:02:02,727

Tonight, we'll take a hard look at the new evidence.

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00:02:02,727 --> 00:02:14,731

Loch Ness is remarkable in many ways. The lake was created by a great movement of the Earth's crust.

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00:02:14,731 --> 00:02:23,734

It is open to the sea at both ends through a series of lesser lakes, rivers, and in more recent times, large canals.

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00:02:24,734 --> 00:02:33,737

Loch Ness is wedged between mountains only a mile wide but 24 miles long.

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00:02:33,737 --> 00:02:42,740

Its depth may exceed 900 feet in some places, but no one to this day knows for sure how deep the lake is.

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00:02:43,740 --> 00:02:55,744

People have made their lives by the lake for thousands of years. Others have come for just one reason, to glimpse a monster.

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00:02:55,744 --> 00:03:14,750

Some are more serious about getting a look at the creature than others. Scientists by the expedition full roam the lake.

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00:03:14,750 --> 00:03:20,752

From MIT and the Academy of Applied Science, they come.

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00:03:20,752 --> 00:03:26,754

The National Geographic Society scours for underwater camera positions.

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00:03:26,754 --> 00:03:32,756

Scientific associations in England are hard at work too.

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00:03:32,756 --> 00:03:37,757

An old abbey by the shore of the lake is where the quest has its origins.

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00:03:37,757 --> 00:03:43,759

St. Colombo came to Loch Ness in the 6th century to convert barbarians.

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00:03:43,759 --> 00:03:48,761

He founded a Benedictine order that maintains the abbey today.

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00:03:48,761 --> 00:03:53,762

And as Father Gregory recalls, St. Colombo also founded a legend.

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00:03:53,762 --> 00:03:59,764

St. Colombo came up this way according to Saint Adam, who wrote his life in the next century.

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00:03:59,764 --> 00:04:12,768

That's about the 4th century. He came up from Iona with a few of his monks and they came up the chain of lochs, locoi, lochloki.

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00:04:12,768 --> 00:04:17,770

On his way to convert the northern Picts, King Brood,

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00:04:17,770 --> 00:04:25,772

Adamnian recounts that at the end of Loch Ness, where the Ness flows into the sea, they just come up to the end.

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00:04:25,772 --> 00:04:37,776

They were going to cross the Ness and a man was swimming across the river and this great serpent

thing, a beast appeared.

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00:04:37,776 --> 00:04:45,779

And St. Adam says, the holy man, the great sign of the cross and a loud voice, drove it off so they didn't do any harm to him.

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00:04:45,779 --> 00:04:55,782

We don't know how much truth that is in that, but that's the first account we have of this strange thing that's in the Loch.

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00:04:55,782 --> 00:05:02,784

Perhaps a modern camera caught a descendant of the great serpent described by St. Colombo in the 6th century.

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00:05:03,784 --> 00:05:11,787

Early in the morning of April 1st, 1934, a London surgeon of impeccable reputation snapped this picture.

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00:05:11,787 --> 00:05:17,789

A lumberjack working near the lake took this picture in 1951.

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00:05:17,789 --> 00:05:23,791

An American scientist produced a view of the creature with an underwater camera.

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00:05:23,791 --> 00:05:27,792

The murkiness of Loch Ness obscures the shot,

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00:05:27,792 --> 00:05:36,795

but even some of the most skeptical investigators consider the picture positive evidence that a large animal exists in the lake.

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00:05:36,795 --> 00:05:42,796

Motion Picture Film was made in 1966 by another Loch Ness investigator.

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00:05:42,796 --> 00:05:49,799

The film was examined by Royal Air Force photo intelligence experts and certified to be genuine.

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00:05:50,799 --> 00:05:59,802

1400 years of recorded sightings that began with the experience of a Christian missionary in the 6th century.

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00:05:59,802 --> 00:06:05,804

Father Gregory's own experience was not unlike that reported by the saint who founded his order.

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00:06:05,804 --> 00:06:15,807

We had an organist friend up from London and we were standing on the edge of the Loch on the stone jetty looking across the bay on the right.

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00:06:15,807 --> 00:06:20,808

And we were suddenly surprised. There were no boats visible at all.

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00:06:20,808 --> 00:06:27,811

Suddenly noticed a tremendous commotion in the bay and we couldn't see what was causing this at first.

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00:06:27,811 --> 00:06:32,812

And then we were fairly staggered to see a little further on, a huge neck emerge.

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00:06:32,812 --> 00:06:40,815

We would both agreed about 7 feet at least above the water at a slight angle, moving along slowly.

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00:06:40,815 --> 00:06:44,816

For about 17 seconds we estimated and then it went down.

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00:06:44,816 --> 00:06:49,818

We didn't see any of the body, but this huge amount of this height out of the water was extraordinary.

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00:06:49,818 --> 00:06:54,819

In fact this organist said to me, he said, if I hadn't been there it would have felt like running.

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00:06:54,819 --> 00:06:57,820

It gave him such a queer feeling.

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00:06:59,821 --> 00:07:05,823

Sergeant Henderson is one of the senior constables patrolling the little communities around Loch Ness.

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00:07:05,823 --> 00:07:09,824

One patrol put him squarely at the heart of the mystery of the lake.

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00:07:09,824 --> 00:07:15,826

About halfway between Fort Augustus and here we saw something in the water.

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00:07:15,826 --> 00:07:20,827

We thought it was a boat in difficulties. We rushed down and we got there to the water.

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00:07:20,827 --> 00:07:28,830

We saw these two fins about 20 feet apart, about 4 feet out of the water I would say, travelling towards St. Vomores.

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00:07:28,830 --> 00:07:36,832

We stayed up for 5 or 6 seconds, submerged, came back up again, and stayed up for another 10 seconds.

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00:07:36,832 --> 00:07:40,834

Then submerged finally and didn't come back up again.

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00:07:40,834 --> 00:07:45,835

Now the water was quite calm at the time, but when things submerged finally,

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00:07:45,835 --> 00:07:48,836

there was a terrific wash came onto the shore.

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00:07:49,836 --> 00:07:55,838

Alex Campbell was a waterman on Loch Ness most of his working life.

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00:07:55,838 --> 00:08:03,841

Well during my working life we were responsible for the preservation of the salmon stocks in these areas.

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00:08:03,841 --> 00:08:09,843

Glenn Morrison, Glenn Gary, Loch Ness, and all the other adjacent adjoining rivers.

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00:08:09,843 --> 00:08:16,845

It was a main job. Then there was the hatchery work. I was expecting a run of fresh salmon.

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00:08:16,845 --> 00:08:21,846

Suddenly there was a most terrific upsurge of water.

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00:08:21,846 --> 00:08:30,849

Then the long tapering neck, small head which was turning very raw, I should say scared.

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00:08:30,849 --> 00:08:37,851

Looking on the huge, humped body which I estimated at 30 feet long.

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00:08:37,851 --> 00:08:44,854

I just shut my eyes three times to make quite sure I wasn't seeing something that didn't exist.

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00:08:44,854 --> 00:08:48,855

However, then I heard the noise of the salmon.

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00:08:48,855 --> 00:08:51,856

I was very scared.

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00:08:51,856 --> 00:08:54,857

I was very scared.

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00:08:54,857 --> 00:08:58,858

I was seeing something that I didn't exist.

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00:08:58,858 --> 00:09:08,861

However, then I heard the noise of the engine of two fishing trawlers that had just come out from the canal locks

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00:09:08,861 --> 00:09:11,862

and were heading for Loch Ness.

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00:09:11,862 --> 00:09:14,863

I said to myself, oh this is going to be interesting.

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00:09:14,863 --> 00:09:19,865

And meanwhile the head was even more excited. You see the animal.

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00:09:19,865 --> 00:09:26,867

I said to myself, this is going to be very exciting because as soon as the bow of the first trawler comes within my line of vision,

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00:09:26,867 --> 00:09:30,868

it will also come within the animal's line of vision.

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00:09:30,868 --> 00:09:36,870

Well, that duly happened. And as soon as the bow of the first trawler appeared,

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00:09:36,870 --> 00:09:41,871

oh, a terrific plunge into the depths.

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00:09:41,871 --> 00:09:44,872

The upsurge was fantastic.

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00:09:45,873 --> 00:09:51,875

Could this be Alex Campbell's monster?

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00:09:51,875 --> 00:09:57,877

Some theorize that such creatures could have been trapped in Loch Ness during its primordial past,

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00:09:57,877 --> 00:10:00,877

living relics of a lost world.

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00:10:00,877 --> 00:10:07,880

The notion that creatures from the dawn of life on this planet still live among us is irresistible to many.

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00:10:07,880 --> 00:10:10,881

It is proof they seek.

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00:10:11,881 --> 00:10:18,883

For Ted Hongaday, proof would be film of the monster, close up and in sharp focus.

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00:10:21,884 --> 00:10:25,885

I'd been up that particular morning about five o'clock watching the lock.

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00:10:25,885 --> 00:10:28,886

When Mrs. Pickett finally came out to wash breakfast dishes about nine o'clock,

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00:10:28,886 --> 00:10:30,887

I strolled over to have a word with her.

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00:10:30,887 --> 00:10:34,888

I left my camera behind me and I walked about 50 yards to Chapman.

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00:10:34,888 --> 00:10:36,889

I turned and looked across the lock.

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00:10:36,889 --> 00:10:43,891

Well, actually, I looked over Mrs. Pickett's shoulder to a point about a quarter of a mile to the left of the Klantner Natel across that side.

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00:10:43,891 --> 00:10:49,893

And I saw this huge black mass undulated into three humps, proceeding from right to left.

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00:10:49,893 --> 00:10:55,895

It was going at a fair speed and the water was swelling up from the front of it in a big white wash.

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00:10:55,895 --> 00:10:58,896

And I said to Mrs. Pickett, can you see that? She said she could.

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00:10:58,896 --> 00:11:01,897

I said, well, watch it while I get the camera.

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00:11:01,897 --> 00:11:06,898

And I rushed and grabbed the camera and immediately a voice shouted after me, oh, it's gone down.

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00:11:06,898 --> 00:11:12,900

Well, I put binoculars on the spot and there was a huge whirlpool as though something had submerged into the lock.

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00:11:12,900 --> 00:11:15,901

A huge patch about 50 yards across.

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00:11:16,901 --> 00:11:20,903

Hundreds of cameras would be trained on the lock this summer.

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00:11:20,903 --> 00:11:26,904

The in search of camera would be among them and would capture a most remarkable event.

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00:11:29,905 --> 00:11:39,909

The summer of 1976 was to be the beginning of the big push to find conclusive evidence that huge creatures live in Loch Ness.

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00:11:39,909 --> 00:11:43,910

Three major expeditions would prowl the lake.

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00:11:47,911 --> 00:11:53,913

Some men, like Robert Rhines of the Academy of Applied Sciences, were veterans of the chase.

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00:11:54,913 --> 00:12:03,916

A veteran who could recall being hooked by a tantalizing glimpse of something big and unexplained, moving serenely just out of his reach.

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00:12:03,916 --> 00:12:10,918

Well, the first and only time was in, I believe, 1972 in June, near the summer solstice.

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00:12:10,918 --> 00:12:15,920

We were with Wing Commander Carrie and his wife, my wife.

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00:12:15,920 --> 00:12:19,921

I think we were having coffee at their house. Nothing stronger.

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00:12:19,921 --> 00:12:25,923

And indeed, Basil Carrie said, I say that. That doesn't look like an upturned boat.

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00:12:25,923 --> 00:12:31,925

We rushed to the embankment near their house and we looked down in the middle of Irkhaad Bay.

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00:12:31,925 --> 00:12:35,926

And there, though it was 0101030 in the evening, it was still quite light.

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00:12:35,926 --> 00:12:45,929

There was a slight rain, but we unmistakably saw a giant hump in the water, moved slowly out in the bay, turned around and come back, and then submerged.

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00:12:46,930 --> 00:12:55,932

We had some telescopes and we took turns, not talking to each other, but looking through the telescopes and deliberately taking measurements with a 53-foot fishing vessel that was there.

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00:12:55,932 --> 00:13:01,934

After all this was over, I went into the Carrie's kitchen and taped what I had seen, the dimensions I thought I had seen.

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00:13:01,934 --> 00:13:10,937

And then I individually taped them and we were in unanimous view that we had seen some 22 feet of back of something that intellectually, to each of us,

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00:13:10,937 --> 00:13:16,939

that couldn't be anything other than a big animal, and about 4-6 feet out of the water at the apex.

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00:13:16,939 --> 00:13:18,940

How long will you keep searching?

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00:13:18,940 --> 00:13:28,943

Well, we're certainly going to stay here until we do find out one way or another by photographic and sonar evidence what these things may be this year, maybe next year.

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00:13:28,943 --> 00:13:31,944

Goodness knows how long, but we're going to stick it out.

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00:13:32,944 --> 00:13:40,947

Adrian Shine is another veteran of the hunt, but he has chosen to track his quarry at Loch Morar, just above Loch Ness.

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00:13:40,947 --> 00:13:48,949

Monsters have been seen here too, and the relative clarity of the water in Morar may give Shine an advantage.

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00:13:49,949 --> 00:14:00,953

We are laying out this year cameras, television cameras, beneath the surface in order to carry out a constant surveillance over some three months.

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00:14:00,953 --> 00:14:06,955

We can lay the cameras down to 60 feet beneath the water and hope to get a silhouette of the creature passing over the top.

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00:14:06,955 --> 00:14:10,956

We can get ranges underwater of nearly 100 feet.

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00:14:10,956 --> 00:14:22,960

We have some conventional cameras as well, conventional 35mm cameras, but the video technique in my opinion is better because we have an immediate record.

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00:14:22,960 --> 00:14:26,961

We don't have to process film, and of course we get a moving record as well.

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00:14:27,961 --> 00:14:37,964

This tape was taken with the camera at 60 feet below the surface, and there is a diver at 20 feet from the camera.

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00:14:37,964 --> 00:14:49,968

This is followed by a further tape with the same setup, and the diver at 40 feet from the camera and going up to the surface.

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00:14:49,968 --> 00:15:00,972

You can see that therefore that we have at the surface at least 60 to 70 feet across the surface under surveillance.

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00:15:01,972 --> 00:15:06,973

The National Geographic Society has decided to focus its efforts on Loch Ness.

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00:15:07,974 --> 00:15:18,977

By carefully charting the lake bottom with sonar, and positioning cameras at strategic points beneath the surface, the geographic scientists hope to overcome the handicap of poor visibility.

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00:15:19,978 --> 00:15:25,979

The task is to guess where the monster is most likely to be, then lure it to the camera.

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00:15:27,980 --> 00:15:37,983

The geographic team knows that Loch Ness was formed by an upheaval of the Earth's crust, and that the trench created by that upheaval was enlarged by glaciers.

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00:15:38,984 --> 00:15:46,986

The glaciers created a U-shaped bottom to the lake, but they did not completely obliterate the deep valleys which are characteristic of the region.

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00:15:47,986 --> 00:15:53,988

So there are hidden depths to Loch Ness, depths capable of sheltering huge animals.

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00:15:56,989 --> 00:16:01,991

National Geographic's Dr. Bob Ballard thinks these deep channels are his best bet.

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00:16:02,991 --> 00:16:08,993

We're making the assumption that the monster would come into the bay using these deep channels.

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00:16:08,993 --> 00:16:17,996

They would like to stay on the bottom as deep a water as it can to get in near the river where there must be a lot of biological activity because of the river outflow.

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00:16:18,996 --> 00:16:23,998

So we wanted to pick a spot where we could set up the camera close to a deep channel.

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00:16:24,998 --> 00:16:25,998

Well, to do that we had to survey it.

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00:16:26,999 --> 00:16:37,002

So we went around the bay and put a series of reference points, and then sitting on the castle we shot in with a compass and positioned these reference points.

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00:16:37,002 --> 00:16:44,004

And then we used those reference points to run back and forth across the bay with a ship, measuring the echo sounding.

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00:16:45,004 --> 00:16:52,006

We figured that if we put our camera rig in about 120 feet of water, we're going to be within 500 feet of one of these deep channels.

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00:16:54,007 --> 00:16:58,008

You take the rope into your boat and you worry about keeping slack.

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00:16:58,008 --> 00:17:11,012

National Geographic will position its cameras beneath the surface of the lake, suspended from sea anchors.

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00:17:21,016 --> 00:17:26,017

The likelihood that the animals can be successfully photographed from the surface is being discounted.

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00:17:29,018 --> 00:17:33,019

Emory Kristoff is the expedition's chief photographer.

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00:17:34,020 --> 00:17:37,021

We've discounted pretty much that would be a mammal.

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00:17:38,021 --> 00:17:43,022

We figured if it was a mammal and we air-breathing there would be more sightings of the creature.

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00:17:44,023 --> 00:17:57,027

We feel then if we are dealing with an amphibian or reptile or something of the fish nature, we have a creature that hunts by listening, picks up vibrations in the water.

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00:17:58,027 --> 00:18:00,028

We've tailored our program really to this.

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00:18:02,028 --> 00:18:06,030

The scientists are listening too, with sensitive underwater microphones.

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00:18:07,030 --> 00:18:15,033

Recordings have been made of the normal sounds of the lock at rest, at night or during the day, when boat traffic is at a minimum.

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00:18:16,033 --> 00:18:17,033

They are tranquil sounds.

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00:18:21,034 --> 00:18:24,035

Another recording was made late in the afternoon of July 5th.

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00:18:25,036 --> 00:18:27,036

It was anything but tranquil.

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00:18:29,037 --> 00:18:33,038

There was no way to tell for sure what the underwater microphones were picking up.

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00:18:34,038 --> 00:18:43,041

But at about the same time the recording was made, and in about the same location, the in-search of cameras recorded something even more remarkable.

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00:18:44,042 --> 00:18:48,043

A long trail of bubbles breaking on the surface of the lock.

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00:18:49,043 --> 00:18:51,044

There were no boats nearby.

163

00:18:52,044 --> 00:18:53,044

There were no divers.

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00:18:54,045 --> 00:18:59,046

But something beneath the surface of the lock was creating a large disturbance.

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00:19:00,047 --> 00:19:06,049

And it provides the most convincing photographic evidence gathered this year that the monster may in fact be real.

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00:19:07,049 --> 00:19:14,051

That something big and alive was moving in front of our camera just beneath the surface of Loch Ness.

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00:19:15,051 --> 00:19:23,054

Monster sightings have been reported in other lakes, in Ireland, Canada, the Scandinavian countries and elsewhere.

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00:19:24,054 --> 00:19:29,056

All of these sightings occurred in roughly the same northern latitude occupied by Loch Ness.

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00:19:30,056 --> 00:19:39,059

Dr. Nicholas Hutton of the Smithsonian Institution is a preeminent paleontologist on intimate terms with our world's dim past.

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00:19:40,059 --> 00:19:45,061

If there is something living in Loch Ness, what could it possibly be?

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00:19:46,061 --> 00:19:49,062

From my own point of view, I just don't think there is anything in Loch Ness.

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00:19:50,062 --> 00:20:01,066

But there is an interesting theory put forth by Dr. Roy Mackle of the University of Chicago who argues that there may in fact be a population of giant eels.

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00:20:02,066 --> 00:20:07,068

The point being that we know that Loch Ness supports a good population of salmon and eels.

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00:20:08,068 --> 00:20:12,069

And eels, for example, live most of their lives in freshwater, but they go out to sea to reproduce.

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00:20:13,070 --> 00:20:15,070

And then the young come back to the parent waters.

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00:20:16,070 --> 00:20:20,072

Certain individuals will fail to mature sexually and in consequence don't go to sea.

177

00:20:21,072 --> 00:20:24,073

They just live on in the freshwater and they get bigger and bigger and bigger and bigger.

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00:20:25,073 --> 00:20:37,077

And Mackle thinks that this might have happened, might be what's happening in Loch Ness, in which you have a few resident eels which have grown to enormous size.

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00:20:38,077 --> 00:20:47,080

He suggests 20 feet, but he also admits that size is extremely difficult to estimate and maybe 12 or 15 feet.

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00:20:48,081 --> 00:20:49,081

And it might be more like it.

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00:20:49,081 --> 00:20:57,083

If there is anything in Loch Ness that we don't know about in ordinary scientific terms, it's got to be something like Mackle's eels.

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00:20:58,084 --> 00:21:01,085

We now have volumes of data on the Loch Ness monsters.

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00:21:02,085 --> 00:21:07,086

And none of the investigators involved disputes the probability that a creature lives in Loch Ness.

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00:21:08,087 --> 00:21:13,088

And all of them agree that the intensive effort may soon turn up the monster of the lake.

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00:21:20,091 --> 00:21:34,095

Lost civilizations, extraterrestrials, myths and monsters, missing persons, magic and witchcraft, unexplained phenomena.

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00:21:35,095 --> 00:21:39,097

In search of cameras are traveling the world seeking out these great mysteries.

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00:21:40,097 --> 00:21:46,099

This program was the result of the work of scientists, researchers and a group of highly skilled technicians.

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00:21:47,099 --> 00:21:52,101

He has a huge gap in price, family opposition and seven days to close the deal.

189

00:21:53,101 --> 00:21:56,102

Seagram Circles MCA, big deals tonight at 9 on the History Channel.

190

00:21:58,103 --> 00:22:00,103

Men and cars, a classic combination.

191

00:22:01,103 --> 00:22:03,104

But sometimes they want a little more fun to the hood.

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00:22:04,104 --> 00:22:07,105

About 400 horsepower or 330 miles an hour.

193

00:22:08,106 --> 00:22:12,107

Start to finish, these machines really rip the asphalt off the streets.

194

00:22:12,107 --> 00:22:17,108

Turbo Charge, on Modern Marvels, tonight at 10 on the History Channel.