

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:17,160

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

2

00:00:17,160 --> 00:00:21,682

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

3

00:00:21,682 --> 00:00:28,845

the only ones to the mysteries we will examine.

4

00:00:28,845 --> 00:00:36,848

In the 22nd, 1963, a lone figure walks to a window in the Texas schoolbook depository.

5

00:00:36,848 --> 00:00:42,010

In a matter of seconds, the president of the United States will be mortally wounded, and

6

00:00:42,010 --> 00:00:51,253

the name Lee Harvey Oswald will be etched in history.

7

00:00:51,253 --> 00:00:55,455

But did Oswald really kill President Kennedy?

8

00:00:55,455 --> 00:01:13,182

New evidence points to the possibility that he did not.

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00:01:13,182 --> 00:01:18,424

During the Cold War era of the early 1960s, President John F. Kennedy is to become the

10

00:01:18,424 --> 00:01:27,107

most admired leader of the free world.

11

00:01:27,107 --> 00:01:36,191

There are many people in the world who really don't understand or say they don't.

12

00:01:36,191 --> 00:01:44,354

What is the great issue between the free world and the communist world?

13

00:01:44,354 --> 00:01:51,477

His attraction is magnetic.

14

00:01:51,477 --> 00:01:58,160

Seldom has one man unified the people of so many democratic nations.

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00:01:58,160 --> 00:02:04,482

In October 1962, President Kennedy learns of the buildup of Soviet missiles in Cuba and

16

00:02:04,482 --> 00:02:07,443

orders a blockade of Cuban harbors.

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00:02:07,443 --> 00:02:12,805

It results in one of the most humiliating political defeats in Russian history.

18

00:02:12,805 --> 00:02:22,249

A little more than a year later, the leader of the Western world is assassinated.

19

00:02:22,249 --> 00:02:32,253

There are some who blame the Soviets, but nothing can be proved.

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00:02:32,253 --> 00:02:38,175

Within hours, Lee Harvey Oswald, ex-Marine, former Russian defector, and as we have come

21

00:02:38,175 --> 00:02:49,140

to believe a distraught and frustrated young man, is in custody.

22

00:02:49,140 --> 00:02:55,062

Before Oswald can tell his full story, he is murdered in front of millions of television

23

00:02:55,062 --> 00:03:16,230

viewers.

24

00:03:16,230 --> 00:03:22,153

Almost a year later, the Warren Commission delivers its verdict on the Kennedy assassination.

25

00:03:22,153 --> 00:03:25,034

Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone.

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00:03:25,034 --> 00:03:29,476

He was not a part of a conspiracy.

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00:03:29,476 --> 00:03:33,877

The Warren Commission concluded there were three shots fired during the assassination,

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00:03:33,877 --> 00:03:39,320

all of them coming from behind the president out of a Texas schoolbook depository window.

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00:03:39,320 --> 00:03:43,761

But many witnesses to the assassination claimed that at least one shot came from the grassy

30

00:03:43,761 --> 00:03:48,423

knoll situated to the right and front of the president's car.

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00:03:48,423 --> 00:03:52,765

In spite of these contradictory accounts, the conclusions reached by the Warren Commission

32

00:03:52,765 --> 00:04:01,088

would officially stand until startling new evidence came to light.

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00:04:01,088 --> 00:04:05,050

It was a recording that had been overlooked for 15 years.

34

00:04:05,050 --> 00:04:13,293

The tape should never have existed at all.

35

00:04:13,293 --> 00:04:18,675

At the time of the assassination, the microphone on a police motorcycle was jammed in the on

36

00:04:18,675 --> 00:04:25,278

position, transmitting sound to police headquarters where it was routinely recorded.

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00:04:25,278 --> 00:04:40,804

When the shots were fired in Dallas, the microphone picked up those sounds.

38

00:04:40,804 --> 00:04:49,267

Not the tape, and you're listening to the actual sound now, was seemingly indecipherable.

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00:04:49,267 --> 00:04:56,350

If the sounds of gunshots were there, they were impossible to detect by the human ear.

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00:04:56,350 --> 00:05:03,112

In 1978, Dr. James Barger of the acoustic firm Bolt, Baranak and Newman attempted to

41

00:05:03,112 --> 00:05:05,353

find those gunshots.

42

00:05:05,353 --> 00:05:10,355

We began our analysis by recording the tape into the computer.

43

00:05:10,355 --> 00:05:13,857

We digitized the data and made a file.

44

00:05:13,857 --> 00:05:19,819

Then we had the computer filter this file in order to remove the sound of the motorcycle

45

00:05:19,819 --> 00:05:22,260

as much as we could.

46

00:05:22,260 --> 00:05:24,821

The motorcycle noise is repetitive.

47

00:05:24,821 --> 00:05:28,422

The piston fires repetitively.

48

00:05:28,422 --> 00:05:33,264

The filter was taught to recognize that sound and to eliminate it.

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00:05:33,264 --> 00:05:40,647

We then had the computer make a long paper picture of these filtered sounds.

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00:05:40,647 --> 00:05:44,129

The picture was about 500 feet long.

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00:05:44,129 --> 00:05:50,031

It represented a pictorial view of the filtered sounds for the whole 5.5 minutes that the

52

00:05:50,031 --> 00:05:54,093

motorcycle microphone was stock open.

53

00:05:54,093 --> 00:06:01,776

We examined that entire 500 feet of acoustical waveform to see if there were any waveforms

54

00:06:01,776 --> 00:06:05,357

that look like they might represent gunfire.

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00:06:05,357 --> 00:06:15,721

In fact, we did find in 6 places where sound bursts indicated the possibility of gunfire

56

00:06:15,721 --> 00:06:18,642

on the Dallas police tape.

57

00:06:18,642 --> 00:06:26,685

At this time, we realized we needed a more careful, a more stringent analysis technique,

58

00:06:26,685 --> 00:06:32,228

one that would definitely determine whether these impulsive sounds were gunfire or whether

59

00:06:32,228 --> 00:06:41,151

they were extraneous noise.

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00:06:41,151 --> 00:06:46,153

The more stringent technique Dr. Barger needed resulted in one of the most unique scientific

61

00:06:46,153 --> 00:06:48,154

experiments of this century.

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00:06:48,154 --> 00:06:53,796

Dr. Barger and his team returned to Dallas to perform a sound recreation of the Kennedy

63

00:06:53,796 --> 00:06:58,798

assassination.

64

00:06:58,798 --> 00:07:04,060

Shots were recorded at various places at the assassination site for later comparison with

65

00:07:04,060 --> 00:07:06,341

the motorcycle tape.

66

00:07:06,341 --> 00:07:11,783

At the end of our analysis, we were able to conclude that there had been at least 4 shots

67

00:07:11,783 --> 00:07:15,345

fired during the assassination.

68

00:07:15,345 --> 00:07:20,907

Three of these had been fired from the Texas School Book Depository and one from the Gracie

69

00:07:20,907 --> 00:07:25,048

Knoll.

70

00:07:25,048 --> 00:07:30,170

The Texas School Book Depository is located next to the Gracie Knoll along the parkway

71

00:07:30,170 --> 00:07:39,414

the President's motorcade had traveled.

72

00:07:39,414 --> 00:07:44,936

Bob Groten, a photo-optic specialist, attempted to synchronize an enhanced version of the

73

00:07:44,936 --> 00:07:50,738

motorcycle tape with the famous Zapruder film, an 8-millimeter home movie shot by a

74

00:07:50,759 --> 00:07:53,119

motorcade observer.

75

00:07:53,119 --> 00:07:58,562

This synchronization, shown now for the first time on nationwide television, reveals with

76

00:07:58,562 --> 00:08:03,804

shocking clarity that at least two gunmen had to have been involved.

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00:08:03,804 --> 00:08:07,805

One firing from behind the President, the other from the right front.

78

00:08:21,731 --> 00:08:28,493

At least 4 shots were fired, but it's the third, the one from the front, the Gracie Knoll,

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00:08:28,493 --> 00:08:30,494

that kills the President.

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00:08:30,494 --> 00:08:50,962

The motorcycle tape and Dr. Barger's testimony eventually led to United States government

81

00:08:50,962 --> 00:08:55,884

acknowledgement that the assassination of John F. Kennedy was the probable result of

82

00:08:55,884 --> 00:08:58,325

a conspiracy.

83

00:08:58,325 --> 00:09:05,148

Where did that conspiracy originate?

84

00:09:05,148 --> 00:09:10,950

Less than two months after the assassination, Yuri Ivanovich Nosenko, a high-level Russian

85

00:09:10,950 --> 00:09:16,352

KGB agent defected to the United States.

86

00:09:16,352 --> 00:09:22,555

As recreated here for in search of, Nosenko told American CIA officers that as part of

87

00:09:22,575 --> 00:09:29,577

his duties, he had personally supervised the KGB file on Lee Harvey Oswald while Oswald

88

00:09:29,577 --> 00:09:32,579

lived in Russia.

89

00:09:32,579 --> 00:09:38,421

Nosenko assured the Americans that Oswald had no relations with Soviet intelligence and

90

00:09:38,421 --> 00:09:47,464

acted without Soviet knowledge in the assassination of President Kennedy.

91

00:09:47,464 --> 00:09:53,607

Many of the CIA officers found serious discrepancies in Nosenko's story and suspected that Nosenko

92

00:09:53,607 --> 00:10:00,610

was sent here by the KGB to mislead the Americans about Oswald's Soviet connections.

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00:10:05,612 --> 00:10:12,614

To prove his honesty, Nosenko agreed to submit to a lie detector examination.

94

00:10:17,476 --> 00:10:24,479

The key questions, did Nosenko supervise the KGB file on Lee Harvey Oswald?

95

00:10:27,180 --> 00:10:28,341

Yes.

96

00:10:28,341 --> 00:10:35,343

And, was Lee Harvey Oswald involved in any way with the intelligence activities of the

97

00:10:35,343 --> 00:10:36,344

KGB?

98

00:10:36,344 --> 00:10:39,465

No, no, no, how many times?

99

00:10:39,465 --> 00:10:46,468

According to the results of the polygraph test, Yuri Ivanovich Nosenko was a liar.

100

00:10:48,268 --> 00:10:55,271

Some sources close to the CIA claim that Nosenko was then put under hostile interrogation.

101

00:11:11,037 --> 00:11:14,879

Treated more like a captured spy than a defector.

102

00:11:14,879 --> 00:11:21,882

Nosenko was put through grueling, unrelenting and abusive interrogation.

103

00:11:21,902 --> 00:11:28,504

As flawed as Nosenko's story was, he refused to break, clinging instead to absurd and indefensible

104

00:11:28,504 --> 00:11:30,745

explanations.

105

00:11:30,745 --> 00:11:32,946

The Nosenko did not break.

106

00:11:32,946 --> 00:11:38,588

The CIA officers were certain that when the Warren Commission questioned Nosenko, it too

107

00:11:38,588 --> 00:11:43,950

would find his story unbelievable.

108

00:11:43,950 --> 00:11:48,212

But the Warren Commission never questioned Nosenko.

109

00:11:48,212 --> 00:11:55,215

One man who thinks he knows why is Edward Epstein, noted authority on the Warren Commission.

110

00:11:55,215 --> 00:11:59,496

Epstein believes that the commission was misinformed by the FBI.

111

00:11:59,496 --> 00:12:06,179

The last thing Jed Gehoover wanted was to open up the investigation into Lee Harvey Oswald's

112

00:12:06,179 --> 00:12:08,500

connections with the Soviet Union.

113

00:12:08,500 --> 00:12:13,102

And if the Warren Commission began to question Nosenko, it would lead exactly in that direction.

114

00:12:13,562 --> 00:12:17,684

Remember, the FBI is in charge of internal security in the United States.

115

00:12:17,684 --> 00:12:23,646

Here was Lee Harvey Oswald who came over from Russia, a defector who had given out secrets

116

00:12:23,646 --> 00:12:25,287

of state to the Russians.

117

00:12:25,287 --> 00:12:28,848

Or the FBI should have been keeping a closer eye on him.

118

00:12:28,848 --> 00:12:35,851

If suddenly it turned out through the questioning of Nosenko that Oswald was a Soviet agent,

119

00:12:36,091 --> 00:12:41,493

then the FBI would be held responsible for why weren't they keeping Oswald under surveillance.

120

00:12:41,493 --> 00:12:47,435

And that's the reason that Jed Ge Hoover did not want to open up the questioning into Nosenko

121

00:12:47,435 --> 00:12:54,438

and did not want to get into the area of Oswald's connections with the Soviet Union.

122

00:12:55,719 --> 00:13:01,041

If Nosenko was part of a Russian plot, did it include the assassination of President

123

00:13:01,041 --> 00:13:06,043

Kennedy?

124

00:13:06,043 --> 00:13:13,045

Lee Harvey Oswald was born in New Orleans in October 1939.

125

00:13:14,266 --> 00:13:19,568

His father had died two months before.

126

00:13:19,568 --> 00:13:25,070

His childhood was marked by instability, moving with his mother from house to house, city to

127

00:13:25,070 --> 00:13:26,491

city.

128

00:13:26,491 --> 00:13:33,113

By the time he was 10, he had attended six different public schools.

129

00:13:33,113 --> 00:13:38,275

When he was regarded as friendly and likable, his teachers detected something hidden within

130

00:13:38,275 --> 00:13:43,477

him, a certain tenseness.

131

00:13:43,477 --> 00:13:49,360

When he was 17, Oswald fulfilled a long time ambition and joined the Marine Corps, where

132

00:13:49,360 --> 00:13:53,081

he served honorably for three years.

133

00:13:53,081 --> 00:13:59,604

Following his discharge in 1959, Oswald abruptly renounced his American citizenship and defected

134

00:13:59,604 --> 00:14:03,045

to the Soviet Union.

135

00:14:03,045 --> 00:14:08,887

It is the next two years that we know the least about Oswald.

136

00:14:08,887 --> 00:14:15,110

In 1961, Oswald returned to the United States, reclaiming his American citizenship.

137

00:14:15,110 --> 00:14:21,352

With him, he brought a Russian wife, Marina, and a diary describing his life while in Russia.

138

00:14:21,352 --> 00:14:26,134

The diary tells the story of a bitter young man becoming increasingly disillusioned with

139

00:14:26,134 --> 00:14:27,455

the communist system.

140

00:14:27,455 --> 00:14:32,137

However, the diary also contains some puzzling discrepancies.

141

00:14:32,137 --> 00:14:33,777

Could it be a fake?

142

00:14:33,777 --> 00:14:40,140

Another attempt by the Russians to mislead us?

143

00:14:40,140 --> 00:14:45,382

To find out, we went to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to interview internationally

144

00:14:45,382 --> 00:14:51,864

known handwriting analyst Tia Stein-Lewinson.

145

00:14:51,864 --> 00:14:57,026

Mrs. Lewinson had spent more than four months working on the Oswald diary, putting it through

146

00:14:57,026 --> 00:15:03,509

microscopic scrutiny before she arrived at her evaluation.

147

00:15:03,509 --> 00:15:06,470

This is not a spontaneous writing.

148

00:15:06,470 --> 00:15:10,752

It is written very slowly and deliberately.

149

00:15:10,752 --> 00:15:21,516

One could assume that possibly Oswald copied excerpts from his original diary, which were

150

00:15:21,516 --> 00:15:31,600

given to him by some representative of Soviet intelligence, and that he then wrote very

151

00:15:31,600 --> 00:15:37,122

slowly in order to comply with the demands.

152

00:15:37,122 --> 00:15:44,685

However, here and there, one can see that he gets irritated and especially at the end

153

00:15:44,685 --> 00:15:50,767

of the pages, he frequently gets quite fatigued.

154

00:15:50,767 --> 00:15:56,570

Mrs. Lewinson believes that fatigue in Oswald's writing, as shown here by lines that gradually

155

00:15:56,570 --> 00:16:02,792

run downhill, indicates that the complete diary was written in two or three sessions

156

00:16:02,792 --> 00:16:05,213

rather than day by day.

157

00:16:05,213 --> 00:16:17,938

I think that Oswald was supervised by Soviet intelligence in order to mislead the Americans

158

00:16:17,938 --> 00:16:23,060

at his return to the United States.

159

00:16:23,060 --> 00:16:27,902

When I went through Lee Harvey Oswald's diary, I found two anachronisms, two things that

160

00:16:27,902 --> 00:16:29,743

were out of date.

161

00:16:29,743 --> 00:16:37,346

One was on October 31st, where he talked about the American consul, McVico, who wasn't yet

162

00:16:37,346 --> 00:16:41,908

the consul for another year.

163

00:16:41,908 --> 00:16:46,910

The second thing was he talked about rubles in terms of old rubles that were 10 for a

164

00:16:46,910 --> 00:16:50,711

dollar rather than new rubles that were one for a dollar.

165

00:16:50,711 --> 00:16:52,792

This was not a genuine diary.

166

00:16:52,792 --> 00:16:53,792

It was a fake.

167

00:16:53,792 --> 00:16:58,954

It was written after the fact to give Lee Harvey Oswald a legend so he could explain to the

168

00:16:58,954 --> 00:17:03,996

FBI and other people in America what he was doing in Russia for two years, what he was

169

00:17:03,996 --> 00:17:09,118

supposed to be doing in Russia, not what he was doing.

170

00:17:09,118 --> 00:17:16,521

If Oswald's diary is in fact a fake, and if Nosenko only defected to mislead the Americans,

171

00:17:16,521 --> 00:17:23,804

it leads one to ask, what were the Russians trying to hide?

172

00:17:23,804 --> 00:17:28,606

What happened to Oswald during his stay in the Soviet Union that the Russians don't want

173

00:17:28,606 --> 00:17:30,447

us to know about?

174

00:17:30,447 --> 00:17:39,970

Could there have been a plot so bizarre no one would have dared thought it possible?

175

00:17:39,970 --> 00:17:46,413

On November 24th, 1963, medical examiners began an autopsy on the individual they assumed

176

00:17:46,413 --> 00:17:48,974

to be Lee Harvey Oswald.

177

00:17:48,974 --> 00:17:52,215

It is recreated here for in search of.

178

00:17:52,215 --> 00:17:58,018

Their findings were to create a public controversy that would surface 15 years later when British

179

00:17:58,018 --> 00:18:04,540

lawyer, author, and investigator Michael Eddowes made public the results of his investigation

180

00:18:04,540 --> 00:18:09,262

of Lee Harvey Oswald.

181

00:18:09,262 --> 00:18:14,584

This is the most terrifying story you will ever hear, and the Russians don't want you

182

00:18:14,584 --> 00:18:15,865

to hear about it.

183

00:18:15,865 --> 00:18:20,066

The man who killed President Kennedy was not Lee Harvey Oswald.

184

00:18:20,066 --> 00:18:25,708

He was a Soviet lookalike whose first name was Alec, and who came to the United States

185

00:18:25,708 --> 00:18:31,511

as a member of the KGB assassination squad for the direct purpose of killing President

186

00:18:31,511 --> 00:18:33,552

Kennedy.

187

00:18:33,552 --> 00:18:44,276

Eddowes says that the Dallas autopsy was performed on an imposter and points to a number of inconsistencies

188

00:18:44,276 --> 00:18:45,996

to prove his point.

189

00:18:45,996 --> 00:18:49,758

The man who went to Russia was 5 feet 11 in height.

190

00:18:49,758 --> 00:18:51,159

There's no question about this.

191

00:18:51,159 --> 00:18:53,960

There are 11 recordings of this height.

192

00:18:53,960 --> 00:18:58,481

The length of the corpse of the assassin was 5 feet 9.

193

00:18:58,481 --> 00:19:10,806

The autopsy report records only two scars of the upper left arm of the assassin.

194

00:19:10,806 --> 00:19:18,089

Over the left arm there's a quarter inch transverse scar and one and a quarter inch scar.

195

00:19:18,089 --> 00:19:23,411

Whereas the real Oswald had three scars on the upper left arm.

196

00:19:23,411 --> 00:19:29,774

The autopsy report records a large scar on the inner aspect of the left wrist.

197

00:19:29,774 --> 00:19:33,375

The real Oswald had no such scar.

198

00:19:33,375 --> 00:19:38,937

At the age of 6 the real Oswald had a mastoidectomy operation which left a one inch long scar

199

00:19:38,937 --> 00:19:42,859

behind his left ear over the mastoid bone.

200

00:19:42,859 --> 00:19:47,621

The part of the mastoid bone was itself removed and at the operation a rubber dam drain was

201

00:19:47,621 --> 00:19:48,621

inserted.

202

00:19:49,021 --> 00:19:54,784

So there was not only a scar, there was a depression in the flesh and a hole in the head of about

203

00:19:54,784 --> 00:19:58,385

one dime in size.

204

00:19:58,385 --> 00:20:03,787

An examination of Oswald's Marine Corps records confirms the existence of the mastoidectomy

205

00:20:03,787 --> 00:20:07,629

scar behind Oswald's left ear.

206

00:20:07,629 --> 00:20:14,391

Now the autopsy doctors experienced pathologists cut up over both mastoid areas to remove the

207

00:20:14,391 --> 00:20:17,713

scalp so they could take off the top of the head to examine the brain.

208

00:20:17,713 --> 00:20:21,314

In doing this they could not have failed to have seen the one inch scar and the hole in

209

00:20:21,314 --> 00:20:22,314

the head.

210

00:20:22,314 --> 00:20:26,516

The autopsy report does not record the scar, does not record the depression and although

211

00:20:26,516 --> 00:20:32,839

the scar was x-rayed does not disclose the hole in the scar.

212

00:20:32,839 --> 00:20:37,760

Eddows requested that Tarrant County officials exhume the body buried under the name of Lee

213

00:20:37,760 --> 00:20:39,921

Harvey Oswald.

214

00:20:39,921 --> 00:20:46,564

His request was rejected and Eddows has since taken legal action in state court.

215

00:20:46,564 --> 00:20:49,125

Could there have been two Oswald's?

216

00:20:49,125 --> 00:20:55,808

Eddows claims the picture on the right is the second Oswald, the Russian impersonator.

217

00:20:55,808 --> 00:21:02,090

Imposter or not, the bigger mystery remains.

218

00:21:02,090 --> 00:21:07,012

Who fired the shot from the grassy knoll?

219

00:21:07,012 --> 00:21:22,298

At a small cemetery outside of Fort Worth a single gravestone lies alone, remote from

220

00:21:22,298 --> 00:21:31,462

all others.

221

00:21:31,462 --> 00:21:36,023

We have always assumed this to be the grave of Lee Harvey Oswald.

222

00:21:36,023 --> 00:21:47,748

Is it possible that we are wrong?

223

00:21:47,748 --> 00:21:53,070

Coming up next, 20th century with Mike Wallace reports on great rescues including the dramatic

224

00:21:53,070 --> 00:21:57,152

daylight rescue of a US Air Force pilot shot down in Bosnia.

225

00:21:57,152 --> 00:22:01,754

Then, weapons at war takes you on missions into the jungles of Vietnam with the young

226

00:22:01,754 --> 00:22:17,160

soldiers they called the grunts.