

HAVANA SYNDROME & Mass Psychogenic Illness



Robert Bartholomew

1
00:00:08,950 --> 00:00:05,829
welcome to tales from the rabbit hole my

2
00:00:11,509 --> 00:00:08,960
guest today is dr robert bartholomew who

3
00:00:13,350 --> 00:00:11,519
has a phd in medical sociology and is an

4
00:00:15,589 --> 00:00:13,360
honorary senior lecturer at the

5
00:00:17,189 --> 00:00:15,599
department of psychological medicine at

6
00:00:18,230 --> 00:00:17,199
the university of auckland in new

7
00:00:20,790 --> 00:00:18,240
zealand

8
00:00:23,189 --> 00:00:20,800
he is an expert in mass psychogenic

9
00:00:26,390 --> 00:00:23,199
illness and is the co-author with robert

10
00:00:28,550 --> 00:00:26,400
bellow of the book havana syndrome mass

11
00:00:32,229 --> 00:00:28,560
psychogenic illness and the real story

12
00:00:33,990 --> 00:00:32,239
behind the embassy mystery and hysteria

13
00:00:36,790 --> 00:00:34,000

robert thank you very much for agreeing

14

00:00:38,709 --> 00:00:36,800

to be here and welcome well thank you

15

00:00:41,750 --> 00:00:38,719

uh so let's uh let's get straight into

16

00:00:43,350 --> 00:00:41,760

it like havana syndrome uh what

17

00:00:45,350 --> 00:00:43,360

for those people who don't know what is

18

00:00:49,990 --> 00:00:45,360

havana syndrome and how did you come

19

00:00:53,189 --> 00:00:50,000

across it in late 2016 some cia officers

20

00:00:55,910 --> 00:00:53,199

stationed in havana cuba began to

21

00:00:57,990 --> 00:00:55,920

hear unusual noises outside their homes

22

00:01:00,790 --> 00:00:58,000

at night and then one of them fell sick

23

00:01:02,790 --> 00:01:00,800

and attributed the sound to their

24

00:01:06,550 --> 00:01:02,800

symptoms which were pretty mundane

25

00:01:09,670 --> 00:01:06,560

headache ear pain things like that and a

26

00:01:13,750 --> 00:01:09,680

folk theory developed that

27

00:01:16,070 --> 00:01:13,760

they had been harassed by some type of

28

00:01:18,070 --> 00:01:16,080

acoustical weapon that was used by the

29

00:01:21,190 --> 00:01:18,080

cubans in conjunction with possibly the

30

00:01:21,990 --> 00:01:21,200

russians or the chinese

31

00:01:23,950 --> 00:01:22,000

in

32

00:01:25,590 --> 00:01:23,960

august of

33

00:01:29,270 --> 00:01:25,600

2017

34

00:01:31,910 --> 00:01:29,280

the state department announced publicly

35

00:01:33,670 --> 00:01:31,920

that these so-called attacks were under

36

00:01:35,190 --> 00:01:33,680

investigation

37

00:01:37,510 --> 00:01:35,200

since then there have been hundreds of

38

00:01:39,590 --> 00:01:37,520

attacks not only in cuba but around the

39

00:01:41,670 --> 00:01:39,600

world i mean in a nutshell that's the

40

00:01:42,950 --> 00:01:41,680

that's the story that's being reported

41

00:01:45,510 --> 00:01:42,960

in the media

42

00:01:47,990 --> 00:01:45,520

uh although it's not true okay

43

00:01:50,230 --> 00:01:48,000

so uh you you miss you mentioned some of

44

00:01:52,550 --> 00:01:50,240

the symptoms there things like uh like

45

00:01:53,429 --> 00:01:52,560

headaches and uh hearing noises and ear

46

00:01:55,590 --> 00:01:53,439

pain

47

00:01:57,830 --> 00:01:55,600

and uh you know when i looked at this

48

00:02:00,149 --> 00:01:57,840

list of symptoms i thought to myself the

49

00:02:02,230 --> 00:02:00,159

first time i saw it i actually have all

50

00:02:03,910 --> 00:02:02,240

of these symptoms right now like i i

51
00:02:05,830 --> 00:02:03,920
personally have tinnitus i can hear a

52
00:02:07,670 --> 00:02:05,840
ringing in my ears

53
00:02:10,869 --> 00:02:07,680
not not a great one but a little one i

54
00:02:12,790 --> 00:02:10,879
have aches and pains i have uh somewhat

55
00:02:14,070 --> 00:02:12,800
more forgetfulness than i had when i was

56
00:02:15,430 --> 00:02:14,080
younger and

57
00:02:18,070 --> 00:02:15,440
you know other things are happening to

58
00:02:19,270 --> 00:02:18,080
me like my hair is falling out so what

59
00:02:22,390 --> 00:02:19,280
was it about

60
00:02:25,270 --> 00:02:22,400
this list of symptoms that led people to

61
00:02:27,350 --> 00:02:25,280
suspect that it might be some kind of

62
00:02:29,990 --> 00:02:27,360
you know some kind of attack the big

63
00:02:31,190 --> 00:02:30,000

issue with what happened is uh the

64

00:02:34,229 --> 00:02:31,200

journal of the american medical

65

00:02:37,830 --> 00:02:34,239

association they published two articles

66

00:02:40,070 --> 00:02:37,840

uh one in 2018 one in 2019

67

00:02:42,790 --> 00:02:40,080

that um suggested that there was

68

00:02:45,509 --> 00:02:42,800

something nefarious going on

69

00:02:47,030 --> 00:02:45,519

there or possibly brain damage

70

00:02:49,430 --> 00:02:47,040

more recently

71

00:02:52,150 --> 00:02:49,440

in december of 2020 the national academy

72

00:02:53,509 --> 00:02:52,160

of sciences had a panel of scientists

73

00:02:55,509 --> 00:02:53,519

that looked into this

74

00:02:58,390 --> 00:02:55,519

and concluded that the most plausible

75

00:02:59,910 --> 00:02:58,400

explanation was pulsed microwave

76

00:03:03,430 --> 00:02:59,920

radiation

77

00:03:04,869 --> 00:03:03,440

a deliberate attack by some nefarious

78

00:03:06,869 --> 00:03:04,879

foreign power

79

00:03:08,149 --> 00:03:06,879

and that's really driven

80

00:03:11,830 --> 00:03:08,159

the media

81

00:03:13,589 --> 00:03:11,840

reports my first career was as a radio

82

00:03:15,670 --> 00:03:13,599

journalist in upstate new york in the

83

00:03:16,710 --> 00:03:15,680

late 1970s

84

00:03:19,030 --> 00:03:16,720

and

85

00:03:20,949 --> 00:03:19,040

i can see how this developed you know

86

00:03:23,190 --> 00:03:20,959

you're a journalist you you're not an

87

00:03:24,949 --> 00:03:23,200

expert you have to rely on experts you

88

00:03:27,670 --> 00:03:24,959

see things like oh journal of the

89

00:03:30,309 --> 00:03:27,680

american medical association it must be

90

00:03:33,110 --> 00:03:30,319

true i can tell you right now

91

00:03:34,550 --> 00:03:33,120

i'll resign my position as an honorary

92

00:03:36,070 --> 00:03:34,560

senior lecturer in the department of

93

00:03:39,030 --> 00:03:36,080

psychological medicine at auckland

94

00:03:41,670 --> 00:03:39,040

university if anybody can demonstrate to

95

00:03:45,190 --> 00:03:41,680

me that the diplomats and intelligence

96

00:03:48,149 --> 00:03:45,200

officers in cuba suffered brain damage

97

00:03:50,550 --> 00:03:48,159

or that there was hearing loss or major

98

00:03:53,910 --> 00:03:50,560

might white matter track changes in

99

00:03:56,309 --> 00:03:53,920

people's brains this is science fiction

100

00:03:59,110 --> 00:03:56,319

yeah that's a pretty strong statement uh

101
00:04:01,509 --> 00:03:59,120
so you you would characterize what we're

102
00:04:02,710 --> 00:04:01,519
seeing here as a mass psychogenic

103
00:04:04,390 --> 00:04:02,720
illness

104
00:04:06,390 --> 00:04:04,400
and could you explain a little bit about

105
00:04:07,190 --> 00:04:06,400
what a mass psychogenic illness actually

106
00:04:09,350 --> 00:04:07,200
is

107
00:04:10,789 --> 00:04:09,360
sure and look if i had a hundred dollars

108
00:04:15,030 --> 00:04:10,799
to bet

109
00:04:17,670 --> 00:04:15,040
i would ba every single penny uh on the

110
00:04:19,509 --> 00:04:17,680
mass psychogenic illness horse because

111
00:04:22,069 --> 00:04:19,519
uh it's gonna come in

112
00:04:24,790 --> 00:04:22,079
um mass psychogenic illness think of it

113
00:04:26,469 --> 00:04:24,800

as the placebo effect in reverse we've

114

00:04:27,909 --> 00:04:26,479

all heard of the placebo effect if i

115

00:04:29,830 --> 00:04:27,919

give you a sugar pill it's how you're

116

00:04:33,270 --> 00:04:29,840

going to feel better often you will it's

117

00:04:34,629 --> 00:04:33,280

not going to cure cancer or diabetes but

118

00:04:37,990 --> 00:04:34,639

a lot of

119

00:04:40,629 --> 00:04:38,000

ailments are stress related and it

120

00:04:43,189 --> 00:04:40,639

really works well with things like that

121

00:04:46,790 --> 00:04:43,199

but it also works in reverse which is

122

00:04:48,469 --> 00:04:46,800

known as the nocebo effect where if i

123

00:04:50,870 --> 00:04:48,479

give you a sugar pill

124

00:04:53,510 --> 00:04:50,880

and tell you it's rat poison

125

00:04:55,909 --> 00:04:53,520

and you believe it then you're likely to

126

00:04:58,070 --> 00:04:55,919

elicit symptoms you might even vomit but

127

00:04:59,510 --> 00:04:58,080

there's nothing physically wrong with

128

00:05:02,390 --> 00:04:59,520

you

129

00:05:04,950 --> 00:05:02,400

it's also known as historically been

130

00:05:06,230 --> 00:05:04,960

known as conversion disorder okay the

131

00:05:08,230 --> 00:05:06,240

conversion

132

00:05:09,350 --> 00:05:08,240

of psychological

133

00:05:10,629 --> 00:05:09,360

stress

134

00:05:13,909 --> 00:05:10,639

into

135

00:05:17,029 --> 00:05:13,919

physical symptoms that don't have

136

00:05:19,670 --> 00:05:17,039

an organic basis

137

00:05:20,950 --> 00:05:19,680

so like conversion disorder you know

138

00:05:22,870 --> 00:05:20,960

that's something that happens to an

139

00:05:24,870 --> 00:05:22,880

individual but we're talking about mass

140

00:05:26,629 --> 00:05:24,880

psychogenic

141

00:05:28,550 --> 00:05:26,639

illness which it kind of implies you

142

00:05:31,029 --> 00:05:28,560

know a group of people what's the

143

00:05:33,350 --> 00:05:31,039

difference between conversion disorder

144

00:05:35,590 --> 00:05:33,360

um and things like um

145

00:05:37,990 --> 00:05:35,600

psychosomatic symptoms somatic somatic

146

00:05:39,510 --> 00:05:38,000

form disorder and things like that which

147

00:05:42,070 --> 00:05:39,520

apply to an individual and something

148

00:05:45,909 --> 00:05:42,080

that applies to a group

149

00:05:50,390 --> 00:05:45,919

well it can and does spreading groups

150

00:05:52,550 --> 00:05:50,400

a classic example is salem in 1692.

151
00:05:54,390 --> 00:05:52,560
you had conversion disorder involving

152
00:05:56,950 --> 00:05:54,400
twitching shaking altered states of

153
00:05:58,550 --> 00:05:56,960
consciousness um there's two main types

154
00:05:59,430 --> 00:05:58,560
of mass psychogenic illness you've got

155
00:06:01,029 --> 00:05:59,440
the

156
00:06:04,150 --> 00:06:01,039
short-term

157
00:06:07,749 --> 00:06:04,160
type with no pre-existing tension

158
00:06:10,790 --> 00:06:07,759
whereas somebody a group is exposed to

159
00:06:12,309 --> 00:06:10,800
some agent usually an unknown smell

160
00:06:15,590 --> 00:06:12,319
unfamiliar odor

161
00:06:16,390 --> 00:06:15,600
and it's believed to be toxic

162
00:06:17,909 --> 00:06:16,400
and

163
00:06:18,790 --> 00:06:17,919

you get

164

00:06:21,189 --> 00:06:18,800

um

165

00:06:24,629 --> 00:06:21,199

people fainting having difficulty

166

00:06:27,029 --> 00:06:24,639

breathing it happens very quickly and it

167

00:06:28,950 --> 00:06:27,039

usually lasts for a few hours no more

168

00:06:31,029 --> 00:06:28,960

than a day people are rushed to the

169

00:06:33,749 --> 00:06:31,039

hospital they recover very quickly and

170

00:06:36,070 --> 00:06:33,759

they eventually identify the stimulus

171

00:06:39,350 --> 00:06:36,080

and it wasn't harmful

172

00:06:40,309 --> 00:06:39,360

what you've got going on in cuba is very

173

00:06:42,950 --> 00:06:40,319

different

174

00:06:45,270 --> 00:06:42,960

that is the neurological type of mass

175

00:06:48,390 --> 00:06:45,280

psychogenic illness that

176

00:06:51,909 --> 00:06:48,400

is exactly what happened in salem

177

00:06:54,629 --> 00:06:51,919

and it's a group that's under long-term

178

00:06:57,589 --> 00:06:54,639

prolonged stress

179

00:06:58,350 --> 00:06:57,599

and in situations like that you tend to

180

00:07:01,670 --> 00:06:58,360

get

181

00:07:03,350 --> 00:07:01,680

neurological symptoms which is exactly

182

00:07:06,950 --> 00:07:03,360

what happened in cuba and if you're

183

00:07:09,270 --> 00:07:06,960

familiar with the news back in 2011 2012

184

00:07:11,830 --> 00:07:09,280

in leroy and western new york that's

185

00:07:14,230 --> 00:07:11,840

exactly what they had as well these uh

186

00:07:17,510 --> 00:07:14,240

young girls mostly at that school

187

00:07:19,270 --> 00:07:17,520

who had um neurological symptoms

188

00:07:21,990 --> 00:07:19,280

difficulty walking

189

00:07:23,670 --> 00:07:22,000

um difficulty talking

190

00:07:25,749 --> 00:07:23,680

and that was diagnosed as mass

191

00:07:27,670 --> 00:07:25,759

psychogenic illness there was an uproar

192

00:07:29,830 --> 00:07:27,680

the new york state department of health

193

00:07:32,390 --> 00:07:29,840

said yes it's mass psychogenic illness

194

00:07:34,469 --> 00:07:32,400

and after a few months it died down and

195

00:07:36,710 --> 00:07:34,479

a consensus emerged

196

00:07:39,670 --> 00:07:36,720

that it was mass psychogenic illness and

197

00:07:41,189 --> 00:07:39,680

the same thing will happen here once uh

198

00:07:43,670 --> 00:07:41,199

this comes out and i think it will come

199

00:07:45,350 --> 00:07:43,680

out the wheels of science

200

00:07:46,869 --> 00:07:45,360

turn slowly

201

00:07:50,629 --> 00:07:46,879

but they turn

202

00:07:52,629 --> 00:07:50,639

yes yes uh no i i yeah i find myself

203

00:07:54,869 --> 00:07:52,639

agreeing with you uh uh on this this

204

00:07:56,550 --> 00:07:54,879

matter you know and you as you you might

205

00:07:58,629 --> 00:07:56,560

remember like uh

206

00:08:01,029 --> 00:07:58,639

when it first started coming out i wrote

207

00:08:03,029 --> 00:08:01,039

a small piece about it on on on meta

208

00:08:05,670 --> 00:08:03,039

bank and you you commented on it

209

00:08:08,230 --> 00:08:05,680

uh at the time of several years ago

210

00:08:10,950 --> 00:08:08,240

but uh part of the reason i

211

00:08:13,830 --> 00:08:10,960

i wrote that was that

212

00:08:16,150 --> 00:08:13,840

i recognized not only that i myself had

213

00:08:17,749 --> 00:08:16,160

this list of symptoms but it also

214

00:08:19,189 --> 00:08:17,759

reminded me of another thing called uh

215

00:08:21,670 --> 00:08:19,199

morgellons

216

00:08:23,029 --> 00:08:21,680

or more gellons i'm not sure how you

217

00:08:25,909 --> 00:08:23,039

there's two ways of pronouncing it in

218

00:08:27,110 --> 00:08:25,919

that each way seems equally valid but uh

219

00:08:30,469 --> 00:08:27,120

that's

220

00:08:31,990 --> 00:08:30,479

would you characterize that as a

221

00:08:33,430 --> 00:08:32,000

the same type of thing or is that a

222

00:08:35,589 --> 00:08:33,440

difference type of thing what's your

223

00:08:37,430 --> 00:08:35,599

experience being with morgellons i wrote

224

00:08:39,589 --> 00:08:37,440

a book chapter on morgellons i think

225

00:08:40,709 --> 00:08:39,599

it's a combination of four different

226
00:08:43,670 --> 00:08:40,719
things

227
00:08:45,030 --> 00:08:43,680
um not necessarily just mass psychogenic

228
00:08:46,949 --> 00:08:45,040
illness there are a variety of

229
00:08:48,949 --> 00:08:46,959
conditions that are lumped under that

230
00:08:50,389 --> 00:08:48,959
heading but what's interesting about

231
00:08:51,750 --> 00:08:50,399
morgellons

232
00:08:55,110 --> 00:08:51,760
is that

233
00:08:56,389 --> 00:08:55,120
people for the first time with a variety

234
00:08:58,790 --> 00:08:56,399
of symptoms

235
00:09:02,070 --> 00:08:58,800
came together on the internet and the

236
00:09:02,949 --> 00:09:02,080
real vector of spread for morgellons

237
00:09:06,389 --> 00:09:02,959
was

238
00:09:09,430 --> 00:09:06,399

the internet and then later social media

239

00:09:12,870 --> 00:09:09,440

you uh mentioned that um you were

240

00:09:14,150 --> 00:09:12,880

writing about havana syndrome on

241

00:09:17,430 --> 00:09:14,160

metabunk

242

00:09:19,910 --> 00:09:17,440

i would define or characterize havana

243

00:09:23,269 --> 00:09:19,920

syndrome as at this point

244

00:09:25,829 --> 00:09:23,279

mega bunk because it's gone global it's

245

00:09:27,590 --> 00:09:25,839

just gone it's insanity what's happened

246

00:09:28,630 --> 00:09:27,600

recently you know it's just everywhere

247

00:09:30,389 --> 00:09:28,640

now

248

00:09:31,910 --> 00:09:30,399

yeah but it's almost in a way i think

249

00:09:34,710 --> 00:09:31,920

that makes it almost seem more

250

00:09:37,030 --> 00:09:34,720

believable because it becomes too big

251

00:09:39,350 --> 00:09:37,040

uh to not be true you've got so many

252

00:09:41,509 --> 00:09:39,360

people involved in it you've got so many

253

00:09:43,430 --> 00:09:41,519

different uh medical professionals and

254

00:09:45,030 --> 00:09:43,440

you've got your politicians not that you

255

00:09:46,949 --> 00:09:45,040

know politicians are experts on this but

256

00:09:49,190 --> 00:09:46,959

you've got people weighing in

257

00:09:50,710 --> 00:09:49,200

uh on it with uh who are in positions of

258

00:09:52,710 --> 00:09:50,720

power

259

00:09:54,630 --> 00:09:52,720

uh how do we how do we get to this stage

260

00:09:57,430 --> 00:09:54,640

you know is there anything that's that's

261

00:09:59,590 --> 00:09:57,440

comparable uh historically to to this

262

00:10:01,269 --> 00:09:59,600

situation what this there's so much

263

00:10:02,630 --> 00:10:01,279

misinformation out there people saying

264

00:10:04,389 --> 00:10:02,640

oh what about the brain damage that's

265

00:10:05,910 --> 00:10:04,399

not mass hysteria what about the white

266

00:10:08,870 --> 00:10:05,920

matter track changes what about the

267

00:10:11,670 --> 00:10:08,880

hearing loss that never happened it's

268

00:10:14,949 --> 00:10:11,680

absolutely not true i have staked my

269

00:10:17,910 --> 00:10:14,959

career on it it's just demonstrably not

270

00:10:19,750 --> 00:10:17,920

true and look what this reminds me of is

271

00:10:22,069 --> 00:10:19,760

someone who has studied the supernatural

272

00:10:23,509 --> 00:10:22,079

and paranormal and the history of

273

00:10:26,389 --> 00:10:23,519

skepticism

274

00:10:28,870 --> 00:10:26,399

it parallels ufo

275

00:10:31,030 --> 00:10:28,880

and monster sighting waves you know

276

00:10:34,550 --> 00:10:31,040

these symptoms are so vague as you had

277

00:10:36,790 --> 00:10:34,560

mentioned in common as to be experienced

278

00:10:40,630 --> 00:10:36,800

by everyone at some point who's ever

279

00:10:43,190 --> 00:10:40,640

lived and probably in any given week and

280

00:10:45,350 --> 00:10:43,200

so what's happened here is people are

281

00:10:48,470 --> 00:10:45,360

redefining a variety of aches and pains

282

00:10:50,069 --> 00:10:48,480

under a new label globally right because

283

00:10:52,630 --> 00:10:50,079

they've been told to be on the lookout

284

00:10:54,550 --> 00:10:52,640

for anomalous health incidents whatever

285

00:10:56,710 --> 00:10:54,560

that means and

286

00:10:58,790 --> 00:10:56,720

so it's reminiscent of the setup for

287

00:11:01,190 --> 00:10:58,800

many ufo and monster sighting flaps

288

00:11:03,030 --> 00:11:01,200

because you typically get

289

00:11:04,389 --> 00:11:03,040

this initial

290

00:11:07,829 --> 00:11:04,399

sensational

291

00:11:09,750 --> 00:11:07,839

report where residents begin to

292

00:11:12,870 --> 00:11:09,760

scrutinize their environment for

293

00:11:15,750 --> 00:11:12,880

evidence of the perceived anomaly and

294

00:11:17,110 --> 00:11:15,760

given as we know the the fallibility of

295

00:11:19,110 --> 00:11:17,120

human perception and memory

296

00:11:22,310 --> 00:11:19,120

reconstruction you know people start to

297

00:11:25,350 --> 00:11:22,320

see what they expect to see so a

298

00:11:27,910 --> 00:11:25,360

rustling in the bushes becomes a bigfoot

299

00:11:31,190 --> 00:11:27,920

uh the wake of a boat is mistaken for

300

00:11:34,630 --> 00:11:31,200

the loch ness monster and venus is is

301
00:11:37,430 --> 00:11:34,640
taken for a ufo and look ordinarily

302
00:11:39,750 --> 00:11:37,440
people don't pay close attention to

303
00:11:40,949 --> 00:11:39,760
their surroundings but during these

304
00:11:44,230 --> 00:11:40,959
flaps

305
00:11:45,030 --> 00:11:44,240
people particularly in localized areas

306
00:11:47,030 --> 00:11:45,040
they

307
00:11:48,630 --> 00:11:47,040
start to scrutinize their environment

308
00:11:50,790 --> 00:11:48,640
and you'll get dozens of sightings

309
00:11:53,509 --> 00:11:50,800
popping up in a short period of time

310
00:11:55,350 --> 00:11:53,519
because they start to notice things

311
00:11:57,590 --> 00:11:55,360
they ordinarily don't notice they start

312
00:12:00,790 --> 00:11:57,600
to stare at the woods they start to

313
00:12:01,750 --> 00:12:00,800

stare at the sky or stare at the lake

314

00:12:04,790 --> 00:12:01,760

and

315

00:12:06,389 --> 00:12:04,800

a classic example of this

316

00:12:08,470 --> 00:12:06,399

which is

317

00:12:11,269 --> 00:12:08,480

standard reading for introductory

318

00:12:14,790 --> 00:12:11,279

sociology students is the seattle

319

00:12:16,550 --> 00:12:14,800

windshield pitting epidemic of 1954 when

320

00:12:19,990 --> 00:12:16,560

rumors spread

321

00:12:23,030 --> 00:12:20,000

that the west coast region of the united

322

00:12:25,269 --> 00:12:23,040

states was being subjected to atomic

323

00:12:26,790 --> 00:12:25,279

fallout from the testing that was going

324

00:12:29,430 --> 00:12:26,800

on in the pacific

325

00:12:31,670 --> 00:12:29,440

and so people were looking around to

326

00:12:33,990 --> 00:12:31,680

find evidence of the fallout and people

327

00:12:35,990 --> 00:12:34,000

started reporting they could see these

328

00:12:37,269 --> 00:12:36,000

pit marks on their windscreens their

329

00:12:40,069 --> 00:12:37,279

windshields

330

00:12:43,990 --> 00:12:40,079

and it got to the point where the

331

00:12:45,829 --> 00:12:44,000

governor of washington state telephoned

332

00:12:47,190 --> 00:12:45,839

president dwight eisenhower and asked

333

00:12:48,150 --> 00:12:47,200

him for help

334

00:12:54,790 --> 00:12:48,160

and

335

00:12:57,110 --> 00:12:54,800

closer at these windshield pits

336

00:12:59,030 --> 00:12:57,120

they found that pit marks are there all

337

00:13:01,829 --> 00:12:59,040

the time they're a common feature of

338

00:13:04,069 --> 00:13:01,839

windshields but instead of looking

339

00:13:05,750 --> 00:13:04,079

through their windshield windshields and

340

00:13:07,750 --> 00:13:05,760

windscreens

341

00:13:09,030 --> 00:13:07,760

residents for the first time began

342

00:13:10,150 --> 00:13:09,040

looking

343

00:13:11,910 --> 00:13:10,160

at them

344

00:13:13,910 --> 00:13:11,920

and noticing these marks that have been

345

00:13:15,670 --> 00:13:13,920

there all along

346

00:13:17,190 --> 00:13:15,680

yeah and i think that that's that

347

00:13:19,430 --> 00:13:17,200

certainly resonates with with my

348

00:13:21,509 --> 00:13:19,440

experience with morgellons you know uh

349

00:13:23,030 --> 00:13:21,519

studying morgellons is

350

00:13:25,269 --> 00:13:23,040

uh that people

351

00:13:27,670 --> 00:13:25,279

they're they feel ill for some reason

352

00:13:29,670 --> 00:13:27,680

and they're told that their their

353

00:13:32,470 --> 00:13:29,680

symptoms might be being caused by these

354

00:13:34,069 --> 00:13:32,480

fibers that are you know burrowing

355

00:13:36,069 --> 00:13:34,079

through their skin and so they get their

356

00:13:38,629 --> 00:13:36,079

little magnifying glass out

357

00:13:39,990 --> 00:13:38,639

and then they they study their skin very

358

00:13:42,310 --> 00:13:40,000

closely and they find these little

359

00:13:44,150 --> 00:13:42,320

fibers on them because these little

360

00:13:45,509 --> 00:13:44,160

fibers are everywhere and it's just that

361

00:13:47,110 --> 00:13:45,519

it's really just that they've never

362

00:13:48,710 --> 00:13:47,120

looked before

363

00:13:50,230 --> 00:13:48,720

and i think this this happens when with

364

00:13:52,949 --> 00:13:50,240

a lot of things like you said with with

365

00:13:54,629 --> 00:13:52,959

ufos but it's interesting in the context

366

00:13:56,069 --> 00:13:54,639

of of health

367

00:13:57,590 --> 00:13:56,079

uh because

368

00:13:59,829 --> 00:13:57,600

it's it's not like they're looking and

369

00:14:02,389 --> 00:13:59,839

finding something on them they're

370

00:14:04,710 --> 00:14:02,399

looking and they're finding symptoms

371

00:14:06,389 --> 00:14:04,720

like ringing in the ears you know i i

372

00:14:08,230 --> 00:14:06,399

hardly ever think about the ringing in

373

00:14:10,550 --> 00:14:08,240

the ears and and i probably wouldn't

374

00:14:11,990 --> 00:14:10,560

unless someone someone mentioned it or i

375

00:14:13,829 --> 00:14:12,000

you know i happened to you know be

376

00:14:16,069 --> 00:14:13,839

reading about ringing in the ears and i

377

00:14:17,269 --> 00:14:16,079

i think again you know i have ringing in

378

00:14:19,829 --> 00:14:17,279

the ears

379

00:14:22,949 --> 00:14:19,839

aches and pains and things like that

380

00:14:25,430 --> 00:14:22,959

uh people

381

00:14:27,189 --> 00:14:25,440

haven't really looked at their their

382

00:14:29,430 --> 00:14:27,199

bodies and what they're feeling with the

383

00:14:31,430 --> 00:14:29,440

same kind of attention

384

00:14:33,509 --> 00:14:31,440

and then these doctors come along and

385

00:14:35,829 --> 00:14:33,519

ask them to to

386

00:14:38,150 --> 00:14:35,839

to to do that and they're naturally

387

00:14:41,590 --> 00:14:38,160

going to find things

388

00:14:44,389 --> 00:14:41,600

yeah look it can't be microwaves because

389

00:14:46,629 --> 00:14:44,399

if you're hearing it and recording it

390

00:14:48,710 --> 00:14:46,639

it's not the so-called fray effect which

391

00:14:50,230 --> 00:14:48,720

disrupts the nervous system through

392

00:14:53,750 --> 00:14:50,240

microwave which was what the national

393

00:14:55,990 --> 00:14:53,760

academy of sciences report uh concluded

394

00:14:58,150 --> 00:14:56,000

it was most plausibly that they they

395

00:15:00,470 --> 00:14:58,160

were wrong the people on that panel were

396

00:15:03,509 --> 00:15:00,480

not experts on microwaves they got it

397

00:15:06,870 --> 00:15:03,519

wrong the fray effect is not a sound

398

00:15:09,110 --> 00:15:06,880

it's microwaves hitting your body and

399

00:15:11,350 --> 00:15:09,120

stimulating nerves that are either in

400

00:15:14,310 --> 00:15:11,360

the ear or the brain and you get a

401

00:15:16,870 --> 00:15:14,320

perception of sound a very

402

00:15:19,350 --> 00:15:16,880

barely discernible clicking sound what

403

00:15:20,150 --> 00:15:19,360

you would perceive as a clicking sound

404

00:15:22,550 --> 00:15:20,160

but

405

00:15:25,750 --> 00:15:22,560

there's no actual sound so if you've

406

00:15:27,269 --> 00:15:25,760

recorded it that's not the fray effect

407

00:15:29,590 --> 00:15:27,279

and that's how the national academy of

408

00:15:33,910 --> 00:15:29,600

sciences reports just flat out wrong

409

00:15:35,590 --> 00:15:33,920

and many of these attacks were recorded

410

00:15:37,350 --> 00:15:35,600

and when they were analyzed by a

411

00:15:40,269 --> 00:15:37,360

scientific panel

412

00:15:43,110 --> 00:15:40,279

commissioned in

413

00:15:45,110 --> 00:15:43,120

2017-2018 so-called jason panel of

414

00:15:47,829 --> 00:15:45,120

expert scientists

415

00:15:51,030 --> 00:15:47,839

they found that they were the mating

416

00:15:53,590 --> 00:15:51,040

calls of insects most notably crickets

417

00:15:55,829 --> 00:15:53,600

so you can eliminate microwaves and you

418

00:15:57,430 --> 00:15:55,839

can eliminate an acoustical weapon as

419

00:15:58,790 --> 00:15:57,440

well and everybody always asks me they

420

00:16:01,430 --> 00:15:58,800

say oh

421

00:16:02,949 --> 00:16:01,440

but there's some secret microwave

422

00:16:03,990 --> 00:16:02,959

whipping out their

423

00:16:04,710 --> 00:16:04,000

weapon

424

00:16:06,949 --> 00:16:04,720

well

425

00:16:09,110 --> 00:16:06,959

based on the research that's out there

426
00:16:12,389 --> 00:16:09,120
acoustical and microwave weapons don't

427
00:16:13,910 --> 00:16:12,399
work very well if they did i think we

428
00:16:15,350 --> 00:16:13,920
would have used them recently in

429
00:16:16,550 --> 00:16:15,360
afghanistan

430
00:16:17,590 --> 00:16:16,560
and

431
00:16:22,790 --> 00:16:17,600
they

432
00:16:23,829 --> 00:16:22,800
terms of what's being reported in cuba

433
00:16:24,870 --> 00:16:23,839
you've got

434
00:16:27,350 --> 00:16:24,880
no

435
00:16:28,629 --> 00:16:27,360
incidents being recorded at the embassy

436
00:16:32,150 --> 00:16:28,639
itself

437
00:16:34,710 --> 00:16:32,160
they were at one of two large hotels

438
00:16:37,269 --> 00:16:34,720

mostly and then at people's homes and

439

00:16:39,509 --> 00:16:37,279

this one apartment complex well

440

00:16:42,389 --> 00:16:39,519

to target someone

441

00:16:44,790 --> 00:16:42,399

inside a large hotel

442

00:16:48,150 --> 00:16:44,800

it would defy the laws of physics to be

443

00:16:50,790 --> 00:16:48,160

able to do that without other people

444

00:16:53,590 --> 00:16:50,800

being aware of it for starters and you

445

00:16:54,629 --> 00:16:53,600

would literally heat their brains and

446

00:16:56,389 --> 00:16:54,639

now

447

00:16:57,910 --> 00:16:56,399

that's according to

448

00:16:59,189 --> 00:16:57,920

kenneth foster

449

00:17:01,590 --> 00:16:59,199

who's the man

450

00:17:04,069 --> 00:17:01,600

who in the early 1970s first identified

451
00:17:06,390 --> 00:17:04,079
the mechanism in the fray effect he says

452
00:17:08,470 --> 00:17:06,400
and i was in contact with him recently

453
00:17:09,510 --> 00:17:08,480
it's definitely not the fray effect it

454
00:17:11,029 --> 00:17:09,520
can't be

455
00:17:13,110 --> 00:17:11,039
and why

456
00:17:15,510 --> 00:17:13,120
the panel didn't interview him but they

457
00:17:17,829 --> 00:17:15,520
interviewed some other scientists who

458
00:17:18,630 --> 00:17:17,839
have some pretty unconventional views as

459
00:17:20,230 --> 00:17:18,640
well

460
00:17:21,990 --> 00:17:20,240
is beyond me

461
00:17:23,590 --> 00:17:22,000
i think there was some politics involved

462
00:17:25,750 --> 00:17:23,600
there because

463
00:17:28,390 --> 00:17:25,760

a friend of mine who i've written four

464

00:17:30,630 --> 00:17:28,400

articles with and peer-reviewed medical

465

00:17:32,870 --> 00:17:30,640

journalists simon wesley at king's

466

00:17:34,870 --> 00:17:32,880

college london he was one of the

467

00:17:36,630 --> 00:17:34,880

scientists on the panel and he's an

468

00:17:38,710 --> 00:17:36,640

expert on mass psychogenic illness and

469

00:17:40,230 --> 00:17:38,720

i'm like yes there's an expert on mass

470

00:17:43,029 --> 00:17:40,240

psychogenic illness on the national

471

00:17:45,350 --> 00:17:43,039

academy of sciences panel he came out

472

00:17:46,630 --> 00:17:45,360

before the study was

473

00:17:48,390 --> 00:17:46,640

published

474

00:17:51,669 --> 00:17:48,400

and he gave an interview in which he

475

00:17:53,669 --> 00:17:51,679

said oh based on what i've seen i think

476

00:17:55,669 --> 00:17:53,679

the most likely explanation is mass

477

00:17:57,350 --> 00:17:55,679

psychogenic illness

478

00:18:00,310 --> 00:17:57,360

well

479

00:18:02,390 --> 00:18:00,320

shortly thereafter he was contacted and

480

00:18:05,350 --> 00:18:02,400

kicked off the panel

481

00:18:09,029 --> 00:18:05,360

to me that's politics driving it just

482

00:18:12,230 --> 00:18:09,039

like recently i mean very recently the

483

00:18:15,909 --> 00:18:12,240

head of the biden panel looking into

484

00:18:18,070 --> 00:18:15,919

havana syndrome ambassador spratlin she

485

00:18:21,430 --> 00:18:18,080

did a zoom interview with a number of

486

00:18:23,590 --> 00:18:21,440

havana syndrome patients and at the time

487

00:18:25,590 --> 00:18:23,600

the fbi report

488

00:18:27,990 --> 00:18:25,600

contents had just been leaked in which

489

00:18:30,150 --> 00:18:28,000

they concluded as we have that it's mass

490

00:18:31,669 --> 00:18:30,160

psychogenic illness and one of the

491

00:18:33,270 --> 00:18:31,679

patients said oh

492

00:18:35,590 --> 00:18:33,280

what do you think about that report that

493

00:18:36,710 --> 00:18:35,600

said it's mass psychogenic illness do

494

00:18:39,190 --> 00:18:36,720

you

495

00:18:41,350 --> 00:18:39,200

believe in that and she's like well i'm

496

00:18:43,270 --> 00:18:41,360

keeping an open mind i'm not ruling out

497

00:18:44,950 --> 00:18:43,280

possibility of mass psychogenic illness

498

00:18:47,190 --> 00:18:44,960

within days

499

00:18:49,430 --> 00:18:47,200

she was forced to resign there was an

500

00:18:51,750 --> 00:18:49,440

uproar that she was considering the

501
00:18:53,590 --> 00:18:51,760
possibility of mass psychogenic illness

502
00:18:54,630 --> 00:18:53,600
because they're not crazy

503
00:18:56,710 --> 00:18:54,640
and

504
00:18:59,510 --> 00:18:56,720
they don't have a mental illness but

505
00:19:01,990 --> 00:18:59,520
mass psychogenic illness is a collective

506
00:19:04,150 --> 00:19:02,000
stress response no one's saying you're

507
00:19:07,110 --> 00:19:04,160
crazy no one's saying you're mentally

508
00:19:10,630 --> 00:19:07,120
disturbed but the fact that the biden

509
00:19:12,310 --> 00:19:10,640
investigation is forcing her to resign

510
00:19:15,590 --> 00:19:12,320
shows me

511
00:19:18,150 --> 00:19:15,600
that it's being driven more by politics

512
00:19:19,350 --> 00:19:18,160
than by science and that's not a good

513
00:19:21,270 --> 00:19:19,360

thing

514

00:19:23,110 --> 00:19:21,280

so by politics uh is there someone who

515

00:19:25,590 --> 00:19:23,120

benefits from this or is it just simply

516

00:19:28,310 --> 00:19:25,600

about uh being nice to people and not

517

00:19:31,110 --> 00:19:28,320

being perceived as calling people crazy

518

00:19:33,669 --> 00:19:31,120

i feel like there's this kind of um

519

00:19:35,750 --> 00:19:33,679

great deference given to to the victims

520

00:19:37,430 --> 00:19:35,760

because in some ways they're serving the

521

00:19:41,590 --> 00:19:37,440

country and they've been injured in the

522

00:19:43,669 --> 00:19:41,600

line of duty and uh if we are to to kind

523

00:19:44,950 --> 00:19:43,679

of question their belief about what's

524

00:19:48,470 --> 00:19:44,960

wrong with them

525

00:19:50,310 --> 00:19:48,480

it's seen as a grave insult

526

00:19:53,029 --> 00:19:50,320

against them and do you think it's just

527

00:19:55,350 --> 00:19:53,039

simply the politicians being afraid

528

00:19:57,510 --> 00:19:55,360

of being uh being characterized in that

529

00:19:59,909 --> 00:19:57,520

way well same thing with gulf war

530

00:20:02,710 --> 00:19:59,919

syndrome right there's a lot of evidence

531

00:20:05,750 --> 00:20:02,720

that gulf war syndrome under that broad

532

00:20:08,710 --> 00:20:05,760

category that uh a lot of that

533

00:20:11,669 --> 00:20:08,720

involves psychogenic ailments and that's

534

00:20:14,149 --> 00:20:11,679

pretty mainstream science right now uh

535

00:20:16,230 --> 00:20:14,159

there's a lot of major figures that in

536

00:20:18,070 --> 00:20:16,240

in psychiatry and psychological medicine

537

00:20:20,390 --> 00:20:18,080

that would hold that view but i think

538

00:20:23,590 --> 00:20:20,400

there's something deeper here and that

539

00:20:25,110 --> 00:20:23,600

is look the fbi report concluded that it

540

00:20:27,190 --> 00:20:25,120

was mass psychogenic illness and they

541

00:20:29,510 --> 00:20:27,200

looked at the same evidence we did and

542

00:20:31,830 --> 00:20:29,520

everybody else looked at but that report

543

00:20:33,909 --> 00:20:31,840

wasn't leaked until recently and you

544

00:20:35,270 --> 00:20:33,919

don't see people from the fbi coming out

545

00:20:36,789 --> 00:20:35,280

and defending that

546

00:20:38,630 --> 00:20:36,799

and i'll tell you why

547

00:20:40,230 --> 00:20:38,640

because they're afraid

548

00:20:41,430 --> 00:20:40,240

they're afraid

549

00:20:43,190 --> 00:20:41,440

to utter

550

00:20:46,070 --> 00:20:43,200

the h word

551
00:20:48,470 --> 00:20:46,080
because they know what happens they saw

552
00:20:49,830 --> 00:20:48,480
what happened to ambassador spratlin

553
00:20:51,750 --> 00:20:49,840
when she mentioned

554
00:20:53,350 --> 00:20:51,760
uh that she was holding out the

555
00:20:57,029 --> 00:20:53,360
possibility it was mass psychogenic

556
00:20:58,390 --> 00:20:57,039
illness she was gone there was a outcry

557
00:20:59,750 --> 00:20:58,400
these people were

558
00:21:02,470 --> 00:20:59,760
furious

559
00:21:03,990 --> 00:21:02,480
and i think what's happened here is in

560
00:21:06,950 --> 00:21:04,000
both the trump administration and the

561
00:21:09,029 --> 00:21:06,960
biden administration you've got

562
00:21:10,230 --> 00:21:09,039
lifelong bureaucrats who are involved in

563
00:21:11,270 --> 00:21:10,240

this

564

00:21:12,470 --> 00:21:11,280

who

565

00:21:14,870 --> 00:21:12,480

mistook

566

00:21:16,549 --> 00:21:14,880

the mating calls of crickets and cicadas

567

00:21:17,990 --> 00:21:16,559

for a sonic attack

568

00:21:24,390 --> 00:21:18,000

that

569

00:21:26,470 --> 00:21:24,400

five years tens of millions of dollars

570

00:21:28,310 --> 00:21:26,480

and a lot of time and resources when we

571

00:21:31,590 --> 00:21:28,320

can use this better for global warming

572

00:21:33,669 --> 00:21:31,600

and a global pandemic and this is

573

00:21:35,909 --> 00:21:33,679

greatly embarrassing

574

00:21:37,590 --> 00:21:35,919

to the united states government you know

575

00:21:38,630 --> 00:21:37,600

one of the most powerful countries in

576
00:21:40,789 --> 00:21:38,640
the world

577
00:21:43,510 --> 00:21:40,799
misperceived the sounds of crickets and

578
00:21:45,430 --> 00:21:43,520
cicadas as a sonic attack and then that

579
00:21:46,789 --> 00:21:45,440
was discredited a microwave attack and

580
00:21:49,750 --> 00:21:46,799
now you're hearing people just saying an

581
00:21:52,390 --> 00:21:49,760
energy attack and uh as each one of

582
00:21:54,870 --> 00:21:52,400
these things get discredited and i just

583
00:21:57,990 --> 00:21:54,880
think it's greatly embarrassing because

584
00:22:00,230 --> 00:21:58,000
they botched this whole thing

585
00:22:01,990 --> 00:22:00,240
yeah i think uh

586
00:22:03,510 --> 00:22:02,000
part of the problem that you know we're

587
00:22:04,789 --> 00:22:03,520
getting this this huge amount of

588
00:22:07,190 --> 00:22:04,799

contention is that it's a fairly

589

00:22:09,350 --> 00:22:07,200

complicated subject and you do get these

590

00:22:11,270 --> 00:22:09,360

kind of competing scientists you get

591

00:22:13,750 --> 00:22:11,280

these these long reports from various

592

00:22:16,870 --> 00:22:13,760

people uh which to some degree are

593

00:22:19,190 --> 00:22:16,880

politically biased but also simply you

594

00:22:21,430 --> 00:22:19,200

know biased by the the perceptions of

595

00:22:23,430 --> 00:22:21,440

the people writing it you know i think

596

00:22:25,750 --> 00:22:23,440

you mentioned uh in the book or one of

597

00:22:27,430 --> 00:22:25,760

your articles that you know first they

598

00:22:29,909 --> 00:22:27,440

were saying they had this traumatic

599

00:22:31,270 --> 00:22:29,919

brain injury but then another group of

600

00:22:33,909 --> 00:22:31,280

scientists studied and they said they

601
00:22:35,510 --> 00:22:33,919
had some kind of inner ear damage uh

602
00:22:37,510 --> 00:22:35,520
because they were people who studied

603
00:22:40,470 --> 00:22:37,520
that type of thing and you know it was

604
00:22:43,750 --> 00:22:40,480
almost like you know whatever your

605
00:22:45,590 --> 00:22:43,760
specialty is you you find that as being

606
00:22:48,070 --> 00:22:45,600
the cause for it i'll tell you an

607
00:22:50,149 --> 00:22:48,080
interesting story when the first patient

608
00:22:51,590 --> 00:22:50,159
study was being conducted and they

609
00:22:54,070 --> 00:22:51,600
submitted it to the journal of the

610
00:22:55,350 --> 00:22:54,080
american medical association the editors

611
00:22:57,510 --> 00:22:55,360
at the journal of the american medical

612
00:22:59,510 --> 00:22:57,520
association contacted

613
00:23:01,270 --> 00:22:59,520

professor robert balo who i wrote the

614

00:23:03,750 --> 00:23:01,280

book of anna syndrome with

615

00:23:04,710 --> 00:23:03,760

and they asked him to review the study

616

00:23:08,470 --> 00:23:04,720

because

617

00:23:10,789 --> 00:23:08,480

he is an imminent neurologist he created

618

00:23:14,070 --> 00:23:10,799

some of the tests that were actually

619

00:23:16,549 --> 00:23:14,080

being used in the study and he read the

620

00:23:18,070 --> 00:23:16,559

study and he rejected it and they

621

00:23:19,990 --> 00:23:18,080

published it anyway

622

00:23:21,830 --> 00:23:20,000

and he just couldn't believe it and he

623

00:23:23,990 --> 00:23:21,840

told me recently and he said you know

624

00:23:26,390 --> 00:23:24,000

he's what's i think he's 79 years of age

625

00:23:28,710 --> 00:23:26,400

now he's had a long and storied career

626

00:23:30,230 --> 00:23:28,720

has a standard textbook on the inner ear

627

00:23:33,270 --> 00:23:30,240

he said to me he goes you know robert he

628

00:23:35,270 --> 00:23:33,280

said over my career i probably reviewed

629

00:23:36,710 --> 00:23:35,280

a thousand articles in peer-reviewed

630

00:23:37,630 --> 00:23:36,720

medical journals

631

00:23:40,070 --> 00:23:37,640

and

632

00:23:42,390 --> 00:23:40,080

999 of them

633

00:23:44,149 --> 00:23:42,400

when i review it they always show me the

634

00:23:47,269 --> 00:23:44,159

other reviews

635

00:23:49,430 --> 00:23:47,279

that only did not happen one time

636

00:23:52,310 --> 00:23:49,440

can you guess which time that didn't

637

00:23:54,230 --> 00:23:52,320

happen and that was the jama study they

638

00:23:56,710 --> 00:23:54,240

didn't show them the other reviews

639

00:23:59,190 --> 00:23:56,720

assuming there even were other reviews

640

00:24:01,750 --> 00:23:59,200

and that's really odd and then you have

641

00:24:04,070 --> 00:24:01,760

the national academy of sciences panel

642

00:24:05,990 --> 00:24:04,080

and then kicking simon wesley who is sir

643

00:24:07,990 --> 00:24:06,000

simon wesley an imminent expert in

644

00:24:10,950 --> 00:24:08,000

psychological medicine kicking him off

645

00:24:14,149 --> 00:24:10,960

the panel you start to get a pattern

646

00:24:16,710 --> 00:24:14,159

here that there's some kind of politics

647

00:24:18,310 --> 00:24:16,720

that's being mixed in with this so how

648

00:24:21,269 --> 00:24:18,320

do you think it's going to get resolved

649

00:24:23,029 --> 00:24:21,279

uh you the you've got this

650

00:24:24,710 --> 00:24:23,039

this group of people pushing a certain

651
00:24:27,350 --> 00:24:24,720
narrative but like you're saying in the

652
00:24:29,029 --> 00:24:27,360
wheels of science uh are turning

653
00:24:30,950 --> 00:24:29,039
uh what's actually going to happen in

654
00:24:32,950 --> 00:24:30,960
the future that will kind of like chew

655
00:24:34,549 --> 00:24:32,960
it up and actually spit it out for the

656
00:24:36,149 --> 00:24:34,559
world to see

657
00:24:37,430 --> 00:24:36,159
people keep saying to me oh they're

658
00:24:39,190 --> 00:24:37,440
never gonna they're never gonna figure

659
00:24:40,870 --> 00:24:39,200
this out they'll figure it out

660
00:24:42,710 --> 00:24:40,880
right as i said the wheels of science

661
00:24:44,630 --> 00:24:42,720
turn slowly but they turn

662
00:24:46,710 --> 00:24:44,640
and it's it's turning as we speak right

663
00:24:48,870 --> 00:24:46,720

now it's turning with this program

664

00:24:51,750 --> 00:24:48,880

people are starting to realize

665

00:24:53,750 --> 00:24:51,760

that uh these jama studies were flawed

666

00:24:56,630 --> 00:24:53,760

and i mean journalists as well that the

667

00:25:00,149 --> 00:24:56,640

national academy of sciences panel was

668

00:25:02,950 --> 00:25:00,159

flawed i think this is going to collapse

669

00:25:05,669 --> 00:25:02,960

in the relatively near future on its own

670

00:25:07,990 --> 00:25:05,679

dead weight i've looked at the history

671

00:25:09,110 --> 00:25:08,000

of mass psychogenic illness and social

672

00:25:11,750 --> 00:25:09,120

panics

673

00:25:13,510 --> 00:25:11,760

i've collected over 3 500 cases of mass

674

00:25:14,950 --> 00:25:13,520

psychogenic illness alone going back to

675

00:25:16,870 --> 00:25:14,960

the middle ages

676
00:25:18,630 --> 00:25:16,880
and with outbreaks particularly when

677
00:25:21,269 --> 00:25:18,640
they involve a social panic an

678
00:25:24,390 --> 00:25:21,279
exaggerated fear and threat you

679
00:25:26,870 --> 00:25:24,400
typically get these stages the initial

680
00:25:29,590 --> 00:25:26,880
stage the the peak stage i think we're

681
00:25:32,070 --> 00:25:29,600
past that now now we're in the decline

682
00:25:35,510 --> 00:25:32,080
stage and toward the end of the decline

683
00:25:39,430 --> 00:25:35,520
stage you start to get a series of

684
00:25:40,950 --> 00:25:39,440
major reports that are highly skeptical

685
00:25:42,390 --> 00:25:40,960
similar to what we're doing right now

686
00:25:44,950 --> 00:25:42,400
with this podcast

687
00:25:47,269 --> 00:25:44,960
you always can find a rogue scientist

688
00:25:49,029 --> 00:25:47,279

out there who believes in bigfoot or

689

00:25:50,950 --> 00:25:49,039

chupacabras or that people are being

690

00:25:53,110 --> 00:25:50,960

abducted by space aliens

691

00:25:56,310 --> 00:25:53,120

and some scientists you know you'll ask

692

00:25:58,470 --> 00:25:56,320

them their opinion and they'll speculate

693

00:26:01,190 --> 00:25:58,480

i'm telling you right now i'm not

694

00:26:03,590 --> 00:26:01,200

speculating i know that the two java

695

00:26:05,590 --> 00:26:03,600

studies were very poorly done and should

696

00:26:07,750 --> 00:26:05,600

never have been published i mean they

697

00:26:08,870 --> 00:26:07,760

have so many flaws they look like swiss

698

00:26:11,029 --> 00:26:08,880

cheese

699

00:26:13,350 --> 00:26:11,039

but journalists see jama and they go

700

00:26:15,190 --> 00:26:13,360

gaga and then the unfortunately the

701
00:26:16,630 --> 00:26:15,200
national academy of science is panel

702
00:26:18,789 --> 00:26:16,640
people see that and they think it must

703
00:26:20,950 --> 00:26:18,799
be true but i'll tell you a story about

704
00:26:23,909 --> 00:26:20,960
the national academy of sciences panel

705
00:26:26,630 --> 00:26:23,919
eight months before the panel findings

706
00:26:28,470 --> 00:26:26,640
came out we came out with our book

707
00:26:30,789 --> 00:26:28,480
and in the panel findings they said you

708
00:26:33,350 --> 00:26:30,799
know one of the major plausible

709
00:26:36,070 --> 00:26:33,360
explanations is mass psychogenic illness

710
00:26:39,110 --> 00:26:36,080
but unfortunately we can't assess that

711
00:26:40,350 --> 00:26:39,120
possibility because there

712
00:26:42,789 --> 00:26:40,360
is no

713
00:26:44,870 --> 00:26:42,799

epidemiological data they said that in

714

00:26:46,630 --> 00:26:44,880

their study like zero

715

00:26:49,510 --> 00:26:46,640

epidemiological

716

00:26:51,029 --> 00:26:49,520

uh data that they can look at on the

717

00:26:52,630 --> 00:26:51,039

early spread

718

00:26:55,430 --> 00:26:52,640

here is a study

719

00:26:56,789 --> 00:26:55,440

that's only 70 some odd pages long the

720

00:26:59,269 --> 00:26:56,799

main text

721

00:27:01,909 --> 00:26:59,279

that cites my research as an expert on

722

00:27:03,830 --> 00:27:01,919

mass psychogenic illness 11 times

723

00:27:08,470 --> 00:27:03,840

they're familiar with my literature and

724

00:27:10,630 --> 00:27:08,480

the literature in general yet they chose

725

00:27:11,590 --> 00:27:10,640

and there's i can't imagine they didn't

726
00:27:15,990 --> 00:27:11,600
see it

727
00:27:18,470 --> 00:27:16,000
they chose not to cite our book that was

728
00:27:21,630 --> 00:27:18,480
published eight months earlier that

729
00:27:23,669 --> 00:27:21,640
clearly outlined the early

730
00:27:27,590 --> 00:27:23,679
epidemiological spread

731
00:27:31,029 --> 00:27:27,600
of the symptoms how that happened is a

732
00:27:32,870 --> 00:27:31,039
good question for the members of that

733
00:27:35,430 --> 00:27:32,880
panel and

734
00:27:39,110 --> 00:27:35,440
i don't know how they would answer that

735
00:27:41,110 --> 00:27:39,120
but it's really curious and really odd

736
00:27:43,350 --> 00:27:41,120
that they didn't cite our book but they

737
00:27:46,430 --> 00:27:43,360
cited all those other studies and our

738
00:27:48,630 --> 00:27:46,440

book was the document that had the early

739

00:27:51,190 --> 00:27:48,640

epidemiological information on the

740

00:27:52,149 --> 00:27:51,200

spread and look what what they have to

741

00:27:54,710 --> 00:27:52,159

do

742

00:27:56,549 --> 00:27:54,720

in a case like this is you just have to

743

00:27:58,549 --> 00:27:56,559

follow the breadcrumbs

744

00:28:01,510 --> 00:27:58,559

look at the facts

745

00:28:03,269 --> 00:28:01,520

and what is it carl sagan said about

746

00:28:05,430 --> 00:28:03,279

people getting carried away wherever we

747

00:28:08,389 --> 00:28:05,440

have strong motions we're liable to fool

748

00:28:10,230 --> 00:28:08,399

ourselves to figure out this case you've

749

00:28:12,470 --> 00:28:10,240

got to go back to the beginning you've

750

00:28:14,549 --> 00:28:12,480

got to look at the historical context

751
00:28:17,990 --> 00:28:14,559
because all cases of mass psychogenic

752
00:28:20,389 --> 00:28:18,000
illness are couched in a social context

753
00:28:22,310 --> 00:28:20,399
as are all cases of social panics you've

754
00:28:25,590 --> 00:28:22,320
got to go back to that first report of

755
00:28:26,789 --> 00:28:25,600
patient zero it all started in this

756
00:28:29,750 --> 00:28:26,799
small

757
00:28:34,549 --> 00:28:29,760
unit of cia officers

758
00:28:36,870 --> 00:28:34,559
in havana in late 2016. and for weeks

759
00:28:39,510 --> 00:28:36,880
they had been hearing

760
00:28:41,669 --> 00:28:39,520
these mysterious sounds

761
00:28:43,990 --> 00:28:41,679
outside their homes at night and

762
00:28:46,230 --> 00:28:44,000
commenting like that's really unusual

763
00:28:47,350 --> 00:28:46,240

and almost seems like there's a beam of

764

00:28:50,070 --> 00:28:47,360

sound

765

00:28:52,549 --> 00:28:50,080

that's being pointed at our homes

766

00:28:53,750 --> 00:28:52,559

and then one day

767

00:28:55,590 --> 00:28:53,760

one of them

768

00:28:57,350 --> 00:28:55,600

wasn't feeling well

769

00:28:59,110 --> 00:28:57,360

and had a headache

770

00:29:02,070 --> 00:28:59,120

and ear pain

771

00:29:04,549 --> 00:29:02,080

and they went to the embassy clinic

772

00:29:06,070 --> 00:29:04,559

and he made a comment he said you know

773

00:29:08,310 --> 00:29:06,080

it's almost like someone's pointing a

774

00:29:10,950 --> 00:29:08,320

beam of light or a beam of sound at my

775

00:29:14,230 --> 00:29:10,960

house and a theory emerged that they

776

00:29:17,590 --> 00:29:14,240

were being harassed the cia agents

777

00:29:19,750 --> 00:29:17,600

by some new kind of sonic weapon and

778

00:29:21,909 --> 00:29:19,760

that quickly spread like wildfire

779

00:29:23,669 --> 00:29:21,919

through the american embassy now some of

780

00:29:25,110 --> 00:29:23,679

the researchers in these studies have

781

00:29:27,750 --> 00:29:25,120

said oh

782

00:29:29,990 --> 00:29:27,760

uh some of the patients that we talked

783

00:29:32,470 --> 00:29:30,000

to said that other people at the embassy

784

00:29:36,549 --> 00:29:32,480

didn't know about this until later that

785

00:29:38,470 --> 00:29:36,559

is absolutely categorically not true

786

00:29:40,789 --> 00:29:38,480

i've talked to and interviewed people at

787

00:29:42,310 --> 00:29:40,799

the embassy and they said

788

00:29:45,190 --> 00:29:42,320

everybody knew

789

00:29:46,710 --> 00:29:45,200

it spread like wildfire it was the worst

790

00:29:47,830 --> 00:29:46,720

kept secret

791

00:29:50,389 --> 00:29:47,840

and

792

00:29:52,870 --> 00:29:50,399

it later spread to the canadian embassy

793

00:29:54,470 --> 00:29:52,880

because the american embassy shared

794

00:29:56,630 --> 00:29:54,480

their information with the canadian

795

00:29:59,590 --> 00:29:56,640

embassy we know that for a fact there's

796

00:30:01,909 --> 00:29:59,600

documents out there on that and um so

797

00:30:03,830 --> 00:30:01,919

the early theory was they were harassing

798

00:30:05,590 --> 00:30:03,840

the diplomats with the sonic weapon and

799

00:30:08,310 --> 00:30:05,600

you might think to yourself that's

800

00:30:10,710 --> 00:30:08,320

really weird that's really odd that

801
00:30:12,230 --> 00:30:10,720
people would think that but you have to

802
00:30:14,549 --> 00:30:12,240
put yourself

803
00:30:16,870 --> 00:30:14,559
in their situation

804
00:30:18,549 --> 00:30:16,880
the idea that they were being harassed

805
00:30:21,830 --> 00:30:18,559
made sense to them

806
00:30:24,470 --> 00:30:21,840
because there's a long history of cuban

807
00:30:26,070 --> 00:30:24,480
agents harassing american diplomats

808
00:30:28,310 --> 00:30:26,080
going back decades

809
00:30:30,310 --> 00:30:28,320
all of the diplomats who were sent to

810
00:30:32,230 --> 00:30:30,320
the new embassy in havana

811
00:30:34,230 --> 00:30:32,240
in 2015

812
00:30:37,909 --> 00:30:34,240
had been briefed about it that during

813
00:30:40,710 --> 00:30:37,919

the cold war cuban agents were notorious

814

00:30:42,470 --> 00:30:40,720

for harassing americans they would sneak

815

00:30:44,710 --> 00:30:42,480

into their homes at night when they

816

00:30:45,990 --> 00:30:44,720

slept and open up all the windows and

817

00:30:47,750 --> 00:30:46,000

they'd wake up in the morning there'd be

818

00:30:49,110 --> 00:30:47,760

mosquitoes everywhere

819

00:30:51,029 --> 00:30:49,120

they would

820

00:30:52,950 --> 00:30:51,039

get up in the morning go downstairs and

821

00:30:55,110 --> 00:30:52,960

look on their kitchen table

822

00:30:57,110 --> 00:30:55,120

and there'd be cigarette butts

823

00:30:59,509 --> 00:30:57,120

and they don't smoke

824

00:31:01,430 --> 00:30:59,519

there'd be dog poo

825

00:31:03,669 --> 00:31:01,440

on your kitchen floor

826

00:31:05,509 --> 00:31:03,679

and you don't have a dog

827

00:31:09,029 --> 00:31:05,519

your books and your bookshelf would be

828

00:31:10,710 --> 00:31:09,039

rearranged you drive somewhere park and

829

00:31:13,269 --> 00:31:10,720

then when you go back to get into your

830

00:31:14,310 --> 00:31:13,279

car someone would have parked their car

831

00:31:17,029 --> 00:31:14,320

within

832

00:31:18,549 --> 00:31:17,039

a few centimeters of your car and you

833

00:31:20,630 --> 00:31:18,559

can't back out

834

00:31:22,310 --> 00:31:20,640

and so this would go on

835

00:31:24,149 --> 00:31:22,320

and that's why

836

00:31:25,750 --> 00:31:24,159

the early assumption by the state

837

00:31:29,029 --> 00:31:25,760

department was

838

00:31:31,190 --> 00:31:29,039

that they were most likely targeted by

839

00:31:33,990 --> 00:31:31,200

some kind of uh you know harassing

840

00:31:36,149 --> 00:31:34,000

weapon but what's the old saying

841

00:31:37,830 --> 00:31:36,159

there's an old saying for skeptics

842

00:31:39,350 --> 00:31:37,840

when you hear

843

00:31:42,230 --> 00:31:39,360

the sound

844

00:31:43,990 --> 00:31:42,240

of hoof beats in the night

845

00:31:45,269 --> 00:31:44,000

first think

846

00:31:48,710 --> 00:31:45,279

horses

847

00:31:50,470 --> 00:31:48,720

not zebras these people were looking for

848

00:31:51,590 --> 00:31:50,480

unicorns

849

00:31:53,269 --> 00:31:51,600

[Music]

850

00:31:54,950 --> 00:31:53,279

yeah but it's interesting because they

851

00:31:57,590 --> 00:31:54,960

in a way they didn't know about the

852

00:31:59,269 --> 00:31:57,600

horses in the the analogy because uh

853

00:32:01,269 --> 00:31:59,279

they were used to the zebras which are

854

00:32:03,350 --> 00:32:01,279

the kind of harassing people you know

855

00:32:05,029 --> 00:32:03,360

sneaking into their their rooms at night

856

00:32:07,669 --> 00:32:05,039

and so perhaps

857

00:32:09,430 --> 00:32:07,679

from their situation uh

858

00:32:10,870 --> 00:32:09,440

like like you were describing they were

859

00:32:13,110 --> 00:32:10,880

kind of primed

860

00:32:15,269 --> 00:32:13,120

to look for something like a zebra uh

861

00:32:18,149 --> 00:32:15,279

something that was actually harassing

862

00:32:20,149 --> 00:32:18,159

them rather than just real symptoms

863

00:32:22,149 --> 00:32:20,159

the first guy you know the patient zero

864

00:32:23,990 --> 00:32:22,159

you know he you described him as like he

865

00:32:25,909 --> 00:32:24,000

has a headache or whatever and he goes

866

00:32:27,269 --> 00:32:25,919

and talks to the doctor and describes

867

00:32:28,950 --> 00:32:27,279

what was happening

868

00:32:30,870 --> 00:32:28,960

for him that was like some real symptom

869

00:32:33,190 --> 00:32:30,880

i mean that wasn't you know

870

00:32:34,710 --> 00:32:33,200

a psychosomatic uh

871

00:32:36,870 --> 00:32:34,720

event of some sort that was something

872

00:32:38,710 --> 00:32:36,880

that was actually wrong with him and

873

00:32:40,310 --> 00:32:38,720

that's something i think that happens

874

00:32:41,110 --> 00:32:40,320

obviously with a lot of the people is

875

00:32:43,430 --> 00:32:41,120

that

876

00:32:45,350 --> 00:32:43,440

the symptoms they feel are are real like

877

00:32:47,430 --> 00:32:45,360

if someone has tinnitus

878

00:32:48,870 --> 00:32:47,440

uh it doesn't mean they're imagining it

879

00:32:50,549 --> 00:32:48,880

you know these are actually real

880

00:32:53,269 --> 00:32:50,559

physical things that are wrong with

881

00:32:55,190 --> 00:32:53,279

people and that's i think a big part of

882

00:32:56,710 --> 00:32:55,200

the problem

883

00:32:58,950 --> 00:32:56,720

that where we get this contested

884

00:33:00,630 --> 00:32:58,960

causation because people get very angry

885

00:33:02,630 --> 00:33:00,640

whether you think you're saying it's all

886

00:33:05,430 --> 00:33:02,640

in your head when really it isn't

887

00:33:07,750 --> 00:33:05,440

because the symptoms are real symptoms

888

00:33:10,389 --> 00:33:07,760

that's exactly right that's very

889

00:33:12,470 --> 00:33:10,399

perceptive and certainly

890

00:33:15,669 --> 00:33:12,480

some of what's happened in cuba is a

891

00:33:17,269 --> 00:33:15,679

redefining of everyday aches and pains

892

00:33:19,269 --> 00:33:17,279

or some ailment you're going to get in

893

00:33:21,029 --> 00:33:19,279

anyway and that's what's going on

894

00:33:22,950 --> 00:33:21,039

globally you know you got what happened

895

00:33:24,630 --> 00:33:22,960

in cuba which is

896

00:33:26,789 --> 00:33:24,640

primarily mass psychogenic illness

897

00:33:29,110 --> 00:33:26,799

involving neurological symptoms and then

898

00:33:32,789 --> 00:33:29,120

what you've got going on globally in

899

00:33:34,950 --> 00:33:32,799

2018 you had the incident in china at

900

00:33:36,630 --> 00:33:34,960

various diplomatic missions and

901
00:33:37,909 --> 00:33:36,640
embassies of the united states where

902
00:33:41,430 --> 00:33:37,919
people were claiming they had some

903
00:33:44,630 --> 00:33:41,440
unusual symptoms and then afterwards the

904
00:33:46,070 --> 00:33:44,640
state department issued this

905
00:33:47,190 --> 00:33:46,080
global alert

906
00:33:49,909 --> 00:33:47,200
to their

907
00:33:52,630 --> 00:33:49,919
embassy staff and intelligence officers

908
00:33:55,750 --> 00:33:52,640
around the world to be on the lookout

909
00:33:58,389 --> 00:33:55,760
for anomalous health incidents and they

910
00:34:00,870 --> 00:33:58,399
list the symptoms in havana syndrome

911
00:34:02,389 --> 00:34:00,880
which is a laundry list of symptoms that

912
00:34:03,909 --> 00:34:02,399
are very common

913
00:34:06,549 --> 00:34:03,919

and they also said if you hear an

914

00:34:09,270 --> 00:34:06,559

unusual sound or feel heat

915

00:34:11,349 --> 00:34:09,280

um that could be part of it as well so

916

00:34:14,389 --> 00:34:11,359

what you've got here now

917

00:34:16,710 --> 00:34:14,399

is a global experiment

918

00:34:18,470 --> 00:34:16,720

in mass suggestion

919

00:34:20,389 --> 00:34:18,480

and there's an old saying speaker of the

920

00:34:21,430 --> 00:34:20,399

devil and he's bound to appear

921

00:34:23,669 --> 00:34:21,440

now

922

00:34:26,550 --> 00:34:23,679

any diplomat or intelligence officer

923

00:34:28,790 --> 00:34:26,560

anywhere in the world who has

924

00:34:30,470 --> 00:34:28,800

an unusual health incident and i'm sure

925

00:34:32,310 --> 00:34:30,480

there's millions and millions of people

926

00:34:35,030 --> 00:34:32,320

around the world who every day have

927

00:34:37,270 --> 00:34:35,040

unusual health incidents they're

928

00:34:39,510 --> 00:34:37,280

immediately thinking havana syndrome and

929

00:34:42,550 --> 00:34:39,520

now more recently you've got the

930

00:34:45,589 --> 00:34:42,560

department of defense sending letters to

931

00:34:49,349 --> 00:34:45,599

2.9 million service personnel who served

932

00:34:52,389 --> 00:34:49,359

in the united states and contractors to

933

00:34:54,710 --> 00:34:52,399

please report any anomalous health

934

00:34:57,190 --> 00:34:54,720

incidents to them and

935

00:34:59,910 --> 00:34:57,200

look i smell

936

00:35:01,829 --> 00:34:59,920

potential compensation here too right

937

00:35:04,710 --> 00:35:01,839

like not only are people going to be

938

00:35:07,510 --> 00:35:04,720

redefining a variety of mundane symptoms

939

00:35:09,670 --> 00:35:07,520

or even non-mundane symptoms as havana

940

00:35:12,470 --> 00:35:09,680

syndrome related there's also a

941

00:35:15,190 --> 00:35:12,480

possibility that you could get some

942

00:35:19,589 --> 00:35:15,200

potential legal compensation here

943

00:35:21,910 --> 00:35:19,599

so this is a recipe for i predict tens

944

00:35:25,190 --> 00:35:21,920

of thousands of cases are going to be

945

00:35:27,030 --> 00:35:25,200

reported over the next few months to the

946

00:35:28,069 --> 00:35:27,040

state department of people all over the

947

00:35:30,550 --> 00:35:28,079

world

948

00:35:32,870 --> 00:35:30,560

american service personnel claiming that

949

00:35:36,150 --> 00:35:32,880

they were victims of havana syndrome

950

00:35:38,390 --> 00:35:36,160

yeah and yeah i think um you know i'm

951

00:35:41,030 --> 00:35:38,400

getting old here and

952

00:35:43,510 --> 00:35:41,040

as you get older you start having

953

00:35:45,910 --> 00:35:43,520

unusual health events

954

00:35:47,990 --> 00:35:45,920

and if it's the first time that has ever

955

00:35:51,589 --> 00:35:48,000

happened to you it can seem like a very

956

00:35:53,430 --> 00:35:51,599

strange thing like uh ocular migraines

957

00:35:55,910 --> 00:35:53,440

which are extremely strange the first

958

00:35:58,150 --> 00:35:55,920

time they happen and you could very

959

00:36:00,790 --> 00:35:58,160

easily imagine that your brain is being

960

00:36:03,910 --> 00:36:00,800

zapped by some uh microwave weapon

961

00:36:05,910 --> 00:36:03,920

because you see this weird crawling uh

962

00:36:07,430 --> 00:36:05,920

in your your vision that you can't see

963

00:36:08,870 --> 00:36:07,440

around and it

964

00:36:10,390 --> 00:36:08,880

doesn't go away and then you start to

965

00:36:13,750 --> 00:36:10,400

get these headaches

966

00:36:15,270 --> 00:36:13,760

um but there will be people because

967

00:36:16,310 --> 00:36:15,280

everyone's getting older who are going

968

00:36:18,630 --> 00:36:16,320

to start

969

00:36:19,910 --> 00:36:18,640

having these these weird sensations like

970

00:36:23,190 --> 00:36:19,920

i had

971

00:36:24,950 --> 00:36:23,200

this phantom cell phone sensations like

972

00:36:26,630 --> 00:36:24,960

you think you your phone is buzzing in

973

00:36:28,230 --> 00:36:26,640

your your your

974

00:36:30,230 --> 00:36:28,240

pocket but it's not

975

00:36:32,710 --> 00:36:30,240

and people will start attributing that

976

00:36:35,710 --> 00:36:32,720

to these things so i think you're right

977

00:36:37,430 --> 00:36:35,720

if it maintains this kind of aura of

978

00:36:39,750 --> 00:36:37,440

respectability

979

00:36:41,750 --> 00:36:39,760

that this is a real thing then we're

980

00:36:43,190 --> 00:36:41,760

going to get a lot of cases

981

00:36:44,550 --> 00:36:43,200

yeah you know for

982

00:36:47,030 --> 00:36:44,560

all my life

983

00:36:49,109 --> 00:36:47,040

maybe twice a year i and i grew up on a

984

00:36:51,510 --> 00:36:49,119

farm in upstate new york i'd be sitting

985

00:36:54,470 --> 00:36:51,520

there and all of a sudden i'd hear this

986

00:36:57,750 --> 00:36:54,480

like high-pitched sound and my hearing

987

00:36:59,910 --> 00:36:57,760

would just disappear for a few seconds

988

00:37:01,510 --> 00:36:59,920

and then maybe after 15 or 20 seconds it

989

00:37:05,030 --> 00:37:01,520

would be over

990

00:37:06,470 --> 00:37:05,040

and i often wondered what that was

991

00:37:08,950 --> 00:37:06,480

and then as i was writing the book i

992

00:37:10,870 --> 00:37:08,960

mentioned it to professor balo at ucla

993

00:37:13,430 --> 00:37:10,880

and he goes oh because that's transient

994

00:37:15,589 --> 00:37:13,440

tinnitus because that's very common

995

00:37:18,150 --> 00:37:15,599

and uh since then i've asked my students

996

00:37:20,550 --> 00:37:18,160

uh has anybody ever had a sensation like

997

00:37:23,109 --> 00:37:20,560

that in more than half the hands usually

998

00:37:24,470 --> 00:37:23,119

about two-thirds of the hands are raised

999

00:37:26,710 --> 00:37:24,480

and there's quite a few students who say

1000

00:37:27,910 --> 00:37:26,720

they get it two or three times a month

1001

00:37:29,910 --> 00:37:27,920

um

1002

00:37:31,670 --> 00:37:29,920

it's just very common but you know you

1003

00:37:33,829 --> 00:37:31,680

kind of forget about it and then it

1004

00:37:35,109 --> 00:37:33,839

happens again and if somebody had told

1005

00:37:38,390 --> 00:37:35,119

me oh

1006

00:37:41,030 --> 00:37:38,400

you uh could be the subject of a sonic

1007

00:37:42,390 --> 00:37:41,040

or microwave attack and then that

1008

00:37:45,270 --> 00:37:42,400

happens

1009

00:37:47,910 --> 00:37:45,280

then you can easily redefine that just

1010

00:37:50,710 --> 00:37:47,920

like people go outside all the time

1011

00:37:52,390 --> 00:37:50,720

they look up at the sky they see venus

1012

00:37:54,230 --> 00:37:52,400

they look at the woods

1013

00:37:55,109 --> 00:37:54,240

they see trees

1014

00:37:58,870 --> 00:37:55,119

and

1015

00:38:01,430 --> 00:37:58,880

they don't ordinarily think ufo or

1016

00:38:02,950 --> 00:38:01,440

bigfoot but if there's a flap going on

1017

00:38:05,510 --> 00:38:02,960

and people are claiming to see it in

1018

00:38:07,430 --> 00:38:05,520

your area you can easily

1019

00:38:08,950 --> 00:38:07,440

start then staring at venus when you

1020

00:38:10,630 --> 00:38:08,960

ordinarily don't and it can appear to

1021

00:38:13,670 --> 00:38:10,640

move with the auto kinetic effect you

1022

00:38:16,310 --> 00:38:13,680

know as we know human perception is very

1023

00:38:18,710 --> 00:38:16,320

fallible and subject to error human

1024

00:38:20,950 --> 00:38:18,720

beings often see things that aren't

1025

00:38:22,630 --> 00:38:20,960

there hear things that aren't there

1026

00:38:23,670 --> 00:38:22,640

experience things that that didn't

1027

00:38:25,349 --> 00:38:23,680

happen

1028

00:38:27,430 --> 00:38:25,359

yeah and if you haven't experienced it

1029

00:38:29,990 --> 00:38:27,440

uh it's it's

1030

00:38:31,589 --> 00:38:30,000

very very strange there was actually a

1031

00:38:33,910 --> 00:38:31,599

i was going to mention this earlier in

1032

00:38:35,430 --> 00:38:33,920

the context of the media uh kind of i

1033

00:38:37,030 --> 00:38:35,440

think there's a little bit of a sea

1034

00:38:39,270 --> 00:38:37,040

change in the media there was an article

1035

00:38:41,349 --> 00:38:39,280

today by philip bump

1036

00:38:43,829 --> 00:38:41,359

in the washington post

1037

00:38:46,470 --> 00:38:43,839

and he was basically making the case for

1038

00:38:49,270 --> 00:38:46,480

the skeptical uh point of view basically

1039

00:38:51,109 --> 00:38:49,280

putting your your argument forward and

1040

00:38:52,710 --> 00:38:51,119

the washington post previous i think all

1041

00:38:54,550 --> 00:38:52,720

of their articles have been very much

1042

00:38:57,270 --> 00:38:54,560

you know on the train of havana syndrome

1043

00:38:59,510 --> 00:38:57,280

is is is some kind of energy weapon type

1044

00:39:00,630 --> 00:38:59,520

thing but philip bump uh he starts out

1045

00:39:03,030 --> 00:39:00,640

describing

1046

00:39:04,150 --> 00:39:03,040

how when he was younger he had a panic

1047

00:39:05,750 --> 00:39:04,160

attack

1048

00:39:07,589 --> 00:39:05,760

and when he first happened to him he

1049

00:39:09,270 --> 00:39:07,599

didn't know what was happening he just

1050

00:39:10,950 --> 00:39:09,280

he just felt like he was dying and he

1051
00:39:12,310 --> 00:39:10,960
couldn't breathe and he was his heart

1052
00:39:14,470 --> 00:39:12,320
was racing

1053
00:39:16,150 --> 00:39:14,480
and he was saying essentially the same

1054
00:39:18,550 --> 00:39:16,160
thing that this

1055
00:39:20,950 --> 00:39:18,560
uh is something that you could very

1056
00:39:23,030 --> 00:39:20,960
easily be convinced that this panic

1057
00:39:26,150 --> 00:39:23,040
attack if you've never had it before was

1058
00:39:27,990 --> 00:39:26,160
some kind of of actual attack as from

1059
00:39:31,510 --> 00:39:28,000
you know if people said this is the

1060
00:39:33,270 --> 00:39:31,520
symptoms of being hit by a beam then you

1061
00:39:35,190 --> 00:39:33,280
know you would take it as that

1062
00:39:37,109 --> 00:39:35,200
lots of people who have panic attacks

1063
00:39:38,870 --> 00:39:37,119

they think it's a heart attack

1064

00:39:40,790 --> 00:39:38,880

simply because they've never had a panic

1065

00:39:42,230 --> 00:39:40,800

attack before and you know later they

1066

00:39:44,230 --> 00:39:42,240

start to recognize the symptoms of a

1067

00:39:45,910 --> 00:39:44,240

panic attack but like i was saying

1068

00:39:48,630 --> 00:39:45,920

earlier there's always going to be this

1069

00:39:50,870 --> 00:39:48,640

some person who has some experience for

1070

00:39:52,870 --> 00:39:50,880

the first time and for them it's very

1071

00:39:55,910 --> 00:39:52,880

novel and very frightening and that is

1072

00:39:57,510 --> 00:39:55,920

going to lead to you know in combination

1073

00:39:58,950 --> 00:39:57,520

with the doctors saying look out for

1074

00:40:00,790 --> 00:39:58,960

strange symptoms

1075

00:40:02,470 --> 00:40:00,800

they are going to get uh

1076

00:40:04,550 --> 00:40:02,480

that belief you know building up from

1077

00:40:07,190 --> 00:40:04,560

that just think about it you've had

1078

00:40:09,990 --> 00:40:07,200

reports now in like 14 or 15 countries

1079

00:40:11,430 --> 00:40:10,000

so there's somebody from russia or china

1080

00:40:13,589 --> 00:40:11,440

that's got some

1081

00:40:16,150 --> 00:40:13,599

microwave device and they're taking it

1082

00:40:18,790 --> 00:40:16,160

down to colombia yeah and pointing it at

1083

00:40:21,270 --> 00:40:18,800

some diplomats family at night while the

1084

00:40:23,190 --> 00:40:21,280

woman's washing the dishes or taking it

1085

00:40:25,990 --> 00:40:23,200

to kyrgyzstan

1086

00:40:27,910 --> 00:40:26,000

and poland and all these different it

1087

00:40:30,150 --> 00:40:27,920

just and i think

1088

00:40:32,150 --> 00:40:30,160

well some people have said to me oh

1089

00:40:34,069 --> 00:40:32,160

all these cases now it's just proof that

1090

00:40:35,829 --> 00:40:34,079

it's true no it's not

1091

00:40:37,190 --> 00:40:35,839

it's kind of like somebody claiming to

1092

00:40:38,950 --> 00:40:37,200

see bigfoot

1093

00:40:41,270 --> 00:40:38,960

outside your home and then there's

1094

00:40:42,710 --> 00:40:41,280

another sighting like 50 miles away and

1095

00:40:44,150 --> 00:40:42,720

another one over here another one over

1096

00:40:47,430 --> 00:40:44,160

here next thing i've already seen

1097

00:40:49,589 --> 00:40:47,440

bigfoot it um to me it's evidence that

1098

00:40:51,750 --> 00:40:49,599

it's not real but the other frustrating

1099

00:40:53,270 --> 00:40:51,760

thing is people keep saying to me oh but

1100

00:40:54,230 --> 00:40:53,280

the government has some kind of secret

1101
00:40:56,309 --> 00:40:54,240
weapon

1102
00:40:57,670 --> 00:40:56,319
um they've been working on microwaves

1103
00:41:00,069 --> 00:40:57,680
and they've been working on acoustical

1104
00:41:03,030 --> 00:41:00,079
weapons the literature on these weapons

1105
00:41:04,470 --> 00:41:03,040
shows they don't work very well

1106
00:41:06,470 --> 00:41:04,480
and

1107
00:41:08,150 --> 00:41:06,480
they haven't been developed very well

1108
00:41:11,910 --> 00:41:08,160
and there's something called the laws of

1109
00:41:14,630 --> 00:41:11,920
physics you simply cannot target a

1110
00:41:16,630 --> 00:41:14,640
specific individual from a distance

1111
00:41:20,150 --> 00:41:16,640
inside a large hotel

1112
00:41:22,230 --> 00:41:20,160
with a microwave or sonic weapon i mean

1113
00:41:25,349 --> 00:41:22,240

it just doesn't work yeah i think

1114

00:41:27,430 --> 00:41:25,359

another big strike against the theory is

1115

00:41:29,190 --> 00:41:27,440

it varies a lot by individual like some

1116

00:41:30,470 --> 00:41:29,200

people hear a noise and some people

1117

00:41:31,829 --> 00:41:30,480

don't hear a noise if you look at the

1118

00:41:34,150 --> 00:41:31,839

list of people in in one of those

1119

00:41:36,230 --> 00:41:34,160

studies where they they broke it down by

1120

00:41:37,829 --> 00:41:36,240

you know who heard what

1121

00:41:39,910 --> 00:41:37,839

some people heard a high pitched noise

1122

00:41:41,349 --> 00:41:39,920

some people heard a low pitch noise and

1123

00:41:43,030 --> 00:41:41,359

within those there were different

1124

00:41:44,790 --> 00:41:43,040

different versions when they described

1125

00:41:46,829 --> 00:41:44,800

it as like grinding or scraping or

1126
00:41:49,829 --> 00:41:46,839
beeping some people didn't hear any

1127
00:41:51,670 --> 00:41:49,839
noise and then the symptoms that come

1128
00:41:53,829 --> 00:41:51,680
from that are also very different and

1129
00:41:54,870 --> 00:41:53,839
you would expect if it's a syndrome

1130
00:41:56,710 --> 00:41:54,880
that

1131
00:41:58,710 --> 00:41:56,720
it would be the same thing and this is

1132
00:42:01,270 --> 00:41:58,720
this is this type of thing we we saw in

1133
00:42:04,870 --> 00:42:01,280
the past with with morgellons disease

1134
00:42:07,589 --> 00:42:04,880
is that you get this wide variety

1135
00:42:09,750 --> 00:42:07,599
of symptoms and because people want to

1136
00:42:11,190 --> 00:42:09,760
kind of get into on it now they want to

1137
00:42:13,190 --> 00:42:11,200
have this good explanation for what's

1138
00:42:15,430 --> 00:42:13,200

going on and so they they try to

1139

00:42:17,190 --> 00:42:15,440

shoehorn everything into it so with more

1140

00:42:19,589 --> 00:42:17,200

gallons it ended up you know morgan

1141

00:42:21,430 --> 00:42:19,599

started out as this disease where fibers

1142

00:42:23,990 --> 00:42:21,440

were coming from people's skin

1143

00:42:26,630 --> 00:42:24,000

and they ended up with a kind of an a

1144

00:42:28,150 --> 00:42:26,640

fiber uh version of morgellons where you

1145

00:42:29,349 --> 00:42:28,160

have more gallons but you don't have the

1146

00:42:31,589 --> 00:42:29,359

fibers

1147

00:42:32,870 --> 00:42:31,599

but you know what was that it was it but

1148

00:42:34,230 --> 00:42:32,880

they just ended up shoehorning

1149

00:42:35,349 --> 00:42:34,240

everything in and that's happened i

1150

00:42:37,270 --> 00:42:35,359

think with

1151
00:42:39,670 --> 00:42:37,280
with havana syndrome

1152
00:42:43,030 --> 00:42:39,680
is that it becomes very

1153
00:42:45,190 --> 00:42:43,040
encompassing it it almost like it's just

1154
00:42:47,510 --> 00:42:45,200
something a bit strange happens and you

1155
00:42:49,109 --> 00:42:47,520
don't feel well

1156
00:42:50,710 --> 00:42:49,119
it doesn't really make any sense in

1157
00:42:52,470 --> 00:42:50,720
terms of you know nailing it down for

1158
00:42:55,510 --> 00:42:52,480
what's going on

1159
00:42:58,390 --> 00:42:55,520
this is a classic case of bad science

1160
00:43:01,349 --> 00:42:58,400
shoddy journalism and bad government for

1161
00:43:04,550 --> 00:43:01,359
example some of the interviews that were

1162
00:43:06,470 --> 00:43:04,560
given by people associated with the jama

1163
00:43:08,710 --> 00:43:06,480

study one of the researchers was saying

1164

00:43:10,150 --> 00:43:08,720

well it can't be mass psychogenic

1165

00:43:12,710 --> 00:43:10,160

illness because there was no evidence

1166

00:43:14,230 --> 00:43:12,720

that the patients were colluding

1167

00:43:16,069 --> 00:43:14,240

i mean i mean

1168

00:43:18,309 --> 00:43:16,079

that's that's ridiculous they may be

1169

00:43:21,270 --> 00:43:18,319

licensed neurologists and experts on

1170

00:43:23,510 --> 00:43:21,280

neurology but they that's like going to

1171

00:43:25,270 --> 00:43:23,520

a geologist and saying there's no such

1172

00:43:26,710 --> 00:43:25,280

thing as earthquakes or something i mean

1173

00:43:29,510 --> 00:43:26,720

it's so far

1174

00:43:30,950 --> 00:43:29,520

removed from mainstream science that's

1175

00:43:32,790 --> 00:43:30,960

kind of you know they don't know the

1176

00:43:36,069 --> 00:43:32,800

literature on mass psychogenic illness

1177

00:43:38,470 --> 00:43:36,079

there's one researcher beatrice golub at

1178

00:43:40,950 --> 00:43:38,480

the university of san diego she was the

1179

00:43:43,510 --> 00:43:40,960

first one to propose publicly the

1180

00:43:45,190 --> 00:43:43,520

microwave explanation i asked her at a

1181

00:43:46,550 --> 00:43:45,200

conference i said so what do you think

1182

00:43:48,870 --> 00:43:46,560

of the mass psychogenic illness

1183

00:43:50,470 --> 00:43:48,880

explanation she said uh she doesn't

1184

00:43:51,829 --> 00:43:50,480

believe in mass psychogenic illness she

1185

00:43:52,950 --> 00:43:51,839

doesn't believe it's a real thing and

1186

00:43:55,109 --> 00:43:52,960

i'm like

1187

00:43:57,109 --> 00:43:55,119

but a quarter of all patients who go to

1188

00:43:58,870 --> 00:43:57,119

neurologists are diagnosed with

1189

00:44:00,470 --> 00:43:58,880

functional neurological neurological

1190

00:44:03,270 --> 00:44:00,480

disorders they don't have any

1191

00:44:06,230 --> 00:44:03,280

identifiable organic condition

1192

00:44:08,550 --> 00:44:06,240

and um you know that's extreme it's hard

1193

00:44:10,630 --> 00:44:08,560

to believe that there are medical

1194

00:44:13,990 --> 00:44:10,640

professionals out there

1195

00:44:16,309 --> 00:44:14,000

in the year 2021 who believe that uh

1196

00:44:17,430 --> 00:44:16,319

mass psychogenic illness is an imaginary

1197

00:44:18,710 --> 00:44:17,440

condition

1198

00:44:20,230 --> 00:44:18,720

it it's almost like they're portraying

1199

00:44:21,910 --> 00:44:20,240

like like like you are a french

1200

00:44:23,349 --> 00:44:21,920

scientist and you know all this this

1201

00:44:25,109 --> 00:44:23,359

previous work that we've had on mass

1202

00:44:26,630 --> 00:44:25,119

psychogenic illness is some kind of like

1203

00:44:28,710 --> 00:44:26,640

strange fringe

1204

00:44:31,430 --> 00:44:28,720

uh is this is there kind of like a

1205

00:44:33,589 --> 00:44:31,440

divide amongst doctors

1206

00:44:35,589 --> 00:44:33,599

uh as and medical professionals as to

1207

00:44:37,349 --> 00:44:35,599

the kind of the general acceptance of

1208

00:44:38,309 --> 00:44:37,359

the existence of mass psychogenic

1209

00:44:40,790 --> 00:44:38,319

illness

1210

00:44:43,270 --> 00:44:40,800

look that is the first time i have ever

1211

00:44:45,589 --> 00:44:43,280

encountered a medical professional in my

1212

00:44:48,309 --> 00:44:45,599

life doubting the existence of mass

1213

00:44:50,390 --> 00:44:48,319

psychogenic illness i mean it's just

1214

00:44:52,150 --> 00:44:50,400

so well documented throughout throughout

1215

00:44:54,390 --> 00:44:52,160

history what about departments of

1216

00:44:55,910 --> 00:44:54,400

psychological medicine it's just an

1217

00:44:58,790 --> 00:44:55,920

extreme

1218

00:45:02,150 --> 00:44:58,800

radical unconventional position for

1219

00:45:04,390 --> 00:45:02,160

someone to take who is in a at a major

1220

00:45:06,710 --> 00:45:04,400

university and holding a position in in

1221

00:45:09,270 --> 00:45:06,720

medicine i mean it's just highly unusual

1222

00:45:11,349 --> 00:45:09,280

it would be up there with john mack who

1223

00:45:13,190 --> 00:45:11,359

was at harvard the psychiatrist

1224

00:45:15,430 --> 00:45:13,200

believing and that people are being

1225

00:45:18,390 --> 00:45:15,440

abducted by space aliens or the

1226

00:45:20,069 --> 00:45:18,400

anthropologists um his last name is

1227

00:45:22,550 --> 00:45:20,079

meldrum is at one of the universities

1228

00:45:25,670 --> 00:45:22,560

who who believes in bigfoot i mean

1229

00:45:28,230 --> 00:45:25,680

that's where i would parallel uh golob's

1230

00:45:31,270 --> 00:45:28,240

uh position there i mean it's certainly

1231

00:45:33,670 --> 00:45:31,280

very very rare that medical

1232

00:45:37,349 --> 00:45:33,680

professionals would would hold such a

1233

00:45:39,270 --> 00:45:37,359

unusual unconventional position

1234

00:45:42,150 --> 00:45:39,280

and yeah that seems to be the position

1235

00:45:44,470 --> 00:45:42,160

that the the politicians have kind of

1236

00:45:47,510 --> 00:45:44,480

glommed onto and they're kind of

1237

00:45:51,109 --> 00:45:47,520

preferring that and promoting it

1238

00:45:52,710 --> 00:45:51,119

uh so how do we how do we or how do you

1239

00:45:55,030 --> 00:45:52,720

how do you move forward with this how do

1240

00:45:56,230 --> 00:45:55,040

we actually uh get past this i mean you

1241

00:45:59,030 --> 00:45:56,240

you talk about you know the wheels of

1242

00:46:01,109 --> 00:45:59,040

science doing their natural thing but is

1243

00:46:03,510 --> 00:46:01,119

there some uh approach we should be

1244

00:46:06,150 --> 00:46:03,520

doing in educating the media

1245

00:46:08,550 --> 00:46:06,160

uh and and even medical professionals as

1246

00:46:10,470 --> 00:46:08,560

to you know what's actually going on

1247

00:46:12,309 --> 00:46:10,480

well professor balon myself would be

1248

00:46:14,950 --> 00:46:12,319

happy to testify before the senate

1249

00:46:16,950 --> 00:46:14,960

foreign relations committee and honestly

1250

00:46:18,790 --> 00:46:16,960

i think that that would be the end of

1251
00:46:20,630 --> 00:46:18,800
havana syndrome i really do because we

1252
00:46:22,870 --> 00:46:20,640
would point out what's been going on

1253
00:46:25,829 --> 00:46:22,880
here but i get a sense

1254
00:46:28,309 --> 00:46:25,839
over the past week that uh a lot of the

1255
00:46:30,790 --> 00:46:28,319
media now is starting to turn skeptical

1256
00:46:33,349 --> 00:46:30,800
there are some major articles coming out

1257
00:46:34,950 --> 00:46:33,359
that are much more skeptical because the

1258
00:46:36,790 --> 00:46:34,960
assumption always is when you say

1259
00:46:38,069 --> 00:46:36,800
psychogenic illness this guy doesn't

1260
00:46:39,589 --> 00:46:38,079
know what he's talking about what about

1261
00:46:40,470 --> 00:46:39,599
the brain damage what about the hearing

1262
00:46:41,430 --> 00:46:40,480
loss

1263
00:46:44,550 --> 00:46:41,440

not

1264

00:46:45,670 --> 00:46:44,560

true when you actually take the time

1265

00:46:48,870 --> 00:46:45,680

to

1266

00:46:50,230 --> 00:46:48,880

look at those claims absolutely i would

1267

00:46:51,190 --> 00:46:50,240

bet my life

1268

00:46:53,030 --> 00:46:51,200

that

1269

00:46:55,510 --> 00:46:53,040

i just i know i've seen the studies it's

1270

00:46:57,910 --> 00:46:55,520

not true it has not been demonstrated

1271

00:46:59,589 --> 00:46:57,920

it's not speculation you've got the

1272

00:47:02,550 --> 00:46:59,599

situation where

1273

00:47:04,950 --> 00:47:02,560

now we know because the fbi report has

1274

00:47:07,589 --> 00:47:04,960

been leaked they concluded they got some

1275

00:47:09,670 --> 00:47:07,599

pretty smart people in the fbi they saw

1276

00:47:11,829 --> 00:47:09,680

all the evidence as well probably more

1277

00:47:15,109 --> 00:47:11,839

than we even had and they concluded

1278

00:47:17,910 --> 00:47:15,119

exactly as we concluded mass psychogenic

1279

00:47:19,829 --> 00:47:17,920

illness and i really believe that you've

1280

00:47:21,430 --> 00:47:19,839

got a lot of people in the intelligence

1281

00:47:24,150 --> 00:47:21,440

community right now

1282

00:47:26,470 --> 00:47:24,160

who are convinced it's mass psychogenic

1283

00:47:27,829 --> 00:47:26,480

illness too on the weight of evidence

1284

00:47:30,870 --> 00:47:27,839

however

1285

00:47:33,109 --> 00:47:30,880

no one wants to say anything because no

1286

00:47:34,630 --> 00:47:33,119

one wants to say the h word

1287

00:47:35,430 --> 00:47:34,640

and yeah because it gets you into

1288

00:47:36,470 --> 00:47:35,440

trouble

1289

00:47:39,430 --> 00:47:36,480

and

1290

00:47:41,589 --> 00:47:39,440

pension

1291

00:47:44,549 --> 00:47:41,599

it reminds me in a way of the situation

1292

00:47:45,589 --> 00:47:44,559

with uh with ufos uh you know that

1293

00:47:47,589 --> 00:47:45,599

there's

1294

00:47:50,790 --> 00:47:47,599

some people within the pentagon who do

1295

00:47:52,630 --> 00:47:50,800

believe in in ufos as being

1296

00:47:55,109 --> 00:47:52,640

aliens essentially

1297

00:47:55,910 --> 00:47:55,119

uh but i mean the majority of people

1298

00:47:59,190 --> 00:47:55,920

there

1299

00:48:01,510 --> 00:47:59,200

isn't very good evidence of that and

1300

00:48:03,270 --> 00:48:01,520

it's mostly just normal clutter in the

1301

00:48:05,349 --> 00:48:03,280

airspace and yet

1302

00:48:07,750 --> 00:48:05,359

these people still manage to persist and

1303

00:48:10,069 --> 00:48:07,760

the media still runs with it as if it's

1304

00:48:11,589 --> 00:48:10,079

this this major thing that's going on

1305

00:48:13,829 --> 00:48:11,599

and it's almost like people don't want

1306

00:48:14,630 --> 00:48:13,839

to rock the boat but it feels like they

1307

00:48:17,750 --> 00:48:14,640

should

1308

00:48:19,510 --> 00:48:17,760

so uh that was a very interesting uh

1309

00:48:21,349 --> 00:48:19,520

interview i did a few questions from

1310

00:48:23,030 --> 00:48:21,359

twitter if you've got a few moments uh

1311

00:48:24,470 --> 00:48:23,040

yep sure a few extra questions they're

1312

00:48:26,230 --> 00:48:24,480

kind of related

1313

00:48:28,950 --> 00:48:26,240

uh there was one interesting one you

1314

00:48:30,630 --> 00:48:28,960

also made a bet back in the early days

1315

00:48:33,589 --> 00:48:30,640

of coronavirus

1316

00:48:35,510 --> 00:48:33,599

uh that when when a vaccine came along

1317

00:48:37,190 --> 00:48:35,520

he said there would be

1318

00:48:38,950 --> 00:48:37,200

let's see an epidemic of outbreaks of

1319

00:48:40,790 --> 00:48:38,960

mass hysteria of mass psychogenic

1320

00:48:43,109 --> 00:48:40,800

illness how do you think that that

1321

00:48:45,109 --> 00:48:43,119

prediction played out are we seeing

1322

00:48:47,990 --> 00:48:45,119

there have been some

1323

00:48:51,589 --> 00:48:48,000

minor reports of mass of psychogenic

1324

00:48:54,390 --> 00:48:51,599

illness and anxiety at stations nothing

1325

00:48:57,190 --> 00:48:54,400

major however with something like that

1326
00:48:58,470 --> 00:48:57,200
however the coronavirus outbreak has

1327
00:49:00,549 --> 00:48:58,480
triggered an outbreak of mass

1328
00:49:03,829 --> 00:49:00,559
psychogenic illness and a major global

1329
00:49:06,470 --> 00:49:03,839
one and that's the recent one involving

1330
00:49:08,790 --> 00:49:06,480
psychogenic ticks in young girls so

1331
00:49:11,430 --> 00:49:08,800
you've got this outbreak of of hundreds

1332
00:49:14,150 --> 00:49:11,440
of cases globally involving young girls

1333
00:49:16,390 --> 00:49:14,160
and young women who have been watching

1334
00:49:17,750 --> 00:49:16,400
during the coronavirus pandemic uh

1335
00:49:18,870 --> 00:49:17,760
because they're spending more screen

1336
00:49:22,069 --> 00:49:18,880
time now

1337
00:49:24,309 --> 00:49:22,079
watching videos of people with tourettes

1338
00:49:26,950 --> 00:49:24,319

or claiming to have tourette's and then

1339

00:49:29,109 --> 00:49:26,960

they suddenly in their teenage years

1340

00:49:31,349 --> 00:49:29,119

uh in early twenties are getting

1341

00:49:33,349 --> 00:49:31,359

explosive tourette's like syndrome

1342

00:49:34,069 --> 00:49:33,359

symptoms well that's not tourette's i

1343

00:49:36,790 --> 00:49:34,079

mean

1344

00:49:38,630 --> 00:49:36,800

these are clearly psychogenic and there

1345

00:49:40,790 --> 00:49:38,640

have been several journal articles one

1346

00:49:43,510 --> 00:49:40,800

in the british medical journal uh

1347

00:49:45,910 --> 00:49:43,520

recently uh discussing this outbreak of

1348

00:49:48,710 --> 00:49:45,920

psychogenic ticks and it's been linked

1349

00:49:51,510 --> 00:49:48,720

to the coronavirus pandemic because of

1350

00:49:52,630 --> 00:49:51,520

the general uh background stress with

1351
00:49:54,790 --> 00:49:52,640
you know maybe your grandparents are

1352
00:49:58,390 --> 00:49:54,800
going to die or something but also

1353
00:50:01,349 --> 00:49:58,400
um being locked down being online more

1354
00:50:03,109 --> 00:50:01,359
and uh watching these videos

1355
00:50:04,150 --> 00:50:03,119
yeah it's fascinating uh

1356
00:50:07,589 --> 00:50:04,160
so

1357
00:50:09,670 --> 00:50:07,599
were there things in the past that um

1358
00:50:14,549 --> 00:50:09,680
were essentially classified as mass

1359
00:50:19,510 --> 00:50:17,270
oh there have been uh conditions in the

1360
00:50:22,710 --> 00:50:19,520
past that were initially thought to have

1361
00:50:24,470 --> 00:50:22,720
possibly been psychogenic but look the

1362
00:50:26,790 --> 00:50:24,480
if you look at the literature on mass

1363
00:50:28,390 --> 00:50:26,800

psychogenic illness i mean we have a

1364

00:50:30,790 --> 00:50:28,400

good understanding

1365

00:50:31,750 --> 00:50:30,800

of mass psychogenic illness there's a

1366

00:50:34,309 --> 00:50:31,760

very

1367

00:50:36,710 --> 00:50:34,319

good historical literature on it and

1368

00:50:38,870 --> 00:50:36,720

there are a number of conditions today

1369

00:50:41,829 --> 00:50:38,880

that are contentious

1370

00:50:44,710 --> 00:50:41,839

uh right that are suspected to have a

1371

00:50:48,790 --> 00:50:44,720

psychogenic element for example gulf war

1372

00:50:51,589 --> 00:50:48,800

syndrome for example uh fibromyalgia for

1373

00:50:52,549 --> 00:50:51,599

example chronic fatigue syndrome but

1374

00:50:54,710 --> 00:50:52,559

again

1375

00:50:56,630 --> 00:50:54,720

you i think you have a um a

1376

00:50:59,270 --> 00:50:56,640

constellation of ailments in there as

1377

00:51:01,910 --> 00:50:59,280

well i mean look at the the epidemic of

1378

00:51:03,190 --> 00:51:01,920

repetition strain that happened in

1379

00:51:05,510 --> 00:51:03,200

australia

1380

00:51:08,069 --> 00:51:05,520

uh during the 1980s and now you don't

1381

00:51:09,910 --> 00:51:08,079

have it anymore i know that's weird it's

1382

00:51:11,829 --> 00:51:09,920

uh you know what it reminds me of it

1383

00:51:13,430 --> 00:51:11,839

reminds me of people used to see sea

1384

00:51:14,790 --> 00:51:13,440

serpents all the time

1385

00:51:17,990 --> 00:51:14,800

right on these ships there's big

1386

00:51:19,589 --> 00:51:18,000

pictures and carvings of the sea serpent

1387

00:51:21,109 --> 00:51:19,599

where did all the sea serpent sightings

1388

00:51:23,190 --> 00:51:21,119

go

1389

00:51:25,030 --> 00:51:23,200

yeah i used to be worried about getting

1390

00:51:26,470 --> 00:51:25,040

like uh rsi

1391

00:51:29,030 --> 00:51:26,480

uh because i did a lot of typing as a

1392

00:51:30,950 --> 00:51:29,040

computer programmer but uh it seemed to

1393

00:51:32,150 --> 00:51:30,960

like you said it seemed to go away

1394

00:51:34,549 --> 00:51:32,160

it's one of those things that was a

1395

00:51:36,309 --> 00:51:34,559

problem for a while and then not and i

1396

00:51:38,710 --> 00:51:36,319

think i think you mentioned in the book

1397

00:51:40,230 --> 00:51:38,720

like there was um a problem not a

1398

00:51:41,910 --> 00:51:40,240

problem but a syndra a telephone

1399

00:51:43,990 --> 00:51:41,920

syndrome where people when they first

1400

00:51:46,309 --> 00:51:44,000

started using telephones

1401

00:51:48,309 --> 00:51:46,319

they would develop headaches

1402

00:51:50,230 --> 00:51:48,319

uh but after a few years

1403

00:51:52,470 --> 00:51:50,240

you know nobody got them anymore because

1404

00:51:54,790 --> 00:51:52,480

they weren't so worried about it

1405

00:51:56,470 --> 00:51:54,800

uh it's just you know it's people are

1406

00:51:58,150 --> 00:51:56,480

looking for it and then they you know

1407

00:52:00,630 --> 00:51:58,160

when you look at something you find it

1408

00:52:01,670 --> 00:52:00,640

exactly in human beings you know as you

1409

00:52:02,710 --> 00:52:01,680

would know

1410

00:52:05,270 --> 00:52:02,720

as a

1411

00:52:07,190 --> 00:52:05,280

member of the skeptical community human

1412

00:52:09,030 --> 00:52:07,200

beings are very

1413

00:52:11,349 --> 00:52:09,040

fallible creatures

1414

00:52:14,150 --> 00:52:11,359

um you know eyewitness perception as

1415

00:52:17,190 --> 00:52:14,160

i've mentioned ear witness perception

1416

00:52:19,430 --> 00:52:17,200

the other day there was a report from

1417

00:52:20,309 --> 00:52:19,440

one of the foreign embassies one of the

1418

00:52:21,430 --> 00:52:20,319

women

1419

00:52:22,870 --> 00:52:21,440

was saying

1420

00:52:25,030 --> 00:52:22,880

i think she was one of the early victims

1421

00:52:26,950 --> 00:52:25,040

of havana syndrome she said it was like

1422

00:52:28,950 --> 00:52:26,960

an invisible hand reached out and

1423

00:52:30,950 --> 00:52:28,960

grabbed her or touched her well that

1424

00:52:33,030 --> 00:52:30,960

sounds like right out of a paranormal

1425

00:52:35,030 --> 00:52:33,040

documentary that you see on tv you know

1426

00:52:36,309 --> 00:52:35,040

where they go to these houses and

1427

00:52:37,910 --> 00:52:36,319

there's a

1428

00:52:40,230 --> 00:52:37,920

heat signature in the corner well that

1429

00:52:43,270 --> 00:52:40,240

must but that must be proof of a ghost

1430

00:52:44,470 --> 00:52:43,280

and life after death right um

1431

00:52:46,549 --> 00:52:44,480

and so

1432

00:52:48,150 --> 00:52:46,559

all this ambiguity

1433

00:52:50,870 --> 00:52:48,160

and you know when you look at things

1434

00:52:52,069 --> 00:52:50,880

like haunted houses there's such a will

1435

00:52:54,069 --> 00:52:52,079

to believe

1436

00:52:55,190 --> 00:52:54,079

because it's not just that there are

1437

00:52:57,910 --> 00:52:55,200

ghosts

1438

00:53:01,589 --> 00:52:57,920

it's proof of life after death

1439

00:53:02,630 --> 00:53:01,599

and there's such a powerful

1440

00:53:03,430 --> 00:53:02,640

lore

1441

00:53:05,030 --> 00:53:03,440

to

1442

00:53:07,589 --> 00:53:05,040

believe

1443

00:53:09,829 --> 00:53:07,599

yeah yeah and i think

1444

00:53:12,549 --> 00:53:09,839

uh it's an understandable one as well

1445

00:53:14,790 --> 00:53:12,559

like you can you can see why people get

1446

00:53:17,109 --> 00:53:14,800

sucked into these things and i want to

1447

00:53:20,150 --> 00:53:17,119

kind of end with one final

1448

00:53:23,190 --> 00:53:20,160

comment slash question uh in an article

1449

00:53:24,710 --> 00:53:23,200

i read about you you described yourself

1450

00:53:26,950 --> 00:53:24,720

as being a

1451

00:53:29,190 --> 00:53:26,960

sympathetic skeptic

1452

00:53:30,870 --> 00:53:29,200

which i thought was a nice description

1453

00:53:32,950 --> 00:53:30,880

and it kind of resonated with me to a

1454

00:53:35,349 --> 00:53:32,960

degree is that you know i i engage with

1455

00:53:37,750 --> 00:53:35,359

a lot of people who who believe in weird

1456

00:53:39,349 --> 00:53:37,760

things and you yourself have gone to

1457

00:53:41,270 --> 00:53:39,359

you know the the fort conference and

1458

00:53:42,790 --> 00:53:41,280

things like that um

1459

00:53:45,030 --> 00:53:42,800

what does it mean to you to be a

1460

00:53:47,030 --> 00:53:45,040

sympathetic skeptic

1461

00:53:49,910 --> 00:53:47,040

well my brother

1462

00:53:52,470 --> 00:53:49,920

is a prominent bigfoot researcher in

1463

00:53:54,549 --> 00:53:52,480

upstate new york

1464

00:53:57,030 --> 00:53:54,559

and we wrote a book called monsters of

1465

00:53:58,710 --> 00:53:57,040

the north woods back in the early 1990s

1466

00:53:59,829 --> 00:53:58,720

which is kind of a cult book it's out of

1467

00:54:01,349 --> 00:53:59,839

print now

1468

00:54:02,950 --> 00:54:01,359

and um

1469

00:54:04,790 --> 00:54:02,960

although we've done a second one on

1470

00:54:07,109 --> 00:54:04,800

sightings in new york and new england

1471

00:54:09,430 --> 00:54:07,119

and look he's the believer

1472

00:54:11,109 --> 00:54:09,440

i'm the skeptic and i work with him in

1473

00:54:12,870 --> 00:54:11,119

writing both books

1474

00:54:14,549 --> 00:54:12,880

and i think you can work with these

1475

00:54:16,390 --> 00:54:14,559

people they just have a different

1476

00:54:18,950 --> 00:54:16,400

perspective on this

1477

00:54:21,190 --> 00:54:18,960

and i i always say i say well paul

1478

00:54:22,790 --> 00:54:21,200

i said where's the body

1479

00:54:24,470 --> 00:54:22,800

where's the fossils

1480

00:54:26,870 --> 00:54:24,480

where are the bones

1481

00:54:29,109 --> 00:54:26,880

where's the dna evidence and then of

1482

00:54:32,069 --> 00:54:29,119

course the combat at the dinner table is

1483

00:54:34,710 --> 00:54:32,079

well well maybe they eat they're dead

1484

00:54:36,470 --> 00:54:34,720

well maybe they do eat they're dead but

1485

00:54:38,470 --> 00:54:36,480

um or you know

1486

00:54:39,670 --> 00:54:38,480

black bears how many times have you seen

1487

00:54:42,390 --> 00:54:39,680

a black bear

1488

00:54:44,710 --> 00:54:42,400

yeah but people do find black bears

1489

00:54:47,510 --> 00:54:44,720

black bears are found dead in the woods

1490

00:54:49,829 --> 00:54:47,520

we have fossils of black bears we have

1491

00:54:51,510 --> 00:54:49,839

bodies of black bears on our farm in

1492

00:54:52,390 --> 00:54:51,520

upstate new york we've seen two black

1493

00:54:55,670 --> 00:54:52,400

bears

1494

00:54:57,270 --> 00:54:55,680

um in my lifetime so um

1495

00:54:59,750 --> 00:54:57,280

you know

1496

00:55:01,349 --> 00:54:59,760

show me the show me the dead alien you

1497

00:55:05,190 --> 00:55:01,359

know show me the

1498

00:55:08,230 --> 00:55:05,200

the ray gun that's being used um

1499

00:55:10,789 --> 00:55:08,240

but there's just no evidence for havana

1500

00:55:13,589 --> 00:55:10,799

syndrome for any weapon

1501
00:55:16,549 --> 00:55:13,599
microwave acoustical or whatever

1502
00:55:18,230 --> 00:55:16,559
and um i think the jason report the

1503
00:55:19,670 --> 00:55:18,240
specialist scientist

1504
00:55:22,549 --> 00:55:19,680
uh who came out with their report in

1505
00:55:25,190 --> 00:55:22,559
2018 have killed off the microwave

1506
00:55:27,510 --> 00:55:25,200
theory um and now you're left with

1507
00:55:29,990 --> 00:55:27,520
people saying well uh pulsed energy

1508
00:55:31,829 --> 00:55:30,000
whatever that is you know and there's

1509
00:55:33,589 --> 00:55:31,839
just no evidence

1510
00:55:35,349 --> 00:55:33,599
yeah yeah that's that's what it boils

1511
00:55:37,109 --> 00:55:35,359
down to ultimately i think is this this

1512
00:55:39,829 --> 00:55:37,119
lack of evidence and you know all the

1513
00:55:41,430 --> 00:55:39,839

other factors that uh kind of indicate

1514

00:55:42,870 --> 00:55:41,440

that there's a multitude of things going

1515

00:55:44,230 --> 00:55:42,880

on you know the fact that everyone hears

1516

00:55:45,829 --> 00:55:44,240

different things and have different

1517

00:55:48,549 --> 00:55:45,839

symptoms essentially

1518

00:55:51,190 --> 00:55:48,559

and yeah hopefully the the wheels of

1519

00:55:52,470 --> 00:55:51,200

science will grind a little bit quicker

1520

00:55:53,750 --> 00:55:52,480

than they have been grinding because

1521

00:55:57,109 --> 00:55:53,760

like you said lots of people are going

1522

00:56:00,309 --> 00:55:58,789

well look we've got we've got global

1523

00:56:02,549 --> 00:56:00,319

warming we've got

1524

00:56:05,829 --> 00:56:02,559

coronavirus we got all kinds of serious

1525

00:56:08,150 --> 00:56:05,839

issues facing us and this is a waste

1526

00:56:11,190 --> 00:56:08,160

of time it is a giant

1527

00:56:13,510 --> 00:56:11,200

wild goose chase right and

1528

00:56:15,030 --> 00:56:13,520

uh what is it shakespeare said or in the

1529

00:56:17,990 --> 00:56:15,040

night

1530

00:56:19,829 --> 00:56:18,000

imagining some fear

1531

00:56:23,270 --> 00:56:19,839

how easy is a bush

1532

00:56:24,710 --> 00:56:23,280

supposed a bear that's what's happening

1533

00:56:27,030 --> 00:56:24,720

in a nutshell

1534

00:56:28,549 --> 00:56:27,040

right well uh so if people want to learn

1535

00:56:30,390 --> 00:56:28,559

more about this

1536

00:56:33,670 --> 00:56:30,400

is there you have a website that people

1537

00:56:35,910 --> 00:56:33,680

can uh follow you at my website is re

1538

00:56:37,990 --> 00:56:35,920

bartholomew.com

1539

00:56:40,710 --> 00:56:38,000

and our book is havana syndrome with

1540

00:56:43,510 --> 00:56:40,720

ucla neurologist bob balo available on

1541

00:56:45,030 --> 00:56:43,520

amazon and in audio now

1542

00:56:46,630 --> 00:56:45,040

okay i'm great yeah

1543

00:56:48,230 --> 00:56:46,640

uh do you have a twitter that people can

1544

00:56:50,309 --> 00:56:48,240

follow you on or you're twitching i

1545

00:56:52,230 --> 00:56:50,319

don't i try to stay away from social

1546

00:56:54,069 --> 00:56:52,240

media as much as i can

1547

00:56:56,710 --> 00:56:54,079

well much less chance of catching some

1548

00:56:59,270 --> 00:56:56,720

kind of uh social contagion if you

1549

00:57:00,630 --> 00:56:59,280

stay off it well robert thank you very

1550

00:57:03,510 --> 00:57:00,640

much this has been a fascinating

1551

00:57:06,069 --> 00:57:03,520

conversation uh and uh yeah thank you

1552

00:57:09,290 --> 00:57:06,079

thank you for being here doing this