

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:10,000

In this episode, the mythbusters are busting out.

2

00:00:10,000 --> 00:00:12,720

Count on getting very, very cold.

3

00:00:12,720 --> 00:00:15,320

Can they escape from Alcatraz?

4

00:00:15,320 --> 00:00:17,200

Quack, damn you.

5

00:00:17,200 --> 00:00:18,200

Science or quackery?

6

00:00:18,200 --> 00:00:21,360

I want you to do this, got it?

7

00:00:21,360 --> 00:00:25,040

Does a duck's quack echo?

8

00:00:25,040 --> 00:00:29,960

And out of their skulls, have we all been injected with mind control chips?

9

00:00:30,240 --> 00:00:32,160

I feel perfectly normal now.

10

00:00:32,160 --> 00:00:35,160

Who are the mythbusters?

11

00:00:35,160 --> 00:00:38,760

Is my missing an eyebrow?

12

00:00:38,760 --> 00:00:39,920

Adam Savage.

13

00:00:39,920 --> 00:00:42,920

I always enjoyed seeing Adam in pain.

14

00:00:42,920 --> 00:00:43,920

Oh!

15

00:00:43,920 --> 00:00:44,920

And Jamie Heineman.

16

00:00:44,920 --> 00:00:47,640

Jamie wants a big bull.

17

00:00:47,640 --> 00:00:51,640

Between them, more than 30 years special effects experience.

18

00:00:51,640 --> 00:00:53,080

You're kind of sexy.

19

00:00:53,080 --> 00:00:55,840

They don't just tell the myths.

20

00:00:55,840 --> 00:01:02,840

They put them to the test.

21

00:01:02,840 --> 00:01:17,880

It's Alcatraz's greatest mystery.

22

00:01:17,880 --> 00:01:19,760

What happened to these men?

23

00:01:19,760 --> 00:01:27,040

Frank Morris and the Anglin brothers, Clarence and John, bank robbers and escape artists.

24

00:01:27,040 --> 00:01:34,200

One night in June 1962, they busted out of the rock and dropped off the face of the earth.

25

00:01:34,200 --> 00:01:38,120

Whatever their fate, the three convicts have apparently accomplished a feat that many have

26

00:01:38,120 --> 00:01:44,040

tried with no success.

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00:01:44,040 --> 00:01:49,720

The authorities presume the three drowned, but the myth says they got away clean on a

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00:01:49,720 --> 00:01:51,640

homemade raft.

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00:01:51,640 --> 00:02:00,640

40 years later, Jamie and Adam aim to prove it might have happened.

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00:02:00,640 --> 00:02:08,280

Well, you know, Adam, we're based in San Francisco doing a show about myths.

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00:02:08,280 --> 00:02:13,280

So obviously we have to tackle the myth about the escape from Alcatraz.

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00:02:13,280 --> 00:02:18,880

Did three prisoners in 1962 build a raft out of raincoats and got off the island?

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00:02:18,880 --> 00:02:19,880

Yeah.

34

00:02:19,880 --> 00:02:21,440

Did they actually do it?

35

00:02:21,440 --> 00:02:22,880

Was it successful?

36

00:02:22,880 --> 00:02:25,600

Where did they go?

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00:02:25,600 --> 00:02:30,520

According to folklorist Heather Joseph with them, this story has endured because people

38

00:02:30,520 --> 00:02:32,720

often cheer for the underdog.

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00:02:32,720 --> 00:02:38,560

The idea is, you know, David against Goliath, the little man really winning out over the

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00:02:38,560 --> 00:02:44,120

concrete authority, the faceless, nameless concrete authority.

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00:02:44,120 --> 00:02:50,880

America's worst were caged in Alcatraz's nine by five cells, cold as stone, perched high

42

00:02:50,880 --> 00:02:53,760

above the currents that chain the island.

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00:02:53,760 --> 00:03:00,680

Officially, no one ever escaped and lived to tell, though in its 29 years, 34 prisoners

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00:03:00,680 --> 00:03:05,720

tried and as many as 11 died in the attempt.

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00:03:05,720 --> 00:03:10,160

Adam and Jamie will follow the most famous escape attempt of all.

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00:03:10,160 --> 00:03:12,680

It began here in these cells.

47

00:03:12,680 --> 00:03:17,680

They painstakingly fashioned dummies of plaster with hair of paintbrush bristles to stand in

48

00:03:17,680 --> 00:03:23,280

for them during cell check while they covered an escape hole with a cardboard grill.

49

00:03:23,280 --> 00:03:30,320

All of this was with an easy visual range of the guards in the gun galleries.

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00:03:30,320 --> 00:03:31,920

Alcatraz had begun to crumble.

51

00:03:31,920 --> 00:03:38,120

Morris and the Anglans were all able to chip through ventilation grills using spoons.

52

00:03:38,120 --> 00:03:43,400

I believe that this one is a myth buster special, so you feel like squirming through the hole?

53

00:03:43,400 --> 00:03:44,400

Sure, why not?

54

00:03:44,400 --> 00:03:45,400

You think you'll fit?

55

00:03:45,400 --> 00:03:46,400

I think I'll fit.

56

00:03:46,400 --> 00:03:50,000

I'm not so sure about you.

57

00:03:50,000 --> 00:03:51,000

Let the breakout begin.

58

00:03:51,000 --> 00:03:52,000

I don't know.

59

00:03:52,000 --> 00:04:09,360

Seems beer and fast food wasn't on the menu at Alcatraz.

60

00:04:09,360 --> 00:04:28,720

Incredibly, the escapees found themselves in an empty service shaft.

61

00:04:28,720 --> 00:04:32,720

You know Jamie, note to myself, if I'm ever designing a prison, I don't think I would

62

00:04:32,720 --> 00:04:39,280

ever design it with a huge secret, unmonitored walkway behind every cell.

63

00:04:40,200 --> 00:04:51,200

I think I tweaked my back.

64

00:04:51,200 --> 00:04:56,640

From there, they climbed the pipe's three floors to the cell block roof.

65

00:04:56,640 --> 00:04:57,840

This is where it all happened.

66

00:04:57,840 --> 00:04:59,640

This is actually where our story begins, Jamie.

67

00:04:59,640 --> 00:05:03,720

This is where they got to with all their equipment and actually built the rafts over a period

68

00:05:03,720 --> 00:05:05,640

of months.

69

00:05:05,640 --> 00:05:08,360

Prisoner Alan West was in on the plot.

70

00:05:08,360 --> 00:05:15,400

He told the FBI the trio had managed to steal more than 50 raincoats and, undetected up on

71

00:05:15,400 --> 00:05:19,000

that rooftop, turned them into a pontoon raft.

72

00:05:19,000 --> 00:05:22,880

You whisper and everybody can hear it.

73

00:05:22,880 --> 00:05:26,240

You can't drop a single bolt or nail.

74

00:05:26,240 --> 00:05:31,080

You can't kick a piece of wood without everybody on the cell blocks hearing you do it.

75

00:05:31,080 --> 00:05:35,640

Imagine that, every night for months in pitch black.

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00:05:35,640 --> 00:05:41,280

The night they were finally ready, the three broke out through this vent onto the rooftop,

77

00:05:41,280 --> 00:05:45,200

then climbed 50 feet down to the ground.

78

00:05:45,200 --> 00:05:49,360

You know, they went down about here, the original pipe's been removed, but we do know that they

79

00:05:49,360 --> 00:05:53,600

went across underneath the water tower and down to the shore on the side of the powerhouse

80

00:05:53,600 --> 00:05:54,600

over there.

81

00:05:54,600 --> 00:05:57,680

There's a lot of distance to cover in the middle of the night with all that equipment.

82

00:05:57,680 --> 00:05:59,680

I'll tell you that.

83

00:05:59,680 --> 00:06:00,680

Yup.

84

00:06:00,680 --> 00:06:05,400

The swirling tidal currents around Alcatraz were more feared than any wall.

85

00:06:05,400 --> 00:06:11,240

But at the water's edge, Morris and the Anglin brothers pumped up their raft, jumped in and

86

00:06:11,240 --> 00:06:12,240

disappeared.

87

00:06:12,240 --> 00:06:16,360

The escape triggered the greatest manhunt in San Francisco's history as agents of the

88

00:06:16,360 --> 00:06:23,280

FBI, Coast Guard's highway patrol, sheriff's deputies and local police joined in the search.

89

00:06:23,280 --> 00:06:27,080

Jolene Babiak lived on the island when the escape happened.

90

00:06:27,080 --> 00:06:33,280

Her father was associate warden at the time and she's written three books about Alcatraz.

91

00:06:33,280 --> 00:06:34,760

Do you think that they made it?

92

00:06:34,960 --> 00:06:37,960

Well, they could be here today on the tour.

93

00:06:37,960 --> 00:06:40,960

But I doubt it.

94

00:06:40,960 --> 00:06:47,120

Alan West told the FBI the plan was to paddle the raft north to Angel Island, then onto

95

00:06:47,120 --> 00:06:48,120

the mainland.

96

00:06:48,120 --> 00:06:51,640

Jolene thinks that was optimistic at best.

97

00:06:51,640 --> 00:06:55,800

I don't think there was any physical way they could ever get to Angel Island and if that

98

00:06:55,800 --> 00:07:00,120

was their goal, it was not well thought out because when you get in the San Francisco

99

00:07:00,120 --> 00:07:03,040

Bay, it's not about currents, it's about tides.

100

00:07:03,160 --> 00:07:07,960

If the tide is going out the gates, so are you.

101

00:07:07,960 --> 00:07:10,600

It seems too simple an end.

102

00:07:10,600 --> 00:07:12,800

Frank Morris was no fool.

103

00:07:12,800 --> 00:07:16,760

He spent his life in and out of reform schools and prisons.

104

00:07:16,760 --> 00:07:20,960

But he also happened to have an IQ of 133.

105

00:07:20,960 --> 00:07:25,840

He knew how to escape and he must have known about the dangers of the Bay.

106

00:07:25,840 --> 00:07:30,280

So you think they were clever enough to have counted on the tides using them to their advantage?

107

00:07:30,280 --> 00:07:34,520

Well, you know, they were clever about the whole thing from the get-go, like, you know,

108

00:07:34,520 --> 00:07:38,680

how they got the materials in the first place, where they assembled it, right under the nose

109

00:07:38,680 --> 00:07:39,680

of the guards.

110

00:07:39,680 --> 00:07:41,840

It was all very well planned out.

111

00:07:41,840 --> 00:07:45,400

So it's only logical to assume that they gave a fair amount of thought to the currents

112

00:07:45,400 --> 00:07:46,400

as well.

113

00:07:48,800 --> 00:07:52,880

Maybe Morris figured a way to ride the feared tides to freedom.

114

00:07:54,560 --> 00:07:58,160

It does look like it's more aggressive on this side.

115

00:07:58,160 --> 00:08:02,480

He could watch the ebb and flow and plan his route for months.

116

00:08:02,480 --> 00:08:06,960

The mythbusters don't have that long, but they do know a shortcut.

117

00:08:09,680 --> 00:08:12,880

Joe, grab onto the pylon!

118

00:08:12,880 --> 00:08:13,880

Come on!

119

00:08:13,880 --> 00:08:14,880

Oof!

120

00:08:14,880 --> 00:08:15,880

Aw!

121

00:08:15,880 --> 00:08:18,480

Ha ha ha ha!

122

00:08:18,480 --> 00:08:24,360

The Bay model was built in the mid-50s to test the environmental impact of a proposed development

123

00:08:24,360 --> 00:08:25,920

in San Francisco Bay.

124

00:08:26,400 --> 00:08:33,440

It's a perfect scale model, covering two acres, and replicates a full day's tidal movement

125

00:08:33,440 --> 00:08:35,760

in just under 15 minutes.

126

00:08:35,760 --> 00:08:41,120

If we took a small model boat and put this in here at strategic point, would it actually

127

00:08:41,120 --> 00:08:43,800

tell us what would happen to that boat in the currents?

128

00:08:43,800 --> 00:08:44,800

I think that it would.

129

00:08:44,800 --> 00:08:49,480

Up until the year 2000, it was primarily a scientific research and engineering facility.

130

00:08:49,480 --> 00:08:53,040

For many, many experiments from A to Z, we're conducted daily.

131

00:08:53,040 --> 00:08:59,760

And I think it replicates very accurately the tide's currents and motions of the bay.

132

00:08:59,760 --> 00:09:04,800

The guys know the high tide had just turned when the escapees hit the water.

133

00:09:04,800 --> 00:09:07,200

I'll just wait for the signal.

134

00:09:07,200 --> 00:09:12,040

In the compressed time of the model, that's due in about two minutes.

135

00:09:12,040 --> 00:09:13,600

The water's having an effect on me.

136

00:09:13,600 --> 00:09:17,000

I don't know what it is.

137

00:09:17,000 --> 00:09:21,520

Once again, the Mythbusters professionalism is winning admirers.

138

00:09:28,520 --> 00:09:29,520

Oh, we're good.

139

00:09:29,520 --> 00:09:30,520

Drop it.

140

00:09:31,800 --> 00:09:32,800

Nicely done.

141

00:09:33,560 --> 00:09:39,200

Remember, the myth says Morris and the Anglans were heading north to Angel Island.

142

00:09:39,200 --> 00:09:41,920

The current tells a different story.

143

00:09:41,920 --> 00:09:45,080

The raft is heading west, in a hurry.

144

00:09:47,000 --> 00:09:50,080

We're escaping Alcatraz and Mach 1.

145

00:09:50,080 --> 00:09:51,360

No wonder they didn't find them.

146

00:09:51,360 --> 00:09:54,120

They're probably in Japan by now.

147

00:09:56,120 --> 00:09:57,120

Stand by, Jamie.

148

00:09:57,120 --> 00:09:58,120

Okay.

149

00:09:58,120 --> 00:10:00,640

Release it, Jamie.

150

00:10:00,640 --> 00:10:04,720

The same thing happens every time on this tide.

151

00:10:04,720 --> 00:10:06,440

There they go.

152

00:10:06,440 --> 00:10:07,880

Now the current catches them.

153

00:10:07,880 --> 00:10:13,520

The raft is always washed west to the Golden Gate Bridge, and it's doubtful the escapees

154

00:10:13,520 --> 00:10:15,520

could paddle against it for long.

155

00:10:15,520 --> 00:10:21,120

Basically, there's no way I think they'd make it to Angel Island though.

156

00:10:21,120 --> 00:10:25,200

The guys think Morris was smart enough to work that out.

157

00:10:25,200 --> 00:10:30,880

So despite what they told other prisoners, maybe Angel Island was never in the plan at

158

00:10:30,880 --> 00:10:31,880

all.

159

00:10:31,880 --> 00:10:37,960

I think they actually took advantage of the currents and got on them as a, you know, like

160

00:10:37,960 --> 00:10:43,800

a river headed towards the Golden Gate Bridge, and specifically the north side of the Golden

161

00:10:43,800 --> 00:10:47,400

Gate Bridge, where they could easily make it to shore.

162

00:10:47,400 --> 00:10:52,160

The mythbusters have hatched a new theory and a new plan.

163

00:10:52,160 --> 00:10:53,160

Forget Angel Island.

164

00:10:53,160 --> 00:10:58,520

They're going to see if they can build a raft and paddle across the tide to reach land around

165

00:10:58,520 --> 00:11:00,020

the Marin Headlands.

166

00:11:00,020 --> 00:11:03,200

Jamie, what do you think our chances of success are?

167

00:11:03,200 --> 00:11:04,200

100%.

168

00:11:04,200 --> 00:11:05,200

100%?

169

00:11:05,200 --> 00:11:06,200

Yeah, absolutely.

170

00:11:06,200 --> 00:11:07,200

Oh, right.

171

00:11:07,200 --> 00:11:08,200

No doubt about it.

172

00:11:08,200 --> 00:11:12,120

We can pretty well count on getting very, very cold.

173

00:11:12,120 --> 00:11:15,240

Jamie sounds like he's getting cold feet.

174

00:11:15,240 --> 00:11:24,400

But before he does, the guys have a date with some webbed feet.

175

00:11:24,400 --> 00:11:27,840

Another birdbrained myth to bust.

176

00:11:27,840 --> 00:11:31,040

Could it be true?

177

00:11:31,040 --> 00:11:34,520

Or have Adam and Jamie gone quackers?

178

00:11:34,520 --> 00:11:38,160

Anything to say to the ducks back home?

179

00:11:39,160 --> 00:11:43,720

So, Jamie, what are we working on?

180

00:11:43,720 --> 00:11:45,560

Why are there ducks pooping all over your desk?

181

00:11:45,560 --> 00:11:49,200

Well, the myth is that a duck's quack does not echo.

182

00:11:49,200 --> 00:11:51,320

That sounds kind of simple.

183

00:11:51,320 --> 00:11:56,160

Well, I guess we'll figure out a way of making it complicated, won't we?

184

00:11:56,160 --> 00:11:58,240

This really is an internet story.

185

00:11:58,240 --> 00:12:01,360

Not even a story, just a little factoid.

186

00:12:01,360 --> 00:12:08,120

And it generally comes out on these internet lists of facts that are very odd.

187

00:12:08,120 --> 00:12:12,880

In the past, they would have circulated as Xerox lore or fax lore.

188

00:12:12,880 --> 00:12:20,440

The boys will take the lore into their own hands down on the farm.

189

00:12:20,440 --> 00:12:22,000

Adam, don't let their looks deceive you.

190

00:12:22,000 --> 00:12:25,840

These are actually quite deadly.

191

00:12:25,840 --> 00:12:31,920

If anyone can answer this myth, it should be Jim Reichard, part of America's oldest

192

00:12:31,920 --> 00:12:33,960

duck farming family.

193

00:12:33,960 --> 00:12:38,720

The Reichards have been listening to ducks quack for more than a century, but there's

194

00:12:38,720 --> 00:12:40,400

one thing they haven't heard.

195

00:12:40,400 --> 00:12:44,120

Jim, have you heard of the myth that a duck's quack will not echo?

196

00:12:44,120 --> 00:12:46,040

I've never heard that.

197

00:12:46,040 --> 00:12:48,520

I've grown up on the ranch, you know.

198

00:12:48,520 --> 00:12:52,160

I've never had anybody ask me.

199

00:12:52,160 --> 00:12:54,840

It's pretty hard to ruffle Jim's feathers.

200

00:12:54,840 --> 00:13:00,600

He's agreed to help the mythbusters with some test subjects.

201

00:13:00,600 --> 00:13:05,640

I asked for volunteers this morning and I came up with a couple, you know.

202

00:13:05,640 --> 00:13:08,560

Meet Bob on the left and Roy.

203

00:13:08,560 --> 00:13:10,760

I'm going from this side.

204

00:13:10,760 --> 00:13:11,920

Alright, you go down that side.

205

00:13:11,920 --> 00:13:16,240

I'll walk him down this way.

206

00:13:16,240 --> 00:13:22,520

That wasn't so bad, was it?

207

00:13:22,520 --> 00:13:26,440

That wasn't so bad.

208

00:13:26,440 --> 00:13:30,880

So they've got their ducks in a row.

209

00:13:30,880 --> 00:13:35,680

Now they need a man who can catch an echo.

210

00:13:35,680 --> 00:13:40,280

That would be him now.

211

00:13:40,280 --> 00:13:45,280

Roger Schwenke is an acoustician, which means he knows a thing or two about noise.

212

00:13:45,280 --> 00:13:50,640

Roger, have you heard the myth about whether a duck's quack echoes?

213

00:13:50,640 --> 00:13:52,040

I have heard that myth.

214

00:13:52,040 --> 00:13:58,720

Mostly I see it in these lists of factoids and jokes that you get in emails.

215

00:13:58,720 --> 00:14:02,720

Rogers agreed to help catch a duck's echo.

216

00:14:02,720 --> 00:14:05,280

The science is simple enough.

217

00:14:05,280 --> 00:14:07,480

Sounds are just vibrations in the air.

218

00:14:07,480 --> 00:14:12,120

An echo happens when those vibrations hit something and bounce back.

219

00:14:12,120 --> 00:14:17,240

So one of the challenges I have for you is we're going to use a tyclip mic as the trigger

220

00:14:17,240 --> 00:14:22,640

mic to start the recording, and we need to attach that to the duck.

221

00:14:22,640 --> 00:14:29,560

Duck tape.

222

00:14:29,560 --> 00:14:32,600

That microphone acts as a trigger.

223

00:14:32,600 --> 00:14:40,200

It'll hear Bob quack and switch on the main mic a few yards away.

224

00:14:40,200 --> 00:14:45,200

That will record the initial quack, then listen for echoes bouncing back.

225

00:14:45,200 --> 00:14:48,320

The whole shooting match plotted by a computer.

226

00:14:48,320 --> 00:14:51,320

You know what happens to ducks that don't cooperate, huh?

227

00:14:51,320 --> 00:14:52,320

Yeah.

228

00:14:52,320 --> 00:14:56,520

Got it.

229

00:14:56,520 --> 00:14:57,760

That was a test.

230

00:14:57,760 --> 00:15:02,880

You can see the initial shot from the starter's pistol is the peak on the left, and the smaller

231

00:15:02,880 --> 00:15:06,360

bumps after it are the echoes coming back.

232

00:15:06,360 --> 00:15:09,640

The system works now for the ducks.

233

00:15:09,640 --> 00:15:15,040

I'll tell you guys to be quiet because any sound will start the computer recording, and

234

00:15:15,040 --> 00:15:18,760

then you need to silently induce the duck to quack.

235

00:15:18,760 --> 00:15:21,640

You need quack?

236

00:15:21,640 --> 00:15:24,760

Silently induce a duck to quack.

237

00:15:24,760 --> 00:15:26,480

Look me in the eye and quack.

238

00:15:26,480 --> 00:15:27,480

Quack.

239

00:15:27,480 --> 00:15:28,960

Come on, boy.

240

00:15:28,960 --> 00:15:29,960

Quack.

241

00:15:29,960 --> 00:15:30,960

Quack.

242

00:15:30,960 --> 00:15:31,960

All right, see if they're ready.

243

00:15:31,960 --> 00:15:34,280

Are you guys ready?

244

00:15:34,280 --> 00:15:35,520

Don't mess with me, duck.

245

00:15:35,520 --> 00:15:38,280

When I say quack, you're going to quack, right?

246

00:15:38,280 --> 00:15:40,120

I'm the boss here.

247

00:15:40,120 --> 00:15:42,600

Don't give me any beak.

248

00:15:42,600 --> 00:15:43,600

Quiet.

249

00:15:44,360 --> 00:15:47,360

Give him a thumbs up.

250

00:15:53,360 --> 00:15:57,800

It's like he's trying to collect a loan from the duck.

251

00:15:57,800 --> 00:15:59,720

Duck loan collection agency.

252

00:15:59,720 --> 00:16:03,080

I want to talk to you about some outstanding feed.

253

00:16:03,080 --> 00:16:07,360

Who'd have thought ducks get cold feet?

254

00:16:07,360 --> 00:16:09,200

Oh, boy.

255

00:16:09,200 --> 00:16:11,600

There's nothing but wind noise.

256

00:16:11,600 --> 00:16:14,200

Clearly, Bob's got stage fright.

257

00:16:14,200 --> 00:16:16,000

I want you to do this.

258

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

Got it?

259

00:16:17,000 --> 00:16:18,000

Quack.

260

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

Quack, damn you.

261

00:16:21,000 --> 00:16:22,000

Done.

262

00:16:22,000 --> 00:16:25,000

I'm going to swap them out with the other one.

263

00:16:25,000 --> 00:16:28,000

All right, I'll bring them over to you.

264

00:16:28,000 --> 00:16:29,000

Bob's out.

265

00:16:29,000 --> 00:16:30,000

Roy's in.

266

00:16:30,000 --> 00:16:33,000

But a funny thing happens in the changeover.

267

00:16:33,000 --> 00:16:36,400

Oh, maybe they're bringing them together.

268

00:16:36,400 --> 00:16:39,320

They just needed someone to talk to.

269

00:16:39,320 --> 00:16:40,880

It seems obvious now.

270

00:16:40,880 --> 00:16:43,880

The mythbusters are back in the hunt.

271

00:16:50,880 --> 00:16:54,880

Ah, that looks like a quack.

272

00:16:54,880 --> 00:16:58,560

It's astonishing how well that works.

273

00:16:58,560 --> 00:17:00,560

There's something else astonishing.

274

00:17:00,560 --> 00:17:03,800

They've got the quack, but they don't have an echo.

275

00:17:03,800 --> 00:17:04,800

Not a one.

276

00:17:05,800 --> 00:17:10,000

But then there's not much here for the sound to bounce off.

277

00:17:10,000 --> 00:17:17,560

In terms of trees and plants and so on, you don't get very much of an echo.

278

00:17:17,560 --> 00:17:20,280

Certainly not off of leaves.

279

00:17:20,280 --> 00:17:25,360

Roger thinks if there were any echoes, the background noise drowned them out.

280

00:17:25,360 --> 00:17:26,360

A sweetheart duck.

281

00:17:26,360 --> 00:17:33,040

To prove that, and bust this silly myth once and for all, Bob and Roy will have to go high-five.

282

00:17:35,800 --> 00:17:39,800

Okay, that's really cool.

283

00:17:39,800 --> 00:17:43,280

Meyer Sound makes top-of-the-range concert speakers.

284

00:17:43,280 --> 00:17:45,960

Roger's their staff scientist.

285

00:17:45,960 --> 00:17:48,640

Hi, guys.

286

00:17:48,640 --> 00:17:51,440

They plan two experiments at the lab.

287

00:17:51,440 --> 00:17:54,720

First to capture a crystal-clear quack with no echo.

288

00:17:54,720 --> 00:17:59,120

Then they'll record Bob and Roy in a room that does echo.

289

00:17:59,120 --> 00:18:02,520

The computer should show if there's a difference.

290

00:18:02,520 --> 00:18:06,280

To get the clear quack, they'll use an anechoic chamber.

291

00:18:06,280 --> 00:18:12,440

It absorbs echoes by trapping sound vibrations in baffles on the walls and ceiling.

292

00:18:12,440 --> 00:18:14,440

Let's take them into the chamber.

293

00:18:14,440 --> 00:18:17,240

There we go.

294

00:18:17,240 --> 00:18:20,160

Bob and Roy are game.

295

00:18:20,160 --> 00:18:22,000

I noticed there's a hole in the screen.

296

00:18:22,000 --> 00:18:25,000

Maybe I can goose the duck.

297

00:18:33,520 --> 00:18:36,000

Nothing.

298

00:18:36,000 --> 00:18:38,520

Bob and Roy have wised up.

299

00:18:38,520 --> 00:18:41,320

Jamie, I have an idea.

300

00:18:41,320 --> 00:18:46,320

We get underneath the platform and we stay there for like a full minute or two, and then

301

00:18:46,320 --> 00:18:50,520

we both pop up on both sides of them.

302

00:18:50,520 --> 00:18:53,440

A duck ambush.

303

00:18:53,440 --> 00:18:59,520

It's risky, because if this doesn't work, Jamie and Adam will look really stupid.

304

00:18:59,520 --> 00:19:00,520

Anything?

305

00:19:00,520 --> 00:19:01,520

Nothing.

306

00:19:01,520 --> 00:19:02,520

Nothing at all.

307

00:19:02,520 --> 00:19:03,520

Not a peep.

308

00:19:03,520 --> 00:19:21,040

It's all starting to look like a high-tech waste of time.

309

00:19:21,040 --> 00:19:25,160

When for no apparent reason, Bob and Roy get chatty.

310

00:19:25,160 --> 00:19:26,960

Got something.

311

00:19:26,960 --> 00:19:29,240

It's a pristine quack.

312

00:19:29,240 --> 00:19:33,080

And it turns out there is something different about it after all.

313

00:19:33,080 --> 00:19:35,880

Well, I never, he said.

314

00:19:35,880 --> 00:19:46,080

It's a series of exponentially decaying impulses, which looks almost exactly like room reverberation.

315

00:19:46,080 --> 00:19:50,080

This is the exact moment Jamie is blinded by science.

316

00:19:50,080 --> 00:19:52,280

Have you been paying attention?

317

00:19:52,280 --> 00:19:56,960

What they've found is that when you plot it on the computer, the quack looks exactly

318

00:19:56,960 --> 00:19:58,760

like an echo.

319

00:19:58,760 --> 00:20:01,480

And that could explain the origins of the myth.

320

00:20:01,480 --> 00:20:03,680

Its echo might actually sound just like its quack.

321

00:20:03,680 --> 00:20:06,600

It might blend together for you.

322

00:20:06,600 --> 00:20:12,680

So you might be hearing an echo, but think you're still hearing the quack.

323

00:20:12,680 --> 00:20:16,360

Time to crank up the second experiment in the echo-y room.

324

00:20:16,360 --> 00:20:19,960

Hopefully the computer can tell the difference.

325

00:20:19,960 --> 00:20:22,960

You ready to quack for science?

326

00:20:22,960 --> 00:20:26,440

Okay, quiet please.

327

00:20:26,440 --> 00:20:28,440

Go.

328

00:20:28,440 --> 00:20:33,360

Got it.

329

00:20:33,360 --> 00:20:34,840

You did really, really good.

330

00:20:34,840 --> 00:20:35,840

Good job.

331

00:20:35,840 --> 00:20:37,880

You did excellently.

332

00:20:37,880 --> 00:20:41,000

Finally Bob and Roy have produced on cue.

333

00:20:41,000 --> 00:20:44,880

This cavern of a warehouse is perfect for echoes.

334

00:20:44,880 --> 00:20:47,840

If there are any, the moment of truth has arrived.

335

00:20:47,960 --> 00:20:51,080

Okay, so you want to see our quacks?

336

00:20:51,080 --> 00:20:54,920

So here's the duck quack that we recorded, and I think this initial part here is the

337

00:20:54,920 --> 00:20:55,920

quack.

338

00:20:55,920 --> 00:20:58,280

Yo, does that mean it echoes?

339

00:20:58,280 --> 00:20:59,280

You know what?

340

00:20:59,280 --> 00:21:00,280

It's just hard to tell.

341

00:21:00,280 --> 00:21:01,280

Really?

342

00:21:01,280 --> 00:21:03,520

The reverberation looks just like the quack.

343

00:21:03,520 --> 00:21:08,600

You'd think the combined brains of man and machine would be more than a match for Bob

344

00:21:08,600 --> 00:21:09,600

and Roy.

345

00:21:09,600 --> 00:21:14,440

But somehow, once again, they've frustrated science.

346

00:21:14,440 --> 00:21:19,400

And for one final time, they'll have to sing for their supper.

347

00:21:19,400 --> 00:21:23,040

Roger knows the echo is there somewhere.

348

00:21:23,040 --> 00:21:29,240

And sure enough, amid the techno-babble, at last he finds what he's looking for.

349

00:21:29,240 --> 00:21:35,240

This series of decaying impulses is the reverberation.

350

00:21:35,240 --> 00:21:36,240

Definitely the echo.

351

00:21:36,240 --> 00:21:37,760

Definitely the echo.

352

00:21:37,760 --> 00:21:38,760

Mid-busted.

353

00:21:38,760 --> 00:21:39,760

Don't be so hasty.

354

00:21:39,760 --> 00:21:40,760

Mid-busted, let's go home.

355

00:21:40,760 --> 00:21:41,760

See you.

356

00:21:41,760 --> 00:21:49,240

They've conclusively shown that although a quack's echo might be quiet and tricky to

357

00:21:49,240 --> 00:21:51,960

hear, it does exist.

358

00:21:51,960 --> 00:21:58,840

So how does it feel to be riding the absolute crest of urban myth busting?

359

00:21:58,840 --> 00:21:59,960

Busterific.

360

00:21:59,960 --> 00:22:09,640

And for their contribution to modern science, Bob and Roy have earned a rent-free, bayside

361

00:22:09,640 --> 00:22:11,160

home for life.

362

00:22:11,560 --> 00:22:14,160

Well, what do you think?

363

00:22:14,160 --> 00:22:15,160

Looks good?

364

00:22:15,160 --> 00:22:16,160

All right.

365

00:22:16,160 --> 00:22:18,160

Where were all those quacks when we needed them?

366

00:22:24,160 --> 00:22:28,400

Jamie and Adam are immersed in the Alcatraz escape.

367

00:22:28,400 --> 00:22:31,840

Did Frank Morris and the Anglin brothers drown?

368

00:22:31,840 --> 00:22:35,840

Or could they have gotten away on a raincoat raft?

369

00:22:35,840 --> 00:22:42,920

To find out, the mythbusters will make a raft and attempt the crossing themselves.

370

00:22:42,920 --> 00:22:45,600

Some living history will help their cause.

371

00:22:45,600 --> 00:22:46,600

That's the raincoat.

372

00:22:46,600 --> 00:22:49,160

So this fabric now is very fragile.

373

00:22:49,160 --> 00:22:54,720

If I tried to unroll it, it would deteriorate, it would fall apart.

374

00:22:54,720 --> 00:22:59,080

This brittle old raincoat was actually part of the escapee's raft.

375

00:22:59,080 --> 00:23:03,560

For some reason, they left it behind on the cell block roof.

376

00:23:03,560 --> 00:23:08,880

It's kept in archives at the Maritime Museum and may yet give up a few secrets.

377

00:23:08,880 --> 00:23:14,360

And you can definitely see the glue on the edge of the seam here, contact cement.

378

00:23:14,360 --> 00:23:18,520

The tiniest hints will help them make their own raft more authentic.

379

00:23:18,520 --> 00:23:24,160

It definitely looks like a military-style raincoat that I've seen.

380

00:23:24,160 --> 00:23:26,160

Two paddles were also recovered.

381

00:23:26,160 --> 00:23:29,080

Look at that, that's the real thing.

382

00:23:29,080 --> 00:23:32,640

It actually kind of sent chills out of my spine to see these things.

383

00:23:32,640 --> 00:23:39,080

There was somebody in a dark kind of alcove somewhere out there on Alcatraz that was secretly

384

00:23:39,080 --> 00:23:48,400

pulling these materials together and building this stuff and we actually handled it.

385

00:23:48,400 --> 00:23:52,600

They've reached back 40 years to touch the myth.

386

00:23:52,600 --> 00:23:56,240

But can they get their hands on the right materials today?

387

00:23:56,240 --> 00:23:58,640

Well, that's the American one.

388

00:23:58,880 --> 00:24:03,880

As long as we scuff it up with a little sandpaper, contact cement ought to hold all this stuff.

389

00:24:03,880 --> 00:24:05,880

That feels much better.

390

00:24:05,880 --> 00:24:10,880

Seems they could rename this place Alcatraz Escapes Are Us.

391

00:24:10,880 --> 00:24:12,880

Forty regular.

392

00:24:12,880 --> 00:24:14,880

There are hats too.

393

00:24:14,880 --> 00:24:16,880

Yeah.

394

00:24:16,880 --> 00:24:18,880

It's too big.

395

00:24:18,880 --> 00:24:20,880

What is that?

396

00:24:20,880 --> 00:24:22,880

Peace to your mother.

397

00:24:22,880 --> 00:24:25,880

I'd say we did pretty good in there.

398

00:24:25,880 --> 00:24:27,880

Everything we need.

399

00:24:28,120 --> 00:24:30,120

There's a bunch of stuff we don't.

400

00:24:34,120 --> 00:24:37,120

Back at the shop, it's down to work.

401

00:24:37,120 --> 00:24:39,120

First, the easy part.

402

00:24:39,120 --> 00:24:42,120

Making the paddles based on FBI drawings.

403

00:24:50,120 --> 00:24:52,120

One prison escape paddle.

404

00:24:52,120 --> 00:24:56,120

Jamie, you want to come over here and bend over?

405

00:24:56,360 --> 00:24:59,360

We could have a little prison hazing ritual.

406

00:24:59,360 --> 00:25:01,360

Whack!

407

00:25:01,360 --> 00:25:04,360

There's a bigger pain in the backside ahead.

408

00:25:04,360 --> 00:25:08,360

Now our wannabe jailbirds have to make the raft.

409

00:25:08,360 --> 00:25:11,360

I'm feeling confident about how this boat's going to do.

410

00:25:11,360 --> 00:25:16,360

Of course, the very next cut in the show will be us flailing in the bay in the dark, freezing and screaming.

411

00:25:18,360 --> 00:25:20,360

They might not even get that far.

412

00:25:20,360 --> 00:25:25,360

Two seconds into construction and they've discovered their raincoats are PVC,

413

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

not rubber.

414

00:25:27,600 --> 00:25:29,600

No.

415

00:25:29,600 --> 00:25:33,600

The stuff isn't remotely airtight.

416

00:25:33,600 --> 00:25:37,600

The plan is coming apart at the seams.

417

00:25:37,600 --> 00:25:40,600

It's a totally different material.

418

00:25:40,600 --> 00:25:43,600

At this point, it looks like I'm not getting off the island.

419

00:25:43,600 --> 00:25:46,600

I'm going to have to finish this life sentence.

420

00:25:46,600 --> 00:25:49,600

Turns out the right stuff is almost never used anymore.

421

00:25:52,600 --> 00:25:54,600

But Jamie tracks them down.

422

00:25:54,840 --> 00:25:57,840

It's delivered direct to the big house.

423

00:25:57,840 --> 00:26:03,840

This, I swear, this is exactly what they used on the Alcatraz one.

424

00:26:03,840 --> 00:26:10,840

The raft was never found, but according to FBI intelligence, it was made of three pontoons.

425

00:26:10,840 --> 00:26:14,840

It was 14 feet long and six wide.

426

00:26:18,840 --> 00:26:21,840

It's going to be a rainwear massacre.

427

00:26:22,080 --> 00:26:25,080

The plan is to first cut them into equal panels.

428

00:26:25,080 --> 00:26:28,080

Morris and the Anglans used more than 50 coats.

429

00:26:30,080 --> 00:26:33,080

We are on our way to Alcatraz.

430

00:26:41,080 --> 00:26:47,080

According to the FBI, the escapees had access to contact cement in the prison workshop.

431

00:26:47,320 --> 00:26:53,320

Jamie and Adam will use the same stuff to glue the panels together into long sheets.

432

00:26:53,320 --> 00:26:56,320

What I was thinking of doing was basically something like this.

433

00:26:56,320 --> 00:26:58,320

Folding it over.

434

00:26:58,320 --> 00:27:01,320

Yeah, see, so you do glue, glue, glue, glue, glue.

435

00:27:01,320 --> 00:27:05,320

Sounds easy, but the glue is becoming a sticking point.

436

00:27:05,320 --> 00:27:08,320

You do a full on, like, two and a half inch lap.

437

00:27:08,320 --> 00:27:10,320

Why don't we compromise and make it like two inches?

438

00:27:10,320 --> 00:27:12,320

Why do you want to do a smaller one?

439

00:27:12,320 --> 00:27:14,320

Because it just is, it's like, it's not really going to help us any.

440

00:27:14,320 --> 00:27:16,320

Yes, it is.

441

00:27:16,560 --> 00:27:18,560

It's insurance. I have to insist on this one.

442

00:27:18,560 --> 00:27:20,560

It's absolute insurance.

443

00:27:20,560 --> 00:27:24,560

Make it two inches. That's like double what you would, what you mean.

444

00:27:27,560 --> 00:27:29,560

Alright.

445

00:27:29,560 --> 00:27:31,560

And so we'll just each take a table.

446

00:27:33,560 --> 00:27:39,560

To make sure the raft is airtight, each seam needs to be glued, dried and compressed together.

447

00:27:39,560 --> 00:27:44,560

The real escapees did this in the dark and silently.

448

00:27:47,320 --> 00:27:50,320

Wait, was that a guard?

449

00:27:50,320 --> 00:27:52,320

No.

450

00:27:52,320 --> 00:27:54,320

No.

451

00:27:54,320 --> 00:27:58,320

Yeah, check it out, man. One, two, three, four, five.

452

00:27:58,320 --> 00:28:01,320

We're at five, we're just over six feet here.

453

00:28:01,320 --> 00:28:04,320

That's big enough for the first pontoon.

454

00:28:04,320 --> 00:28:08,320

They just have to roll it up like a rug and seal the ends.

455

00:28:12,320 --> 00:28:15,320

I'm a little worried. It looks a little too good.

456

00:28:15,320 --> 00:28:19,320

And it's almost like we swear it was raincoats.

457

00:28:19,320 --> 00:28:21,320

Alright.

458

00:28:21,320 --> 00:28:26,320

The fact that I even made something that was remotely inflatable for a period of time,

459

00:28:26,320 --> 00:28:31,320

got it up the roof through the blower, down to the shore and into the water is astounding.

460

00:28:33,320 --> 00:28:38,320

If they get this done, it'll be quite an achievement for the Mythbusters too.

461

00:28:39,320 --> 00:28:46,320

My calibrated eyeball detects no leaks whatsoever.

462

00:28:50,320 --> 00:28:53,320

Dude, that's a boat.

463

00:28:53,320 --> 00:28:56,320

I'm really impressed with these prison guys.

464

00:28:58,320 --> 00:29:01,320

Come on, get in. Hurry up, hurry up, they're coming.

465

00:29:02,320 --> 00:29:05,320

The last step is to build in the floor.

466

00:29:05,320 --> 00:29:10,320

Just a thin skin of raincoat between them and the sharks.

467

00:29:10,320 --> 00:29:16,320

But before they do it, there's a distraction no prisoner ever contended with.

468

00:29:18,320 --> 00:29:22,320

They're needed for a Discovery Channel photo shoot.

469

00:29:22,320 --> 00:29:28,320

They've got to stop playing at bank robbers and start pretending to be stars.

470

00:29:29,320 --> 00:29:30,320

Ow!

471

00:29:30,320 --> 00:29:32,320

I don't do makeup.

472

00:29:32,320 --> 00:29:38,320

They get near me with some powder and some scissors for my mustache.

473

00:29:38,320 --> 00:29:40,320

They're going down.

474

00:29:40,320 --> 00:29:44,320

Well, maybe just a little touch up for the tough guy.

475

00:29:44,320 --> 00:29:46,320

You want to look your best.

476

00:29:46,320 --> 00:29:49,320

Would it okay if I turn this into a tidbit?

477

00:29:49,320 --> 00:29:51,320

No.

478

00:29:51,320 --> 00:29:53,320

No, it's not.

479

00:29:53,320 --> 00:29:55,320

Just a little bit.

480

00:29:55,320 --> 00:29:57,320

Put these guys in there.

481

00:29:57,320 --> 00:29:59,320

Yeah, he's tough, alright.

482

00:29:59,320 --> 00:30:02,320

It's a good thing they're not in Alcatraz now.

483

00:30:02,320 --> 00:30:04,320

Oh, baby!

484

00:30:06,320 --> 00:30:09,320

Here comes the other lady of the evening.

485

00:30:09,320 --> 00:30:12,320

Man, you look so beautiful.

486

00:30:12,320 --> 00:30:17,320

They say these guys can make anyone look good.

487

00:30:20,320 --> 00:30:24,320

Sometimes they just have to try a little harder.

488

00:30:27,320 --> 00:30:30,320

Oh, that's a little bit too much.

489

00:30:33,320 --> 00:30:36,320

Mug shots over, back on the cell block.

490

00:30:36,320 --> 00:30:39,320

The guys are making up for lost time.

491

00:30:39,320 --> 00:30:41,320

Lower your hand a little bit.

492

00:30:41,320 --> 00:30:46,320

You drew the line so you have a good idea about where the whole deal sits, yeah?

493

00:30:46,320 --> 00:30:50,320

Just do it one section at a time.

494

00:30:53,320 --> 00:30:54,320

It's going to wrinkle.

495

00:30:54,320 --> 00:30:55,320

Yeah.

496

00:30:55,320 --> 00:30:57,320

They're nearly done.

497

00:30:58,320 --> 00:31:01,320

Just a last check for leaks.

498

00:31:01,320 --> 00:31:03,320

There's one. See that?

499

00:31:03,320 --> 00:31:05,320

That's a leak.

500

00:31:08,320 --> 00:31:11,320

And a rousing sea shanty to get in the mood.

501

00:31:11,320 --> 00:31:13,320

Oh my God.

502

00:31:13,320 --> 00:31:18,320

According to the FBI, the gang modified an accordion to pump up their raft.

503

00:31:19,320 --> 00:31:23,320

As always with these instruments, silence was golden.

504

00:31:23,320 --> 00:31:25,320

I am your father.

505

00:31:27,320 --> 00:31:32,320

Using a ping pong ball, Jamie engineers an ingenious one-way valve

506

00:31:32,320 --> 00:31:36,320

so the thing will blow air in but not suck it out again.

507

00:31:36,320 --> 00:31:38,320

Works beautifully.

508

00:31:41,320 --> 00:31:42,320

That's pretty good.

509

00:31:42,320 --> 00:31:43,320

It's working.

510

00:31:43,320 --> 00:31:44,320

Yeah.

511

00:31:45,320 --> 00:31:50,320

It took 30 raincoats, but the mythbusters have their raft.

512

00:31:50,320 --> 00:31:53,320

They're ready to use it to escape the rock.

513

00:31:53,320 --> 00:31:59,320

Based on the information that we have, I think the raft is very similar to what they had on Alcatraz.

514

00:31:59,320 --> 00:32:09,320

I give us a 60% chance of making it, 20% chance of immediate catastrophic failure,

515

00:32:09,320 --> 00:32:13,320

and 20% slow descent into the depths of hell.

516

00:32:13,320 --> 00:32:15,320

Hell will have to wait.

517

00:32:15,320 --> 00:32:19,320

It'll be a few days before the tide is right to make their attempt.

518

00:32:19,320 --> 00:32:23,320

In the meantime, the mythbusters have another mission.

519

00:32:27,320 --> 00:32:31,320

Adam and Jamie are about to go deep under cover,

520

00:32:31,320 --> 00:32:36,320

armed with only their wits, and a large television production team.

521

00:32:37,320 --> 00:32:41,320

You're really sensitive. You've got a sensitive kind of belly button there, don't you?

522

00:32:41,320 --> 00:32:47,320

They plan to tear the lid right off a scandal that could rock the Western world.

523

00:32:47,320 --> 00:32:54,320

And see if we can determine when exactly the government installs their mind-controlled chips.

524

00:32:55,320 --> 00:32:59,320

These guys laugh at danger if there's a myth to bust.

525

00:32:59,320 --> 00:33:04,320

And they know this one must be true after all they found it on the Internet.

526

00:33:04,320 --> 00:33:21,320

This one comes fresh off the net. The writer of this myth claims that he had had a chip embedded in

him while visiting his local hospital.

527

00:33:21,320 --> 00:33:25,320

And he was so afraid of this that this was some kind of mind-controlled chip, and he wanted to check for it.

528

00:33:25,320 --> 00:33:30,320

So he went to the local Home Depot, and he got a stud finder, and he ran the stud finder over his arm.

529

00:33:30,320 --> 00:33:34,320

And sure enough, right there, he detected both electrical activity and metal.

530

00:33:34,320 --> 00:33:38,320

This legend also links up with the idea of alien implants.

531

00:33:38,320 --> 00:33:48,320

The idea that aliens are implanting us with some kind of chip to control our minds or to monitor what we're doing and what we're saying.

532

00:33:48,320 --> 00:33:55,320

Stud finders, aliens, and mind-controlled chips. Chuck Hager can help with the first part.

533

00:33:55,320 --> 00:33:58,320

He's a stud finder stud.

534

00:33:58,320 --> 00:34:02,320

It sounds like something that might be right out of a science fiction novel.

535

00:34:02,320 --> 00:34:05,320

Chuck designs and makes stud finders.

536

00:34:05,320 --> 00:34:08,320

Chuck, can you give me a demonstration about how the stud finder actually works?

537

00:34:08,320 --> 00:34:13,320

You bet. Let's see what happens. I'm going to place the unit against the wall. Let's turn it on.

538

00:34:13,320 --> 00:34:18,320

Now I'm going to slide it, and as I approach the stud, there's the first edge.

539

00:34:19,320 --> 00:34:24,320

Stud finders are used by builders and home handymen about to punch holes in walls.

540

00:34:24,320 --> 00:34:31,320

The finder uses an electrical field to detect wooden studs, metal beams, and wiring hidden behind the surface.

541

00:34:31,320 --> 00:34:33,320

There must be some metal back there.

542

00:34:33,320 --> 00:34:38,320

But can it find a mind-controlled chip buried in someone's arm?

543

00:34:38,320 --> 00:34:47,320

If the wire were metal embedded under the flesh, in metal sensing mode, again, if the metal were large enough, and not too deep, we could certainly sense that.

544

00:34:49,320 --> 00:34:59,320

Adam and Jamie will be counting on that back at the American Red Cross. They're still answering questions.

545

00:34:59,320 --> 00:35:06,320

The name Kennedy was not mentioned, or were any other political officials.

546

00:35:06,320 --> 00:35:10,320

No questions about my political affiliations. Not that I could determine.

547

00:35:11,320 --> 00:35:21,320

In fact, the only questions were health-related. The guy's cunning plan is to give blood, and everyone is screened before making a donation.

548

00:35:21,320 --> 00:35:24,320

Oh, that's nice. Wow.

549

00:35:24,320 --> 00:35:33,320

They can't drop their guard. According to the myth, the IV needle they are about to receive could well contain a mind-controlled chip.

550

00:35:33,320 --> 00:35:35,320

You can proceed, but we're watching you.

551

00:35:35,320 --> 00:35:36,320

Okay.

552

00:35:37,320 --> 00:35:45,320

Before going undercover at the Red Cross, the mythbusters needed to be Jedi masters of the stud finder.

553

00:35:45,320 --> 00:35:56,320

Jamie's making a builder's nightmare. A wall with more studs than a Saturday night, wiring in between, and a sprinkling of microchips.

554

00:35:56,320 --> 00:36:02,320

So I'm supposed to use these things to try and find the wood, the metal, the conduit, and the microchips, hopefully?

555

00:36:02,320 --> 00:36:05,320

This is like a big, grown-up version of battleship. That's cool.

556

00:36:06,320 --> 00:36:22,320

You're messing with me. I'm trying to work you to health, but I'm not happy about it.

557

00:36:27,320 --> 00:36:35,320

Adam's map is pretty close, but he still hasn't found a microchip, and there's a nasty black hole top-left.

558

00:36:36,320 --> 00:36:37,320

Come on, I'm around.

559

00:36:37,320 --> 00:36:38,320

Can I come check it out?

560

00:36:40,320 --> 00:36:44,320

Interesting. It's funny that, like, ah, yeah.

561

00:36:44,320 --> 00:36:49,320

Ah! That's it. That's what I couldn't see.

562

00:36:49,320 --> 00:36:52,320

And you didn't pick up any of the chips as far as I can tell at all?

563

00:36:52,320 --> 00:36:56,320

No. No. None of these showed up as a hotspot.

564

00:36:57,320 --> 00:37:05,320

There's too little metal in a chip to show up through a wall, but Adam's hoping they can be detected through flesh.

565

00:37:05,320 --> 00:37:08,320

This gel replicates human tissue.

566

00:37:11,320 --> 00:37:16,320

P-U. That's rank.

567

00:37:16,320 --> 00:37:23,320

I'd really like to see someone come across this and try and piece together for themselves why it exists.

568

00:37:24,320 --> 00:37:27,320

It does seem to be picking up this chip over here.

569

00:37:29,320 --> 00:37:34,320

They're definitely picking up, you know, hints of the chips. Some of them pick them up better than

others, and the bone.

570

00:37:34,320 --> 00:37:42,320

But stud finders are designed for use on solid walls. Wobbly flesh gives plenty of false readings.

571

00:37:42,320 --> 00:37:47,320

No, we're just trying to find the vein. It's almost there. Are you okay? Want some juice?

572

00:37:47,320 --> 00:37:53,320

What the guys really need is some practice looking for chips under living flesh.

573

00:37:53,320 --> 00:37:59,320

Microchipping seems far-fetched, but responsible pet owners have been doing it for years.

574

00:37:59,320 --> 00:38:07,320

And the idea behind the microchip is to make a kind of permanent identification of that animal that can't get lost or worn away like a tag could.

575

00:38:07,320 --> 00:38:12,320

Less than one in seven pets lost in America are returned to their owners.

576

00:38:12,320 --> 00:38:20,320

These tiny chips act like barcode. They're read with a radio frequency scanner. The ID number is registered to the owner.

577

00:38:20,320 --> 00:38:26,320

Is it possible to actually exert like a radio frequency on this chip to control the mind of the animal?

578

00:38:26,320 --> 00:38:30,320

Like you could push the stop ripping the curtains button and the don't pee in the corner button.

579

00:38:30,320 --> 00:38:39,320

Free of mind control, Bethany the dog is being chipped today. She's kindly agreed to also let the mythbusters scan her.

580

00:38:39,320 --> 00:38:43,320

The chip is inserted with a hypodermic needle.

581

00:38:43,320 --> 00:38:49,320

And then it goes in. Once the microchip is placed we want to make sure that it still works.

582

00:38:49,320 --> 00:38:54,320

And so we'll use the scanner to scan right over that area and we get the unique identification number again.

583

00:38:54,320 --> 00:38:56,320

That's great.

584

00:38:56,320 --> 00:39:05,320

Now it's only meant to be found with a radio frequency scanner, but can the chip be located by a stud finder's electrical field?

585

00:39:05,320 --> 00:39:09,320

I'm getting a little blip actually right over the site.

586

00:39:09,320 --> 00:39:10,320

There you go.

587

00:39:10,320 --> 00:39:14,320

I think I found it.

588

00:39:14,320 --> 00:39:18,320

Yeah, right about there. Yeah.

589

00:39:18,320 --> 00:39:27,320

Everyone's happy and armed with their new chip finding skills, Jamie and Adam are ready to spring their surprise back at the Red Cross.

590

00:39:27,320 --> 00:39:34,320

We want to make sure that we're starting out with no mind control devices embedded in our arms already.

591

00:39:34,320 --> 00:39:39,320

So we're going to use a stud finder. Here you go Jamie.

592

00:39:39,320 --> 00:39:46,320

If there are mind control chips being dispensed here, it looks like the game is up.

593

00:39:46,320 --> 00:39:50,320

All clear. It's time to make their donation.

594

00:39:50,320 --> 00:39:52,320

A little sting. Here we go.

595

00:39:52,320 --> 00:39:54,320

It's not so bad.

596

00:39:54,320 --> 00:40:03,320

Common Sense says the Red Cross is far more interested in collecting blood than brains, particularly in the case of these two minds.

597

00:40:03,320 --> 00:40:08,320

But Jamie and Adam have put their heads on the block in the name of myth busting.

598

00:40:08,320 --> 00:40:11,320

Could they pay the ultimate price?

599

00:40:11,320 --> 00:40:17,320

I don't notice anything at all. I feel perfectly normal now.

600

00:40:17,320 --> 00:40:23,320

Everything feels great. Life is good. The world is in perfect order.

601

00:40:23,320 --> 00:40:28,320

That's Adam's mind in normal, out of control mode.

602

00:40:28,320 --> 00:40:35,320

And any attempt by the government to bring it some order seems to have failed.

603

00:40:35,320 --> 00:40:39,320

Those stud finders aren't finding anything.

604

00:40:39,320 --> 00:40:45,320

It would seem that their technology is far more advanced than I previously suspected and that I'm riddled with microchips.

605

00:40:45,320 --> 00:40:48,320

Or maybe there aren't.

606

00:40:48,320 --> 00:40:52,320

That's right. That is a third option. It didn't even encourage me.

607

00:40:53,320 --> 00:41:00,320

The Red Cross' Becky O'Connor has heard her share of ridiculous stories about blood donation.

608

00:41:00,320 --> 00:41:02,320

So you categorically deny it?

609

00:41:02,320 --> 00:41:08,320

I do categorically deny that there is anything left behind when you make a blood donation.

610

00:41:08,320 --> 00:41:12,320

The Red Cross always needs new blood donors to help save lives.

611

00:41:12,320 --> 00:41:16,320

Less than 5% of eligible Americans donate.

612

00:41:16,320 --> 00:41:21,320

I think that if we were actually somehow controlling people, we probably wouldn't have a shortage

613

00:41:21,320 --> 00:41:25,320

because the first thing we might do is encourage them to come in more often.

614

00:41:25,320 --> 00:41:29,320

I really think that's one of the sillier myths that we could have run across.

615

00:41:29,320 --> 00:41:34,320

I think we should look for a couple more interesting myths to dispel.

616

00:41:34,320 --> 00:41:36,320

So hopefully more people will do this.

617

00:41:36,320 --> 00:41:43,320

The Myth Busters have come through with Minds Intact, a giving glow and myth busted.

618

00:41:47,320 --> 00:41:50,320

The night of June 11th, 1962.

619

00:41:50,320 --> 00:41:56,320

Three desperate men break out of Alcatraz and trust their lives to the black water.

620

00:41:56,320 --> 00:41:58,320

They are never seen again.

621

00:41:58,320 --> 00:42:03,320

Frank Morris, Clarence Anglin and his brother John.

622

00:42:10,320 --> 00:42:11,320

You look funny.

623

00:42:11,320 --> 00:42:12,320

You don't?

624

00:42:12,320 --> 00:42:13,320

No.

625

00:42:13,320 --> 00:42:19,320

In fact, Jamie and Adam are wearing what the escapees would have been on the night they broke out.

626

00:42:19,320 --> 00:42:25,320

Dressed like this, could the three have paddled their raft made of raincoats to safety?

627

00:42:25,320 --> 00:42:29,320

Tonight, the Myth Busters will find out.

628

00:42:29,320 --> 00:42:34,320

The FBI files say the escapees were aiming for Angel Island,

629

00:42:34,320 --> 00:42:40,320

but the Myth Busters will test their own theory that they were smart enough to use the outgoing tide

630

00:42:40,320 --> 00:42:43,320

to carry them to the Marin Headlands.

631

00:42:43,320 --> 00:42:47,320

Of course, there were three in the real escape attempt,

632

00:42:47,320 --> 00:42:53,320

so young Will Abbott has been drafted from the workshop to be their partner in crime.

633

00:42:53,320 --> 00:42:59,320

It's going to be a whole other world, not to mention the shock of the cold, cold water.

634

00:42:59,320 --> 00:43:04,320

Just remember, kid, if it doesn't kill you, it just makes a great story later on.

635

00:43:04,320 --> 00:43:05,320

Oh, hell yeah.

636

00:43:05,320 --> 00:43:07,320

We'll find out Frank Morris' weight.

637

00:43:07,320 --> 00:43:12,320

He'll wear a buoyant wetsuit so he can immediately help the guys if things go wrong.

638

00:43:12,320 --> 00:43:18,320

Just so that we can communicate for emergency situations, this means I need help.

639

00:43:18,320 --> 00:43:20,320

This is not hello.

640

00:43:20,320 --> 00:43:23,320

This means I'm okay, everything's all right.

641

00:43:23,320 --> 00:43:24,320

All right?

642

00:43:24,320 --> 00:43:28,320

The guys will also wear strobe locator lights.

643

00:43:28,320 --> 00:43:32,320

Well, we'll get you a battery on that just as soon as we can.

644

00:43:32,320 --> 00:43:34,320

That'd be a good idea.

645

00:43:34,320 --> 00:43:39,320

On the northwest edge of Alcatraz, the tide is rushing out at more than three knots.

646

00:43:39,320 --> 00:43:41,320

The water just over 60 degrees.

647

00:43:41,320 --> 00:43:44,320

The wind about five knots.

648

00:43:44,320 --> 00:43:48,320

Those conditions are very similar to what faced Morris and the Anglans.

649

00:43:48,320 --> 00:43:52,320

And remember, they are presumed to have drowned.

650

00:43:52,320 --> 00:43:57,320

Dead or alive, I imagine that the three escapees would get a kick out of the fact that

651

00:43:57,320 --> 00:44:03,320

we are getting into a boat and retracing their steps for an entertainment show.

652

00:44:03,320 --> 00:44:07,320

I can only imagine what the convicts were saying when this was occurring.

653

00:44:07,320 --> 00:44:09,320

I guess nobody will ever know.

654

00:44:09,320 --> 00:44:14,320

But I'm pretty sure they weren't talking about how nice the view was.

655

00:44:14,320 --> 00:44:18,320

They're in position just off the spot where the escapees took their chances.

656

00:44:18,320 --> 00:44:24,320

Like them, the mythbusters have no idea if their raincoat raft will float.

657

00:44:24,320 --> 00:44:29,320

You and me, four and a half of the will in the middle, that puts the lightest weight at the highest ringness.

658

00:44:30,320 --> 00:44:35,320

It's cold, it's dark, and it's time to go.

659

00:44:35,320 --> 00:44:39,320

Paramedics and a trained lifeguard are standing by.

660

00:44:50,320 --> 00:44:54,320

The rafts passed its first test. It's holding Jamie's weight.

661

00:45:00,320 --> 00:45:03,320

We're taking that water.

662

00:45:03,320 --> 00:45:05,320

I'll take that, I got it.

663

00:45:05,320 --> 00:45:07,320

I know one paddle.

664

00:45:07,320 --> 00:45:09,320

Okay, we're off.

665

00:45:09,320 --> 00:45:11,320

Here we are.

666

00:45:11,320 --> 00:45:13,320

We're escaping!

667

00:45:16,320 --> 00:45:21,320

Somewhere around here, no doubt Morris and the Anglans celebrated too.

668

00:45:21,320 --> 00:45:25,320

They'd escaped Alcatraz, but what lay ahead?

669

00:45:26,320 --> 00:45:29,320

If that raft sank, they were swimming.

670

00:45:29,320 --> 00:45:34,320

If they were swimming, they would be in trouble relatively quickly.

671

00:45:34,320 --> 00:45:38,320

It was nine or ten hours before they were found to be missing.

672

00:45:38,320 --> 00:45:41,320

If you're still in the water that long, you're not going to make it.

673

00:45:41,320 --> 00:45:44,320

I have no idea where we are.

674

00:45:44,320 --> 00:45:47,320

Adam, Jamie and Will are paddling across the tide.

675

00:45:47,320 --> 00:45:53,320

If they've miscalculated, the current will sweep them under the Golden Gate Bridge and out to sea.

676

00:45:56,320 --> 00:46:01,320

I can't see Alcatraz because there's some damn big float in the view.

677

00:46:01,320 --> 00:46:03,320

Our legs are falling asleep.

678

00:46:03,320 --> 00:46:08,320

The raft is getting weaker. Every ten minutes they have to add more air.

679

00:46:10,320 --> 00:46:13,320

And the tidal rip is getting rougher.

680

00:46:13,320 --> 00:46:26,320

Did the same waves sink the escapees?

681

00:46:26,320 --> 00:46:29,320

No signs of them were ever found on land.

682

00:46:29,320 --> 00:46:32,320

But the water gave up clues.

683

00:46:32,320 --> 00:46:35,320

The most important thing was a packet of photographs.

684

00:46:35,320 --> 00:46:42,320

Also, there were nine slips of paper with names and addresses of people they were going to contact.

685

00:46:42,320 --> 00:46:48,320

Now, unless you're in a life-or-death situation, you're not going to let go of that bag.

686

00:46:48,320 --> 00:46:53,320

Hey Adam, we can see Alcatraz straight behind us right now.

687

00:46:53,320 --> 00:46:54,320

Wow!

688

00:46:54,320 --> 00:46:56,320

We've come quite a ways haven't we?

689

00:46:56,320 --> 00:46:57,320

We have.

690

00:46:57,320 --> 00:47:02,320

After about forty minutes, they're closing in on the bridge and the shore.

691

00:47:02,320 --> 00:47:08,320

If the real escapees made it this far, their spirits would be starting to lift by now too.

692

00:47:09,320 --> 00:47:12,320

This is so cool!

693

00:47:12,320 --> 00:47:17,320

It seemed impossible, but the mythbusters are almost there.

694

00:47:17,320 --> 00:47:22,320

Paddling a raincoat raft more than three miles across a rushing tide,

695

00:47:22,320 --> 00:47:26,320

making landfall just east of the Golden Gate Bridge.

696

00:47:29,320 --> 00:47:30,320

We made it!

697

00:47:30,320 --> 00:47:35,320

If the escapees came ashore here, they've stepped lightly ever since.

698

00:47:35,320 --> 00:47:39,320

There were no stolen cars, no phone calls home.

699

00:47:39,320 --> 00:47:43,320

Frank Morris and the Anglin Brothers disappeared without trace.

700

00:47:43,320 --> 00:47:47,320

In doing so, they created a great myth.

701

00:47:47,320 --> 00:47:50,320

There were sightings in New Orleans and Washington, D.C.

702

00:47:50,320 --> 00:47:56,320

I personally had a guy tell me that the Anglin Brothers were down in Florida playing golf

703

00:47:56,320 --> 00:48:01,320

and they were not the type of guys that would be allowed on a golf course.

704

00:48:02,320 --> 00:48:07,320

As for the mythbusters, their running days are over.

705

00:48:10,320 --> 00:48:11,320

Beautiful, man!

706

00:48:11,320 --> 00:48:12,320

Good job, guys.

707

00:48:12,320 --> 00:48:14,320

Yeah, good job. Good job, James.

708

00:48:15,320 --> 00:48:20,320

Given a reasonable amount of intelligence, I think it's entirely possible that they made it.

709

00:48:20,320 --> 00:48:25,320

Again, I think the most damning evidence that they didn't is the fact that no one's heard from them since.

710

00:48:25,320 --> 00:48:30,320

Unless they find any specific evidence that these guys lived happily ever after

711

00:48:30,320 --> 00:48:36,320

or something after they got ashore, we won't know whether it was true or not.

712

00:48:36,320 --> 00:48:39,320

But we know that it could have been done, which is cool.

713

00:48:39,320 --> 00:48:42,320

Here's something to ponder, though.

714

00:48:42,320 --> 00:48:45,320

The tide carried an ore to Angel Island.

715

00:48:45,320 --> 00:48:49,320

That tide came directly from the Marin Headlands.

716

00:48:49,320 --> 00:48:53,320

How did the ore get there, if not with the escapees?

717

00:48:53,320 --> 00:48:55,320

The mystery remains.

718

00:48:55,320 --> 00:48:57,320

I'm king of the world!