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

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

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00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:26,000

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

Good evening. Our encounters tonight include a look at the Phantom Plains of the Peak District.  
That's a little later.

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00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:45,000

Ever since the first photograph was taken, researchers have tried to capture the ultimate image, the paranormal on film.

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

The invention of camcorders has stepped up the search. Every couple of weeks or so, a new video clip generates a fresh wave of excitement.

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00:00:53,000 --> 00:01:02,000

After all, the camera doesn't lie. Or does it? Tonight we examine evidence of the paranormal captured on camera.

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00:01:02,000 --> 00:01:06,000

Pictures that can be explained. And those that can't.

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00:01:06,000 --> 00:01:11,000

On this unknown aircraft, C1 control doesn't know what type of aircraft it is either.

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00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:19,000

Flying sources, ghouls and phantoms, fact or fiction. Will we ever be sure?

13

00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:23,000

One thing is certain, this is a fake.

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00:01:23,000 --> 00:01:30,000

60 years after this picture of the Loch Ness monster was taken, one of the team behind it admitted it was a hoax.

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00:01:30,000 --> 00:01:35,000

Nothing more than a model monster powered by toy submarine.

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00:01:35,000 --> 00:01:40,000

These pictures convinced and baffled a generation after World War One.

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00:01:40,000 --> 00:01:46,000

The so-called Cottingly Fairies had even persuaded Sherlock Holmes author Arthur Conan Doyle.

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00:01:46,000 --> 00:01:54,000

But 65 years later, Elsie Hill, one of the two cousins who took the pictures, finally admitted it was all a fake.

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00:01:54,000 --> 00:02:03,000

These types of hoaxes come as no surprise to the founder of this magazine, who's made a career out of debunking paranormal stories.

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00:02:03,000 --> 00:02:07,000

These are classic cases of things that have deceived people.

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00:02:07,000 --> 00:02:14,000

When we look at them today with our, you know, now decades of experience of looking at photographs and special effects on movie screens,

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00:02:14,000 --> 00:02:16,000

they look very fake.

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00:02:16,000 --> 00:02:20,000

So just how easy is it to mock up a convincing photo?

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00:02:20,000 --> 00:02:24,000

Student photographer Ian Lott took these pictures.

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00:02:24,000 --> 00:02:27,000

A UFO over Worcestershire.

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00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:35,000

Ian's photos began as two paper plates simply wrapped together in silver foil and suspended from cotton.

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00:02:35,000 --> 00:02:41,000

He photographed that and in the dark room superimposed the image onto a background of open countryside.

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

The result? A possible image of a flying saucer.

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00:02:45,000 --> 00:02:55,000

The thing that happens if you have researchers who really, really want to believe in something is that they can be inclined to see what they want to see rather than what's actually there.

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00:02:55,000 --> 00:03:04,000

Paranormal researchers have also pointed to photographs such as this one taken in Rainham Hall Norfolk as evidence that ghosts exist.

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00:03:04,000 --> 00:03:06,000

I love this photograph. I think it's a great photograph.

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00:03:06,000 --> 00:03:13,000

There are so many techniques for double exposures and everything else that it's really hard to take it seriously as a genuine photograph of a ghost.

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00:03:13,000 --> 00:03:18,000

Here's another ghostly apparition, but this is another of Ian Lott's fakes.

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00:03:18,000 --> 00:03:30,000

All I'd done was just take a picture of somebody walking down a stairs, then reshot the same photograph without the person on the stairs and it actually gave him a translucent image.

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00:03:30,000 --> 00:03:39,000

This picture caused a storm when it was published. Does it show the ghost of a young girl pictured in the burnt remnants of Wemtown Hall in Shropshire?

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00:03:39,000 --> 00:03:49,000

The image of the young lady standing on the balcony, you can quite clearly see on the mid-riff, on the shoulders, through her arms, there has been a double density.

37

00:03:49,000 --> 00:03:55,000

Almost the image coming through the bars, which is typically where you would lay one image on

another.

38

00:03:55,000 --> 00:04:06,000

And all these things point to certainly in the Wem pictures, that there has been possibly some double image or double exposing, which gives it that impression of a ghostly image.

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00:04:06,000 --> 00:04:15,000

Writer and photographer Robert Irving produced this photograph, only to find it the centre of worldwide stories about aliens landing on Earth.

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00:04:15,000 --> 00:04:22,000

Robert created the picture to illustrate an article he was writing for 14 times about an Italian UFO scale.

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00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:31,000

As soon as the article came out, the Italian media jumped on it basically and published it, portrayed it as genuine.

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00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:36,000

A photograph of a UFO in a hangar seemed to be exactly what they needed.

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00:04:36,000 --> 00:04:45,000

The whole thing was so easy to do. Robert created his photograph on a computer. Modern programs allow you to manipulate any image.

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00:04:45,000 --> 00:04:52,000

The scope of these things is unlimited. Anything can be done. The only limits are the imagination really.

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00:04:52,000 --> 00:05:01,000

Basically I just took a lot of care, recreating the struts in front of the flying saucer. It added extra realism.

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00:05:01,000 --> 00:05:07,000

Trick photography is nothing new, and there are many reasons why people go to such lengths to fake photographs.

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00:05:07,000 --> 00:05:14,000

I figured that we could all do with a photograph of a UFO in a hangar. I did it for fun.

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00:05:14,000 --> 00:05:21,000

But what about photographs that are genuine but simply misleading? For example, this one, apparently, of a UFO.

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00:05:21,000 --> 00:05:29,000

To me this is a great example of a picture that was not taken in order to deceive anybody, but is extremely deceptive.

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00:05:29,000 --> 00:05:35,000

In fact, the US government released the image to show how easily people can misinterpret what they see in the sky.

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00:05:35,000 --> 00:05:40,000

Actually, it's a B-36 bomber taken from an unusual angle.

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00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:47,000

Moving images present the same difficulties. Is this a UFO, or is there a more mundane explanation?

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00:05:47,000 --> 00:05:53,000

It's quite common that you'll get an effect of a light appearing in the lens, sort of hanging in the sky.

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00:05:53,000 --> 00:05:58,000

This can look like a square or diamond shape or even a pentagon.

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00:05:58,000 --> 00:06:04,000

That's actually caused by stray light coming into the lens and being reflected off the internal surfaces of the lenses.

56

00:06:04,000 --> 00:06:10,000

And you get a mirror image inside the lens of the lensiris unit.

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00:06:10,000 --> 00:06:13,000

And in effect, you're seeing something that isn't really there.

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00:06:15,000 --> 00:06:23,000

Objects apparently moving of their own free will, filmed from the space shuttle, caused excitement among UFO researchers.

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00:06:23,000 --> 00:06:29,000

But in fact, they could be explained away as shuttle debris and waste being ejected into orbit.

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00:06:30,000 --> 00:06:36,000

And what about this picture, apparently of a face in Mars taken by a NASA space probe?

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00:06:36,000 --> 00:06:41,000

Is it a natural formation or something built by a race of Martians?

62

00:06:44,000 --> 00:06:52,000

The idea that human beings have a large primate cousin was given extra credence with this film of the creature known as Bigfoot, taken in North America.

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00:06:52,000 --> 00:06:55,000

But what do scientists think?

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00:06:55,000 --> 00:07:02,000

I first saw that clip about 30 years ago and I thought it was a hoax then and I think it's a hoax now.

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00:07:02,000 --> 00:07:11,000

It looks very much to me like a man in a monkey suit, the limb proportions and body shape entirely human.

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00:07:11,000 --> 00:07:17,000

The gait is human with a few exaggerations, a bit of extra arm swinging and so on.

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00:07:17,000 --> 00:07:20,000

The most convincing thing was the way that the coat ripples.

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00:07:20,000 --> 00:07:24,000

The coat is not attached as it were to the underlying flesh.

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00:07:25,000 --> 00:07:31,000

And what about this? Is the idea of a flying saucer over Manhattan just too strange to be true?

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00:07:31,000 --> 00:07:41,000

I really think if there were a flying saucer barreling around Manhattan, first of all, the comedian David Letterman would be out getting it on his show.

71

00:07:41,000 --> 00:07:46,000

Second of all, all those tourists on the Empire State Building would be taking lots of pictures of it.

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00:07:46,000 --> 00:07:56,000

It's just hard for me to believe that in a city the size and never sleep character of New York, it would be hidden.

73

00:07:56,000 --> 00:08:03,000

But there are some items that still intrigue and baffle once hoaxes, photographic mishaps and anomalies are ruled out.

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

This photograph of a Navy unit taken in 1919 for example.

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00:08:07,000 --> 00:08:14,000

Despite extensive analysis, no one has come up with an explanation for the presence of the apparition in the back row.

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00:08:14,000 --> 00:08:18,000

A former member of the unit who had been killed three days earlier.

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00:08:20,000 --> 00:08:23,000

When I first saw this photograph, I assumed it was a fake.

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00:08:23,000 --> 00:08:32,000

In the back row, the chap forth from the left looking over his left shoulder, there's the ghostly face of a naval mechanic, Freddie Jackson, who had been killed in an accident some three days earlier on the base.

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00:08:32,000 --> 00:08:38,000

He walked into a propeller. The photographer, as far as I know, wouldn't have been aware of this accident.

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00:08:39,000 --> 00:08:44,000

Make up your own mind about these UFOs filmed in Las Vegas by Englishman Ray Wardle.

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00:08:44,000 --> 00:08:56,000

Some reason I went up onto the roof of the garage at work and started filming what I thought was probably two planes coming into land until one dived very, very fast towards the ground.

82

00:08:56,000 --> 00:09:02,000

Then some minutes later, a third one comes along, which is probably two to three times the size.

83

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

These two objects which are floating around, they seem to lock onto it.

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

A few minutes after that, there was an airplane going into land at McCarran Airport.

85

00:09:15,000 --> 00:09:24,000

So now we know that these aren't airplanes. I've had it analyzed and nobody has come up with any

logical explanation of what it is.

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00:09:24,000 --> 00:09:28,000

I've had people suggest that it's a hoax. Well, if it is, I didn't hoax it.

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00:09:29,000 --> 00:09:37,000

But perhaps the most remarkable UFO footage the surface in recent years comes from an official source, the United States Air Force.

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00:09:37,000 --> 00:09:44,000

These pictures were taken in the sky above the top secret Nellis airbase by the Air Force's own cameras.

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00:09:44,000 --> 00:09:49,000

The footage has undergone rigorous examination and continues to battle the experts.

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00:09:49,000 --> 00:09:57,000

I'm familiar with footage taken by these kinds of cameras at this test range and it does look extremely authentic.

91

00:09:57,000 --> 00:10:00,000

So I think a fake or hoax is unlikely.

92

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

What's interesting is the reaction of the observers you can hear in the background here.

93

00:10:05,000 --> 00:10:07,000

Where'd it come from?

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00:10:07,000 --> 00:10:12,000

On its unknown aircraft, T1 control doesn't know what type of aircraft it is either.

95

00:10:12,000 --> 00:10:18,000

These people are used to seeing hundreds of airplanes cross this test range every day.

96

00:10:18,000 --> 00:10:23,000

They know all about military jets, yet what they're seeing clearly baffles them.

97

00:10:23,000 --> 00:10:29,000

And when you look at some of the data that's scrolling in the screen, you can tell for instance it's hopping about all over the place.

98

00:10:29,000 --> 00:10:32,000

It's staying stationary, it then moves off very fast.

99

00:10:32,000 --> 00:10:37,000

It's doing things that no normal airplane would do, so it's pretty baffling.

100

00:10:37,000 --> 00:10:41,000

It is in the strictest sense of the word, an unidentified flying object.

101

00:10:41,000 --> 00:10:45,000

We don't know what it is. That doesn't mean we can't know what it is.

102

00:10:45,000 --> 00:10:48,000

And it doesn't mean that people who study it can't find out what it is.

103

00:10:48,000 --> 00:10:52,000

And it doesn't mean that there's no natural explanation. It just means that it's unidentified.

104

00:10:54,000 --> 00:11:01,000

The US military refuses to comment on that footage, which was said to have been secretly smuggled out of the base.

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00:11:01,000 --> 00:11:05,000

Until they do, or someone else comes up with a plausible explanation,

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

this will remain one of the most intriguing mysteries in the files of unexplained images.

107

00:11:11,000 --> 00:11:16,000

After the break, the Phantom Plains of the Derbyshire Peaks.

108

00:11:24,000 --> 00:11:29,000

Where would you expect to find a ghost?

109

00:11:29,000 --> 00:11:35,000

Somewhere historical usually, gothic castles, creepy graveyards and old country houses are favourite.

110

00:11:35,000 --> 00:11:40,000

Comparatively new fangled things like aeroplanes don't often get a mention.

111

00:11:40,000 --> 00:11:46,000

But airborne apparitions are what witnesses claim to have encountered in tonight's second story.

112

00:11:47,000 --> 00:11:54,000

The Derbyshire Dales, where swirling mists descend almost daily to swallow up those brave enough to venture onto the hills.

113

00:11:54,000 --> 00:12:00,000

In the skies above, the dense fog can be just as treacherous and unforgiving.

114

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

Littered with crash sites, the peaks are a graveyard for more than 200 aeroplanes.

115

00:12:05,000 --> 00:12:10,000

Many of the crews who lost their lives were returning from wartime bombing missions.

116

00:12:10,000 --> 00:12:13,000

Young men who weren't ready to go to war,

117

00:12:14,000 --> 00:12:21,000

the tragic nature of their deaths may account for the Peak District's long history of mysterious sightings.

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00:12:21,000 --> 00:12:27,000

For Sheffield postman Tony Engel, the peaks provide an escape from city life.

119

00:12:27,000 --> 00:12:31,000

Last summer he saw something that he couldn't explain.

120

00:12:31,000 --> 00:12:40,000

I took the dog up the lane for a walk, got so far up and then I suddenly saw this plane out of the sky coming down the valley.

121

00:12:41,000 --> 00:12:46,000

And it was very, very eerie. The propellers were going around but there was no sound.

122

00:12:46,000 --> 00:12:50,000

And it was dipping all the time as if it was getting lower and lower.

123

00:12:50,000 --> 00:12:54,000

And I thought, crack it, this thing is going to crash.

124

00:12:58,000 --> 00:13:03,000

And as I looked over the edge, I thought I'd see the plane. There was no plane.

125

00:13:03,000 --> 00:13:07,000

So I just looked and there was just lambs and sheep in the fields.

126

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

The best way to describe it was as if someone had died and he had moved into a room and it was just like death.

127

00:13:14,000 --> 00:13:19,000

It was terrible, it was a very eerie sensation, not very nice at all.

128

00:13:19,000 --> 00:13:23,000

Since then we've tried to get him up the lane and he just won't have it.

129

00:13:23,000 --> 00:13:28,000

He'll just cower down at certain areas and you've got to visibly pull him up.

130

00:13:28,000 --> 00:13:32,000

And we've tried it with myself going up the lane with the dog,

131

00:13:32,000 --> 00:13:36,000

my wife going up the lane with the dog and friends and he just won't have it.

132

00:13:36,000 --> 00:13:38,000

Come on!

133

00:13:39,000 --> 00:13:45,000

Was Ben displaying evidence of the sixth sense that many animals are believed to possess?

134

00:13:45,000 --> 00:13:50,000

A few Dakotas are still flying today. Maybe that could explain what Tony saw.

135

00:13:50,000 --> 00:13:56,000

Well, we've got 11 Dakota aircraft and therefore that makes us certainly the largest Dakota

operation,

136

00:13:56,000 --> 00:13:59,000

civilian Dakota operation in the world in the world.

137

00:13:59,000 --> 00:14:04,000

And we checked into the flight time details that you gave us and we found that none of our aircraft were airborne,

138

00:14:04,000 --> 00:14:07,000

let alone in the area that you specified on the timing question.

139

00:14:07,000 --> 00:14:12,000

The only other British Dakota that could have been flying at the time belonged to the RAF.

140

00:14:12,000 --> 00:14:16,000

It was airborne that day, but 150 miles away.

141

00:14:16,000 --> 00:14:21,000

So no Dakotas have been flying in that area at the time of Tony's sighting.

142

00:14:21,000 --> 00:14:25,000

But one had crashed there 50 years earlier.

143

00:14:25,000 --> 00:14:28,000

15 to 5, that was embarrassing.

144

00:14:28,000 --> 00:14:35,000

Well, a crew of US servicemen prepared aboard a C-47 Dakota at Leicester East.

145

00:14:35,000 --> 00:14:38,000

The war in Europe has just finished and spirits are high.

146

00:14:38,000 --> 00:14:40,000

It had something to do with your pitching.

147

00:14:40,000 --> 00:14:41,000

Oh yeah?

148

00:14:41,000 --> 00:14:43,000

Well, if you're going to throw a curveball.

149

00:14:43,000 --> 00:14:45,000

I mean, you know, I don't want to criticize you.

150

00:14:45,000 --> 00:14:46,000

Come on, don't scare me.

151

00:14:46,000 --> 00:14:48,000

If you're going to throw a curveball, you want to put some curve on it.

152

00:14:48,000 --> 00:14:50,000

That's something.

153

00:14:50,000 --> 00:14:51,000

Hey, how you doing?

154

00:14:51,000 --> 00:14:52,000

I don't know.

155

00:14:52,000 --> 00:14:53,000

My name's John.

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00:14:53,000 --> 00:14:54,000

John, I'm George.

157

00:14:54,000 --> 00:14:55,000

Pleased to meet you, George.

158

00:14:55,000 --> 00:14:56,000

Earl.

159

00:14:56,000 --> 00:14:57,000

Pleased to meet you, Earl.

160

00:14:57,000 --> 00:14:58,000

What can we do for you?

161

00:14:58,000 --> 00:15:01,000

Well, a little bird tells me that you lads are flying up to Scotland.

162

00:15:01,000 --> 00:15:02,000

You know, Renfrew.

163

00:15:02,000 --> 00:15:03,000

As a matter of fact, we are.

164

00:15:03,000 --> 00:15:06,000

Well, you see, the thing is, I'm looking to visit my mum who's in Renfrew.

165

00:15:06,000 --> 00:15:09,000

And I was wondering if you might have room for a little one.

166

00:15:09,000 --> 00:15:10,000

And the Jeep, of course.

167

00:15:10,000 --> 00:15:11,000

And the Jeep as well?

168

00:15:11,000 --> 00:15:12,000

Yeah.

169

00:15:12,000 --> 00:15:13,000

Well, I don't know.

170

00:15:13,000 --> 00:15:17,000

Well, we usually got room for a small Scotch jam.

171

00:15:17,000 --> 00:15:18,000

All right, you're on.

172

00:15:18,000 --> 00:15:19,000

You're on.

173

00:15:19,000 --> 00:15:20,000

Thank you very much.

174

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

Okay, guys, you ready?

175

00:15:22,000 --> 00:15:23,000

You got the pins and rudder lock.

176

00:15:23,000 --> 00:15:24,000

Yeah, down the pins.

177

00:15:24,000 --> 00:15:25,000

Doing the lock.

178

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

All right.

179

00:15:26,000 --> 00:15:28,000

And you guys, we're going to get you next time.

180

00:15:28,000 --> 00:15:29,000

No chance.

181

00:15:29,000 --> 00:15:35,000

With their extra passenger, REF serviceman John Dunlop Main, the US Airmen set off for

182

00:15:35,000 --> 00:15:40,000

Renfrew, north of the border, on a purely administrative mission.

183

00:15:40,000 --> 00:15:47,000

All right, so we'll bring you to this cloud.

184

00:15:47,000 --> 00:15:50,000

This is where we are.

185

00:15:50,000 --> 00:15:52,000

Thank God, we're too low.

186

00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:53,000

We're too low.

187

00:15:53,000 --> 00:15:54,000

Pull up.

188

00:15:54,000 --> 00:15:55,000

We're going to crack.

189

00:15:55,000 --> 00:15:56,000

Hang on.

190

00:15:56,000 --> 00:15:57,000

Over the clouds.

191

00:15:57,000 --> 00:15:58,000

We're going to hit.

192

00:15:58,000 --> 00:16:13,000

Official papers record the roll call of the dead, six American servicemen, and one British.

193

00:16:13,000 --> 00:16:18,000

I was very shocked to hear that the plane had crashed in this area and that people

194

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

had been killed.

195

00:16:21,000 --> 00:16:25,000

The mystery deepened after Tony's story appeared in the local paper.

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00:16:25,000 --> 00:16:29,000

Papers wrote with their own sightings of phantom planes in the peaks.

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00:16:29,000 --> 00:16:31,000

The earliest dated back to 1948.

198

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

I must have been about seven or eight when I saw the plane.

199

00:16:35,000 --> 00:16:40,000

I remember it because I'd been interested in planes from very early age.

200

00:16:40,000 --> 00:16:42,000

I preferred them to dolls.

201

00:16:42,000 --> 00:16:43,000

Mummy?

202

00:16:43,000 --> 00:16:47,000

Young Audrey Twig had been with her mother in the Hope Valley when she saw something.

203

00:16:47,000 --> 00:16:51,000

I can see when it's just up there.

204

00:16:51,000 --> 00:16:54,000

Your eyesight's better than mine.

205

00:16:54,000 --> 00:16:58,000

What baffled me mostly was the fact that Mum couldn't see it.

206

00:16:58,000 --> 00:17:00,000

Do you want a cheese?

207

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

I think the strangest thing was how low it was.

208

00:17:06,000 --> 00:17:12,000

Could Audrey's sighting all those years ago be part of the same mystery as Tony's encounter?

209

00:17:12,000 --> 00:17:18,000

Paul Booth and Stephen Lewis devote their time to piecing together the history of the tragedies.

210

00:17:18,000 --> 00:17:24,000

I found that a lot of these phantom sightings had taken place in areas where the aircraft had crashed.

211

00:17:24,000 --> 00:17:28,000

But what about the Hope Valley where young Audrey made her sighting?

212

00:17:28,000 --> 00:17:32,000

There was an airspeed Oxford crash in the whole valley.

213

00:17:32,000 --> 00:17:34,000

The young pilot was only 19-year-old.

214

00:17:34,000 --> 00:17:37,000

He was doing his first solo navigation flight.

215

00:17:37,000 --> 00:17:39,000

It took off in clear weather.

216

00:17:39,000 --> 00:17:42,000

The cloud came down as it is today.

217

00:17:42,000 --> 00:17:46,000

He descended through the cloud to try and find his position.

218

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

The aircraft flew straight into the moor.

219

00:17:49,000 --> 00:17:54,000

Tony Engle's story also brought more recent sightings into the open.

220

00:17:54,000 --> 00:18:00,000

Verena Bishop from Sheffield had her own strange experience in 1994.

221

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

It was a Thursday afternoon in March.

222

00:18:03,000 --> 00:18:06,000

I was walking from Hope along the Cattleton Road.

223

00:18:06,000 --> 00:18:13,000

Something made me look up into the sky and seemingly just above my head was this plane.

224

00:18:13,000 --> 00:18:15,000

There was no sound whatsoever.

225

00:18:15,000 --> 00:18:22,000

The wing must have been directly over my head because I just saw the fuselage.

226

00:18:22,000 --> 00:18:24,000

And I thought it was going to crash.

227

00:18:24,000 --> 00:18:29,000

I had to duck. It was so low I thought it was going to hit me.

228

00:18:29,000 --> 00:18:35,000

It just skimmed over the fields and about the second field disappeared completely.

229

00:18:35,000 --> 00:18:40,000

So I thought perhaps there's a hollow in the field that it's gone down there.

230

00:18:40,000 --> 00:18:44,000

I waited for an explosion but nothing happened.

231

00:18:44,000 --> 00:18:49,000

In fact a plane had crashed in exactly the same spot 51 years earlier.

232

00:18:49,000 --> 00:18:51,000

Farmer Joe Ayer saw it go down.

233

00:18:51,000 --> 00:18:55,000

I was taking a load of coal up to a farmhouse.

234

00:18:55,000 --> 00:18:59,000

Apparently the plane crossed the cement works quarry.

235

00:18:59,000 --> 00:19:04,000

Accidentally low and it was to come in a straight line

236

00:19:04,000 --> 00:19:08,000

and flown straight into this bank and blew up.

237

00:19:08,000 --> 00:19:12,000

There are still hollows marking the plane's impact.

238

00:19:12,000 --> 00:19:16,000

Five airmen have been on board a Wellington bomber flying from Wells-Borned Mountford

239

00:19:16,000 --> 00:19:20,000

near Stratford-upon-Avon in 1943.

240

00:19:20,000 --> 00:19:25,000

But Verena Bishop had no idea a Wellington had gone down in that field.

241

00:19:25,000 --> 00:19:30,000

When I heard about the history I was amazed to find later that there had been a crash

242

00:19:30,000 --> 00:19:34,000

in exactly the same spot as I'd seen it.

243

00:19:34,000 --> 00:19:37,000

It was quite eerie having had that experience.

244

00:19:37,000 --> 00:19:43,000

Aircraft historian Gerald Scarrett tells of a macabre twist to the ghost plane stories.

245

00:19:43,000 --> 00:19:46,000

He's investigated crashes for more than 40 years

246

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

among them the loss of a giant super fortress bomber.

247

00:19:49,000 --> 00:19:57,000

The B-29 crashed in November 1948 on Bleak Law which is the biggest hill at the back of Glossop.

248

00:19:57,000 --> 00:20:00,000

1,600 feet above sea level.

249

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

Gerald's fascination with the history has taken him on numerous visits to the scene of the crash.

250

00:20:05,000 --> 00:20:10,000

It was my birthday 1974 and I was just scratching about in the wreck.

251

00:20:10,000 --> 00:20:17,000

It had been rained very hard and when it rains very hard it kind of sips all the small pieces.

252

00:20:17,000 --> 00:20:22,000

And I bent down and I thought it was a brass washer and when I picked it up it was a ring.

253

00:20:22,000 --> 00:20:26,000

I wiped the peat out of the inside of it and it had a name on it.

254

00:20:26,000 --> 00:20:31,000

London Peatanner. I knew all the names of the crew and he was the pilot.

255

00:20:31,000 --> 00:20:34,000

And I sent it back to the states.

256

00:20:34,000 --> 00:20:38,000

It was on a routine reconnaissance photo mission from RAF Scampton.

257

00:20:38,000 --> 00:20:44,000

Well with me finding the ring these chats from Birmingham who do this kind of thing in Snowdonia got in touch with me.

258

00:20:44,000 --> 00:20:47,000

She said can we come up and finish your show as a wreck. I said yes.

259

00:20:47,000 --> 00:20:51,000

So they came up and I took them up to the B-29.

260

00:20:51,000 --> 00:20:57,000

They found one of the crew's watches smashed and it had stopped at 10.50 the time.

261

00:20:57,000 --> 00:21:00,000

One of the lads said whereabouts did you find the ring and I said here.

262

00:21:00,000 --> 00:21:08,000

I kind of bent down to show him the exact spot and the next thing I looked up and they were kind of 10, 15 yards away.

263

00:21:08,000 --> 00:21:12,000

And they just scarped off the more light scared rabbits.

264

00:21:12,000 --> 00:21:13,000

Where are you going?

265

00:21:13,000 --> 00:21:18,000

They were just ashened first and left me there and he's quite away from the road.

266

00:21:18,000 --> 00:21:22,000

When Gerald caught up with them they told him what they'd seen.

267

00:21:22,000 --> 00:21:28,000

I said what are you doing there. They said believe it or not there's someone standing behind you looking down

268

00:21:28,000 --> 00:21:31,000

with full flying uniform on.

269

00:21:36,000 --> 00:21:40,000

And I turned around obviously and saw nothing and they said well we've seen it.

270

00:21:40,000 --> 00:21:45,000

We're going and they shut off the more thanks for bringing us and they went.

271

00:21:45,000 --> 00:21:47,000

And I've never heard from them since.

272

00:21:47,000 --> 00:21:50,000

Some believe there are lost souls on the moors.

273

00:21:50,000 --> 00:21:55,000

If this should be the case at least attempts are now being made to lay them to rest.

274

00:21:55,000 --> 00:22:03,000

In May 1995 a memorial service was held on top of Bleaklow for the airmen who died in the Dakota crash.

275

00:22:03,000 --> 00:22:10,000

Nine months later the tragic victims aboard the Wellington were remembered with the laying of a plaque in the Hope Valley.

276

00:22:13,000 --> 00:22:19,000

There are more memorials planned but since those commemorations there have been no reported sightings of the Wellington.

277

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

The Dakota hasn't been spotted either.

278

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

For all that Tony Ingalls says his dog Ben still won't return to the site of the crash. Good night.