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

Could the Atlantic Ocean be hiding a doorway to another dimension?

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00:00:07,000 --> 00:00:16,000

East of Florida, there are mysterious waters that some claim can trap boats and planes that disappear forever.

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

Is something going on here?

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

Truth or scare searches for the answer, deep in the mysterious Bermuda Triangle.

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00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:32,000

But beware, once we go in, there may be no way out.

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00:00:57,000 --> 00:01:11,000

Deep under the ocean, there's a mystery just waiting to be solved.

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00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:20,000

For decades, in an infamous region of the Atlantic Ocean called the Bermuda Triangle, travelers have just been disappearing.

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00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:26,000

But some say there's no proof that it's anything more than a whole lot of hype.

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00:01:26,000 --> 00:01:34,000

Is the truth out there? There's only one way to find out. We're heading straight in to the Bermuda Triangle.

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00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:41,000

The Bermuda Triangle covers over 500,000 square miles of the Atlantic Ocean.

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00:01:41,000 --> 00:01:46,000

Between the island of Bermuda, the southern tip of Florida and Puerto Rico.

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00:01:47,000 --> 00:01:51,000

For over 200 years, disturbing reports have been coming from here.

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00:01:51,000 --> 00:01:59,000

Reports of experienced pilots and captains entering the Triangle and completely losing their way.

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00:01:59,000 --> 00:02:08,000

But this is an extremely busy route for both ships and airplanes, and almost all of them make it through without any problem.

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00:02:08,000 --> 00:02:14,000

But still, there's something about the reports that some people can't ignore.

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00:02:15,000 --> 00:02:22,000

One of the first recorded disappearances in the mysterious history of the Bermuda Triangle happened in 1814,

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00:02:22,000 --> 00:02:30,000

when the United States Navy warship USS Wasp disappeared with its crew of 140 men.

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00:02:30,000 --> 00:02:37,000

In 1918, the naval supply ship USS Cyclops was lost with 309 men.

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00:02:38,000 --> 00:02:44,000

A freighter named the Marine Sulphur Queen sailed into the Triangle in 1963.

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00:02:44,000 --> 00:02:48,000

Her crew of 39 men never made it out.

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00:02:48,000 --> 00:02:56,000

Charter planes, fishing vessels, military training flights, sailboats, even gigantic tankers and freighters,

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00:02:56,000 --> 00:03:01,000

all gone without a trace. And nobody can explain why.

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00:03:02,000 --> 00:03:06,000

Many believe that the disappearances have to do with the Earth itself.

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00:03:07,000 --> 00:03:11,000

The Earth is surrounded by its own magnetic field.

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00:03:11,000 --> 00:03:15,000

A compass needle always points towards the Earth's magnetic North Pole,

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00:03:15,000 --> 00:03:23,000

which can be up to 20 degrees different from the geographic or true North Pole, depending on where you are.

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00:03:23,000 --> 00:03:33,000

It's called compass variation, and if navigators don't account for it, they'll find themselves seriously off course, and in serious trouble.

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00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:35,000

But the Bermuda Triangle is different.

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00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:42,000

It's one of only two places on Earth where the magnetic North and the true North actually do match up,

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00:03:42,000 --> 00:03:52,000

and this can cause a compass to completely lose direction, and that can easily cause a vessel to get lost, sometimes for good.

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00:03:53,000 --> 00:04:00,000

But not everyone believes this theory. Some blame it all on bad weather.

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00:04:01,000 --> 00:04:07,000

Violent thunderstorms, intense hurricanes, and maybe even underwater earthquakes

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00:04:07,000 --> 00:04:11,000

crisscross the triangle with frightening frequency.

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00:04:11,000 --> 00:04:16,000

The theory is that these disturbances might cause giant water spouts.

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00:04:16,000 --> 00:04:22,000

What's a water spout? Oh, just a tornado made out of water.

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00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:28,000

And for most boats, its first run in with a water spout will be its last.

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00:04:29,000 --> 00:04:31,000

But the theories don't stop there.

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00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:38,000

Methane is a gas produced under the sea floor, and sometimes it bubbles up to the surface.

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00:04:38,000 --> 00:04:46,000

Some say an eruption of mega bubbles could be big enough to sink any ship unfortunate enough to be in the area,

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00:04:46,000 --> 00:04:49,000

and maybe even pull down a passing airplane.

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00:04:51,000 --> 00:04:56,000

Then again, most people who travel through these waters have no trouble at all.

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00:04:57,000 --> 00:05:03,000

According to Coast Guard statistics, the number of aircraft and ship disappearances in the Bermuda Triangle

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00:05:03,000 --> 00:05:09,000

is no higher than in any similar sized chunk of ocean, anywhere in the world.

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00:05:09,000 --> 00:05:14,000

But there are a few cases so shocking that some people have to wonder.

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00:05:17,000 --> 00:05:24,000

Coming up, six planes, 27 men, and one bizarre disappearance.

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00:05:24,000 --> 00:05:27,000

The tragic mission of Flight 19.

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00:05:29,000 --> 00:05:32,000

Next, untruth or scare.

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

It's a place where ships and planes go missing and are never found again.

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00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:45,000

But hard facts tell us there's nothing unusual going on in the Bermuda Triangle.

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00:05:45,000 --> 00:05:52,000

So how can we ignore the unsolved case of six US Navy planes that disappeared in 1945?

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00:05:54,000 --> 00:05:57,000

It was the afternoon of December 5th.

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00:05:57,000 --> 00:06:04,000

Flight 19, a group of six torpedo bombers called Avengers, was preparing to take off.

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

They were all carrying student pilots, young soldiers who were learning how to fly.

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00:06:10,000 --> 00:06:16,000

Their teacher, Lieutenant Charles Taylor, an experienced pilot, their mission?

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00:06:16,000 --> 00:06:22,000

To fly from Florida to the Bimini Islands and practice bombing runs on a sunken ship.

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00:06:22,000 --> 00:06:25,000

Calvin Shoemaker was a member of Flight 19.

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00:06:25,000 --> 00:06:30,000

At the time, Shoemaker was an ensign with the Navy Reserve.

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00:06:30,000 --> 00:06:37,000

Just as he was about to take off, another pilot who was having engine trouble asked to switch planes with him.

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00:06:37,000 --> 00:06:43,000

One of our pilots, Ensign Bossie, couldn't get his engine started.

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00:06:43,000 --> 00:06:50,000

I was taxiing out and saw that Bossie was having engine problems.

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00:06:50,000 --> 00:06:54,000

I asked Lieutenant Taylor if I could make that swap.

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00:06:54,000 --> 00:07:03,000

And Taylor said go ahead and swap out with him and you, Shoemaker, try to get his engine started and catch up with us.

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

But he was only in the plane a few minutes when he realized that he wouldn't make it.

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00:07:08,000 --> 00:07:12,000

I couldn't get his engine started either.

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00:07:12,000 --> 00:07:20,000

Though he missed out on the mission that day, trading planes with the other pilot saved Calvin Shoemaker's life.

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00:07:20,000 --> 00:07:25,000

After completing its mission, Flight 19 started heading back to Florida.

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00:07:25,000 --> 00:07:30,000

The base in Fort Lauderdale was in constant contact with the pilots by radio.

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00:07:30,000 --> 00:07:36,000

So they heard the whole terrifying story as it was happening.

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00:07:36,000 --> 00:07:40,000

First, storm clouds moved in as the sun was setting.

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00:07:40,000 --> 00:07:45,000

The sunset was around 5.20 p.m. and the weather got bad.

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00:07:45,000 --> 00:07:52,000

The flight caught itself in bad weather, rain, clouds, so they had to fly on instruments.

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00:07:52,000 --> 00:08:01,000

This meant that the pilots were forced to fly their planes using only radar and compasses, which is no problem, usually.

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00:08:01,000 --> 00:08:10,000

Because suddenly, as the ocean raged below them, Lieutenant Taylor reported that his compass had stopped working.

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00:08:10,000 --> 00:08:18,000

All five planes in his squadron were lost in the Bermuda Triangle.

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00:08:18,000 --> 00:08:21,000

The control tower was helpless.

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00:08:21,000 --> 00:08:26,000

They asked Lieutenant Taylor to turn on his radar so they could track the planes.

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00:08:26,000 --> 00:08:30,000

But for some strange reason, he didn't.

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00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:36,000

There was only one way to make contact and hopefully save Flight 19.

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00:08:36,000 --> 00:08:40,000

The Navy sent a seaplane out to search for the lost Avengers.

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00:08:40,000 --> 00:08:48,000

Then, just a few minutes after it took off, the flight tower picked up some strange radio transmissions.

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00:08:48,000 --> 00:08:52,000

It had to be the missing planes, but where were they?

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00:08:52,000 --> 00:08:56,000

And why wouldn't they fly west?

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

As darkness fell, Ensign Shoemaker was starting to lose hope.

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00:09:00,000 --> 00:09:04,000

The communications became garbled, sporadic.

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00:09:04,000 --> 00:09:12,000

In some cases, so broken, I felt that they were getting further and further away from Fort Lauderdale.

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00:09:12,000 --> 00:09:19,000

By the next morning, the Navy rescue seaplane that went looking for Flight 19 had not reported in.

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00:09:19,000 --> 00:09:25,000

Added to the five Avengers, there were now six planes missing in the Bermuda Triangle.

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00:09:26,000 --> 00:09:33,000

When it was finally light enough, hundreds of ships went to search for the Avengers of Flight 19 and the seaplane.

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00:09:33,000 --> 00:09:39,000

But the rescue mission failed. They found no sign of the lost planes.

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00:09:39,000 --> 00:09:43,000

The Navy commanders who were there at the time couldn't comprehend it.

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00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:49,000

One of them said it was as if they vanished from the face of the Earth and went to Mars.

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00:09:49,000 --> 00:09:53,000

A month later, the Navy made the report about what happened that night.

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00:09:53,000 --> 00:10:01,000

Flight 19's leader was confused, so he accidentally led his men in the wrong direction, away from land.

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00:10:01,000 --> 00:10:06,000

According to the report, they must have run out of fuel and crashed into the ocean.

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00:10:06,000 --> 00:10:09,000

But the case has never officially been closed.

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

There are lots of theories about how the men were lost, but no one has ever truly explained it.

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00:10:15,000 --> 00:10:21,000

The only survivor, Cal Shoemaker, is still haunted by the loss of his friends.

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00:10:21,000 --> 00:10:30,000

There was a tragic event at the time. We lost 14 men. They had families, and it was not a pretty picture.

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00:10:30,000 --> 00:10:39,000

And until there's a good explanation, pilots and sailors who cross the Triangle will probably always wonder and worry.

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00:10:42,000 --> 00:10:49,000

Nearly 25 years after the disappearance of Flight 19, a pilot claims he came face to face with what brought it down.

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00:10:49,000 --> 00:10:51,000

Is the mystery solved?

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00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:57,000

Find out next on Truth or Scare.

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00:10:59,000 --> 00:11:07,000

Though most planes and ships never experience any trouble in the Bermuda Triangle, people are fascinated with the ones that do.

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

Especially when one of the pilots lives to tell the tale.

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00:11:12,000 --> 00:11:19,000

Bruce Gernan is one of those pilots. He's been flying planes in the Bermuda Triangle for years.

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00:11:19,000 --> 00:11:25,000

When he was just 23, Bruce made it could have been the final flight of his life.

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00:11:25,000 --> 00:11:33,000

High above the Bermuda Triangle, he had an experience most pilots wouldn't believe, or survive.

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00:11:33,000 --> 00:11:38,000

An experience he now believes was the same one had by Flight 19.

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00:11:39,000 --> 00:11:48,000

The day was December 4th, 1970, 25 years after Flight 19 was lost, almost to the day.

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00:11:48,000 --> 00:11:55,000

Bruce was navigating the sky above the Bimini Islands, when out of nowhere, he was surrounded.

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00:11:55,000 --> 00:12:02,000

A huge cloud bank had completely swallowed his plane, and Bruce and his crew were trapped in a blinding fog.

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

It engulfed the airplane as we tried climbing above it, and we weren't able to escape from it.

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

We'd break free for maybe 10 seconds or so, and then it would catch back up to us again.

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

Bruce tried to maneuver the plane out, but the cloud bank literally wouldn't let him escape.

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00:12:27,000 --> 00:12:33,000

Nearly 10 miles to the top, the cloud bank was much too high to fly over.

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00:12:33,000 --> 00:12:38,000

His only hope was to steer directly into the monster cloud.

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00:12:41,000 --> 00:12:49,000

Surrounded by thunder and lightning, Bruce risked almost certain electrocution, trying to make it out to the other side.

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00:12:49,000 --> 00:12:54,000

As he flew, Bruce claimed the sides of the cloud were rotating around his plane.

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00:12:54,000 --> 00:13:05,000

And a strange thing happened again. To the blue sky, it was gone, and everything was gray, and everything looked strange.

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00:13:05,000 --> 00:13:12,000

Flying through the cloud tunnel, Bruce says he could see the tips of his wings actually scraping the cloud itself.

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00:13:12,000 --> 00:13:18,000

It was like a terrible dream, where everything seemed to be moving in slow motion.

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00:13:18,000 --> 00:13:27,000

Bruce calls it the electric fog, but it did more than block his view that day. His navigation equipment was knocked out too.

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00:13:27,000 --> 00:13:36,000

Not only that, the compass itself was spinning slowly, counterclockwise.

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00:13:36,000 --> 00:13:46,000

And at this point, I realized that I wouldn't be able to fly the airplane by instruments.

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00:13:46,000 --> 00:13:51,000

Then, out of nowhere, a voice came on the radio.

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00:13:51,000 --> 00:13:56,000

Who is over Miami was all he heard, but it gave him hope.

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00:13:56,000 --> 00:14:02,000

And when he looked down, Bruce could now see Florida, slowly appearing through the dense fog.

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

But that would mean that Bruce's plane had been catapulted back to where he'd started.

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00:14:07,000 --> 00:14:15,000

How? He'll probably never know why, but somehow, Bruce's life was spared that day.

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00:14:15,000 --> 00:14:29,000

And after thinking back on it for all of these years, Bruce is more convinced than ever that the electric fog is responsible for many of the accidents in the Bermuda Triangle, including Flight 19.

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00:14:29,000 --> 00:14:36,000

Investigators say there has to be something that causes pilots and boaters in the Triangle to seem almost hypnotized.

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00:14:36,000 --> 00:14:40,000

If not electric fog, then what?

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00:14:40,000 --> 00:14:44,000

Some say the answer might just be hidden under water.

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00:14:44,000 --> 00:14:52,000

There's still so much we don't understand about the ocean. Could the answer possibly be down there? Somewhere.

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00:14:52,000 --> 00:15:00,000

Could the mystery of the Bermuda Triangle be linked to the lost civilization of Atlantis?

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

We dive for clues.

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00:15:04,000 --> 00:15:09,000

Next on Truth or Scare.

138

00:15:09,000 --> 00:15:13,000

Mysterious fog. Instruments that go haywire.

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00:15:13,000 --> 00:15:19,000

Sometimes the sky over the Bermuda Triangle seems to practically swallow planes whole.

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00:15:19,000 --> 00:15:25,000

But many say that the mysterious waters below are just as deadly.

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00:15:25,000 --> 00:15:32,000

Could the depths be hiding the real answers to the unexplained events?

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00:15:32,000 --> 00:15:36,000

John Dugan is with a U.S. Coast Guard auxiliary.

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00:15:36,000 --> 00:15:42,000

He's seen unpredictable weather take control of a ship, leaving the captain completely helpless.

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00:15:42,000 --> 00:15:48,000

But it's the other incidents that bother John, the ones that can't be explained by storms.

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00:15:48,000 --> 00:15:52,000

I was on sunset duty for the Coast Guard. We found a boat without anyone aboard.

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00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:57,000

Our concern was for the persons aboard. Why weren't they on the vessel?

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00:15:57,000 --> 00:16:00,000

Science hasn't been able to solve the mystery.

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00:16:00,000 --> 00:16:05,000

Many point out that the number of disappearances in the Bermuda Triangle are just a coincidence.

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00:16:05,000 --> 00:16:13,000

But for those that do believe, over the years there have been some pretty wild theories about the mystifying occurrences.

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00:16:13,000 --> 00:16:19,000

Why does navigation equipment sometimes stop working when planes and ships pass through the triangle?

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00:16:19,000 --> 00:16:25,000

Bill Donato has been exploring the area for more than 10 years to try and answer that question.

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00:16:25,000 --> 00:16:33,000

He focuses on the waters around Bimini, where Flight 19 vanished and Bruce Gernon had his run in with a strange cloud.

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00:16:33,000 --> 00:16:39,000

He takes his tiny one-man submarine down to the ocean floor to search for clues.

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00:16:39,000 --> 00:16:47,000

Some researchers believe this is where the famous lost continent of Atlantis was before this happened.

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00:16:47,000 --> 00:16:54,000

According to the legend, a volcano on Atlantis erupted with catastrophic results.

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00:16:54,000 --> 00:17:01,000

Fire rained down until there was nothing left. Atlantis sank to the bottom of the sea.

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00:17:01,000 --> 00:17:05,000

But some say the volcano had help.

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00:17:05,000 --> 00:17:14,000

Edgar Cayce, a writer and prophet from the 1920s, believed that the culture of Atlantis had developed technology beyond anything we have today.

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00:17:14,000 --> 00:17:22,000

Electromagnetic flying machines, lasers and strange crystals that he believed could generate enormous amounts of power.

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00:17:23,000 --> 00:17:31,000

But according to Cayce, the people of Atlantis eventually misused the power and set off the tragic eruption.

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00:17:31,000 --> 00:17:39,000

Now that's definitely a wild theory, since there's no hard proof that Atlantis even existed.

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00:17:39,000 --> 00:17:49,000

But if it did, and those power crystals were real and still active, it could explain the strange events in the Bermuda Triangle.

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00:17:49,000 --> 00:17:57,000

Nothing's too weird for Bill to consider. Sea creatures, minerals, even mysterious powerful

crystals.

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00:17:57,000 --> 00:18:04,000

He doesn't know how exactly, but Bill's convinced Atlantis is at the heart of the mystery.

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00:18:04,000 --> 00:18:07,000

There's too many indications that there was something here a long time ago.

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00:18:07,000 --> 00:18:11,000

It's basically over all of the Bahamas from the east to the west and north to the south.

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00:18:11,000 --> 00:18:14,000

You can see a lot of it when you fly over in an airplane.

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00:18:14,000 --> 00:18:25,000

Like this formation of a dolphin, and this formation of a seahorse, and a road that still exists under the waters off the coast of Bimini.

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00:18:25,000 --> 00:18:34,000

For Bill, it all adds up to proof that Atlantis is real, or was, until something destroyed it.

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00:18:34,000 --> 00:18:41,000

Bill is determined to find the link between the lost continent and the lost plains and people.

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00:18:41,000 --> 00:18:47,000

When he's convinced, the answer lies under the ocean, with whatever's left of Atlantis.

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00:18:47,000 --> 00:18:57,000

I think that the things that have disappeared probably have disappeared because of something that's in the atmosphere and the water that can influence the forces of nature.

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00:18:57,000 --> 00:19:00,000

It would be truly amazing if Bill were right.

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

But some of the other investigators are even wilder with their theories.

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00:19:04,000 --> 00:19:09,000

Sean David Morton is one of the world's top experts on paranormal events.

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00:19:09,000 --> 00:19:12,000

What's his take on the mysterious triangle?

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00:19:12,000 --> 00:19:17,000

That the pilots and captains are being bombarded by energy that scrambles their brains.

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00:19:17,000 --> 00:19:26,000

We have communications from pilots and from ships captains that before the planes or the craft disappear, they seem to go crazy.

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00:19:26,000 --> 00:19:32,000

Some form of electromagnetic disturbance, if you will, that actually short circuits the mind.

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00:19:32,000 --> 00:19:37,000

Sean believes the electric fog that Bruce ran into might hold the answer.

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

He says we have to figure out what's making it and where it gets strange hypnotic control.

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

But that's not Sean's only wild theory.

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00:19:46,000 --> 00:19:54,000

He also thinks aliens could be grabbing the ships and planes and lifting them right off our planet.

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00:19:54,000 --> 00:19:56,000

What if it's a door to another dimension?

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00:19:56,000 --> 00:20:00,000

What if it's a door to another world instead of traveling into outer space to find whole new worlds?

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

How exciting would that be for all of us to finally solve the mystery of the Bermuda Triangle?

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00:20:05,000 --> 00:20:14,000

If Sean's right, all of those people who've disappeared in the mysterious Bermuda Triangle could still be out there.

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00:20:14,000 --> 00:20:16,000

Somewhere.

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00:20:20,000 --> 00:20:28,000

Could the answer to this mystery really be as bizarre as power crystals from Atlantis or something as simple as bad weather?

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00:20:28,000 --> 00:20:34,000

Since nothing's ever been proven, it's easy to see how people can believe almost anything is possible.

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00:20:34,000 --> 00:20:42,000

While we do know that there are no more disappearances in the Bermuda Triangle than anywhere else in the world, one thing's still for sure.

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00:20:42,000 --> 00:20:50,000

Travelers entering the Bermuda Triangle will probably always read easier when they've made it through a lie.

193

00:21:04,000 --> 00:21:09,000

The Bermuda Triangle