A "Time Traveller" Back From the Year 5,000 Shows a Photo of Los Angeles Under Water

A man calling himself "Edward" claims to have returned from the year 5,000 with a photograph of a submerged Los Angeles. His story, first circulated in 2018, is resurfacing in the British press.

In a video broadcast by Apex TV, a YouTube channel specialising in paranormal stories, a man known only by the first name Edward holds up what he presents as a photograph of Los Angeles entirely under water, taken in the future. His face remains hidden and his voice is digitally altered, officially to protect his identity. The Express is here picking up an account originally published by the Daily Star.

The story: a secret experiment in 2004

Edward says he took part in a secret time-travel experiment in 2004. Working at a Los Angeles laboratory, he claims he was asked to travel into the future to take photographs. He says he was sent 3,000 years ahead, to around the year 5,000.

On arrival, he says, he found himself standing on a huge wooden platform, as were the houses and buildings around him. He gradually realised it was Los Angeles, but covered by water. He adds that he spoke with inhabitants of Atlantis, the legendary sunken city, who allegedly blamed the flood on climate change.

The "bad news": rising seas

According to Edward, this is not merely a warning but an unavoidable reality. His account draws on a very real concern: the warming of the atmosphere is melting the polar ice caps and gradually raising sea levels. Environmental campaigners fear that, without curbs on fossil fuels and pollution, major cities around the world could face devastating flooding.

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An old story

This story is not new. It was already circulating in February 2018, when several outlets, including The Sun and IBTimes, relayed the same video, the same masked man and the same photograph. The account is therefore several years old, and is regularly put back into circulation.

What science says

The kind of time travel Edward describes has never been validated. Many people have declared themselves time travellers, but no claim has ever been confirmed. NASA itself says that this type of travel, to the distant past or future, "only happens in books and movies".

The agency does point out, however, that clocks on aeroplanes and satellites run at a different rate from those on Earth, an effect predicted by relativity that GPS satellites must account for. These are minuscule differences, with no connection to a leap of several millennia.

An unverifiable photograph

In Edward's case, nothing allows the picture to be authenticated: the author is anonymous, the laboratory and the 2004 experiment are not identified, and the image cannot be tied to any date or place. The references to Atlantis, a myth of Platonic origin with no archaeological evidence, add nothing verifiable. As it stands, the testimony amounts to an unsubstantiated claim.

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