

Unreasonable

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1. The health symptoms experienced by embassy staff were related to the piercing sound they heard.
2. The piercing sound was caused by a sonic weapon, and the embassy staff were the targets of a terrorist attack (or an act of war).

3. Given the decades-long history of hostile diplomatic relations between the USA and Cuba, it was rational for the embassy staff to be “tense, paranoid and jumping at every sound” once their colleagues began to experience mysterious health problems.

4. The sound the embassy staff heard was the mating call of the Indies Short-Tailed Cricket.

5. ‘Havana Syndrome’ was a mass psychogenic illness, characterised by contagious anxiety and hypervigilance.

6. Given that anxiety is infectious in episodes of mass psychogenic illness, if people around you are getting sick and you don’t know the cause, it is rational to keep a calm and level head and to try not to get caught up in other people’s anxiety.

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