

DALE, SPENCER COUNTY, INDIANA

JUNE 14, 1964

A historical eyewitness case investigation from southwestern Indiana

Jeffrey Wilson, Charlie Kiesel

Independent Crop Circle Researchers' Association

Southern Indiana Crop Circles

A recent re-discovery of an eyewitness case labeled a “UFO Landing” from Dale, IN from 1964 in *Saucer News* spurred a re-investigation by ICCRA members Jeffrey Wilson, Charlie Kiesel, and Roger Sugden.

A number of additional reports have now surfaced leading to a number of interesting observations about the nature of crop circles and mysterious “balls-of-light” (BOLs)

Dale, IN – June 14, 1964

**Yankeetown, Newburg,
Booneville, Gentryville, IN –
June 14, 1964**

Cannelton, IN June 17, 1964

Huntingburg, IN June 26, 2006

SW INDIANA CROP CIRCLE AND BOL EVENTS



DALE, SPENCER COUNTY, INDIANA

JUNE 14, 1964

Investigations

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A number of additional reports then surfaced leading to a number of interesting observations about the nature of crop circles and mysterious “balls-of-light” (BOLs)

Dale, IN Police Dept.

William Powers, Project Blue Book

Allen Cast, NICAP

ICCRA

Eyewitness Charlie Englebrecht, 18

Dale, Indiana - June 14, 1964 “Event” Synopsis

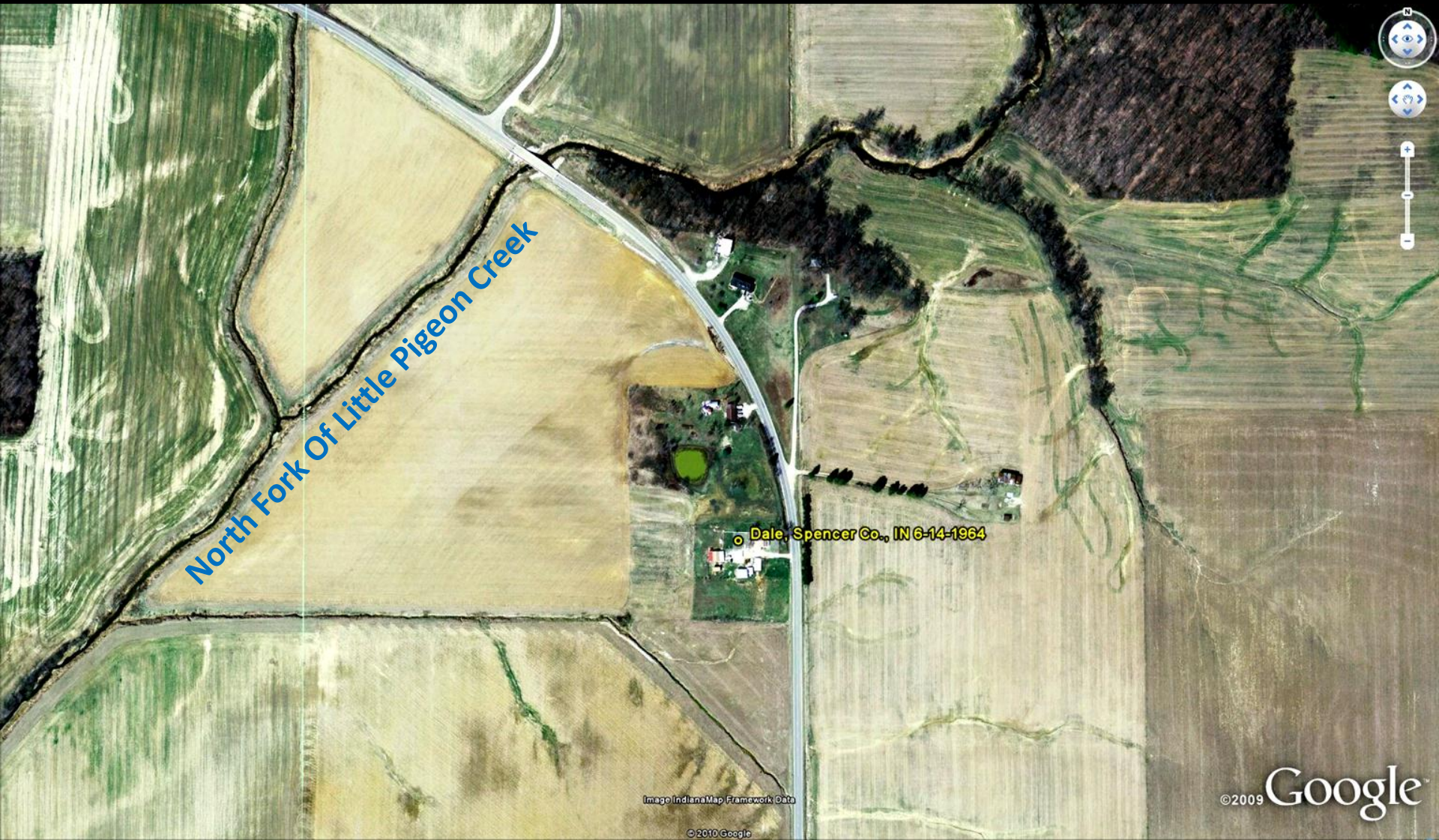
In the clear, early Sunday evening of June 14, 1964, 18-yr.-old Charlie Englebrecht was home alone at his parents’ farm located just north of Dale, Spencer County, Indiana, watching TV with the lights off in the room, but with the lights on in the kitchen behind him. Charlie’s parents were at Vere Hartley’s nearby farm.

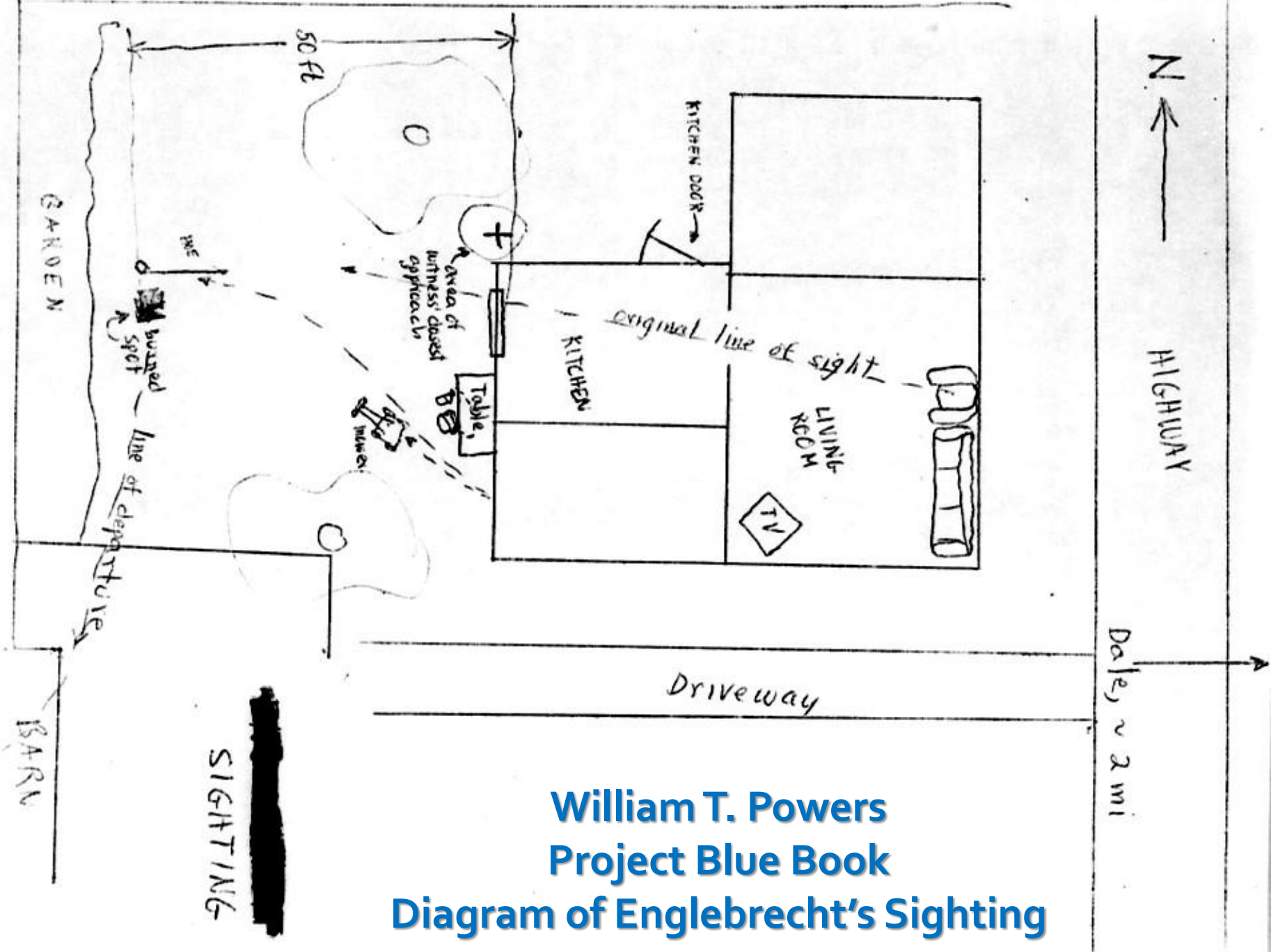
Around 8:30-9:00PM, suddenly the picture on the TV dimmed down, the lights in the kitchen went off, and Charlie noticed a bright light coming through the kitchen window -- emanating from behind the house.

To get a better look, Charlie exited out a side door of the house and saw a 3-4 foot diameter “ball of fire” hovering in the air just six inches off the ground, located about 40-50 feet away from the back of the house. Charlie felt a tingling sensation on his skin, and although he tried to move towards the object, he felt as if “some mysterious force” was preventing him from moving any closer. He also smelled sulfur as if “a thousand matches were being lit at once”. Charlie watched as metal objects, including a power lawnmower, a large metal chicken feed can on the top of a table, a metal water trough, and a metal hoe were *moving towards* the bright object. The object briefly touches the ground and its brightness dimmed down.

Charlie turned to go inside the house and call his parents, and saw the bright object streak away into the sky. As the object disappeared into the sky, the lights and the TV came back on in the house.

Englebrecht farm





William T. Powers
Project Blue Book
Diagram of Englebrecht's Sighting

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Englebrecht

- A couple of miles away at the Hartley farm, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Englebrecht (Charlie's parents) saw a bright ball of light flying away into the sky from the direction of their house, and returned home to the strong smell of sulfur, and found Charlie looking sunburnt.
- They all discovered a 5-6 foot diameter flattened, swirled circle in the grass where Charlie had seen the object touch the ground.
- In the center of this flattened grass circle, about the size of a "salad/dinner" plate was a burned area, with several additional, smaller burned areas within the flattened grass circle. The soil within the affected area became "hard-caked ground," and three ½-5/16th inch deep indentations were discovered spaced apart from one another to form a roughly-shaped isosceles triangle about 2 inches wide.
- They all saw that the lawnmower had moved about 10 feet from where it was originally, and they saw the overturned water trough and feed can. The metal hoe left a visible trail through the grass and had ended up alongside the flattened circle.

Investigations

Dale, IN Police Dept.

- Around 9:30PM, local Police Chief Leroy Musgrave arrived, and as he approached the Englebrecht farm, he noticed a strong smell of "burning rubber" and searched the area for signs of fire, finding none.

Investigations

William T. Powers, Project Blue Book

- Within 24 hours of the event, the Air Force's Project Blue Book contracted Northwestern University / Dearborn Observatory's William T. Powers to investigate as a "Blueboy," and by the end of the day, Monday, June 15th, Powers had already called the Englebrecht's, and made arrangements to investigate.
- Powers immediately flew down to Evansville, rented a car, and was there investigating the site by Tuesday, June 16th.
- Powers discovered a small (but heavy for its size) grey, solid object in the burned area of the swirled circle which, when observed through a jeweler's glass, had unusual ridges on it "like a walnut," had "properties of a meteorite," and the Englebrecht's were told it was "radioactive," as was the whole circular area.



Pictured (left to right): Gilbert Englebrecht, Charlie Englebrecht, William Powers, Dale Police Chief Leroy Musgrave

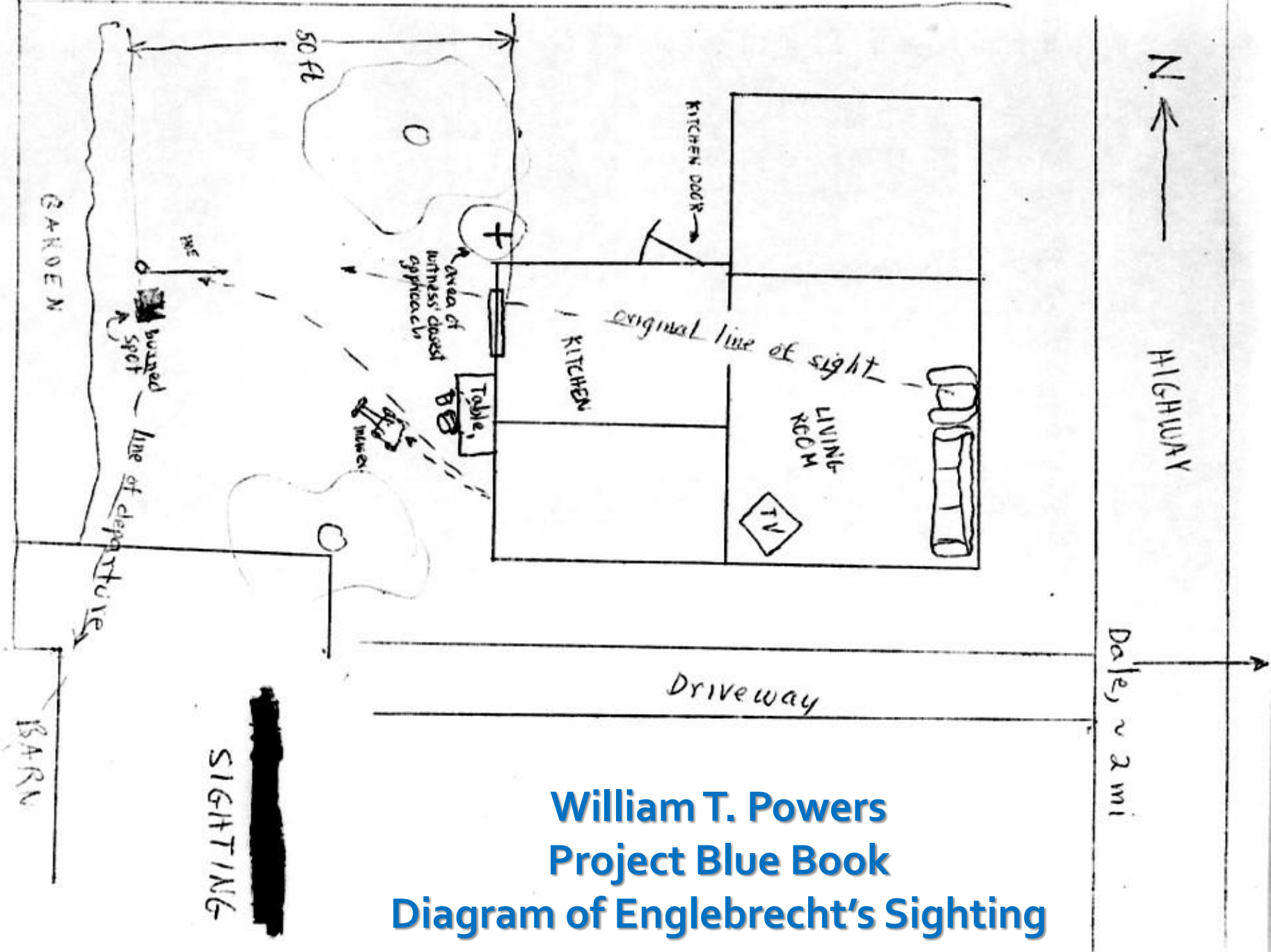
Investigations

William T. Powers, Project Blue Book

- Powers collected soil and charred grass samples from the burned area as well as controls from a distance away. Powers took the soil samples and the grey object with him for further investigation.
- Within a week, Powers had sent his report to Project Blue Book and released his results to the media – and he reported several possible explanations:
 - that Charlie Englebrecht had seen nothing more than a “burning sheet of paper soaked in coal oil,”
 - that “somebody had played a prank on the Englebrecht family,”
 - the event was possibly “swamp lights caused by marsh gas,”
 - and one final, *“low quality explanation”* was that it could have possibly been a “ball of lightning.”



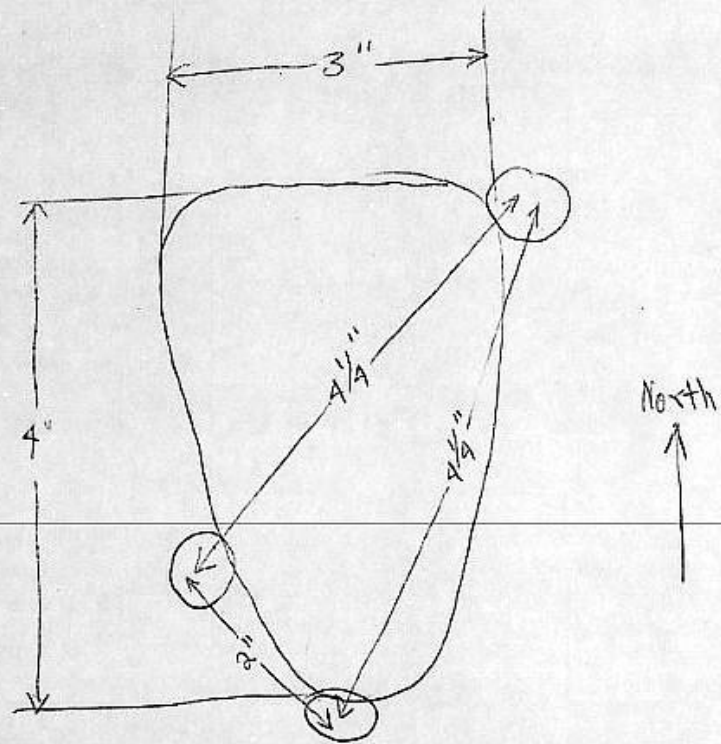
Pictured (left to right): Gilbert Englebrecht, Charlie Englebrecht, William Powers, Dale Police Chief Leroy Musgrave



William T. Powers
Project Blue Book
Diagram of Englebrecht's Sighting

The "burned spot"

- Each circle below "indented" $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{5}{16}$ ths of an inch



~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ SIGHTING

Burned Area
and
Indentations

WTP

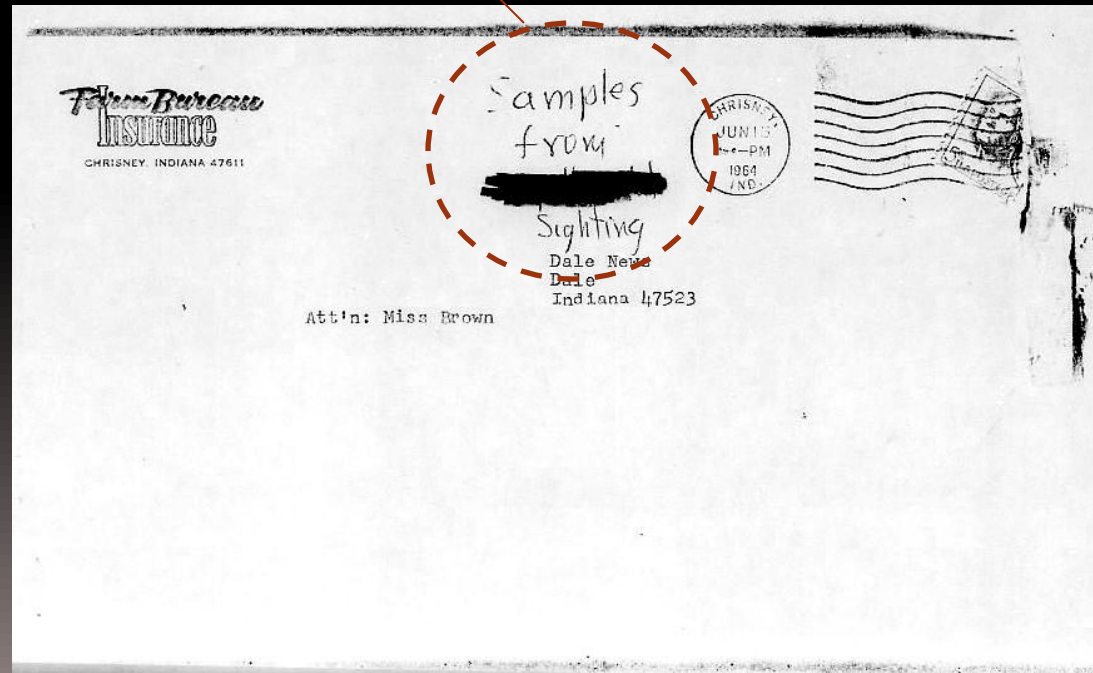
The 'missing' Project Blue Book Evidence

- The blacked-out slides:



- The missing samples, including the metal 'stone':

“Samples from Englebrecht Sighting”



Investigations

- Several hours after Powers left, Allen Cast, the state representative for the National Investigation Committee of Unidentified Flying Objects (NICAP) arrived to also investigate, after being requested to investigate this incident by the director of the Indianapolis Civil Defense.
- Cast was given permission to set up a tent laboratory on the Englebrecht farm, and returned on Wednesday, June 17th with testing equipment and a crew of assistants (including Francis Ridge? Jerry Sievers? No further information known as to the results of NICAP on-site investigation).

Allen Cast, NICAP



Pictured (left to right): Allen Cast, NICAP and Dale News reporter Grace Brown

Notice the hoe, left in its original position.

NICAP Report

June 24, 1964: Dale, Indiana is about 45 miles southeast of Vincennes, Indiana. A Spencer County youth told police that on June 24th at 9:00 PM he was held frozen in his tracks as he watched a glowing object cavort in his backyard and then streak away. Puzzled authorities found a burned spot about the size of a dinner plate in the grass. They said that they had no idea what the object might have been.

Charles Englebrecht, 18, said that he was alone in his darkened home watching television when a bright flash of light beside a window attracted his attention. Englebrecht said the television and the lights in an adjoining room blacked out.

Englebrecht said that the object was already on the ground near the back steps when he went outside. He said that "some strange power" kept him away from it. He noticed that a nearby chicken feeder trough was overturned, a large can of chicken feed had been knocked from a table, and the family power mower was ten feet away from where he had left it earlier. "I was numb", he said. "I didn't know what to do." The boy said that, as he watched unable to move, "it began to rise and then disappeared over the barn". A smell of sulphur filled the air, he said.

The Dale Town Marshall, Leroy Musgrave, said he phoned state police asking about any other reports of this incident but no other reports were received.

Englebrecht told Jim, Phil, and I that the object was sharply defined, self luminous, that the actual size approximated that of a basketball, and that it landed on the ground right next to him. After about 5 minutes the object took off over the barn which was about 40 feet away with a whistling sound and disappear out of sight. The object changed color from a bright red to a bluish purple to white to a brighter red on departure.

He was in near shock and he experienced a loss of appetite and lost considerable body weight during the two week period immediately following the sighting.

William T. Powers, the Chief Systems Engineer at Dearborn Observatory, investigated the case for Project Blue Book. He stated that he thought the boy may have seen only a burning piece of paper. I do not have the date that he visited with Englebrecht but is prior to our investigation. I never heard the result of the final analysis by the Air Force. Possibly, CUFOS has a record of it since Dr. Hynek and Mr. Powers were associates. This sighting is listed as UNKNOWN, CE2, possible probe. (Ref. 3)

After-effects Later Reported

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Englebrecht

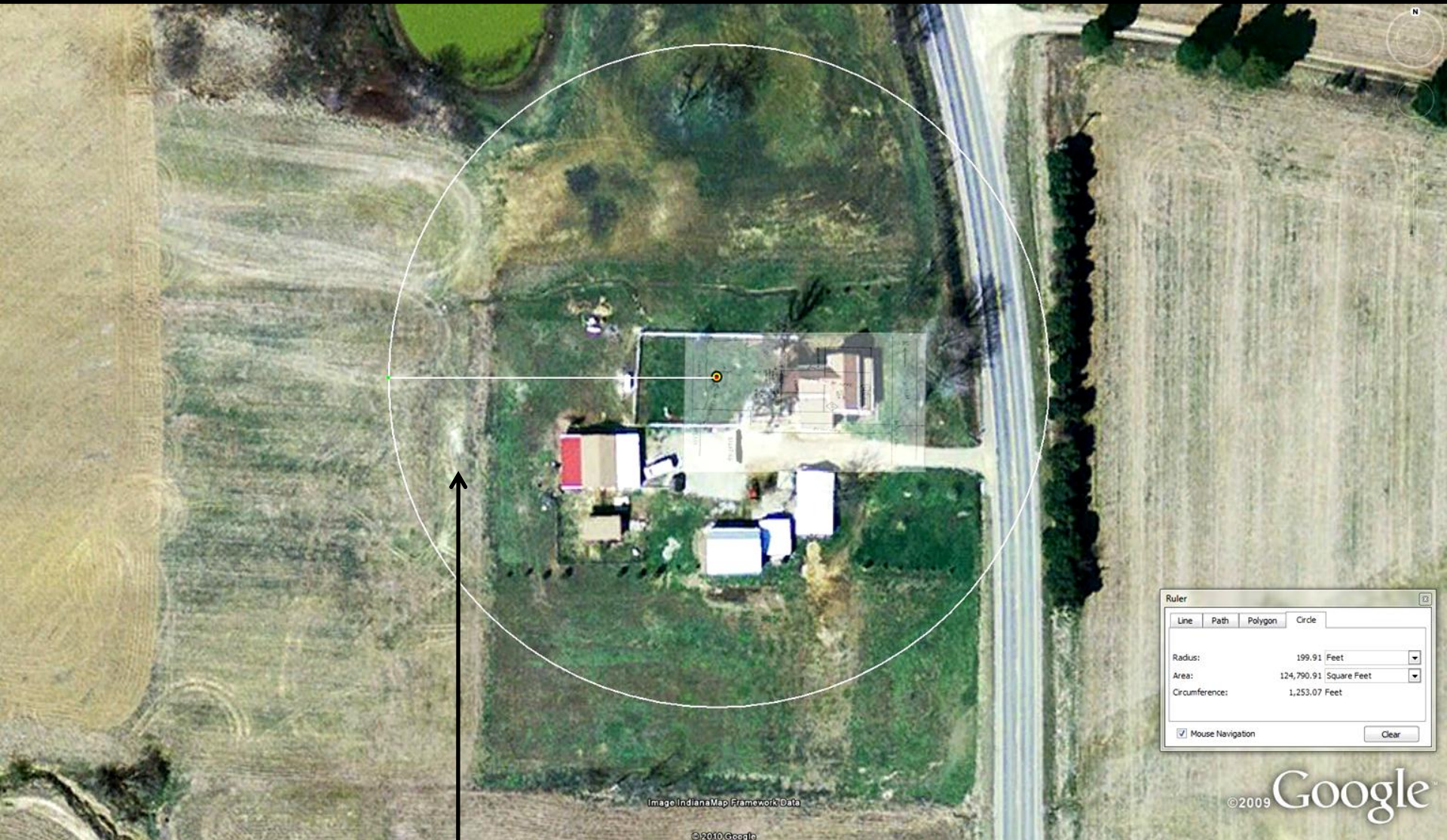
- Mr. and Mrs. Englebrecht later reported that they had seen a similar light on Wednesday, June 10, just the previous week, but that they had originally thought it was just a “falling star.”

- About 40-50 feet farther than the swirled/burned circle away from the house, a 150-200 foot diameter half-circular area (starting from the edge of the field) of the 5 foot tall corn became discolored, turning a much darker green.

- Additional after-effects of the event included a noticeable increase in the amount of milk being produced by the Englebrecht’s cows, and substantially more eggs being produced by their chickens.

- Charlie Englebrecht experienced a loss of appetite and lost considerable body weight during the two week period immediately following the sighting.

Englebrecht farm – 200 ft. radius around the central circle



150-200 foot diameter half-circular area (starting from the edge of the field) of the 5 foot tall corn became discolored, turning a much darker green; Charlie was found “sunburnt”

Additional BOL Sightings in June 1964 in Indiana

Others also had reported seeing flying balls of light that night from Dale, Newburgh, and Gentryville, Indiana.

Also:

Yankeetown, Warrick Co., IN

Patoka, Gibson Co., IN

Elkhart, Elkhart Co., IN

Additional BOL Sightings in June 1964 in

south-central Indiana

Yankeetown, Warrick Co., IN

- Night of June 14th, 1:30 A.M. – Five young men (all from nearby Booneville, IN) out fishing see a BOL:
 - Paul Fellner, 19
 - John Fellner, 16
 - Buddy Miller, 20
 - Jerry Miller, 17
 - Gary Shoulders, 16
- They described being driving toward Rockport along the Ohio River on River Bank Rd., just SE of Yankeetown, IN when they saw a bright, yellowish-white BOL approx. 10-15 yards in diameter cross the river and “veered” towards them at treetop level from the KY side to the IN side
- The BOL became so bright, they got scared and took off into the cornfield, but the BOL passed over them and “cut them off”
- The light became so bright they couldn’t see; made no sound; no odor; lasted for nearly 10 minutes
- Eventually the BOL flew off over the ridge and they lost sight of it behind the trees – they reported this incident to the Warrick County Sheriff’s Dept.
- An Evansville radio station reported that a farmhouse nearby to the location of this sighting had a BOL come into the house and blow up a TV

Additional BOL Sightings in June 1964 in Indiana

Elkhart, Elkhart Co., IN

- Mrs. Paul Spencer wrote to Dale Police Chief Leroy Musgrave after the story broke about the Englebrecht sighting
- Her, her husband and daughter all witnessed a “bright streak of light” come from their house and “streak across the street” before disappearing between the houses on the other side of the street
- It looked like a “large ball of fire” and made a “wide path of light”
- Upon going outside, the Spencers found two patches of dry, brown grass – one in the front yard and one in the back yard which had not been there before

Source: *Dale News*, June 26, 1964

Patoka, Gibson Co., IN

- Mrs. Gene Lindy
- on Cunningham Ferry Rd., 3.5mi NW of Patoka, IN
- She and her husband, two boys, and oldest daughter witnessed BOL (looking toward the south) that lasted long enough for them to view it through a telescope
- BOL was a “Golden” color, with 8 ‘rays’ of light emanating from it at treetop level near the Patoka River
- began to move straight up and the brightness dimmed down at first, but then BOL brightened considerably and moved north towards their viewing location at about 3,000 ft up; made no sound as it passed overhead

Source: *Princeton Daily Clarion*, June 16, 1964

Iva McCoy's "Mineral Lights"

Grandview, Spencer County, IN

- Iva D. McCoy, 86 years old in 1964, wrote a letter to the editor of the Evansville Courier after reading the articles on the Charlie Englebrecht sighting and reports:
 - She has seen "hundreds" of similar "glowing" lights
 - The lights "don't look like any other light you ever saw"
 - That her Mother and Father used to sit on the front porch when she was a kid late at night just to watch the lights (1880's)
 - They "come up" / "rise up" out of the ground
 - Calls them "mineral lights" and claims mineral in the ground are responsible for their generation
 - Where the lights come up out of the ground, lightning will often strike that place
 - The incidents have left circles in her fields as much as six feet across and in her garden as much as three feet across
 - Reports on an incident when her husband and neighbor girl rode home from church one night in a horse-drawn buggy and had a light follow them home

Source: *Evansville Courier*, June 18, 1964

Elderly Read

To the Editor of The Courier:

I'm sure I know what the Dale boy saw. Now, I'm not saying that professor doesn't know what he's talking about but I do know about those lights. Although I never did go to see if they burnt to the ground, I saw hundreds of them. I've heard my mother laugh about them also, how they'd come up and mess around, then rise up and leave. I never saw one at that time as we were usually so tired at night we'd rush off to bed, but she and Father would sit on the front porch till later. Then after my husband and I bought this place and moved here, I saw one. Then it wasn't long until I saw another. So we began sitting outside in the yard, and we saw dozens of them. As the young man said, they came up and roamed around awhile, then went up and faded away. They are mineral lights, and if they ever burned the ground I never knew of it.

I do know though that where they come up lightning will strike quite often as it has here. It has struck in our fields and burned a round as much as six feet across. I've had places in my garden three foot across, and it struck our barn, and only this year it struck my house and a tree in the yard. It didn't set the house afire but I sure had to have quite a patch put on.

A man that runs a coal mine came to see me about the coal on my place. I told him I didn't care but would rather he'd take the mineral out to keep the lightning from striking so much.

So, if that young man will watch maybe he'll just see his light again. I'm not saying I know more than that professor, but I'm past 86 and I've sure seen lots of those glowing lights. I don't say the lightning didn't strike either, but I do know I've seen those lights. They don't look like any other light you ever saw. My husband said one froze him and a neighbor girl almost stiff one night on the road home from church. It popped up by the buggy and went all the way. When she got out of the buggy she told him to hurry home and get in, so he did. He never took the harness off the horse, just took him loose from the buggy and turned him in the stable. Then the light went up and away. There must have been something about the harness that drew it. I'll never know that.

IVA D. McCOY
Grandview, Ind.

CANNELTON, PERRY COUNTY, IN
JUNE 17, 1964

Strange Burn

Mystery Shrouds Strange Find In Hay Field At James Stowe Farm

"It is sure there and I cannot figure out what made it." Those were words of Sheriff William Falls after visiting the farm of Mr. and Mrs. James Stowe on German Ridge, early Sunday morning. He went there following word from the Stowes late Saturday evening that they had discovered a strange, burned circle in a hay field where they had been working up until noon on Saturday.

Mrs. Stowe called the News to report these events after the discovery. She said the family had been working, putting freshly cut alfalfa hay into windrows, Saturday morning. According to Mrs. Stowe, the family stopped making hay to attend a nearby public auction. She said they were gone about an hour and a half. Upon their return, the family went to the field to resume their work in the hay. A son, Ronald Lee Stowe, ran through the area, causing a large dust pall to form. This brought their attention to the area and they found the strange burn.

MRS. STOWE described it as about one foot in width, in a large circle. Black ashes had formed on the leaves and vegetation. Mrs. Stowe described the look as that of an acid type burn. She said that nearby, in perfect symmetry,

three much smaller burned circles were present.

Sheriff Falls said the large circle was about nine feet across, with the burned area in perfect circle form and about a foot in width. He described the appearance of the burned area as looking like battery acid that sometimes forms on automobile batteries.

There was no indication any fire had burned into the area.

THOUGH she is making no claims as to just what did cause the queer burns, Mrs. Stowe was emphatic when she said there is no reason for them being there, in the family hay field, that the perfect circles baffle her and that the burned area was not there when the family left for the sale. "Because," she said, "we would have noticed it when we worked over that area in our field."

This find comes closely upon the heels of an instance at Dale where Charles Engelbrecht saw bouncing balls of light in the yard of his home on June 14. Professors from Indiana University and Northwestern University said this was probably caused by lightning bolts, drawn by a magnetic field toward metal objects in the immediate area of the Engelbrecht home.

Cannelton Thought



Cannelton, Perry County, IN June 1964

Mr. & Mrs. James Stowe
Ronald Lee Stowe

- The Stowes were working in their freshly-cut alfalfa field putting the hay into windrows; they stopped work to attend a nearby public auction and were gone about an hour and a half when they returned, they found the burned circles
- The circles were described as having the look of "an acid-type burn"
- ICCRA investigator Charlie Kiesel interviewed Ronald Stowe (who was 12 at the time) described and located the event for him

June 17, 1964 Cannelton (Rome), Perry County, Indiana



30 ft. diameter outer ring (circle), 1 ft. wide path

Three interior circles, 18in in diameter forming a triangle 4 ft from each other

Interior ring approx. 9 ft. in diameter

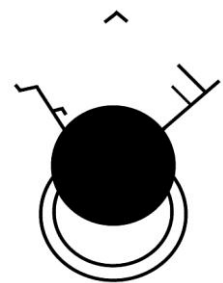
In a alfalfa/hay field, possibly in stubble

HUNTINGBURG, DUBOIS COUNTY, IN
JUNE 26, 2006

USA 2006 Crop Circle Reports

June 26, 2006 Huntingburg, IN

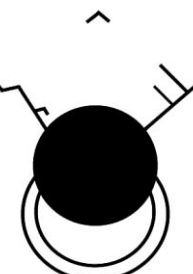
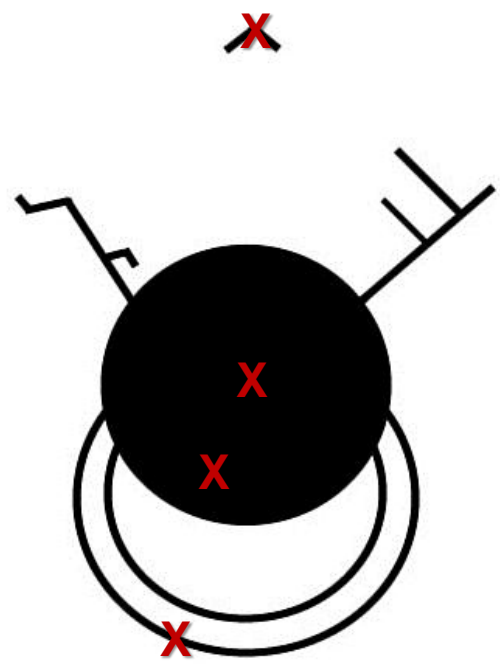
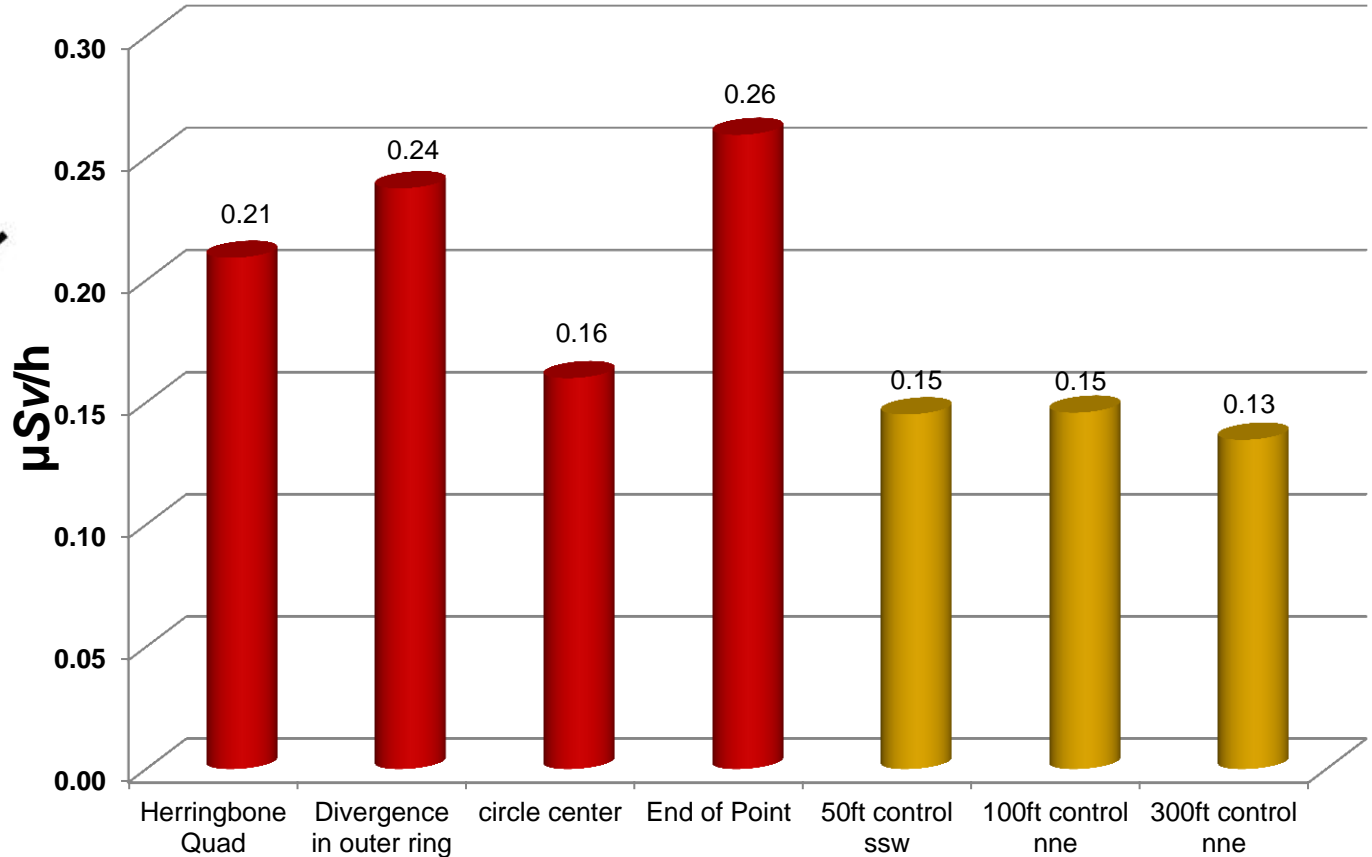
- Complex geometric 'pictogram' discovered by the farmer while harvesting
- Formation consisted of a large circle, two partial rings connected to the main circle, and two extended pathways
- This formation tested positive for node elongation, and had statistically significantly higher radioactivity readings
- The partial rings were unusual in that the flattening began at the farthest point from the main circle then parted in opposite directions towards the main circle
- Unusual 'herringbone' lay pattern in certain sections



IC CRA

USA 2006 Crop Circle Reports

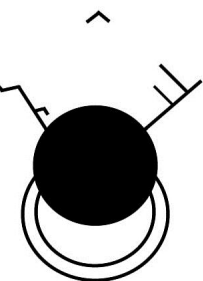
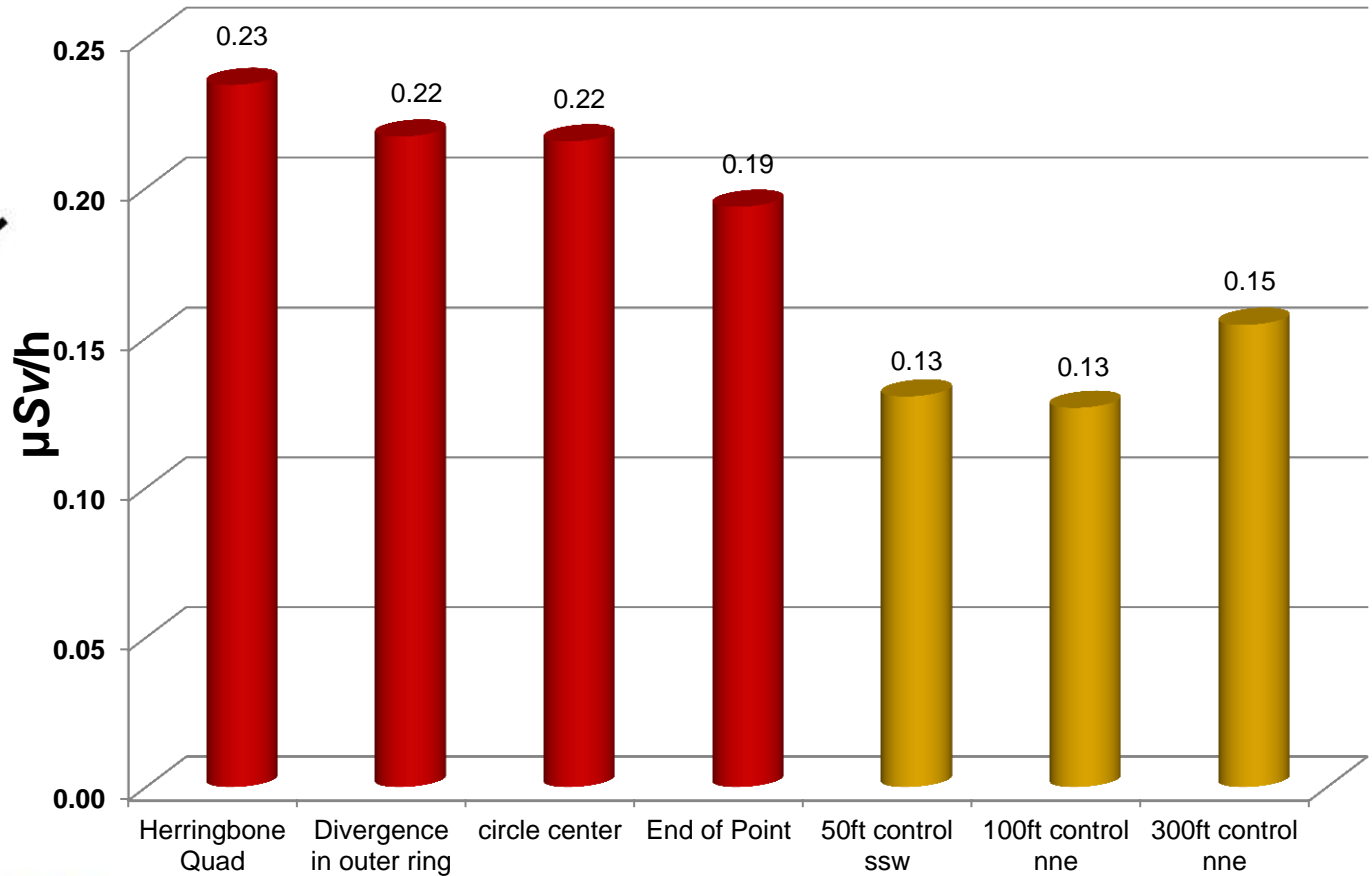
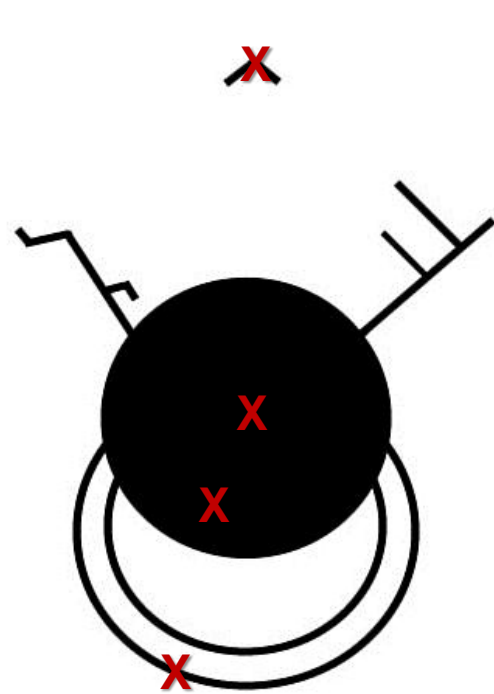
June 26, 2006 Huntingburg, IN γ (Gamma) radiation readings



ICCRRA

USA 2006 Crop Circle Reports

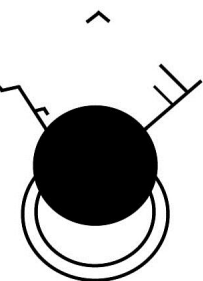
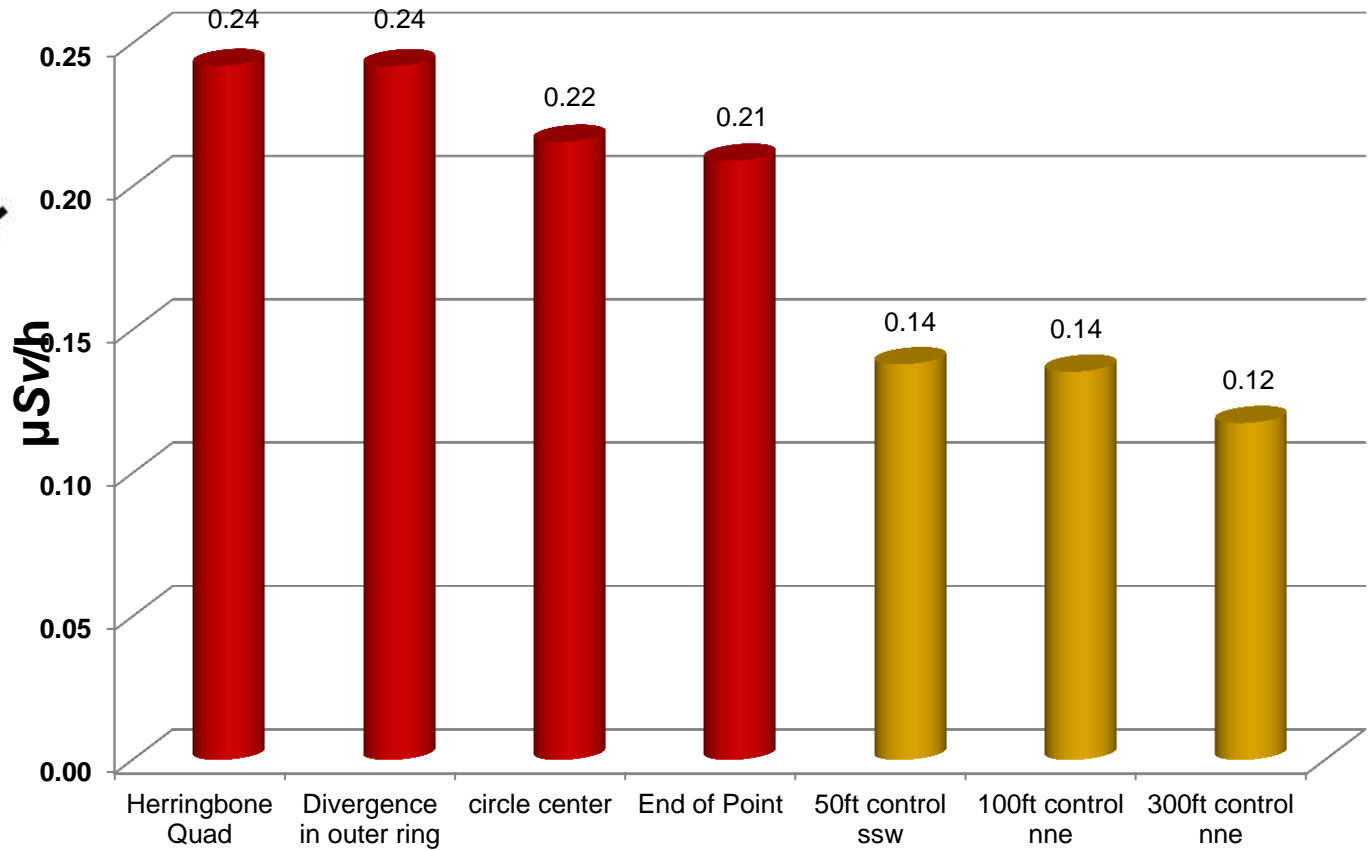
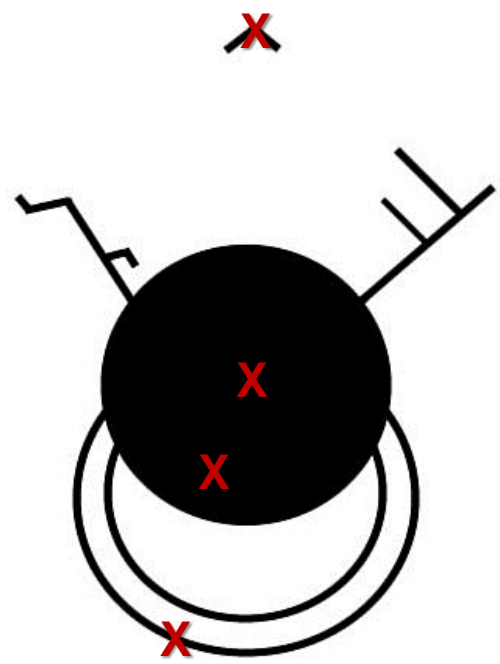
June 26, 2006 Huntingburg, IN β / γ radiation readings



*ICCR*A

USA 2006 Crop Circle Reports

June 26, 2006 Huntingburg, IN $\alpha / \beta / \gamma$ radiation readings



ICCRA

N-S Orientation of Wires
Black Lead to North
Readings taken between
12:25 pm & 12:40 pm approx.
every 5 min. 3-29-07

7 in. aluminum gutter
spikes were used as
electrodes

-220 mV [.220 V]
-227 mV [.227 V]
-228 mV [.228 V]
-231 mV [.231 V]

+88 mV
+94 mV
+96 mV
+96 mV

+60 mV
+57 mV
+46 mV
+43 mV

USA 2006 Crop Circle Reports

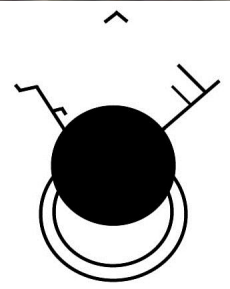
June 26, 2006 Huntingburg, IN

- Charlie Kiesel's voltage readings

Photo Copyright Travis McQueen

Overlay by Charlie Kiesel

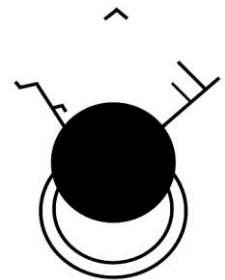
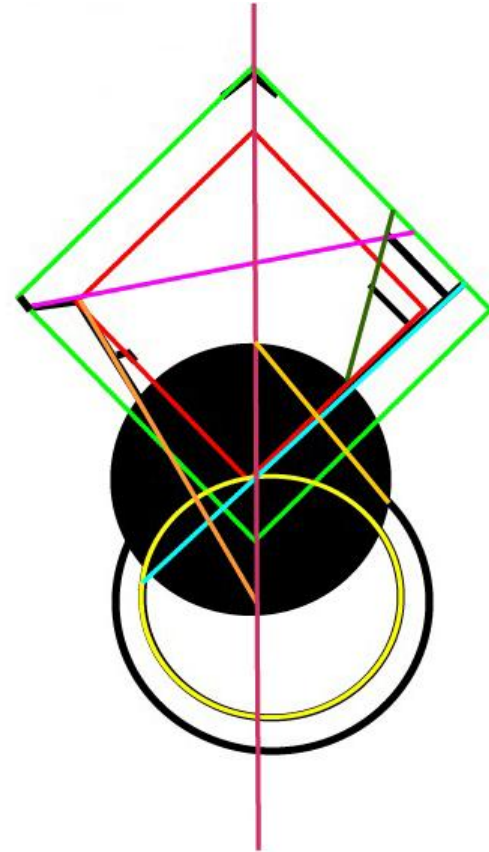
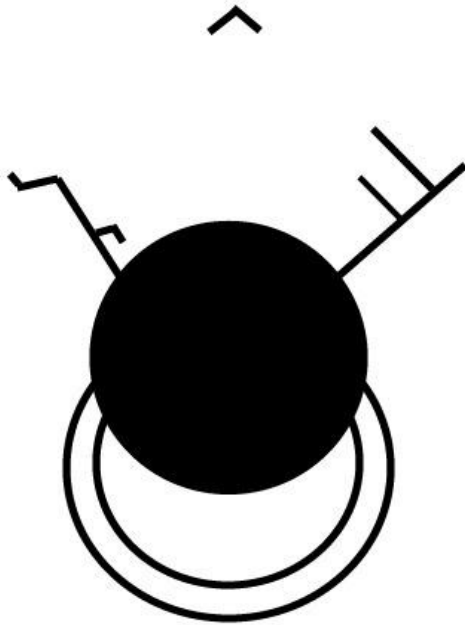
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USA 2006 Crop Circle Reports

June 26, 2006 Huntingburg, IN

- Complex geometry where each individual section is related to each other

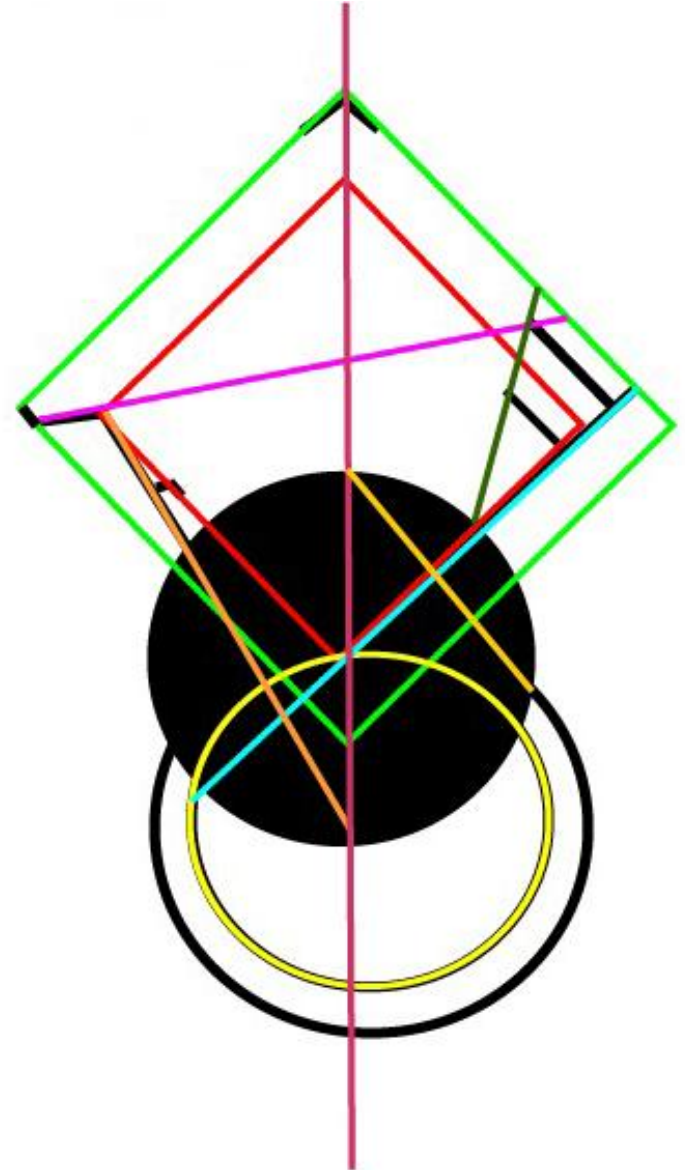


ICCRA

USA 2006 Crop Circle Reports

June 26, 2006 Huntingburg, IN

- **Complex geometry where each individual section is related to each other**
- **These intricate lines also point to various additional crop circle locations including:**
 - **Santa Rosa, CA (4-1995)**
 - **Chehalis, WA (7-17-1996)**
 - **Port Washington, WI (7-10-1998)**
 - **Hilltop, KY (5-2003)**
 - **Mayville-Kekoskee, WI (7-4-2003)**
 - **Oakvale, WV (4-2004)**
 - **Lawton, MI (8-24-2004)**
 - **Dowling, MI (9-5-2006)**



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N

o **Huntingburg, Dubois Co., IN 6-26-2006**

Image IndianaMap Framework Data

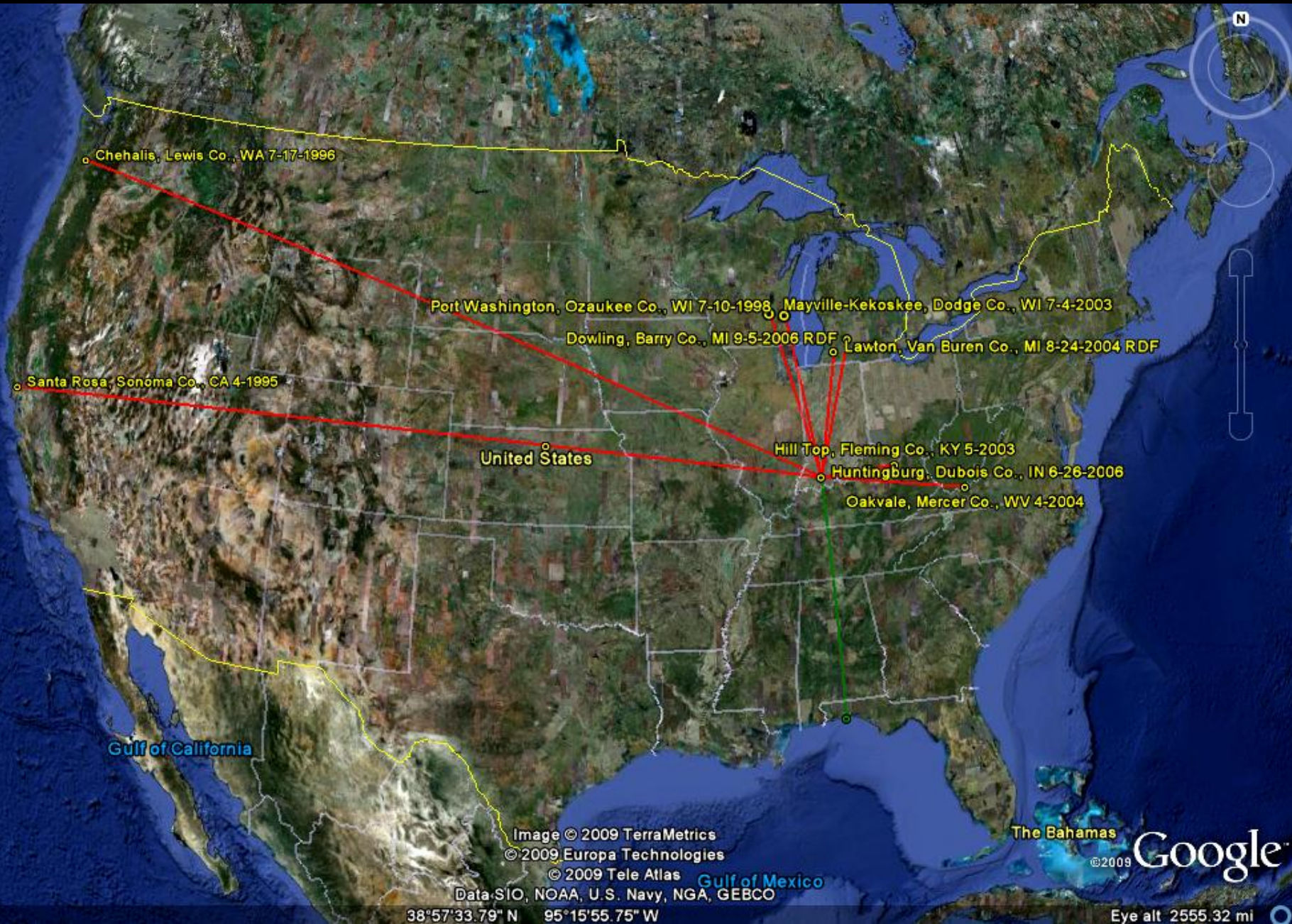
© 2009 Tele Atlas

38°14'37.74" N 86°57'43.92" W

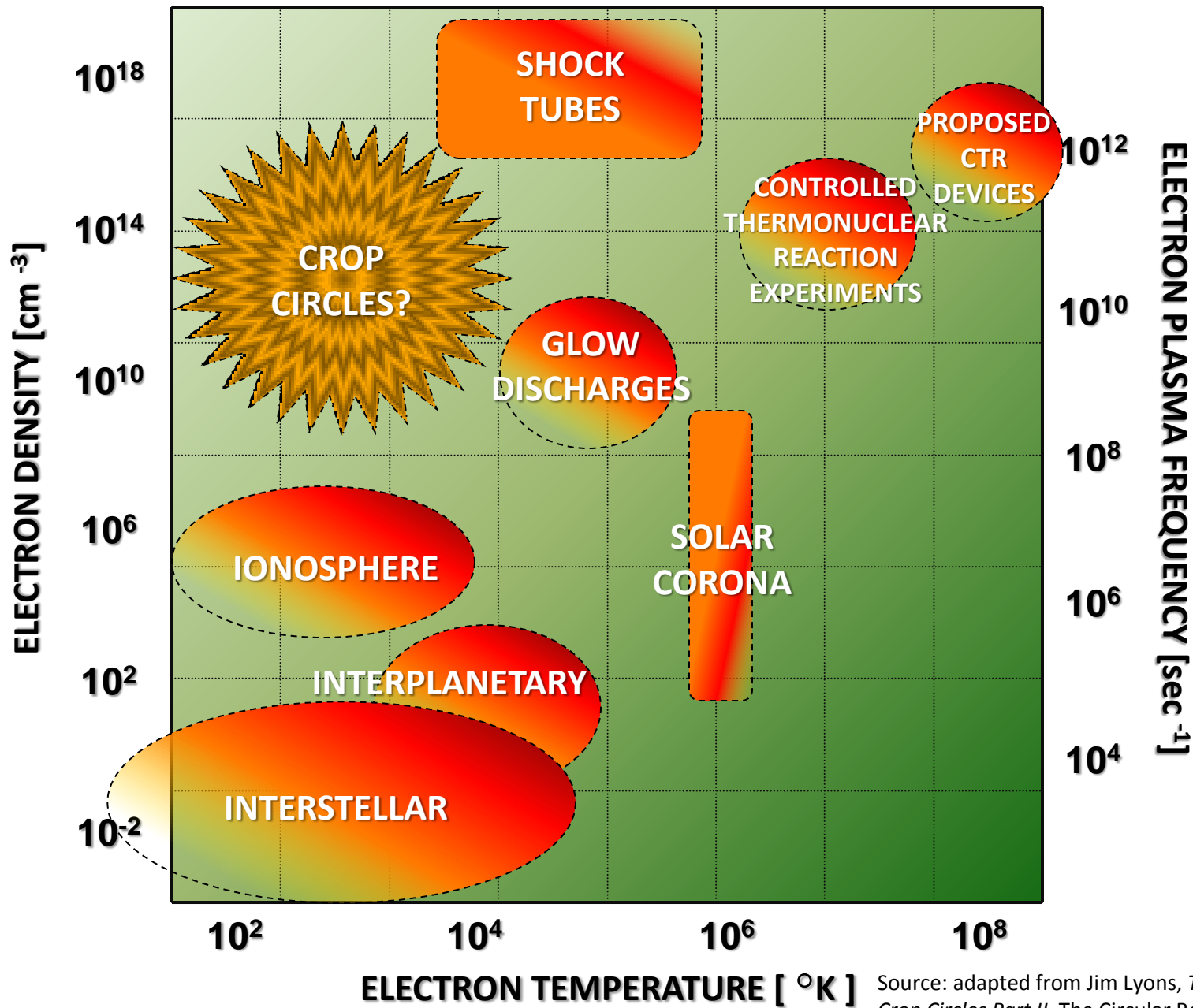
©2009 Google

Eye alt 522 ft

Huntingburg, IN Crop Circle Alignments



PLASMA PARAMETERS FOR COSMIC AND LABORATORY PLASMAS



Source: adapted from Jim Lyons, *The Physics of Crop Circles Part II*, The Circular Review, 1993

Conclusions and Questions

A number of reports have now surfaced leading to a number of interesting observations about the nature of crop circles and mysterious “balls-of-light” (BOLs) in Indiana:

- ✓ **Eyewitness case in Dale, IN from 1964 includes radiation, E-M effects, swirled circle**
- ✓ **Huntingburg, IN complex geometric crop circle formation includes radiation, E-M effects, complex geometries, intricate lay effects, complex alignments to additional crop circles across the country**
- ✓ **Additional circles and BOL eyewitnesses from 1964 in the same general area over a several week period**
- ✓ **Additional BOL and circles reported in the area dating back to the 1880’s**

Questions: Can we track down the slides from the Project Blue Book file on Dale, IN? Can there be additional information uncovered in the NICAP files on Dale?

Are there additional but unreported circles in the area?

