

Aurora Borealis Lights Up Sky

By The Associated Press

The unusual southerly display of the aurora borealis Sunday night colored skies along the eastern edge of California, causing a flood of calls to police and prompting one Fire Department to send out firefighters in search of a blaze.

At Edwards Air Force Base, where the skies have been carefully watched in expectation of the space shuttle's Tuesday landing, Sgt. Chris Summerell, a weather station operator, said he had seen the glow.

Authorities from Auburn, north-east of Sacramento, south to Riverside County east of Los Angeles, reported numerous callers asking about a red glow in the sky.

The Kern County Fire Department sent a unit to a reported fire in the Caliente area but learned the glow was not a fire, a dispatcher said.