

EXPLOSION ON SUN SHOWS SKY LIGHTS

Parts of North America Get
Rare Borealis Display—
Radio Links Disrupted

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13 (UPI)—A gas explosion on the sun is giving parts of North America a rare spectacular show of the aurora borealis.

It is also causing trouble in the disruption of global radio communications.

Astronomers figure that the red, orange and green lights of the aurora borealis will be seen through tomorrow night as a result of the solar explosion spotted yesterday by observers near Alamogordo, N. M.

Dr. John Evans, astronomer with the research and development center at Holloman Air Base in New Mexico, said a Type-3 sun flare, the largest of solar explosions, was observed at 6:45 A. M. and 9:45. He said it was the third such flare this year.

Solar radiation bombarding the earth's atmosphere at speeds of 3,000 feet a second caused magnetic storms around the world that washed out radio communications.

An American Telephone and Telegraph spokesman here explained that radio waves are beamed into the ionosphere during transmission. After the solar bombardment, he said, the disturbed ionosphere absorbed the waves instead of reflecting them.

A spokesman for the Morehead Planetarium at the University of North Carolina said the show of northern lights was "a rare treat; we don't get it often at this latitude."

Reports said the lights had been seen as far south as Miami, north to Caribou, Me., and west to Indianapolis.

There is almost a constant



The New York Times

ART DEALER QUERIED:
Frank Caro, owner of C. T. Loo Galleries here, holds Chinese hand scroll painting. Mr. Caro was questioned in connection with smuggling of art objects from Communist China.

display of the aurora borealis in the Arctic because of the convergence of magnetic lines of force there, Dr. Evans explained.

A spokesman for the Enrico Fermi Institute of Science in Chicago said detecting devices had reported a 50 per cent increase in cosmic-ray density since the large solar flare.

Scientists have been trying to correlate cosmic-ray activity with solar explosions.