

Aurora Borealis Disrupts Radio and Telegraph Service

NEW YORK Sept 18 (AP)—A spectacular display of aurora borealis swept the northwestern skies tonight, leading many to believe it had something to do with national defense.

"Is the Army testing a new searchlight?" or "Is the air force practicing a new type of night tactics?" were samples of some of the thousands of phone calls which swamped newspaper offices.

For the capricious flickerings in the firmament played hob with wireless and cable connec-

tions practically around the globe and disrupted radio and telegraph service through much of the United States.

Teletypewriters in newspaper offices showed a disconcerting volume of garbled copy which looked something like this—xhrpnsypwm.

Spasmodically, the 300,000-mile leased wire network of the Associated Press was down—at one time for as long as two minutes—and the 10,000-mile Wirephoto network over which news pictures are transmitted was upset.