

Northern Lights Stage Rare, Unseasonal Show

The Aurora Borealis, or northern lights, gave a rare, out-of-season performance for metropolitan area skywatchers between 11:30 P.M. last night and 2 o'clock this morning.

Arthur Pagnozzi, forecaster at the Weather Bureau, received numerous reports describing the display as consisting mostly of pale green arcs of light. The reports came from souther Connecticut, Suffolk County, LaGuardia Airport and city residents. There were reports, too, that the lights caused minor interference with radio waves.

If the skies were always clear, New Yorkers would see an average of ten auroral displays annually, but seldom this late in the year. Scientists believe the colorful glow is due to the entry into the earth's atmosphere of fiery particles emitted by the sun. Little, however, is known about the nature, speed, paths and emission of the particles.