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This second view of the crescent Venus in Ultraviolet light was taken by the Cloud Photopolarimeter on the Pioneer Venus Orbiter on December 7 from a distance of approximately 65,000 kilometers. The apparent 4-day retrograde "rotation" of the Venus cloud features noted in previous ground-based and Mariner 20 observations implies that we are looking at structure completely different from that of the first image made 48 hours earlier. Many faint cloud bands, oriented approximately along latitude circles, are visible in this image. A bright band in the southern hemisphere is possibly the circumolar brightening. The ultraviolet features will be much more pronounced after further computer enhancement.

