

published in Buenos Aires, claimed to have been taken as an unidentified object hovered over a gas plant in the southern city of Bahia Blanca. (Credit to John Ogilby of Inshewan.)

ARGENTINA Bahia Blanca incident— Van Allen Belt theory

The Bahia Blanca incident alluded to in the Uruguayan account was given more detailed treatment in the Australian newspaper *The Herald* of July 17 (AAP story):

"Sightings were reported from widely separated parts of Argentina.

"A leading astronomer who examined pictures of a strange flying object, taken by a professional photographer, said it was 'not a known heavenly body, or a man-made satellite.'

"Newspapers published pictures taken by a Press photographer in Bahia Blanca, about 275 miles south of here, of a bright object he sighted on Wednesday. Mr. Enrique Ferraz, director of the Bahia Blanca Observa-

tory, said the object was not a known planet, star, satellite or aircraft.

"The object was obviously giving off its own light and became clear on film with an exposure setting much shorter than that needed to photograph the bright planet, Venus, he said.

"The fact that such objects are usually sighted near the north and south poles may be linked to the Van Allen radiation belt that girds the earth. Objects from space might approach the earth through the polar areas with a minimum of risk, Ferraz said.

"The photographed object was sighted by several hundred people, who said it gave off a blinding light. The sighting was verified by a police inspector and members of his force."

(Credit: Mrs. J. Magee.)

Contact claim

From a Sapa-Reuter report in the *Natal Mercury* (S. Africa) of August 2, we see that the Argentinian magazine *Atlantida* of August 1 quoted shop-

keeper Felipe Martinez as saying that a 39-inch tall flying saucer pilot told him his people would make full contact with mankind on December 3. Martinez claims that he has twice talked to a flying saucer 'man', first at Monte Grande (Buenos Aires Province) in April, and at Gualaguay, Entre Rios Province, in June."

[*Hoax by an Earthman, hoax of an Earthman, or the truth?*—EDITOR]

Roof-top vigil

A heavily headlined piece in the *Daily Sketch*, after dealing with the Uruguayan beach landing and the Bahia Blanca photograph reported above, (July 19), goes on to say:

"Meanwhile, new reports of flying objects over Buenos Aires during the night were received at newspaper offices.

"Photographers spent last night camped on rooftops in the city with high-speed film and telescopic lens.

"A Roman Catholic review, com-

(Concluded on page iv of cover)

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