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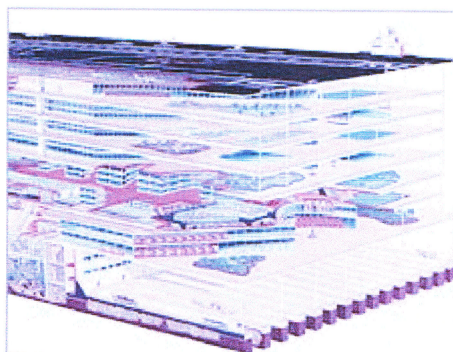
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Setting Sail on a Giant, Floating City

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Freedom Ship

A cutaway image shows the rear of the Freedom Ship.

But this city isn't defined by rivers, mountains or land boundaries. It's the Freedom Ship, the world's largest floating city.

"It's the lifestyle of continuous travel, but with amenities such as a commercial center, a major hospital and major school system, and you get to take your home, your surroundings and your family with you," Freedom Ship International CEO Norman Nixon said in a telephone interview from his Florida home.

Freedom Ship today exists only on paper. But some 3,000 families and businesses have already signed on to live and work on it. When it does launch, in 2006, this leviathan of comfortable living will travel a lazy circuit around the world every two years.

"It will follow the sun," Freedom Ship marketing vice president Roger Gooch said. "It will be better than a land-based city. If people want to see the world, this is the way to do it. And they're doing it from their homes."

Planned ports of call so far include major cities on every inhabited continent, including New York, Los Angeles, London, Paris, Rome, Sydney, Tokyo, Rio de Janeiro, and Hong Kong.

The size of four aircraft carriers, the \$8 billion Freedom Ship will essentially be a flat-bottomed barge with a 25-story steel building, propelled by gigantic turbine engines. It will be topped by airstrips and ringed by a marina where residents and visitors can dock boats, and will measure nearly a mile long — 4,500 feet long, 750 feet wide and 350 feet tall.



Friday, January 04, 2002
By Michael Y. Park

FOX NEWS

NEW YORK — It's like any other metropolis, except you could be brunching on fresh Parisian croissants one day and pad thai straight from the streets of Bangkok the next.

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