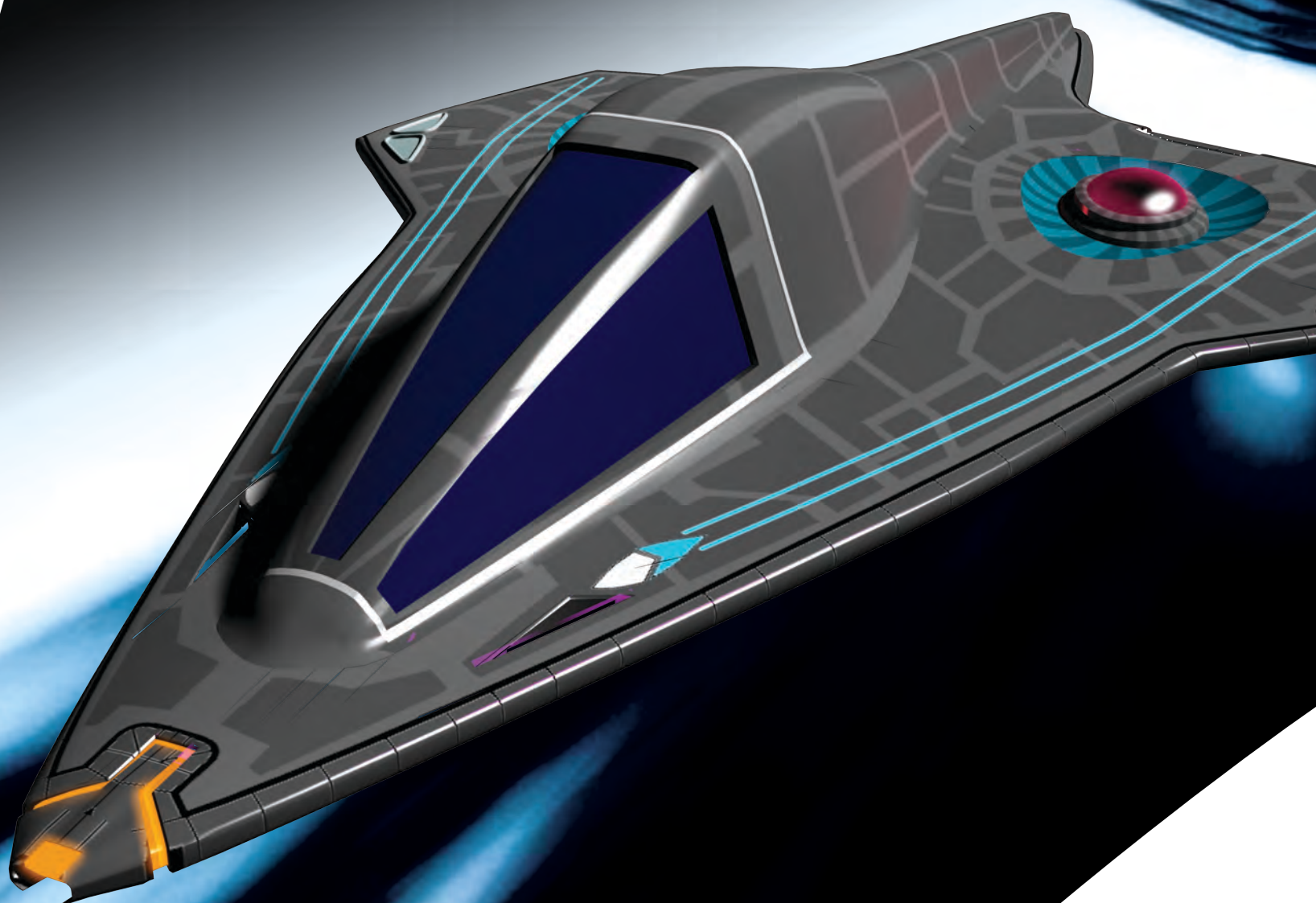


87

STAR TREK™

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FEDERATION TIMESHIP
AEON

TYPE: TIMESHIP

LAUNCHED: 29th C

CREW: ONE

LENGTH: SIX METERS

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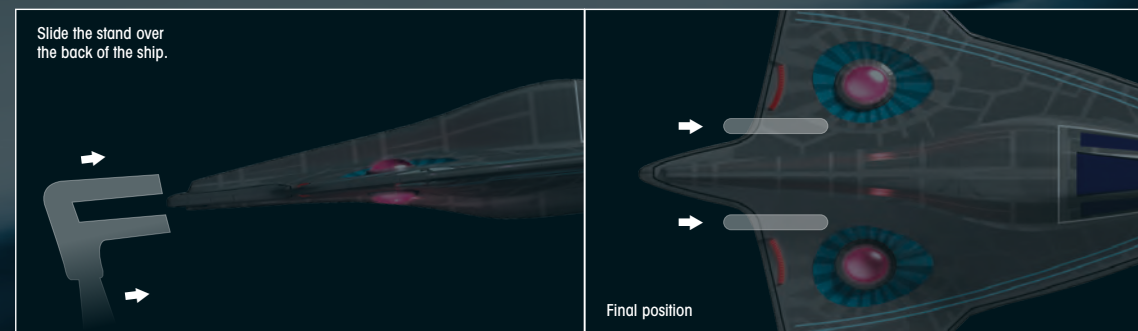
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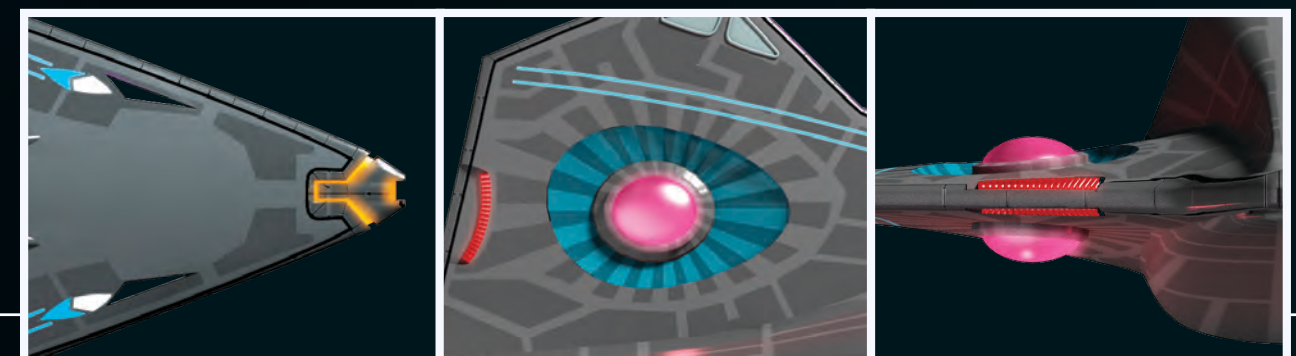
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FEDERATION TIMESHIP *AEON*

SPECIFICATION



TYPE:	TIMESHIP
AFFILIATION:	FEDERATION
LAUNCHED:	29th CENTURY
LENGTH:	SIX METERS (APPROX.)
CREW:	ONE
TOP SPEED:	INFINITE
WEAPONRY:	SUB-ATOMIC DISRUPTOR



FEDERATION TIMESHIP
AEON

www.startrek-starships.com

▲ The *Aeon* was a sleek craft and its exterior had a matte finish that gave it a stealth-like appearance. By emitting a pulse via its navigational deflector, the *Aeon* could create a spatial distortion through which it could travel to another time and place.

The *Aeon* was a small Federation timeship from the 29th century. At approximately six meters long, it was a single-seater craft and its cockpit had barely enough room for the pilot.

The *Aeon* was equipped with a hyper-impulse drive, but it was also capable of traveling to any time and place in the universe. By emitting a specialized kind of pulse through its navigational deflector beneath the nose of the ship, it could open an artificial spatial rift. This was a distortion in the space-time continuum – a kind of rip or tear in space – through which the craft could enter and emerge in a particular time and place that had been set by the pilot.

POLICING THE TIMELINE

The *Aeon* was part of the Temporal Integrity Commission, an agency set up by the Federation in the 29th century. Its purpose was to protect the timeline from any changes caused by time travel. This organization believed that the *U.S.S. Voyager* NCC-74656 was responsible for a monumental catastrophe in the 29th century in which a temporal explosion destroyed all of Earth's Solar system, taking billions of lives in the process.

In order to prevent this disaster from happening, Captain Braxton was ordered to take the *Aeon* and travel back in time to the Delta Quadrant to destroy *Voyager*. The *Aeon* emerged from a spatial rift in 2373 directly in front of *Voyager*. Without explanation, Braxton immediately charged his ship's sub-atomic disruptor and fired at *Voyager*. Despite the *Aeon*'s small size, its

◀ In the aftermath of the destruction of the Solar system in the 29th century, debris from the *U.S.S. Voyager*'s secondary hull was found in the wreckage. This led the people of that time to believe Captain Janeway's ship was responsible for the disaster, and the *Aeon* timeship was sent to 2373 in order to destroy *Voyager*.



FEDERATION
TIMESHIP

AEON

The *Aeon* was a 29th-century ship that was used to protect the timeline from anyone seeking to interfere with history.



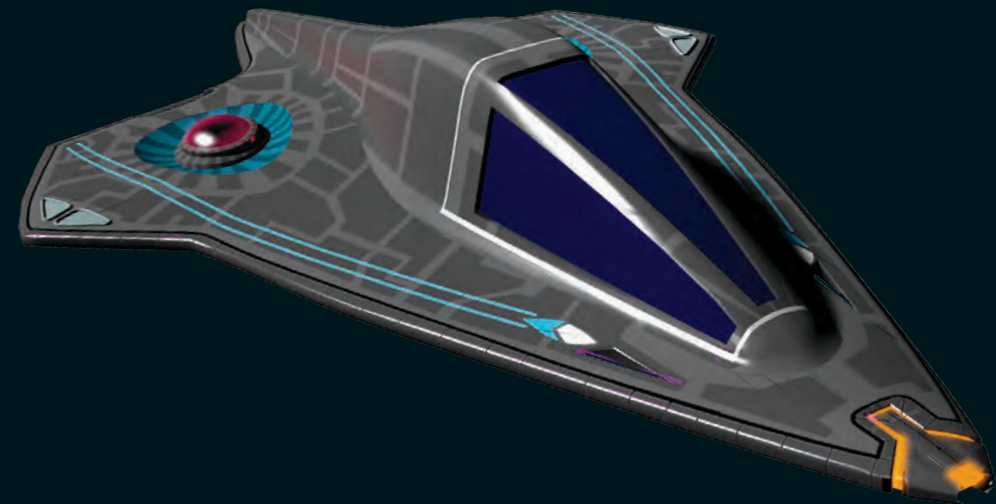
◀ Captain Braxton aboard the *Aeon* made contact with *Voyager* and told the crew that he had been sent from the 29th century to destroy them.

▶ After *Voyager* used its deflector beam to disrupt the *Aeon's* weapon, the spatial distortion began to collapse and pulled both ships inside.

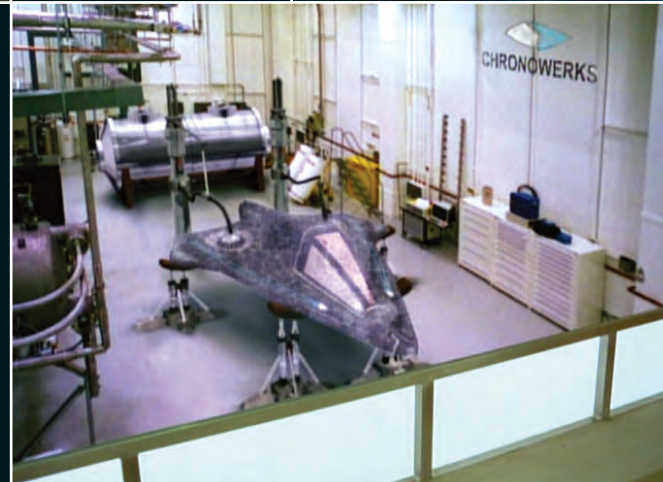


▶ The *Aeon* had a large cockpit canopy that was opaque, while its wings had semi-spherical red orbs built into the top and bottom of them. The ship's powerful sub-atomic disruptor was located in the nose.

▼ The *Aeon* was launched through the roof of Starling's Chronoworks building. He planned to acquire more technology from the future and then bring it back to the 20th century, where he could exploit it for more profit.



▶ Captain Janeway and her crew eventually tracked the *Aeon* to a secret room in Henry Starling's building. He had studied the ship's advanced technology and understood it enough to reverse engineer a whole host of computer hardware that was new to the 20th century.



▲ Back in the 20th century, Janeway, Chakotay, Tuvok and Paris donned appropriate clothing and beamed down to California to search for the *Aeon*. Their investigations revealed that although the *Aeon* had entered the rift just a few moments before *Voyager*, it had emerged in 1967, almost 30 years before them.

advanced weapon took out *Voyager's* shields and knocked helm off-line with just one shot. *Voyager* tried returning fire with full phasers, but they had absolutely no effect on the *Aeon's* 29th-century shields. *Voyager's* molecular structure began to come apart under the attack, and Janeway was forced to be more inventive in fighting back.

Desperately trying to save her ship, Janeway had *Voyager's* deflector beam adjusted to match the frequency of the *Aeon's* disruptor, thus this overloaded its emitter. The subspace rift began to destabilize, pulling both ships inside. In an instant, they emerged halfway across the galaxy in orbit of Earth. It was not all good news though. While they had finally reached home, the year was not 2373, but 1996. The *Voyager* crew later learned that although the *Aeon* had entered the rift just seconds before them, it emerged in 1967.

It transpired that Braxton had been forced to

perform an emergency beam out before his ship crashed in a remote mountain range. Before he could get back to the *Aeon*, it was taken by a young man named Henry Starling. He created a microcomputer revolution by cannibalizing the technology aboard the ship. In the following years, he became one of the wealthiest and most influential people on the planet.

TERRIBLE REALIZATION

Meanwhile, Braxton realized that it was not *Voyager* that caused the huge catastrophe in the 29th century, but his own ship. He knew that if someone unfamiliar with the *Aeon's* controls tried to fly it into the future without recalibrating the temporal matrix, it would cause a massive explosion that could destroy the Solar system.

This was exactly what nearly happened. Starling planned to launch the *Aeon* and travel to the

future where he could acquire more technology. He could then bring it back to his own time and exploit it to make more money.

Janeway and her crew tried to stop Starling, but he managed to elude them. Eventually, he activated the *Aeon's* hyper-impulse drive and smashed through the top of a skyscraper where he kept the ship. Once in orbit, Starling jumped to warp one and initiated the *Aeon's* temporal core. Just as he was about to enter the subspace rift, *Voyager* fired a photon torpedo that hit the *Aeon*, blowing it to pieces and closing the rift.

Seconds later, the rift reopened and the *Aeon* appeared. Captain Braxton opened communications with *Voyager*, but he had no knowledge of what had just happened. For him, the timeline where he traveled to the 20th century and Starling had been a computer mogul never happened. He was there because his ship's

sensors had alerted him to *Voyager's* presence in the 20th century and he had been sent to correct that anomaly. Janeway asked if he could return them to Earth in the 24th century, but this was against the temporal prime directive. Instead, he opened a rift back to the precise time and location in the Delta Quadrant where *Voyager* had first encountered the *Aeon*.

▲ Starling would not believe Janeway's warning that he would cause a massive explosion in the 29th century if he tried to travel there. Fortunately, *Voyager* managed to destroy the *Aeon* before it could travel to the future.



DATA FEED

When Captain Braxton first found himself in the 20th century, he tried to confront Henry Starling and get his ship back. Unused to the customs in late 20th-century California, Braxton was out of his depth. No one in authority listened to him and he was dismissed as a mad man. Eventually, he was confined to a mental institution and pumped full of antipsychotics. By the time Captain Janeway found him he was living on the streets and really had become mentally ill.

CHARMED LIFE

In 1967, Henry Starling was just a young man when he witnessed the extraordinary sight of a strange object crashing to the ground in the High Sierras of California. Upon investigation, he found the *Aeon*, largely intact.

Over the next 30 years, Starling used his primitive understanding of the *Aeon*'s technology to launch numerous computer innovations to the market. This made him a very wealthy man as he built a corporate empire called Chronowerx Industries.

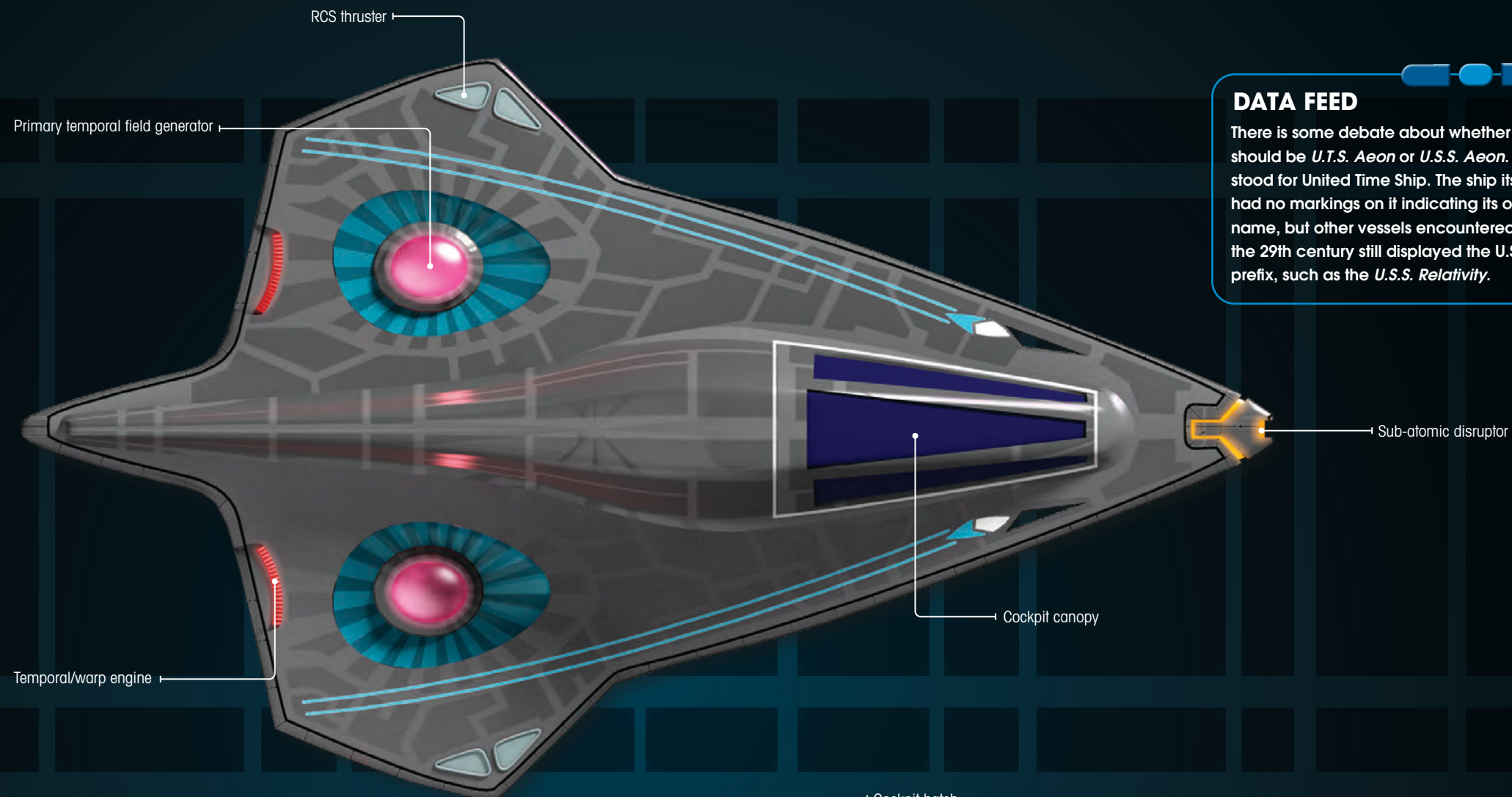
Like many of his time, Starling's greed knew no bounds and he wanted more wealth and more acclaim. He planned to launch the *Aeon* and travel to the future, where he could acquire more technology. He could then bring it back to his own time and exploit it to make more money.

When Captain Janeway tracked the *Aeon* down to Starling's building, she tried to convince him that if he did not precisely calibrate the temporal matrix in the *Aeon*, it would cause a massive explosion when it emerged in the 29th century. Starling refused to believe her, or just did not care, and would not give up the ship.

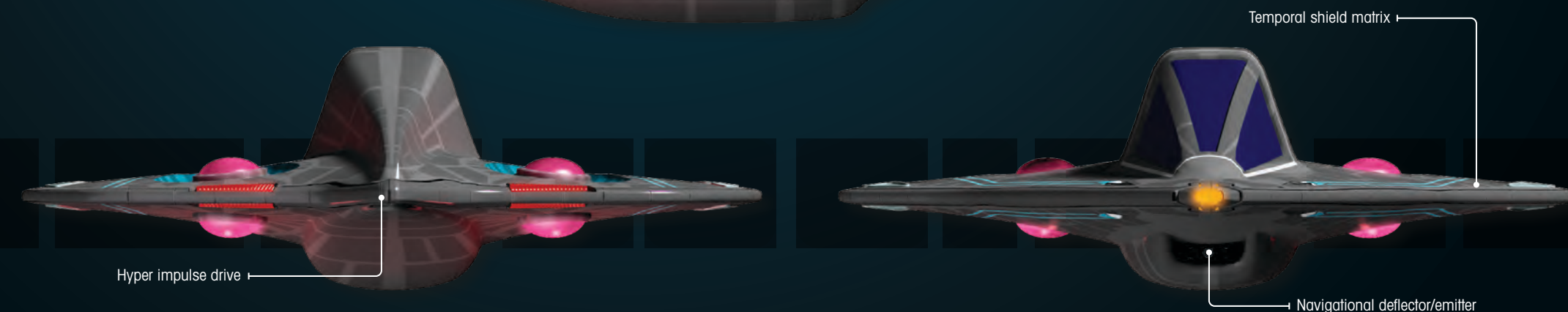
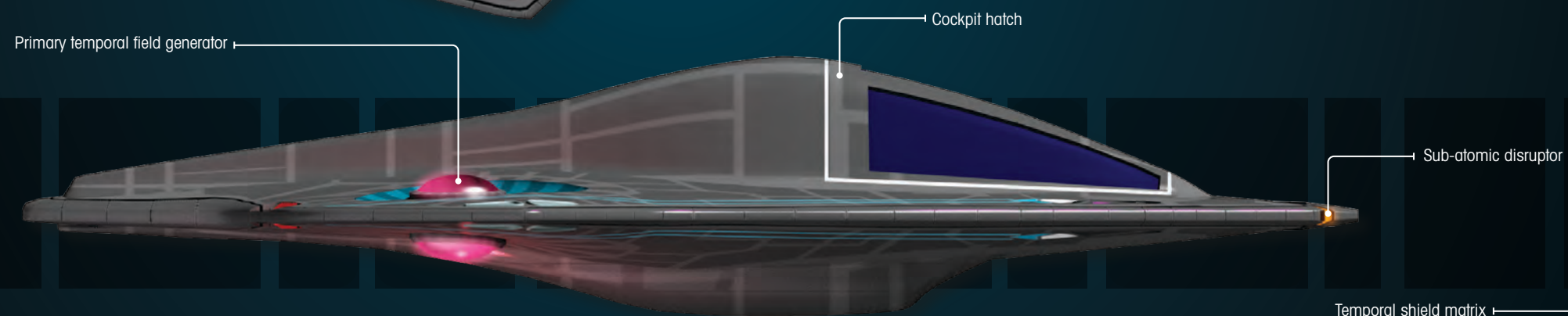
Eventually, Starling paid with his life as the crew of *Voyager* managed to blow up the *Aeon* seconds before it entered a spatial rift to the 29th century. This reset the timeline and Starling never discovered the *Aeon* or became one of the most powerful magnates on the planet.



▲ Thanks to his discovery of the *Aeon*, Henry Starling was able to use its 29th-century technology to develop a number of computer innovations in the late 20th century that made him a wealthy man.

**DATA FEED**

There is some debate about whether it should be *U.T.S. Aeon* or *U.S.S. Aeon*. *U.T.S.* stood for United Time Ship. The ship itself had no markings on it indicating its official name, but other vessels encountered from the 29th century still displayed the *U.S.S.* prefix, such as the *U.S.S. Relativity*.

**INSULTING THE COPS**

When Captain Braxton was trapped in the 20th century, he called a police officer a "quasi-Cardassian totalitarian." This comment was perhaps why he was sent to a mental institution.

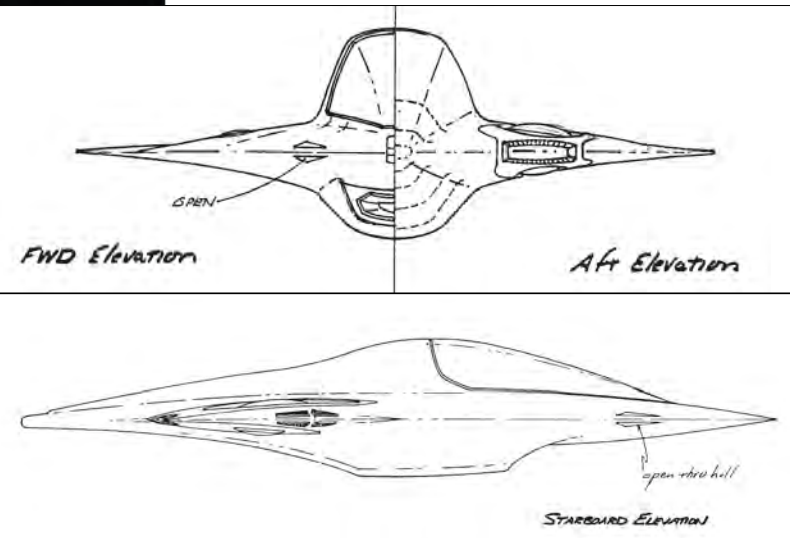
L.A. EARTHQUAKE

Captain Janeway said that the area around Santa Monica beach in L.A. sank under 200m of water after the Hermosa quake of 2047. It then became one of the world's largest coral reefs, home to thousands of marine species.

HISTORY REPEATING

When Captain Janeway has to manually type to gain access to Henry Starling's computer, she comments that using this technology is "like stone knives and bearskins." Spock used this exact phrase when the Guardian of Forever portal sent him back to the early 20th century.

► This concept of the *Aeon* was one of the first that senior illustrator Rick Sternbach drew up. At this point, he envisaged that it would be approximately 15-20 meters in length, but it was still a one-man craft. Many of its details would make it through to the final design.



▲ These line drawings showed the *Aeon* at its amended size when it was reduced to about six meters in length. One of the reasons for this was that it had to be in scale with the cockpit interior that had been built by the set crew.

DESIGNING THE

AEON TIMESHIP

Rick Sternbach was faced with a tough task when asked to design a ship even more advanced than usual, but he was up to the challenge.

Coming up with designs for *STAR TREK* starships was a pretty cool job, but certainly not an easy one. On a weekly episodic show like *STAR TREK: VOYAGER*, the pressure was always there to deliver another ship

that fulfilled the brief and met with the approval of the producers. Inspiration could never leave you, as the next ship was always just around the corner.

Fortunately, senior illustrator Rick Sternbach always appeared to be full of great ideas when

it came to designing starships, and it was no different when he was asked to come up with a look for the *Aeon*, a 29th-century timeship.

FIRST THOUGHTS

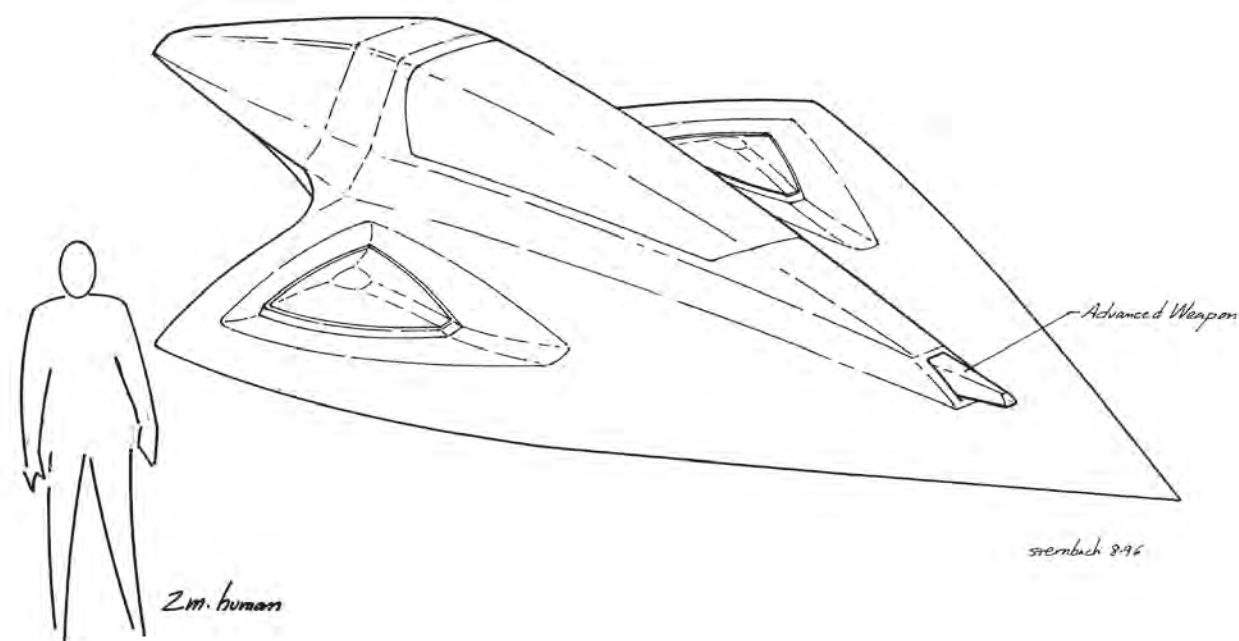
"I don't recall exactly how the *Aeon* was described in the script, but I'm pretty certain it was always a single-seat craft," said Sternbach. "My initial doodles were influenced by sleek fighter aircraft, particularly stealth fighter concepts and the more dart-like exo-atmospheric research aircraft designs. My first finished sketch included an ejectable cockpit module, but that was eliminated

when the ship was reduced in size, and a few different takes on the smaller ship were inked up."

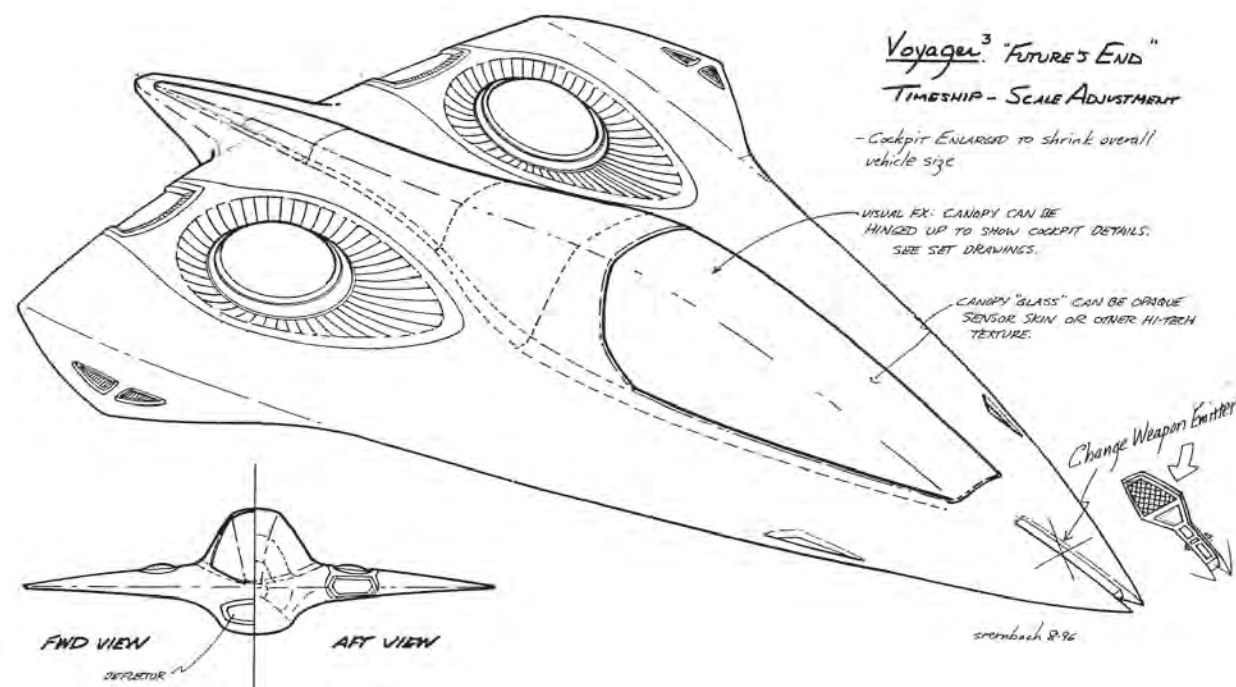
Normally, Sternbach would not have much time to design a 'ship of the week' on *STAR TREK: VOYAGER* as production rolled relentlessly on to the next episode, but he was given slightly more time for the *Aeon*. "The time between the first story synopsis and the various script drafts to the final sketches was likely a few weeks," said Sternbach. "In the case of the *Aeon*, we had to build the cockpit interior as a practical set, so I had some time to redraw the ship to better reflect what the set designers were doing, and get those sketches

Sternbach

► This illustration shows the final size of the *Aeon* in relation to an average-height human. The craft was small, and Sternbach did wonder how they could fit all the advanced technology it needed inside, but he guessed that by the 29th century anything was possible.



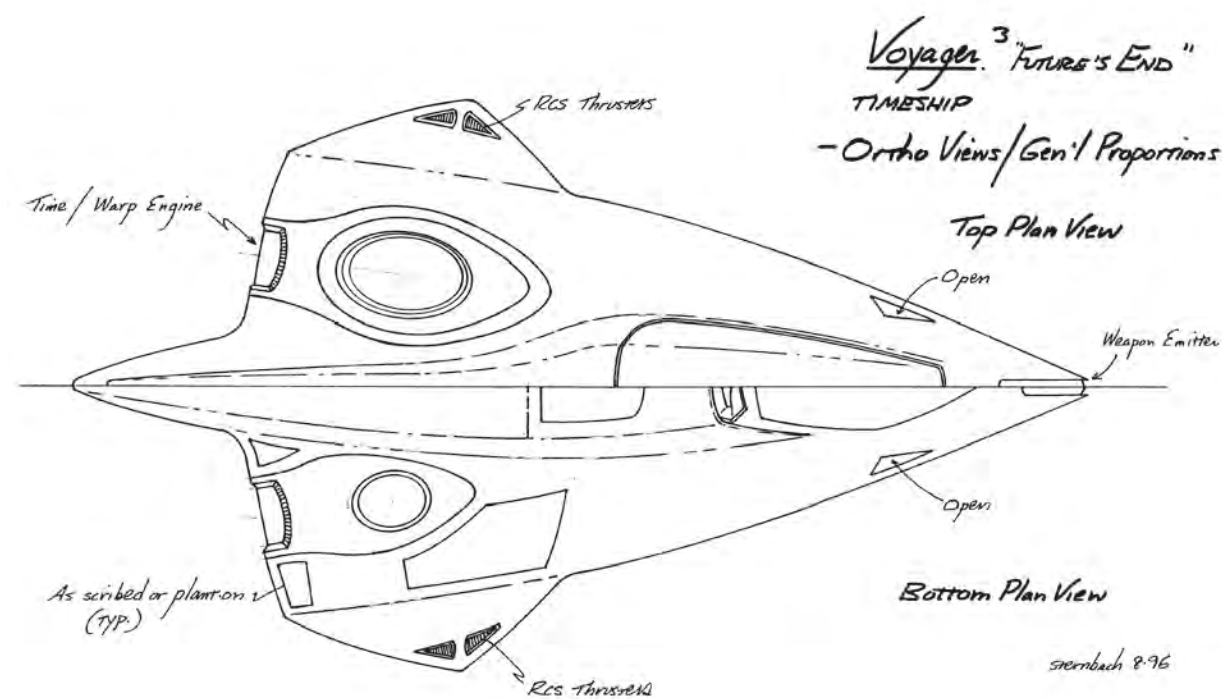
► Sternbach made the canopy larger and moved it forward in this version of the *Aeon*. It may seem counterintuitive, but this actually had the effect of making the overall size of the craft appear smaller. He also changed the weapon at the front and turned the Bussard collectors in the wings into semi-spherical orbs.



off to be created in CG. For some designs, like alien craft seen in very short clips, quick doodles on a script page or rough grayscale CG shapes that I made in the art department were sufficient. Major ships and space stations took much longer, with more drawings and blueprints. The *Aeon* was somewhere in the middle.”

Of course, one of the biggest challenges when designing the *Aeon*, a ship from the 29th century,

was making it look even more futuristic than the vessels that were normally created. Boundaries had already been pushed when creating the look of cutting-edge starships in the 24th century, but the *Aeon* had to look even more advanced. It also had to appear as if it came from Starfleet and was of alien origin, so it was important to update some of the more familiar elements that were common to the organization’s design language.



“Pushing *STAR TREK* designs past an already futuristic style presented some challenges,” said Sternbach. “But the fact that the *Aeon* was a Starfleet craft helped narrow the focus of the first sketches. I wanted to include some elements that might be seen as reminders of Starfleet tech, so I took the typical glowing red Bussard collectors, turned them 90 degrees and set them into the wings, as if the nacelles were routinely blended into starship hulls. It was the same with the reaction control thrusters, deflector and the impulse exhaust vents. These were just little bits that people had seen before, even if they didn’t work exactly the same as back in the 24th century.

NEW DESIGN ELEMENTS

“The temporal emitter was obviously something that I had to include and that was new,” continued Sternbach. “I put that in the nose of the ship. Also, some of my early sketches contained notes about nanotechnology built into the skin, which could have been done with animated glows or small morphing details. These were just suggestions in case the producers wanted to see something exotic happening.

“Of course, once the drawings leave my desk, many other people get involved in the decision-

making process. In this instance, the final look of the *Aeon* was a simpler stealthy dark tone, which was fine by me. The bigger timeship, the *U.S.S. Relativity* from the later season five episode, actually received an intricately textured hull that could have indicated advanced shielding or other technology.”

BUILDING THE CG MODEL

Once Sternbach had refined and finished his sketches of the *Aeon*, they were sent off to the visual effects house Foundation Imaging, so the artists there could build the CG model and the animation. They also supplied life-like renders of the *Aeon*, which were composited into the live action footage of a laboratory that had been filmed in Long Beach, California for the scene where it was viewed in the Chronoworx Building.

Sternbach was very pleased with how the *Aeon* turned out on screen and was also happy that they decided to rescale it. “I think the final smaller size of the *Aeon* was a better fit than the 16-20 meter craft I had originally envisioned,” said Sternbach. “Although, the tech side of me really wonders how Starfleet managed to pack all of the necessary systems into such a little package. But it was 29th century tech, so why not!?”

◀ This was one of the final orthographic views of the *Aeon* that Sternbach sketched for the CG artists at Foundation Imaging. It showed its proportions and the location of some of its features.



STAR TREK:

BEYOND THE 24th CENTURY

A few *STAR TREK* episodes touched upon events after the 24th century, and it seemed most of them centered on the concerns of time travel.

▲ The *U.S.S. Relativity* was from the 29th century, and was one of the few ships seen in *STAR TREK* built after the 24th century. It was designed to stop any changes to the timeline caused by time travel.

The *Aeon* was from the 29th century, but what do we actually know about the *STAR TREK* universe beyond the 24th century? Not that much, but there were a few episodes that hinted at what might be taking place.

One of the first mentions was in the *STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION* episode 'A Matter of Time.' In it, a man named Berlinghoff Rasmussen claimed to be from the 26th century, and arrived in the

24th century in a time-travel pod. This future vessel was only about five meters in length and was constructed from a plasticized tritanium mesh, a material that 24th-century sensors were unable to penetrate to scan inside. It produced a temporal distortion when traveling through time.

Rasmussen was originally going to be played by the late Robin Williams, but a scheduling clash prevented him from taking the role as he had

already committed to play Peter Pan in the movie 'Hook.' Rasmussen claimed to be a historian who specialized in early interstellar history. In fact, he was an inventor and a con artist from the 22nd century, and his motives for traveling through time were similar to those of Henry Starling, who would later appear in *STAR TREK: VOYAGER*.

Rasmussen had stolen the time-travel pod from a 26th-century researcher, who had gone back to the 22nd century. Rasmussen used it to travel to the 24th century, where he hoped to steal technology and artifacts, including Lt. Commander Data, before returning to his own time where he would claim that he had invented these devices. Rasmussen was eventually found out and he was taken into custody at Starbase 214, while the time-travel pod was returned to the 22nd century for the researcher.

CRUCIAL BATTLE

In one possible timeline, the 26th century was also seen in the *STAR TREK: ENTERPRISE* episode 'Azati Prime.' Captain Archer was taken there by Crewman Daniels to see the Battle of Procyon V from the observation deck of the *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-J. This was the final battle between the Federation and the Sphere-Builders that resulted in a decisive victory for the Federation, as the Builders were driven back into their trans-dimensional realm. Other ships that were seen in the form of graphics on a computer screen were *Dauntless*, *Nova* and *Prometheus*-class ships.

In the 28th century, the Temporal Accord was drawn up. This was an interstellar treaty signed after the development of time travel, prohibiting its use to change history. It was in force by 2769 according to the *STAR TREK: ENTERPRISE* episode 'Cold Front,' and time travel was only permitted for scientific research purposes, as long as it did not contaminate the timeline.

Much more was known about the 29th century thanks to the *STAR TREK: VOYAGER* episodes 'Future's End, Part I & II' and 'Relativity.' We learned that time travel had become common enough that the Temporal Integrity Commission had been set up. This Federation agency protected the timeline from any changes caused by time travel. Vessels such as the *Aeon* and the *U.S.S. Relativity* NCV-474439-G used their sensors



▲ Rasmussen purported to be from the 26th century, but he was actually from the 22nd century. He planned to steal future technology, including Data, and take credit for the inventions in his own time.



▲ The time-travel pod that the unscrupulous inventor Rasmussen used to get to the 24th century was from the 26th century. He had stolen it after encountering its rightful owner in the 22nd century.



▲ The temporal agent known as Daniels took Captain Archer to the 26th century and showed him that the Federation would win the war against the Sphere-Builders at the Battle of Procyon V.



▲ The *U.S.S. Relativity* was equipped with a temporal transporter which, in conjunction with other technologies, could beam an individual to a precise moment and location anywhere in the universe.



▲ Henry Starling stole the mobile holo-emitter from the timeship *Aeon*. It allowed the Doctor to exist in any environment and not just on a holodeck where there were permanent holo-emitters.



▲ The *Enterprise NX-01* crew discovered a 31st-century time-travel pod. At first, they were unable to get inside it, but when they did, they found it was larger on the inside than it was on the outside.

to scan throughout spacetime for any possible infractions. If they found one, their task was to correct it.

Of course, it was during the *U.S.S. Voyager's* encounter with the *Aeon* that the Doctor picked up a very useful piece of 29th-century technology. This was the self-sustaining mobile holo-emitter that allowed him to exist outside the holodeck for the first time and go where he pleased.

TEMPORAL TECHNOLOGIES

Both the *Aeon* and the *Relativity* were able to open a subspace rift through which they could travel to a specified time and place. As the *Relativity* was much larger than the *Aeon*, and stood a greater chance of being discovered, it was able to send a single person to a particular time and location using a temporal transporter.

The *Relativity* was equipped with temporal communications that allowed them to stay in audio contact with an operative, who had been sent through time. It also possessed a number of holomatrix rooms, the 29th-century equivalent of holodecks, that allowed them to run simulations before operatives were sent into action.

While hardly anything was shown about the 30th century, there were various episodes of *STAR TREK: ENTERPRISE* that alluded to the 31st century. By this point, time travel was so commonplace that a quantum discriminator was found in every school desk. This piece of technology could determine the precise moment in time to send a signal when communicating through time.

In 2152, *Enterprise NX-01* discovered a time travel pod from the 31st century in the episode 'Future Tense.' The exterior of the pod was just six meters long, but due to some kind of spatial phenomenon it was much bigger on the inside. The hull was composed of a number of materials, one of which was in a semi-fluidic state, and it had no visible means of propulsion. It was equipped with organic circuitry and could absorb electromagnetic radiation, meaning it did not register on sensor technology of the 22nd century.

The *Enterprise* crew found a lone pilot inside the craft who had died, while the pod was emitting temporal radiation that had a time-distorting and disorienting effect on those in close proximity. Commander Tucker managed to reactivate its



◀ Hoping to make his situation clear, Daniels showed Captain Archer a Temporal Observatory. This was a display depicting where all the temporal agents were in time, and how their actions were helping to preserve the integrity of the timeline.

temporal beacon and within seconds it had vanished, presumably having been retrieved by its owners from the future.

FUTURE WAR

We also learned from several *STAR TREK: ENTERPRISE* episodes such as 'Shockwave, Part I & II' that there was some kind of Temporal Cold War going on in the 31st century. This was a conflict fought between several time-traveling factions, each trying to manipulate history for their own benefit.

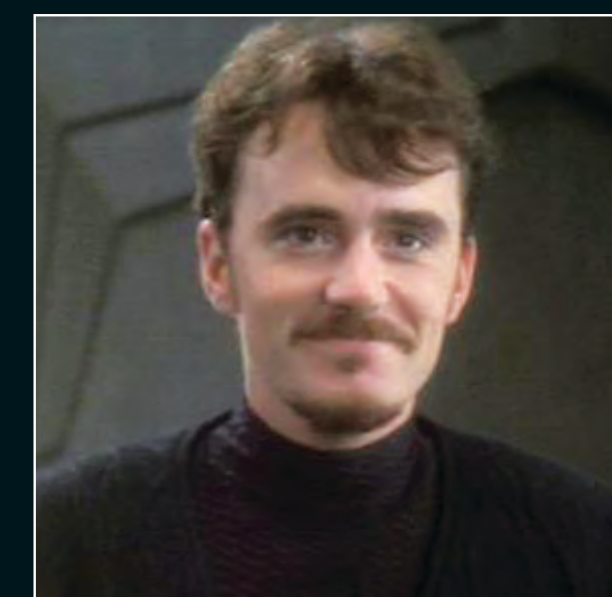
They were opposed by a group of Federation temporal agents, such as Daniels, who were trying to protect the timeline. Daniels first appeared aboard the *Enterprise* in 2151, posing as a steward. He appeared at various times over the next few years as he tried to help Captain Archer and his crew fight Cold War factions, such as the Sphere-Builders, the Vosk and the Na'kuhl.

Daniels utilized a host of 31st-century technology to help him carry out his task. This included a Temporal Observatory, a mind-boggling holographic representation of the time stream. The display was projected by a space-time scanner and it allowed him to view the activities being carried out by various time travelers.

Other technology Daniels had access to

included a holographic database that contained a huge amount of information including schematics of starships over numerous centuries. He also had an interphase device that allowed him to pass through solid objects.

The 31st century was as far in the future as *STAR TREK* really went, although in the *STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE* episode 'Chrysalis,' Jack, a genetically-engineered genius, had a startling prediction. He believed that in 60-70 trillion years, the universe would collapse in on itself, bringing an end to all history – *STAR TREK* or otherwise.



◀ Jack underwent an illegal genetically-engineered procedure as a child that dramatically increased his intelligence. He believed that in 60-70 trillion years time the universe would collapse in on itself, bringing an end to life everywhere.

ON SCREEN



TRIVIA

In the *STAR TREK: VOYAGER* episode 'Future's End, Part I,' Chakotay comments that one of his ancestors from the 20th century worked as a school teacher. Captain Janeway replies that she did not know what any of her ancestors were doing around the turn of the 21st century. This contradicts the later episode '11:59,' in which Janeway said she was inspired to join Starfleet by her ancestor Shannon O'Donnell [pictured below]. She was an aerospace engineer and trained to be an astronaut with NASA in the late 20th century. She later became a consulting engineer on the Millennium Gate project that was completed in 2012.



Chronowerx, Henry Starling's imposing headquarters building, was actually the Transit building in downtown Los Angeles, but with the corporate logo added in post-production by the visual effects department. Chronowerx was misspelled as "Chronowerks" on a wall in the laboratory where the *Aeon* was kept.



With minor changes, the cockpit interior of the *Aeon* was later reused as the pilot's compartment for Kovic's starship in the season four episode 'Retrospect.' It was also used as the cockpit for Kes' shuttle in the season six episode 'Fury.'

- FIRST APPEARANCE: 'FUTURE'S END, PART I' (VOY)
- TV APPEARANCES: STAR TREK: VOYAGER
- DESIGNED BY: Rick Sternbach

KEY APPEARANCES

STAR TREK: VOYAGER
'Future's End, Part I'

A spatial rift opens directly in front of the *U.S.S. Voyager* NCC-74656. The *Aeon*, a 29th-century timeship commanded by Captain Braxton, emerges and opens fire. When Captain Janeway retaliates in defense, Braxton declares his mission is to destroy *Voyager* as it is responsible for the destruction of the sol system in his era. Janeway does not back down and the *Aeon* is damaged. This pulls both ships into the rift and back to Earth, but the *Aeon* emerges in 1967, while *Voyager* arrives in 1996. Janeway and her crew then set about trying to find their way back to their own time.

STAR TREK: VOYAGER
'Future's End, Part II'

Back in the 20th century, Paris bonds with Rain Robinson, an astronomer, and the rest of the crew attempt to track down the *Aeon*.

They find that it has been stolen by Henry Starling, who saw it crash land in 1967. In the following years, he utilized its technology to start a high-tech empire, which made him one of the wealthiest people on the planet. He now plans to travel to the 29th century in the *Aeon* to acquire more technology, but it is this act that will cause the annihilation of the sol system, unless Janeway and her crew can stop him.

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