After the Circus

The "Flying Elephant" was not a creature of "malicious intent" but rather a product of discussion originating on a thread in the old st911 forum. Several member/researchers were at the time seeking visual evidence to support the supposition of remote guidance and/or aerial war games (assuming the hits on CD-prepped towers would not be left to chance). I found the CameraPlanet clip on terrorize.dk (a site now apparently defunct) and brought it to the forum for review. Knowing little of optical effects I was overly impressed by it and I was not alone. Considering other oddments that had been gathered to the thread, especially the Diane Sawyer audio, the Edward Cachia oral history (pgs. 4-5)
http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20050812_WTC_GRAPHIC/9110251.PDF
and the 9/11 Commission's own enigmatic "Phantom 11", there seemed to be "something there". I offered to write it up. The paper was critiqued on the forum, then submitted to the Journal. In the rush to produce the first issue, the telescopic "vanishing act" in the primary clip and other errors were not called out and the "Elephant" became a low-flying target, as did I.

In a defensive reflex I resigned from st911 and *asked for the paper to be removed from the Journal*.   Judy Wood, then co-editor of the Journal, emailed me requesting to be allowed to keep it as "property of st911", to which I naively agreed. Without consultation, in what I still regard as a well-meaning protective gesture, Jim Fetzer quickly issued his "press release", magnifying the error. After the fission of the original scholars group, the Journal retained the flawed paper, necessitating its present reexamination as public scrutiny increases. I am not aware of any significant findings since its publication that would support its premise.

Such "shotgun"-style research cannot serve the interest of justice and is unworthy of the Journal.   As the author of this essay I respectfully request that it be retracted from *Journal of 9/11 Studies.*

Reynolds Dixon