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R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER

"Nature," says R. Buckminster Fuller, "always builds the most economic structures." Mr. Fuller's own structures, based on mathematical principles embodying force distributions similar to those found in atoms, molecules and crystals, are considered the lightest, strongest and cheapest constructions ever made. His overall goal, Comprehensive Design, is to provide "more and more of everything, for everybody, from less and less resources."

Since Mr. Fuller invented his new system of mathematics, "Energetic Geometry," in 1917, his projects have included the 1927 "Dymaxion" house; a one-piece, die-stamped bathroom; the first streamlined, three-wheeled automobile; the "Wichita" House", made with airplane construction techniques to sell for the price of a Ford sedan; Energetic Synergetic Geometry; the "Dymaxion" map, which eliminated distortions; "Geodesics" - a system of building construction.

Mr. Fuller's geodesic domes, combining maximum strength with minimum material, are now found all over the world. Almost 1,000 plastic and fibre-glass Radomes, are used to contain Radar equipment in the D.E.W. lines. Cardboard domes, used as front-line "tents," are called by the U. S. Marine Corps. "the first basic improvement in mobile military shelter in 2,600 years." A huge aluminum dome enclosed part of the U. S. exhibition at the Moscow Fair. The world's largest free-span enclosure, a 384 foot diameter dome, houses the Union Tank Car Co. repair shop in Baton Rouge, La. Domes have been used for international trade fairs in Afghanistan, India, Burma, Thailand and Japan.

Mr. Fuller was born at Milton, Mass., on July 12, 1895, attended Milton Academy and Harvard. The author of Nine Chains to the Moon (1938), his work has been exhibited before at the Museum of Modern Art: Buckminster Fuller Dymaxion Deployment Unit (1942), and Two Houses: New Ways to Build (with Frederick Kiesler) (1952).

His future projects include sky islands for use as launching platforms for missles, underwater islands as bases for submarines, oil drillers or oceanographic surveys; and total climate control by enclosing cities or deserts.