



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

100
BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL CENTER

American Embassy
Kabul, Afghanistan
September 13, 1956

Mr. R. Buckminster Fuller
Geodesics, Inc.
3013 Hillsboro Street
Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Fuller:

You will be interested to learn that the Jeshn Trade Fair, concluded last Thursday, reveals that approximately 39% more people visited the American Pavilion than visited the Chinese Communist exhibit, and that 35% more Afghans visited the American Pavilion than visited the Russian exhibit. The actual total for the American exhibit was approximately 202,500, for the Chinese Communists 145,800, and for the Russians 149,000.

This, in spite of the fact that the Chinese pavilion area was in excess of 35,000 square feet, the Russian 22,500 square feet and the American Pavilion under 8,000 square feet. The outstanding appeal apparently was due principally to the combination of the dramatic Geodesic dome with a translucent nylon canopy glowing at night from the interior lighting, the cinemascope theater, a film travel of Afghanistan, the fact that our exhibits were operated by trained Afghan exhibit assistants, who were able to explain the machines in the vernacular.

In my opinion, after having seen only four Asian fairs, the Geodesic Dome is the most dramatic structure we have utilized in this part of the world. As you will understand, it is particularly effective at night, properly lighted from the inside as it was. I should like to thank you particularly for the services of Jeff Brooks and John Dixon, both of whom are top-notchers, in my book. Jeff's job of erecting the dome in only two days, plus one additional day for draping the canopy, is only a little short of miraculous in Afghanistan. John's help in maintaining and dismantling, as well as other favors, contributed a great deal to the success of the undertaking. It was a great pleasure knowing both of these men and having them, in effect, as part of our staff during the Jeshn festival.

Very sincerely,

Tom Hall Miller
Trade Fair Manager