

A Greek Vision of Tomorrow

by Patricia McBroom

A Greek vision of the city of the future was laid before Senators Robert Kennedy and Abraham Ribicoff last week, along with dire warnings of the urban nightmare man will surely face unless government begins a major planning effort now.

Dr. Constantinos A. Doxiadis, internationally-known city planner and Greek architect, told Ribicoff's Government Operations Subcommittee that it is possible to preserve a human scale even within the totally inhuman "universal" city that is to come.

Basically, this can be done by returning to the historical city—moderately dense and small in size, said Dr. Doxiadis, or as Senator Kennedy expressed it. "You mean the city pattern of 2,500 years ago."

The Doxiadis vision is based on something more than romance. For the past four years, his Athens Center for Ekistics (meaning the science of human settlements) has been studying no less than the shape of the world as it might be two centuries from now, based on projections from internationally assembled material.

In this context, Dr. Doxiadis sees many "new towns," historically patterned and self-sufficient, acting as satellites to major centers. Rather than being surrounded by country side, these towns will make up one vast continuous urban settlement.

The continuous city is inevitable, Dr. Doxiadis believes, and will arrive in the next century no matter what is done to prevent it. Therefore, the goal should be to break up the city into cells, no more than a mile in length, where modern man, like Pericles of Greece, can walk without meeting cars.

He told the hearings that government is making a mistake to pour all its money into existing central cities. Rather, funds should be spent in building the new towns one hundred or two hundred miles outside, thereby relieving cities of their pressures and allowing them time to rebuild.

To only remodel existing cities is like surgery, when preventive medicine is needed, he said.

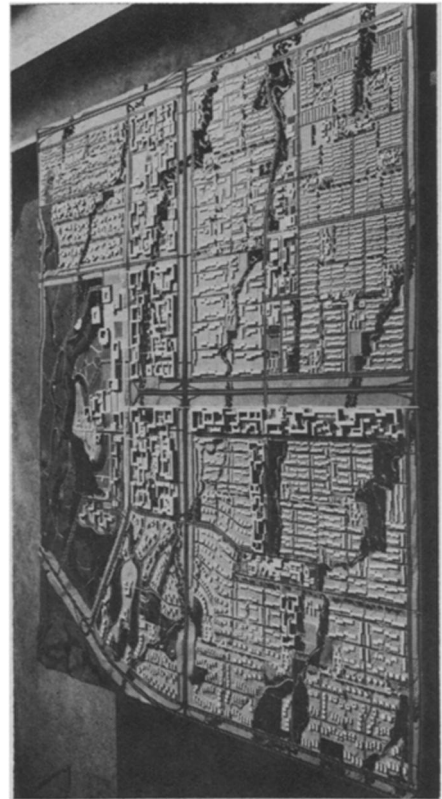
Eventually, Dr. Doxiadis said, the government must build cities as it now builds missiles. The construction industry is one of the most backward, he said. Companies build only a few hundred homes at a time when they should build thousands. He sees no reasonable alternative but that the government must create a defense-type industry for cities, in which direction is set at the federal level, while private enterprise does the work on contract.

Only the government, he said, can create the frame of the universal city and plan its interconnecting networks from transportation to telecommunications. But people must build their towns if human values are to be maintained.

He said the current trend toward low density suburban living is dangerous. In the past, towns reached a density of between 40 and 100 inhabitants per acre. "Today, the densities are much lower, to the detriment of the economic base, the social operation of the community and the aesthetic value of the settlements."

Surprisingly, Dr. Doxiadis does not predict the death of the automobile. He does, however, think it must go underground. Tunnels are expensive now, but with rising land values, they will soon be comparatively cheap.

Besides planning Pakistan's capital city, Islamabad, Doxiadis' firm has several U.S. projects, including the Urban Detroit plan, the Eastwick community in Philadelphia and the Georgetown-Riverfront project in Washington. The latter will have depressed freeways which can be made into tunnels in the future.



Doxiadis Associates

Islamabad, designed for the future.

SEE MIRACLE OF BIRTH
\$4.98 POST PAID WITH
SIX QUAIL EGGS
 (\$3.25 Without Eggs.)
 You get the new clear plastic dome CHICK-BATOR with 6 Bobwhite Quail Eggs (available year-round) and Egg Hatcher's Guide Book. Complete — nothing else to buy. Send check or Money Order today.
G.Q.F. MFG. CO., DEPT. CL, BOX 152, SAVANNAH, GA.

WRITE FOR MONEY!
 Enrich your style through Herbert Spencer's and Edgar Allan Poe's classic principles that have influenced many of the world's great authors. Indispensable for writers eager to get published! Send \$1.00 to PAGEANT PRESS, 101 5th AVE., N. Y. 3, Dept. SN.

T I R E D ?
 Get an immediate lift in seconds. Relieve your tensions. **MINUTE-A-DAY** is based on Max-Planck Institute research. Improve your energy, stamina, strength, feeling of well-being and trim appearance. Write for free illustrated information
MINUTE-A-DAY
 Dept. E, 37 Centuck Station, Yonkers, N.Y. 10710©

WFF 'N PROOF
 The GAME for THINKERS

Can you solve this problem?
 1. There are three numbered statements in this box.
 2. Two of these numbered statements are not true.
 3. The average increase in I.Q. scores of those who learn to play WFF 'N PROOF is more than 20 points.
 — Is statement No. 3 true? —

A NEW DIMENSION IN EDUCATIONAL GAMES
WFF 'N PROOF: THE GAME OF MODERN LOGIC \$6.00 (plus \$1.50 postage and handling)
EQUATIONS: THE GAME OF CREATIVE MATHEMATICS \$3.00 (plus \$1.50 postage and handling)
ON-SETS: THE GAME OF SET THEORY \$4.00 (plus \$1.50 postage and handling)
 by Professor Layman E. Allen

Box 71-LY New Haven, Conn.
 Please send me WFF 'N PROOF
 ON-SETS EQUATIONS
 I enclose \$ and understand that if I am not completely satisfied, I can return the games in 10 days for a full refund of the purchase price.
 Name
 Address
 City State Zip
 Refund and return privileges guaranteed!
 Dealer Inquiries Invited
WFF 'N PROOF