

## UN Transport Center Urged by Researcher

The United States should take the lead in helping to establish a world transport center to be affiliated with the United Nations and to serve the urgent transport expansion needs of developing nations.

This is the conclusion of Wilfred Owen, Director of the Transport Research Program conducted by The Brookings Institution of Washington, D.C., for the last five years. Mr. Owen expressed his conclusion in his final report of the program, supported by the Agency for International Development.

Mr. Owen feels that efforts in the transport development line by the United Nations thus far has been inadequate.

"Particularly unfortunate," says the Owen final report, "is the situation of the United Nations and its regional commissions and development institutes.

"Lack of budget and personnel makes it impossible to carry out more than a very limited effort.

"The technological innovations that are doing the most to bring about a more close-knit global community are not being imaginatively applied to support the increased demands for higher levels of living."

The Brookings Institution transport research specialist says that "transport technology should be made to support food production efforts, to help overcome rural isolation, to narrow the gap between rural and urban societies, to reduce costs of production, to extend the benefits of specialization and commerce, and, together with communications, to move information and ideas."

While acknowledging that current efforts to modernize transport throughout the world is growing, Owen feels that more is needed in the line of a "systematic effort to assess this experience, to improve planning techniques, to provide a clearing house for exchanging and disseminating relevant ideas and information, to support the necessary educational and research programs and to expand the acutely scarce supply of competent transport advisers in the development field."

A UN-connected world transport center, actively pushed and backed by the United States, would do much to encourage transport progress around the world, Mr. Owen feels.

Engineer Victor S. Mangonnet has been named National Highway Administrator for the Argentine National Highway Department in Buenos Aires.

The 20th General Assembly of the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO) will be held in Tokyo, at the invitation of the Japanese Government, October 2 to 11. Representing the International Road Federation at the meeting will be Akira Mochi, President of the Japan Roads Association.

A recently published information paper on the activities of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) lists the Asian Highway as a "pre-investment project" approved by UNDP's Governing Council. Afghanistan, India, Iran, Laos, Malaysia, the Republic of Viet Nam, Singapore and Thailand are listed as participating countries.

## Turner Cites Traffic Death Toll Reduction

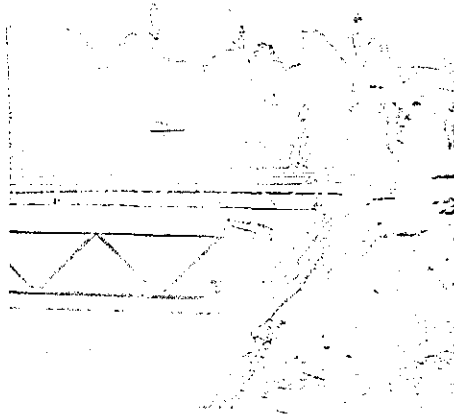
Francis C. Turner, U.S. Director of Public Roads, has called attention to a drastic reduction in the U.S. traffic fatality rate during the last third of a century.

In a speech July 11th before the Western Association of State Highway Officials at Honolulu, Hawaii, Turner said there has been a generally downward trend of the traffic fatality toll in terms of miles of travel.

"In 1934 for example," he said, "the death rate was 16.7 per 100 million miles of travel. Last year the rate was 5.7.

"In other words, had the 1934 rate continued, we would probably have counted some 150,000 traffic fatalities in 1966 instead of the 52,500 we actually had."

Turner told the Western highway engineers they had "both a legal and moral obligation to use all of the expertise gained to protect the life, limb and property of the motoring public."



**PAVING INNOVATION**—Dragging its forms behind, slipform paver moves steadily ahead, shaping concrete pavement on Kentucky's interstate 71 in Gallatin County. Trailing end of form may be seen under bucket in foreground. In conventional paving, forms are placed ahead of paving train and left in place for hours after concrete is placed. Here the stiff plastic concrete stands free.

## Kentucky Using Slipform Paving

Slipforming, the newest technique in placement of portland cement concrete pavement, is being utilized for the first time by the Kentucky Department of Highways on Interstate Route 71 in Gallatin County.

Highway Commissioner M. W. Tinder foresees potential savings to the state through permitting contractors to use slipforming, a method requiring less labor and less physical equipment. For example, a contractor placing concrete by conventional forming methods must place a mile or more of forms ahead of his paving train each working day. These oiled forms, of course, later have to be removed, cleaned and oiled, and again placed ahead of the equipment.

In the early days of the contract, the contractor is averaging better than 4,000 feet (1,219 m.) a day. This footage should be increased to approximately 5,280 feet (1,609 m.) or one mile per working day.

## London Bridge Is Coming Down

London's historic London Bridge has been put up for sale.

The famous span across the Thames River is to be sold so that a six-lane bridge can replace the four-lane structure, inadequate for modern-day traffic.

The present bridge is actually the third London Bridge. The Romans first threw a wooden span across the Thames between what is today the financial district on the north bank, and Southwark on the south bank.

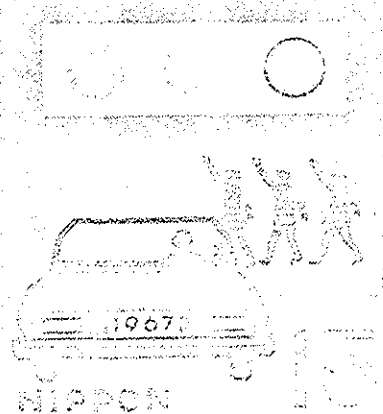
The second London Bridge, the one that a famous English nursery rhyme describes as falling down, was built in 1176.

The current one was opened by King William IV in 1831. Weighing 130,000 tons, it is 65 feet (19.8 m) wide and is supported by four piers. It has five arches and its center span is 152 feet (46.3 m) in length.

To be put up for sale is its superstructure and granite facing. London authorities are said to be determined not to sell the bridge piecemeal.

"It is not worthy for such a great historic monument to be broken up and sold little by little," said Harold King, London City Engineer.

交通安全のシンボル



**JAPAN PUSHES SAFETY**—Japan has issued a postage stamp to promote traffic safety. The 15-yen denomination stamp depicts a traffic light, automobile and pedestrians in a message designed to encourage safe driving.

In 1966, the Ivory Coast Road Association reports it was principally concerned with investigation of the problem of the standardization of the country's road network. Grah Kadji, Director General of Public Works, has succeeded Mr. Konate as President of the association.

His Holiness Pope Paul VI recently received Georges Gallienne, President of the French Road Union and Vice President of IRF, in private audience. Mr. Gallienne presented to the Pope school-boys from fourteen nations taking part in Rome in the Fifth International Schools Cup. He received praise from his Holiness for his work as President of the French Road Union in contributing to the safeguarding of human lives.