

OPE - 16 - 08

## Harlan's I-40 Question Answered

**W**HEN the Overton Park expressway case recently was being argued before the Supreme Court, Justice John M. Harlan asked the objectors' lawyer what he proposed to show if the case was sent back to federal district court in Memphis.

The lawyer replied that Lowell K. Bridwell, former federal highway administrator, was prepared to testify that the federal government had actually left the decision on the I-40 highway route to the Memphis City Council.

Now Mr. Bridwell says in an interview he would do no such thing. He hasn't even discussed the case with lawyers on either side. And the routing decision, he says, was made by Allan Boyd, then secretary of transportation, on Bridwell's recommendation.

We join Justice Harlan in wondering just what the highway opponents really do propose to show if they succeed in delaying the project further and getting a new court hearing in Memphis.

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