

OPE 21-05

## Volpe Gets Additional Time For Park Ruling

From The Commercial Appeal  
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16. — Retiring Transportation Secretary John A. Volpe was assured Tuesday of additional time to rule in Memphis' Overton Park expressway case be-

fore leaving to become ambassador to Italy.

The extra time was provided when the Senate recessed until Thursday without acting on confirmation of Volpe's successor, Claude Stout Brinegar, a California oil company execu-

tive.

Volpe has said he will continue as secretary of transportation until his successor is confirmed and sworn in.

Tuesday passed without a ruling by Volpe and he continued to be close-mouthed about

his intentions in the Memphis case. He appeared on the NBC Today show Tuesday morning but made no mention of the Overton Park expressway.

Associates, aware of Volpe's promise last month to do all possible to rule in the case before he leaves office, have become puzzled over his actions. Some believe he ultimately will act in the case, while others have become convinced he plans to leave the issue to Brinegar.

Brinegar was in the Department of Transportation offices again Tuesday being briefed on his impending new duties.

Awaiting Volpe — or Brinegar — is the responsibility of determining whether there is

any prudent and feasible alternative to routing Interstate 40 through Overton Park.

Brinegar's views are unknown.

DA.

Jan 17, 1973