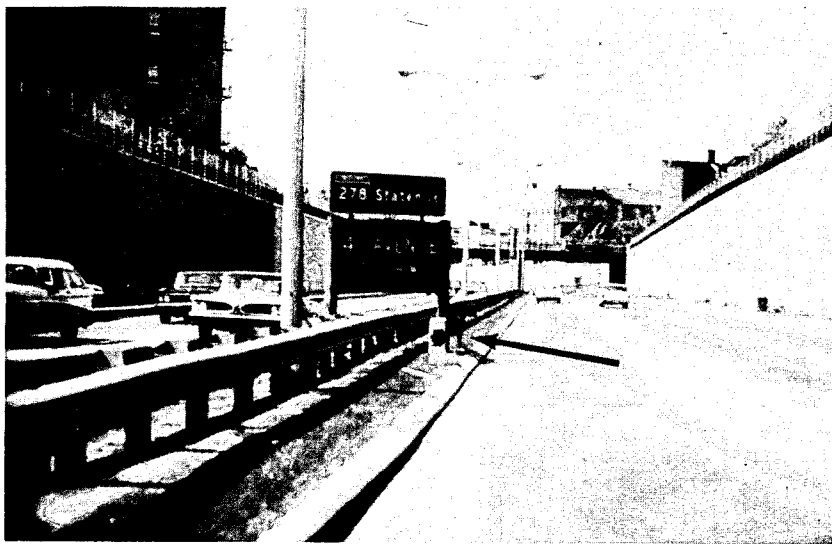


Mr. LINKO. Well, about 4 years ago I noticed everybody was talking about highway safety, then I became aware of the conditions in the roads in my area.

There used to be a sign here. About 2 years ago somebody hit it, and to this very day those concrete stanchions (circled) are sticking out. Anyone that rides over that area may cut his tire or damage his automobile. I noticed these conditions and recorded them. This has been like this for 2 years.

This picture was taken during the summertime. I had to actually cut the grass away in order to take the picture of that. Anyone riding over the same area would not even know the concrete stanchions exist, so they may ride over them and be surprised when the car throws them—maybe they would hit another car—for no good reason. Maintenance people might come by 50 times during the summer here and cut the grass and always go around this thing. Nobody even thinks of removing it.

It might seem like a small thing, but that is a concrete stanchion, and if you run over that thing, you would blow out your tire or it would catch the inside of your tire, bend your tie rod or cut your brake linings. I cannot understand why this has not been moved. This is a hazard on Interstate 95.



Here is another one, just about the same thing. This is supposed to be a partial shoulder for cars to use. These concrete stanchions (arrow) are to protect a sign, which is a wooden sign. It would be safe if you knocked the sign down. You might damage the car. The sign will go down anyway from what I note.

Mr. BLATNIK. Mr. Linko, not to direct you, but you said maintenance crews do come out here, for instance, and will cut the grass in the median strip and cut around these concrete stubs, leaving the grass near the stubs, enough so that the grass camouflages. Is that what you mean, the crews have known about it over the period of 2 years, that these stubs and other stubs were there?