received, many from distinguished colleagues, suggest a real readiness for change. We look forward to some analysis and ideas from the NSF, the National Institutes of Health, and the General Accounting Office with respect to a comparison of funding mechanisms.

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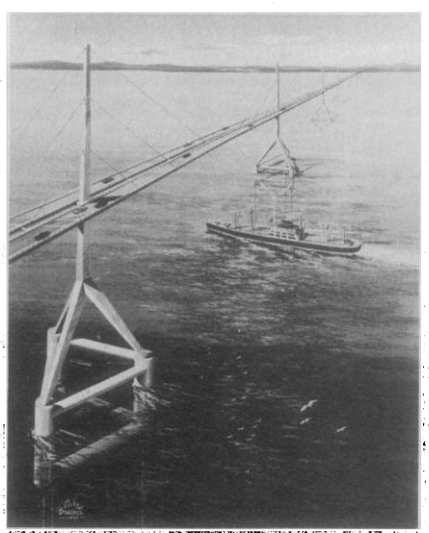
Bridge Design

In his review (15 May, p. 787) of *Long-Span Bridges* (New York Academy of Sciences, 1980), William Zuk does not mention the longest cable-stayed bridge design ever made as a possible future development.



In 1969 M. M. Bascom and I did a rather detailed design study of a cable-stayed bridge for the Strait of Gibraltar in which the cables were suspended from a series of aluminum towers mounted on tension-leg platforms in water to 130-foot depths. Some 15 towers would have been required to cross the 8.2 nautical miles (13 kilometers). The largest ships would have passed easily under the deck and between the spans as shown in the accompanying photo. The design study was accepted by the sponsors, but the prospects of paying traffic were not sufficient to proceed further at that time.

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