

FLYOVER DISASTER.

The new Forth Road Bridge alongside the famous Railway bridge, a major improvement to the trunk road system of Scotland. When it is completed, road traffic up the East Coast will be saved a long detour inland. Building bridges like these isn't the sort of job everybody would choose. And yet, strangely when tragedy does strike - it's not on the bridge itself, but ashore.

Two minutes before the tea break when all the workers would have been clear, a half-built flyover on the northern approaches crumbles like a stack of dominoes, killing two men and seriously injuring two others. Three hundred tons of concrete and a mass of steel scaffolding keep the injured men trapped for two and a half hours, and the bodies of their two workmates are still under the wreckage many hours later.

How did it happen? For some reason, the reinforcing steelwork gave way, ten days after the last concreting had been done. Just why is still a mystery - but there's to be a full inquiry.