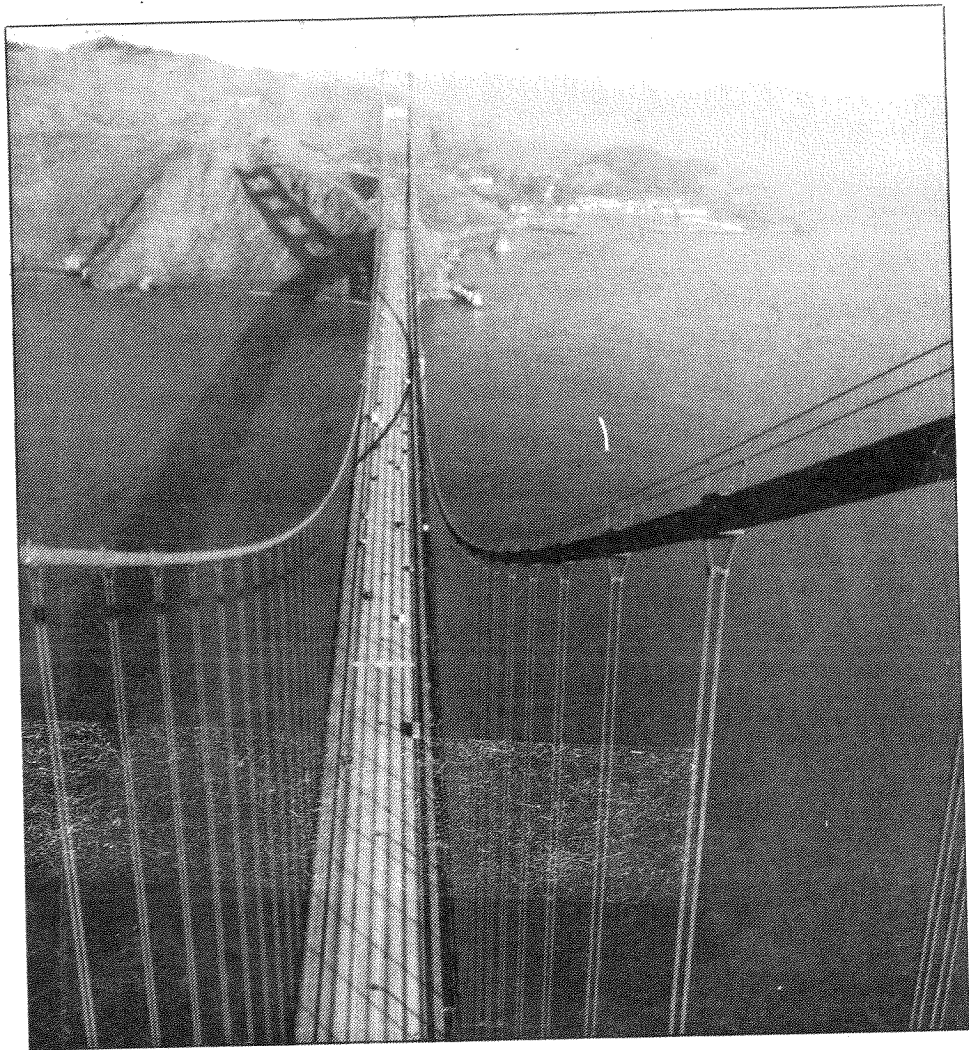


CA 1/12/83



Happy 50th birthday!

ONE OF THE GREAT VIEWS in the world is from the tower of the Golden Gate Bridge, rising 65 stories above the water below. The San Francisco landmark, one of the most famous bridges on earth, started construction 50 years ago on Jan. 5, 1933. The mile and a half span took four and a half years to complete using 83,000 tons of steel. To commemorate completion of the bridge on May 27, 1937, its creator—its diminutive, visionary engineer, Joseph B. Strauss—composed a poem titled, "The Mighty Task Is Done." Here is one verse:

"To north, the Redwood Empire's gates;
To south, a happy playground waits,
in rapturous appeal;
Here nature, free since time began,
Yields to the restless moods of man,
Accepts his bonds of steel."

Photo by Marion Softky.