

Unsubstantiated: U. S.

*Chgo today
6/14/73*

Deny Skolnick charges

FEDERAL AUTHORITIES here insist there is no evidence to back up charges by legal researcher Sherman Skolnick that a United Air Lines jet which crashed near Midway Airport last Dec. 8 was sabotaged.

Skolnick made the charge yesterday at a National Transportation Safety Board hearing in the Sheraton-O'Hare Motor Hotel, Rosemont.

After the hearing, authorities said Skolnick's accusations were unsubstantiated.

HE OFFERED no documentation yester-

day, and instead, tied scores of facts and assumptions together in an attempt to prove his theory.

Often interrupted by snickers, Skolnick claimed the sabotage was part of a plot to cover up the Watergate break-in. He accused five federal agencies, United Air Lines, gas lobbyists, and the Boeing Co. of being involved in the plot.

One of those on board the plane was the wife of E. Howard Hunt, a convicted participant in the Watergate burglary.