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Crash Probe --Watergate Link Alleged

New York

The National Transportation Safety Board said yesterday that it would look into allegations by a Chicago legal researcher that a United Air Lines jetliner that crashed December 8 was sabotaged as part of the Watergate case coverup.

However, officials of the agency said privately that they tended to give little credence to the charges of the Chicagoan, Sherman H. Skolnick, who has been lecturing widely across the country on his theory. It was learned that representatives of the Senate committee that has been investigating the Watergate break-in were also studying his assertions.

The wife of E. Howard Hunt Jr., who pleaded guilty to spying in the Watergate case, was one of 43 persons killed when a United Air Lines Boeing 737 crashed while attempting to land at Midway Airport in Chicago. She was found to have been carrying \$10,000 in \$100 bills.

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