

Fatal Plane Crash Ruled Accidental

Chicago

A Cook county coroner's jury ruled yesterday that the death of Mrs. E. Howard Hunt and 44 other persons in a plane crash near Midway Airport last December was accidental.

Eighteen other persons were injured and four homes were destroyed when the United Air Lines jet crashed into a residential area on its approach to Midway.

The plane was en route from Washington, D.C., and among the victims was the wife of E. Howard Hunt, one of seven men convicted in the Watergate burglary. Mrs. Hunt carried \$10,000 in cash aboard the plane.

Her death led to speculation by independent researchers that the plane had been sabotaged because of her presence. But federal aviation specialists ruled after an investigation there was no evidence of sabotage.