

FAA grounds 20 DC-10s

WASHINGTON — The government says fewer than 20 of the nation's 138 DC-10s may be involved in the latest grounding of the wide-bodied jets for possible defects similar to those uncovered last week.

Only the DC-10s that have had their engine pylons removed and reinstalled after completion of last week's inspection are affected by the Federal Aviation Administration's order Monday. The problems are associated with improper reinstallation of the engine pylon assembly.

The new order came in response to a recommendation by the National Transportation Safety Board that airlines inspect all DC10s to make sure their engines were not damaged by improper maintenance procedures during the investigation.

The board issued a "Class I Urgent Action" recommendation Monday to the FAA, warning that the DC-10s may have suffered damage if the engines were removed improperly during two

"modifications" recommended by the manufacturer, McDonnell Douglas.

The FAA said fewer than 20 of the DC-10s should be affected by its order.

The safety board's recommendation followed the discovery of cracks on the engine mountings of two American Airlines DC-10s during FAA-ordered inspections in the wake of the fatal Chicago crash that killed 274 people on May 25.

The board said the American Airlines jets had cracks in an engine mounting component — the rear bulkhead — the same area where a 10-inch crack was found in the American Airlines DC-10 that crashed.

The board said the plane that crashed had undergone removal of its engine mounting for maintenance just two months before the accident, and the crack had existed prior to the tragedy.

It said the latest cracks found in two American Airlines planes probably were a result of improper maintenance procedures.

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Parcel post explosions

Group sends bombs to Nazis

NEW YORK — Two anti-Nazi groups, saying "the only rights Nazis have is for burial," have claimed responsibility for a series of deadly parcel bombs mailed to neo-Nazi leaders across the nation and warned of more to come.

Five bombs have surfaced, including ones sent to a former SS officer in Paterson, N.J.; to Nazi groups in Chicago, Cicero, Ill., and Arlington, Va., as well as Gerhard Lauck, a member of the German and American Nazi parties.

No one was injured, although the devices, sent in cigar-box shaped packages, were powerful enough to kill those opening them, police said.

The International Committee Against Nazism and the Jewish Action Movement both claimed responsibility for the bombs, the second group saying that "the only rights Nazis have is for burial."

The first two bombs were received Friday, by former SS officer Tscherm Soobzokov of Paterson and a branch of the National Socialist White People's Party in Cicero.

Soobzokov, who was cleared of war crimes allegations by a Manhattan grand jury, said, "I have no affiliation with any group or society that was antihumanitarian. I knew I was clean. I was not expecting this."

Two members of the Nazi group in Cicero became suspicious when they picked up a cigar-sized box at the post office. They called police after opening one end.

Police said the box contained a jar filled with black powder surrounded

by ball bearings and nails, apparent projectiles to be blasted toward the person who opened the box. They said the bomb was "made to kill."

The third bomb was delivered Saturday to Chicago headquarters of the National Socialist Party of America, but there was no one to accept delivery. It was disarmed Monday by authorities alerted by the other bombs.

The fourth bomb, mailed to Lauck in Lincoln, Neb., was disarmed Sunday. The 26-year-old man is head of the overseas branch of the German Nazi Party and has been active in the American Nazi Party, primarily as a publisher.

The fifth bomb, addressed to the Arlington, Va., leader of the National Socialist White People's

Party, was discovered Monday afternoon by postal authorities.

In calls to the Associated Press Saturday and Monday, callers representing the International Committee Against Nazism claimed responsibility for all five bombings and said more were on the way.

In two calls to United Press International Monday, male callers claimed responsibility for the Lauck bomb and said others were sent to Chicago, El Monte, Calif., and Englewood, N.J. No bombs had been found in the last two cities.

Arthur Jones, a spokesman for the National Socialist White People's Party, said three of the bombs bore Soobzokov's return address. Soobzokov said he knew nothing about it.

Shuttle launch delayed; date to be set later

WASHINGTON — The first launch of the space shuttle Columbia has been delayed again — from November to sometime next year.

Dr. Robert Frosch, administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, said at a Senate subcommittee hearing Monday a new date for the shuttle's initial orbital test flight should be set late this month.

In his last report to the subcommittee a month ago, Frosch said the

shuttle was still scheduled for launch in November although another delay was probable.

"It is clear that the schedule has slipped into 1980, he said." The original flight date was last March.

In other testimony, Dr. William Perry, undersecretary of defense, told the committee that the Air Force has delayed by six months the time when Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., will be ready to launch a shuttle. The new operational date is December 1983.



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Day students, including graduate students may purchase either of the board plans.

No sex play' in Capitol

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled 5-4 Tuesday a congressman can be held liable for money damages if he discriminates against an employee on the basis of

sex. The justices held that a woman dismissed from her congressional post and replaced by a man could sue for money damages under the Fifth Amendment — which protects the right not to be "deprived of liberty or property without due process of law."

The decision could affect a large number of congressional employees who have had no way to redress sex-related grievances. Congress has no internal mechanism to settle sex or racial bias complaints. The justices sidestepped the sensitive issue of whether the Constitution's speech and debate clause — which bars questioning of federal legislators about legislative acts — included a suit for money damages returned it to the lower courts for further proceedings.

The test case was brought by Shirin Davis, fired as office supervisor of a former Louisiana Rep. Otto Passman so he could place a man in the job.

Justice Brennan noted the "equal protection component" of the Fifth Amendment's due process clause was a federal constitutional violation. Davis "is free from gender discrimination," which does not serve the substantially related to "important governmental objectives."

On the congressional immunity issue, the court majority noted the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals did not consider whether Passman's action was shielded by the speech and debate clause. However, Brennan wrote: "If respondent's (Passman's) actions are not shielded by the (speech and debate) clause, we apply the principle that legislators ought generally to be bound by (the law) as are other persons."

Quoting from a 1978 opinion, Brennan said "no man in this country is so high that he is above the law."

The case goes back to the lower courts for further proceedings to determine the precise nature of Davis' position and to decide whether sex was a legitimate qualification for the job — because it has been established that employment on basis of sex is lawfully prohibited when a job only can be performed by one sex.

Brennan was joined by Justices White, Thurgood Marshall, Blackmun and John Paul Stevens in reversing a New Orleans appeals court ruling that federal courts cannot hear job discrimination suits seeking money damages against present or former members of Congress.

The issue was a unique situation created by congressional staffers who sued to sue for employment discrimination because Congress has exempted its members from being sued under the 1964 Civil Rights Act for sex discrimination.

In Davis' case, Passman could be sued under Louisiana law because he was a federal officer. She sued under the Constitution, arguing her firing deprived her property without due process in violation of the Fifth Amendment.

Davis was deputy administrator of the FBI from Feb. 1, 1974 to July 31, 1974. She supervised his clerical staff.

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