World & Nation

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The Battalion

Wednesday, April 29,1

Worn part causes plane to crash

for crash that killed Tower, 22 others

WASHINGTON (AP) - The NTSB blames faulty propeller system failure of a severely worn part in a propeller control system was blamed Tues-

day for last year's commuter plane crash that killed former John Sen. R-Tower, Texas, and 22 others. h e National

Transportation

Safety Board

said that the

Tower

part's failure made the aircraft uncontrollable.

Atlantic Southeast Airlines flight 2311, a two-engine Embraer 120 built in Brazil, crashed on April 5, 1991, while approaching the Glynco Jetport at Brunswick, Ga. at a height of 2,300 feet. The

Investigators

in state clinics

WASHINGTON (AP) -

Private psychiatric hospital

Private psychiatric hospital abuses — including paying "bounty hunters" to find patients — are among the most "scandalous episodes in the history of health care in America," the chair-woman of a House com-mittee charged Tuesday

charged Tuesday. "We cannot allow this

kind of unconscionable ripoff

to go on," Rep. Pat Schroeder

said as she opened her

committee's hearing on abuses by facilities in Texas,

New Jersey and other states.

clinics are milking the government and private

insurers of hundreds of millions of dollars annually,

The House Select Com-mittee on Children, Youth

and Families has found

thousands of cases where

patients were hospitalized

for psychiatric treatment they

did not need, held against

their will or wrongly

diagnosed for the purpose of inflating billings, said Schroeder, D-Colo.

abruptly released when their

health insurance benefits

expired, and military dependents were targeted for their generous coverage, she

Patients were also

Schroeder said.

Psychiatric hospitals and

find abuses



daughter, Marian; and astronaut Manley Lanier (Sonny) Carter. The safety board said the crew

was not responsible for the accident and could have done

nothing to prevent the crash. While the board ruled that the malfunction of the propeller-control system on the left-wing engine was the probable cause of the crash, it also faulted Hamilton Standard, the manufacturer, and the Federal Aviation Administration.

The safety board said Hamilton Standard's propeller-control system design was deficient in that it did not anticipate the kind of failure that occurred in the Georgia crash.

The board said the FAA's

dead included Tower; his approval of the design also contributed to the accident.

A spokesman for Hamilton Standard said the company, a division of United Technologies, could not comment because it is being sued for damages by Tower's estate and the estates of other victims of the crash.

A month after the crash. A month after the crash, the FAA ordered an emergency inspection of about 100 airplanes with the same type of propeller. On at least 10 of the planes, a new type of hard, rough coating on a tube inside the propeller

on a tube inside the propeller control system was found to have caused excessive wear on a companion part.

The board said the design was flawed because one three-inch part, called a quill, was softer than the tube in which it was contained. The teeth of the tube became badly worn and essentially lost their grip.

'It acted like a file and over time it wore down the teeth that controlled the propeller unit," said acting safety board chairman Susan Coughlin.

The two parts disengaged, changing the angle of the propeller blades.

The safety board's report said that failure of the system caused a lift and drag condition "that exceeded the capability of the pilots to counteract with the airplane controls available.'

Coughlin said the battering air currents "forced the aircraft into a left wing down position.'

She said the problem has been corrected in aircraft with similar propeller-control systems.

Support for space station increases

WASHINGTON (AP) - Space eration of the National Aero-Station Freedom's supporters in Congress say they are better prepared this year to repel the attack by those wanting to cancel federal funding for the proposed orbiting laboratory.

The space station came close to losing a life-or-death struggle last when the House Apyear, propriations Committee slashed \$2 billion from the project. It took an intensive lobbying effort by the Bush administration and supporters to restore the money.

Round Two was due to begin Wednesday, with House consid-

nautics and Space Administration authorization bill.

And opponents say they too are prepared, though they realize they have an uphill battle on their hands.

"The space station . . . people have very wisely spread their project across the nation so that many districts benefit from this spending," said Rep. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., a leading space station opponent.

Another opponent, Rep. Tim Roemer, planned to introduce an amendment Wednesday to kill

funding for the space station. The Indiana Democrat opposes the project on grounds that it is too costly and its scientific benefits are too few. Both sides agree the fight will

be a tough one – largely because the space station and a sister science project, the super-conducting supercollider, are due to grow at a time when domestic programs overall are shrinking by \$6.4 billion.

President Bush has requested \$2.25 billion for the space station in fiscal 1993, a 10 percent

Afghan rebels declare Islamic government

Continued from Page 1

Najibullah, who was forced from power April 16 and hiding in Kabul, lost his grip on power after Moscow cut off arms supplies in January. The mujahedeen seized government positions around the country and then overran Kabul on Saturday.

The Red Cross said fighting killed at least 15 people and wounded nearly 300 by Tuesday

morning. The fighting slackened for a few hours Tuesday, but erupted again as soon as Mojaddidi formally accepted power.

Rocket and machine gun fire shook several parts of the city. The strongest attacks were aimed at Hekmatyar's troops at the Interior

Ministry and on a strategic south-ern ridge called Martyrs' Hill.

Columns of white and brown smoke rose near the Interior Ministry compound, and at least one office building there was burning. Masood loyalists in a bunker on a hill above town raked the area with heavy fire.

Gunfire and explosions also could be heard from east of the airport, and two large explosions were seen near the TV and radio towers in the southeast. A television cameraman was slightly wounded by shrapnel in a morning rocket attack on the airport.

Mojaddidi said the council was ready to accept Hekmatyar if he met its terms, but said if the radical guerrillas continued fighting, "this government, in accordance

for all sides in the Kabul fighting and in the civil war. When asked whether Najibullah was included, he said the council would let "the

months, then give power for four months to Burhanuddin Rabbani, political leader of Masood's Jamiat-e-Islami party. A council then is to choose an interim government to oversee elections, expected

hands and work for the reconjaddidi told supporters, who re-peatedly chanted "Allah Akhbar" during the power-changeover. Justice department disapproves release of JFK documents

croach upon the president's

constitutional authority to

protect confidential informa-

security concerns, saying that

language clearing the way for the release of CIA and FBI

documents could endanger

intelligence methods and sources. And he said the bill

would leave law enforcement

and executive branch deli-

berations open to public

"We strongly object to the resolution in its current form,"

the assassination. Justice is drafting an alternative version.

Rawls also raised national

tion.

scrutiny.

WASHINGTON (AP) -He said justice departme officials declined to attend the Vol. 91 Legislation to release Kennedy hearing. Gates was also invit assassination documents hit a snag Tuesday as the justice but could not attend. department, in a policy re-versal for the Bush admin-The specter of a presidential veto drew immediate criticis versal for the Bush admin-istration, came out "strongly" against the proposal. Assistant Attorney General W. Lee Rawls said in a letter made public Tuesday that the proposed House-Senate reso-lution "would severely en-croach upon the president's

from Republicans and Depocrats on the panel.

"I have a tremendor concern that we not con-promise the bill in order to g something that is veto-prod said Rep. Christopher Shan R-Conn. "It's really hard in me to imagine what nation security issues are at stake." Shays' predecessor in Con

necticut's 4th District, the last Rep. Stewart B. McKinner, wrote the first bill in the ear 1980s proposing the release a assassination documents.

Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-In said that if Bush vetoes the bil the House should act inde pendently to release its day sified documents "and set a example for the executive branch.

Under the proposed res-lution, the federal appeals or in Washington would appoint five-member citizen board review and decide on t release of assassination dom ments. In cases involvi executive agencies such as the FBI or CIA, the president col refuse to release material b only on narrow privacy

"The thrust of the legisla the bill and former chairman

justice department's objection — is a central element of b bill, Stokes said. "We thought it best to be

an independent agency so the there would be no question the public's mind" that de cisions would be made "out the realm of politics," Stoke said.

the justice department goes against a wave of publi

Rawls said. If passed, the justice department "would give serious consideration to recommending presidential disapproval." Until Tuesday, top ranking Bush administration officials – including CIA Director Robert Gates and FBI chief William Sessions – had supported the legislation, saying they would cooperate with efforts to make public thousands of secret documents relating to the 1963 slaying of President Kennedy.

Rawls said the justice department is "sympathetic to the concerns" of a public anxious to know more about

The review board's

dependence from the execu branch — the focus of

But the department's bill would broaden the president's power to withhold information and increase his control over the review process. Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich.,

national security grounds.

the House assassinations on mittee of the late 1970s.

Texas

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spite of s

"This i

is to release everything that releasable," said Rep. Lor Stokes, D-Ohio, co-author

chairman of the House Government Operations Com-mittee, said the letter from Rawls arrived Monday evening, the night before the By opposing the legislation committee's Legislation and National Security Subcommittee met to consider the bill. pressure.

Afghan people decide.'

within two years. 'The time has come to join struction of our homeland," Mo-

with Muslim law will take ac-Mojaddidi promised amnesty

Mojaddidi is to govern for two

increase over this year.

The committee heard from Texas state Sen. Mike Moncrief, who is chairman of a Senate committee investigating widespread claims of patient abuse in the Texas psychiatric care industry.

"We have uncovered some of the most elaborate, aggressive, creative, deceptive, immoral and illegal schemes being used to fill empty hospital beds with insured and paying patients," said Moncrief, D-Fort Worth.



Dean

Court indicts former HUD aida alut

WASHINGTON (AP) – Debo-rah Gore Dean, a one-time top aide in the Department of Hous-ing and Urban Development, was indicted Tuesday on charges of receiving an illegal gratuity and making a false statement to a Senate committee.

Dean, who wielded considerable power as the executive assistant to former Housing Secretary Samuel Pierce, is a central figure in the investigation of alleged influence-peddling at HUD during the Reagan administration.

A federal grand jury charged

her in a two-count felony indictment with receiving \$4,000 illegally in connection with a private request for HUD funds.

She also was accused of filing a false statement with a Senate com-mittee in June 1987 related to her nomination to be an assistant HUD secretary. The nomination was never confirmed.

"I am innocent of all charges," Dean told reporters at a news conference. She maintained the indictment was "designed to intimidate and coerce me into pleading to a crime I did not commit and then

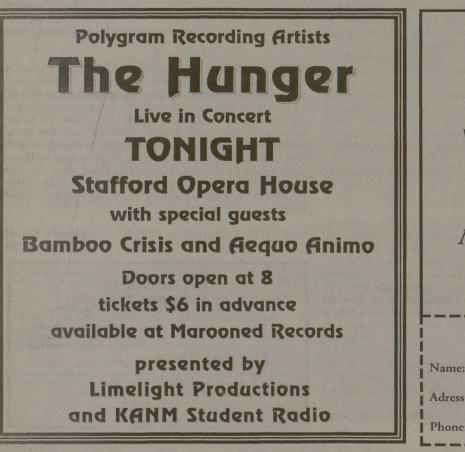
to testify against others," including Pierce. "I am not saying that there

weren't bad apples at HUD," Dean said. "Some people sold in-fluence." She refused to elaborate.

Independent Counsel Arlin Adams said in a statement that his office was continuing to investigate Dean's activities and that the indictment was brought now so the case would fall within the statute of limitations. Her attorney, Steven Wehner, said Dean refused to waive the statute of limitations and would not waive right to a speedy trial.

Pierce has not been char but Adams has been authorized investigate whether he lied m oath to Congress about his to at HUD and whether he sho illegal political favoritism in ministering HUD progra Pierce served during all a years of the Reagan administ tion.

Dean, 37, worked for H from 1982 to 1987 and for the three years served as Pierce's @ utive assistant.



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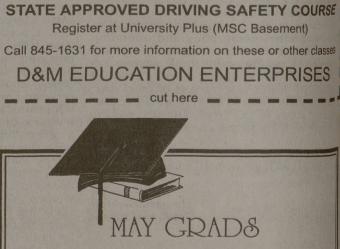
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