DOCKET NO.: SA-519 EXHIBIT NO. **2**V

### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD WASHINGTON, D.C.

## OPERATIONAL FACTORS GROUP CHAIRMAN'S FACTUAL REPORT ATTACHMENT 21: AA FLIGHT MANUAL REQUIREMENTS TO CONTINUE APPROACH BELOW DA/DH dated 4/15/99

American Airlines flight 1420 Little Rock, Arkansas June 1,1999

**DCA99MA060** 

4/15/98

A Flight Manual Part I

# 5. MISSED APPROACH

### 5.1 Missed Approach Procedure

- A. When a landing cannot be accomplished and, upon reaching the MAP defined on the approach chart, the pilot must comply with the missed approach procedure or with an alternate missed approach procedure specified by ATC.
- 6. Protected areas for a missed approach assume that the maneuver is initiated at the MAP and not lower than the DH or MDA. Reasonable buffers are provided for normal maneuvers. However, no consideration is given to an abnormally early turn. Therefore, when an early missed approach is executed, pilots should, unless otherwise cleared by ATC, fly the instrument approach procedure as specified on the approach plate to the MAP at or above the DH or MDA, but not above any altitude crossing restrictions, before executing a turning maneuver.
- C. Following the *missed* approach, request clearance for specific action; i.e., to alternate airport, another approach, etc.

### 5.2 **Descent** Below **MDA / DH FAR 121.651**

- A "No pilot may operate an aircraft below the authorized MDA, or continue an approach below the authorized DH, unless:
  - 1 The aircraft is continuously in a position from which a descent to a landing on the intended runway can be made at a normal rate of descent using normal maneuvers and where such a descent rate will allow touchdown to occur within the touchdown zone *of* the runway of intended landing.
  - 2. The flight visibility is not less than the visibility prescribed in the standard instrument approach procedure being used; and,
  - 3. Except for Category II or Category III approaches where any necessary visual reference requirements are specified by the authorization of the Administrator, at least one *of* the following visual references for the intended runway is distinctly visible and identifiable to the pilot:
    - a) The approach light system, except that the pilot may not descend below 100 feet above the touchdown zone elevation using the approach lights as a reference unless the red terminating bars or the red side row bars *are* also distinctly visible and identifiable.
    - b) The threshold
    - c) The threshold markings
    - d) The threshold lights.
    - e) The runway end identifier lights.
    - f) The visual approach slope indicator.
    - g) The touchdown zone or touchdown zone markings.

