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# United States Patent [19]

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**Dubois et al.**

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[54] **PROPELLER DEFLECTION SNUBBER**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

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A deflection snubber assembly for preventing damage to a propeller which is subjected to instances of high force is disclosed. The propeller includes a hub for mounting the propeller on a shaft and a number of blades extending radially outward from the hub. Outer tips of the number of blades are interconnected by a continuous, circular band. The propeller is constructed to accommodate a predetermined amount of deflection upon instances of high force before being permanently damaged. The deflection snubber assembly includes a housing circumferentially surrounding the propeller, the housing having a number of deflection limiting members, each of the deflection limiting members limiting deflection of the propeller to within the predetermined amount of deflection upon occurrences of the instances of high force.

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[51] **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... B63H 1/16

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... 440/67; 416/179; 114/338

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 440/66, 67, 77, 440/72; 114/315, 338; 416/179, 185, 189, 190

[56] **References Cited**

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**11 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**

