## FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
Estimated average burden
hours per response: 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <sup>*</sup><br>LOVELESS KEITH |  |  |                        |  |  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALASKA AIR GROUP INC [ ALK ] |                      |     |  |  |                    |   |             |                 | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director 10% Owner   |  |                                   |   |  |  |
|--|--|--|------------------------|--|--|--|----------------------|-----|--|--|--------------------|---|-------------|-----------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| (Last)<br>19300 II   | ,  | rst) (<br>ONAL BOULEV                      | SOUTH                  |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>03/01/2004 |  |                      |     |  |  |                    |   | 2           | X Offic<br>belo | er (give title<br>w)   |  | Other (s<br>below)<br>rate Affair | specify   |  |  |
| (Street)<br>SEATTLE WA 98188<br>(City) (State) (Zip)                   |  |  |                        |  |  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                 |                      |     |  |  |                    |   |             |                 | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable<br>ne)<br>X Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>Form filed by More than One Reporting<br>Person |  |                                   |   |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)<br>2. Transact<br>Date<br>(Month/Day   |  |  |                        |  | ction  | ion 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,  |                      |     | 3.<br>Transac<br>Code (Ir                                      | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr. and 5) |                    |   | cquire      | ed (A) or       | -  |  | Forr<br>(D) d<br>Indi             | m: Direct<br>or<br>rect (I)   | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)  |  |
|  |  |  |                        |  |  |  |                      |     | Code   | v  | Amount             |   | A) or<br>D) | Price           | Repo<br>Trans  |  |                                   |   | (insu. 4)  |  |
| Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup>  |  |  |                        |  |  |  |                      |     |  |  |                    |   |             |                 |  | 1,047  |                                   |   | ESOP<br>Trust  |  |
|  | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned         (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |  |                        |  |  |  |                      |     |  |  |                    |   |             |                 |  |  |                                   |   |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                    | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security  | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if any |  | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8)                        |  | n of                 |     | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |  |                    | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr. 3<br>and 4) |             |                 | 8. Price<br>of<br>Derivativ<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)  | 9. Numbe<br>derivative<br>e Securitie<br>Beneficia<br>Owned<br>Followin<br>Reported<br>Transacti<br>(Instr. 4) | e<br>s<br>ally<br>g               | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr.<br>4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|  |  |  |                        |  | Code   | v  | (A)                  | (D) | Date<br>Exercisab  |  | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | 0<br>N<br>0 | lumber          |  |  |                                   |   |  |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)                       | \$26.1   | 03/01/2004                                 |                        |  | А  |  | 8,300 <sup>(2)</sup> |     | 03/01/200  | )5 (                                     | 03/01/2014         | Comn<br>Stoc  |             | 8,300           | \$26.1   | 0  |                                   | D   |  |  |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Shares acquired under an Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of December 31, 2003 with prices ranges from \$15.28 to \$31.86.

2. Grant of shares acquired under the Alaska Air Group 1999 Long Term Incentive Plan.

Remarks:

| Shannon K. Alberts, Attorney- | 02/17/2004 |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| in-Fact for Keith Loveless    | 03/1//2004 |
|                               |            |

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.