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Ex-FBI Man, Exiled by Hoover, Sues for Job and Back Pay

By TED POSTON

FBI agent Jack Shaw, who resigned from the bureau rather than accept "exile" to Butte, Mont., for criticizing J. Edgar Hoover, today sued in federal court demanding reinstatement and back pay.

The suit named Hoover, Attorney General Mitchell, Civil Service Commissioner Robert Hampton and Asst. FBI Director John Malone of the New York office.

Shaw said that Hoover's action in pressuring him to resign was an "arbitrary, capricious and vindictive act of personal retribution."

Shaw said that Hoover had ordered him transferred to Butte, "the doghouse for FBI agents in disfavor," after he had written a letter to Prof. Abraham S. Blumberg while attending the John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Shaw admitted that in the 16-page personal letter to Blumberg, a vocal critic of the FBI, he had written:

"We're not simply rooted in tradition. We're stuck in it up to our eyeballs. And it all revolves around one key figure, viz, the life and exploits of J. Edgar Hoover."

Shaw, a seven-year man at the FBI, said he had the letter to Blumberg typed in the pool at the FBI office here and Malone had obtained a copy of the personal correspondence and had sent it on to Hoover.

The FBI director promptly telegraphed him from Washington, he said, and accused him of "atrocious judgment." At the same time Hoover transferred him to Butte.

Shaw, a resident of Hillsdale, N. J., whose wife is suffering from a cancer-related ailment, then submitted

his resignation, which Hoover promptly accepted "with prejudice."

Hoover ordered the other 15 agents studying at Jay College to withdraw.

Melvin Wulf, national legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union, who filed today's suit said that the agent's resignation had been involuntary because his staying with the FBI would have been "untenable."

Today's complaint asked that the Civil Service Commission be ordered to remove the phrase "with prejudice" from Shaw's record.

Shaw also charged in his suit that since his forced resignation the FBI had blackballed him with several law enforcement agencies, making it impossible for him to support his critically-ill wife.