

FBI Chief Denies Ex-Agent's Story

By JACK NELSON

WASHINGTON (LAT) — FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, backed by Attorney General John N. Mitchell, has declared that ex-agent Jack Shaw's allegations about being blackballed and otherwise mistreated by Hoover are "without foundation."

Hoover made the comment in a letter to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), who had requested information about Shaw's case for the Senate subcommittee on administrative practices which Kennedy heads.

Sen. George McGovern (D-S. D.), calling Hoover's action against Shaw "an injustice that cries out for remedy," had asked the subcommittee to investigate.

A Suit Against Hoover

Hoover wrote that Mitchell advised it would "not be appropriate" for him to comment on the case because Shaw had filed suit in federal court in New York accusing Hoover of violating his Constitutional rights.

"Nevertheless," Hoover continued, "I feel compelled to state that in my opinion a full development of the facts will establish that Mr. Shaw's allegations are without foundation."

Shaw's suit accuses Hoover of forcing his resignation last September after FBI agents searched wastebaskets in the New York FBI office and

pieced together eight pages of a 15-page letter Shaw had written to Prof. Abraham Blumberg at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Parts of the letter criticized Hoover and the FBI, but other parts defended them against criticism Shaw had heard in Blumberg's classroom.

Hoover suspended Shaw without pay for 30 days, put him on probation and ordered him transferred to Butte, Mont. Shaw resigned rather than accept the transfer, and Hoover put "with prejudice" on Shaw's FBI and Civil Service record. The suit contends that because of this Shaw, father of four, has been unable to find a law enforcement job.

Hoover also ordered 15 other FBI agents to withdraw from classes at the college, an action Mitchell backed yesterday in a letter to George Leifer, a students leader who had written a letter of protest to President Nixon.

1000 Students Sign Petition

Mitchell, petitioned by more than 1000 of the college's students to investigate and permit the agents to re-enroll, wrote Leifer that the agents' withdrawal was "precipitated" by Shaw's letter, which he said defended the FBI against Blumberg's criticism but also contained "considerable material critical of the bureau and its director."