

Forced Out, FBI Agent Settles Suit for \$13,000

NEW YORK—John F. Shaw, the former FBI agent who was forced to resign for writing in a letter that J. Edgar Hoover has built up a "cult of personality," said yesterday he has settled his suit for damages against the federal government for \$13,000.

In an agreement signed by Shaw, his attorney and an assistant U.S. attorney, the FBI agreed to destroy all documents which indicate he resigned "with prejudice" for "atrocious conduct."

Shaw, 37, was given the money as a settlement for back pay to last September, when he resigned, and medical expenses incurred in the fatal illness of his wife earlier this year.

"This is a total, complete vindication for the position taken by Mr. Shaw," said his attorney.

A spokesman for the FBI had no comment on the case.

A special agent since 1963 Shaw was taking a course last summer at Manhattan's John Jay College of Criminal Justice, when his professor voiced criticism of the FBI.

Shaw responded with a 16-page letter defending the FBI, expressing confidence in Hoover's integrity, but maintaining that the FBI chief used antiquated personnel procedures and had built a "cult of personality."

Hoover ordered Shaw transferred from New York, and Shaw resigned last September.

Last January, Shaw filed suit charging Hoover with "an arbitrary, capricious and vindictive act of personal retribution."