

Memo by Harold Weisberg re termination of job:

At 3:25 p.m. today Mr. Dozer phoned and asked me to come in. Upon entering his office, he told me, "Here is your notice."

I proceeded to Room 104 Walker Johnson Building from which point I was directed to Room 154. I saw Mr. Churr (approximate) who showed me a retention register at the top of which I was competing only with George Rohrllich for an apparently nonexistent job. On this list I was classified as B-1 with a good efficiency rating and the numbers 8 -8 under years of service and the number 9 as retention points. The number 6 I was told indicated the letter I was to receive. I asked for the ratings of Mrs. Hyman and Mr. Morrison, both of whom I know are doing the same work and at the same grade. Mr. Morrison couldn't be located. Mrs. Hyman is on a retention register of one (note that she is only a temporary employee). When I asked to see the basis of computation of retention points and the job description, both of which I alleged to be in error, I was referred to Mr. Haskell in room 202.

I told Mr. Haskell that I was confident there was an error in my being on any retention register with Rohrllich and that an error had been made in computing my years of service. I also told him of having filed an appeal with Mr. Byers last week based on the information given me that I had been on the list for separation. Mr. Haskell said that he would check with Mr. Byers and agreed to call me so that I might come in and prepare a supplement if I deemed it necessary. Mr. Byers also told me that many cases would not require even a formal appeal. I gathered this referred to obvious errors such as in job descriptions or arithmetic.

He directed me to a person named "Jeannie" who he instructed to show me my job description. She did. It is dated March 17, 1945, and has been invalid for a considerable length of time. (Rohrllich's inclusion on this list is based upon a job description classifying him as preparing materials for the opening of a second front in Europe!

0) Jeannie told me a new description had been prepared and filed and was in fact in my folder. I requested that she take it to Mr. Haskell, telling him that I had asked her to, and that I didn't desire to return to his office because I didn't want to impose upon his time. I waited outside his office while she took the file in, showed him both forms. He looked at them and then looked up at me and I told him the truth, that I merely wanted to show him confirmation of my statement that I had been put on the wrong register. He nodded a confirmation and I left after telling him I was at his call if he wanted any further information.

It is apparent that the retention registers are as phony as they can be and completely out of harmony with a statement of policy distributed today in Departmental Announcement No. 535 titled Reduction in Force, which describes the level of competition as "on jobs in the same grade of the same service, trade, or profession (although they may have different titles or different pay rates), in which interchange of personnel is feasible."

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