

Critic Is Back on Job

Washington

A. Ernest Fitzgerald, the Pentagon cost analyst who was fired after he exposed \$2. billion in excess defense contract costs, returned to work yesterday, as ordered by the Civil Service Commission.

Fitzgerald said the Air Force has restored him for the moment to his old job overseeing some weapons systems.

At the same time, the Air Force has proposed transferring him to a new job which Fitzgerald says he cannot accept because it has less responsibility and authority than the old one.

Fitzgerald was fired in January, 1970, and waged a three-year successful fight through the Civil Service Commission for reinstatement.



AP Wirephoto

A. ERNEST FITZGERALD
Air Force cost analyst

That was ordered last September, but Fitzgerald has been negotiating with the Air Force since then over the position he will hold.

Associated Press