CIA Director Says Only 50 More Must Be Fired

Washington

CIA Director Stansfield Turner told employees of the spy agency yesterday that only 50 more will have to be fired to complete a planned cutback in the headquarters staff.

This will be less than a quarter of the 225 employees the agency had expected to let go by October 1 in a reduction in the CIA division responsible for clandestine, or undercover, operations.

CIA information chief Herbert Hetu said greater than expected attrition resulting from decisions of some employees to retire and others to resign has enabled Turner to hold down anticipated firings.

Hetu emphasized that Turner

stands by his goal of eliminating a total of 820 jobs at CIA headquarters in suburban Langley, Va., mostly by attrition.

A total of 212 firing notices was given out by the CIA last fall. Hetu said 53 of the affected personnel will be reassigned to other CIA divisions from the clandestine operations section and that the records of 50 others are still under review to determine if they can be reassigned to other duties.

Turner's memorandum said that the 50 additional employees tabbed for firing will be formally notified by June 1 and will be given 90 days' warning that they will be dropped as of October 1.

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