

## Blackballed

# Ex-FBI Agent Sues Hoover

### New York

Former FBI agent Jack Shaw filed suit yesterday, accusing FBI director J. Edgar Hoover of violating his constitutional rights by forcing his resignation and blackballing him in the law enforcement field.

The suit, filed in Federal court here by American Civil Liberties Union Foundation attorneys, charged that Hoover's action was "an arbitrary, capricious and vindictive act of personal retribution" prompted by letters Shaw wrote that contained criticism of Hoover and the FBI.

The suit cited alleged violations of the first, fourth, fifth, sixth and ninth amendments and asked the court to declare unconstitutional all punitive actions by the FBI against Shaw and to reinstate him with full back pay.

### ACTION

Shaw, perspiring under TV lighting at a crowded press conference at the national ACLU offices, said he decided to openly fight the FBI's action because he had been "manhandled and mistreated" and had been unable to get a job.

Shaw, 37, a former Marine captain with an unblemished record of seven years as an FBI agent, was one of three agents studying at John Jay College of Criminal Justice here for master's degrees and eventual appointments as instructors at the FBI's National Academy.

Last September, after several classroom discussions with Professor Abraham Brumberg, Shaw wrote Brumberg a letter agreeing with some criticism that the professor voiced about Hoover and the FBI, but defending the director and the Bureau against other criticism.

The letter got back to Hoover and the FBI director suspended Shaw without pay for 30 days, put him on probation and transferred him immediately to Butte, Mont., which Shaw's suit says the FBI considers to be a "punitive" assignment.

Hoover accused Shaw of "atrocious judgment," not only in writing the letter, but in failing to report Brumberg's classroom criticism to his FBI superiors.

### AGENT

Shaw, who has four children ages 4 to 9, wrote Hoover that he had been proud to be an agent but because of the "health, happiness and

welfare" of his family he had to resign rather than accept the transfer. His wife, who had been sick off and on for the previous two years, has been hospitalized with a serious illness for the past month.

Hoover accepted Shaw's resignation "with prejudice," a black mark the FBI director also attached to Shaw's Civil Service Commission records.

Shaw told newsmen he has been rejected for several commercial and industrial security jobs because of the "with prejudice" mark, which Hoover has refused to lift.

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