

F.B.I. CHIEF REBUTS CHARGES BY EX-AGENT

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 5—The director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, J. Edgar Hoover, said today that charges against his office by a former agent of the F.B.I. were "without foundation."

In a letter to Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, the F.B.I. chief said that since the former agent, John F. Shaw Jr., had filed suit against the agency, "it would not be appropriate for me to use any other forum [than the courts] to contest Mr. Shaw's charges."

Mr. Shaw wrote a letter critical of the F.B.I. and its director while attending the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York, in preparation for a teaching assignment at the National Police Academy.

The letter, which was ad-

ressed to one of Mr. Shaw's professors at the college, came to the attention of other F.B.I. agents, and shortly thereafter Mr. Shaw's teaching assignment was revoked and he was assigned to the Butte, Mont., office of the F.B.I.

Mr. Shaw declined the assignment and resigned from the bureau. He has charged that because his resignation was accepted "with prejudice" by Mr. Hoover, he has been unable to find other work in law enforcement.

The suit, to expunge the "with prejudice" from his record, will be heard in Federal District Court in Manhattan.