

U.S. Dismisses 1456 as Risks to Security

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Five Hired Since 1952 Election

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23 (AP) — The White House announced today that 1456 government employees were dismissed or forced to resign for security reasons in the four months ended Sept. 30.

The figure was submitted to the Cabinet today by Philip Yong, chairman of the Civil Service Commission.

It has also been submitted to the National Security Council.

An official statement said these separations, as the Civil Service terms departures from the Federal payroll, were for security reasons only and had nothing to do with reductions in force for economy purposes.

Names Not Given

White House Press Secretary James Hagerty told reporters that since the Eisenhower administration took office 145,000 Federal employees have been let go for economy reasons.

No names of the dismissed employees were given out nor did the White House say which departments and agencies employed them.

The statement said, however, that 863 were dismissed and 593 resigned.

Hagerty said 5 of the 1456 had been hired by the Eisenhower administration pending investigation, and all the others were hired by previous administrations. The figures covered a four-month period since it was in late May that President Eisenhower issued a new security order replacing that in effect under the Truman administration.

Employment Figures

Civil Service records gave government employment as of last January as 2,555,000. Last Monday, Young said that employment in the continental United States stood at 2,445,200 on Aug. 31. The figure at the end of September is not yet available.

Not all the decline has been due to dismissals. The payroll has been whittled also by not filling vacancies, retirements and other types of separation that occur regularly.

In the Truman program's five years of life, 560 persons were found ineligible for employment on loyalty grounds and were either denied employment or fired from the government payroll.

FBI Investigates

During this same period, however, the FBI made 26,236 full-scale investigations of employees or applicants for government jobs, and of this number 2748 individuals either quit or withdrew their applications while investigations were under way.

Another 3634 persons quit

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their jobs after their cases went to a loyalty review board.

Officials say the Eisenhower program is pegged entirely on security, and is fashioned to provide a quick exit for drunks, homosexuals, persons classed as blabbermouths and those of questionable habits as well as outright subversives.

Hagerty said the government does not normally release the names or case histories of persons separated from Federal service.

Entries Plugged

"We are plugging the entries but opening the exits for these people," Hagerty commented, saying they were the type of workers "all of us are trying to get out of the government."

None of the security separations for the four-month period was based on refusal to testify before Congressional committees, Hagerty said.

Last week, on Oct. 14, the President issued an order au-

thorizing agency heads to fire employees who balk before committee investigators on grounds that their testimony might incriminate them.

Atty. Gen. Brownell said also the administration itself will ask Congress next year for additional legislation which would permit the Attorney General to grant immunity from prosecution in some cases as a method of compelling witnesses to testify.
