

Right Given McLeod to Oust Aids

WASHINGTON, March 4 (AP).

Scott McLeod, State Department security chief, has been granted authority to discharge any of a group of 176 of his security aids who are not veterans, it was disclosed today.

The Civil Service Commission approved a McLeod request to exempt the 176 security jobs from civil service status. The State Department said Mr. McLeod's security division employs 275 persons.

The jobs removed from civil service are those of investigator, evaluator "and other security officers, whose incumbents are directly engaged in the performance of security functions or in the supervision of such activities."

Jobs Off Exempt List

The commission made no formal announcement of its ruling, but included Mr. McLeod's aids among more than a score of other job classifications removed from civil service in a list published in a recent "Federal Register."

Mr. McLeod was stripped of his general powers to hire, dismiss or discipline State Department personnel in a department reshuffle announced Monday. He retained his security duties of investigating department officials.

Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R., Wis., has questioned the dismissal of Mr. McLeod, his personal friend, and announced plans to look into the duty shift. President Eisenhower said yesterday that the matter was the responsibility of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, not Sen. McCarthy. Sen. McCarthy replied that his Government Operations Committee, "intends to investigate any agency reshuffle."

Democratic Move Lost

The House, meanwhile, squashed a Democratic attempt to keep Mr. McLeod from making political speeches. Rep. Louis C. Rabaut, D., Mich., offered an amendment to an appropriation bill to put Mr. McLeod's job under the Hatch act forbidding most government officials from engaging in political activities. Rep. Rabaut con-

tended Mr. McLeod's job is similar to those of Federal Bureau of Investigation director J. Edgar Hoover and Allen W. Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, and should be removed from partisan activity. His move was defeated 84 to 61 after Rep. Frederic R. Couderc jr., R., N. Y., contended that Rep. Rabaut was making a "purely partisan attempt to discredit" Republican officials. Democrats accused Mr. McLeod of "political huckstering" because of a series of Lincoln Day speeches he made for the Republicans.

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