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# Otepka Gets Extension Of Leave

Associated Press

Otto F. Otepka, former chief security evaluator of the State Department, asked for and was granted another 60-day extension of his present status of being on leave without pay, officials reported yesterday.

Otepka was given permission until Feb. 12 to stay away from the job he was assigned to when he was reprimanded and demoted for having passed certain documents to a Senate subcommittee without authorization.

This will carry him over until the Nixon Administration takes office Jan. 20.

During this period Otepka can decide whether he wants to go to the courts with his appeal against Secretary of State Dean Rusk's ruling of December 1967, or to see whether the incoming Administration will reinstate him at the State Department.

Rusk's ruling was upheld by the Civil Service Commission and Otepka has exhausted all appeal possibilities except those through a court of justice.