

OTEPKA APPEALING DEMOTION BY RUSK

Ex-Security Official Takes
Case to Civil Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP) —Otto F. Otepka, the State Department's former chief security evaluator, has appealed Secretary of State Dean Rusk's decision to demote, reassign and severely reprimand him, his lawyer said today.

The appeal was submitted to the Civil Service Commission, the attorney, Roger Robb, said.

The commission will consider the appeal without hearings, on the basis of material to be submitted by Mr. Robb and Irving Jaffe, a Justice Department attorney who represents the Government in the case.

There is no time limit for the appeal section of the Civil Service Commission to hand down a decision, Mr. Robb said.

He said Mr. Otepka had accepted a job as a management analyst offered him by the State Department after Mr. Rusk's decision.

This means, department officials explained, that Mr. Otepka remains on the payroll despite his appeal. In his new job he will earn \$15,106 a year. His pay in the security post was more than \$20,000.

Mr. Rusk dismissed Mr. Otepka in November, 1963, on charges that he had given classified material to J. G. Sourwine, counsel of the Senate Internal Security subcommittee, without authorization.

Mr. Otepka appealed within the department and was held guilty of "conduct unbecoming an officer of the Department of State." But Edward A. Ragon, the hearing officer, recommended that Mr. Rusk, in mak-

ing his final decision, consider Mr. Otepka's argument that there was no "established standard of conduct" for Federal employes.

The order for demotion and reprimand—rather than dismissal—was the result.