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WASHINGTON AP - Secretary of State William P. Rogers in effect told Otto F. Otepka he does not intend to restore the controversial former State Department security evaluator to his post.

But Rogers, in a letter Otepka acknowledged today, granted Otepka's request for another two-month extension of his status of being on leave without pay and said, should Otepka "elect to report to work," the State Department would be "prepared to grant you administrative leave with pay."

Otepka said he received Rogers' letter Friday and talked briefly with Roger Robb, his lawyer. He declined to comment on the letter before he and his counsel decide what to do next.

Rogers' letter reminded Otepka he had exhausted all government appeals to former Secretary of State Dean Rusk's December 1967 verdict. Rusk ordered Otepka to be demoted, transferred and reprimanded for having given, without authorization, classified material to a Senate subcommittee.

Rogers said he had "carefully reviewed" the case and found it was "fully litigated" within the government.

Otepka lost his pay when the Civil Service Commission, the last instance for an appeal within the government, approved Rusk's ruling and rejected the security officer's appeal.

Otepka, since then on leave without pay, could go to court with his case.

Otepka has to apply for the extension of his on-leave-without-pay status every two months. The last two-month period expired on Feb. 11.

On previous applications the department replied immediately in brief letters informing him the request was granted.

This time, however, Rogers signed the letter Thursday afternoon, nine days after the expiration. The letter to the former security man was three pages long instead of the usual few paragraphs.

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