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Otepka Wins Fifth Delay Of Hearing

United Press International

The State Department said yesterday that Otto Otepka has been granted another postponement of the hearing on his appeal against dismissal as chief of evaluation of the Department's security office.

Otepka was fired last year by Secretary of State Dean Rusk for allegedly providing confidential information to unauthorized persons.

He appealed his dismissal and asked a departmental hearing. He remains in his \$19,310-a-year post until the case is decided.

This was the fifth postponement requested by Otepka. The original hearing was scheduled last November 16. By yesterday's action, it was reset for Sept. 15.

Otepka asked for the latest postponement because he had been advised by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee that it would be at least August until the full transcript of testimony involving him would be made available.

Sen. Roman L. IIruska (R-Neb.) said yesterday that he hoped the Subcommittee will soon make the testimony public, the Associated Press reported. IIhruska said there is more involved than just the Otepka case. The basic issue is the right of a Senate committee to get testimony from any Government employe affecting national security, he said.