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## U.S. SECURITY AIDE DEFENDS CONDUCT

Asks Dismissal of Charges  
on Passing of Secret Data

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Special to The New York Times  
WASHINGTON, Oct. 14--

Otto E. Otepka, a State Department security officer, asked today that charges against him of violating departmental security regulations be dismissed as unfounded.

Mr. Otepka is chief of the Evaluation Division of the department's Office of Security. He has been formally charged with 13 violations of regulations in providing confidential information to the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee.

The subcommittee, headed by Senator James O. Eastland, Democrat of Mississippi, is investigating alleged laxity in security procedures in the department.

In his answer to the disciplinary charges against him, filed today with the State Department personnel office, Mr. Otepka said he had been "both shocked and amazed" at the performance of his superiors in the security office since 1960.

His 12-page reply said he had frequent appearances before the Internal Security Subcommittee. Last May, he said, he met with J. G. Sourwine, the subcommittee's chief counsel, "after working hours" to discuss alleged "conflicts" in the testimony of his superior at the State Department, John F. Reilly.

### Refers to Wieland Case

Mr. Otepka implied that Mr. Reilly had suggested that a security evaluator, disqualify himself from further consideration of William A. Wieland. The evaluator was not identified.

Last year, the subcommittee found Mr. Wieland, a State Department expert on Caribbean affairs, deficient in "integrity and general suitability" for his role in the department's intelligence assessment of Premier Fidel Castro in Cuba. President Kennedy and other high Administration officials defended Mr. Wieland.

Mr. Reilly's testimony before the subcommittee regarding security clearances of appoints to the State Department's Advisory Committee on International Organizations "I knew to be incorrect," Mr. Otepka said in his reply.

Accordingly, he said, he prepared a lengthy memorandum for Mr. Sourwine, including "exhibits" from department files. Mr. Otepka acknowledged that the memorandum was classified "confidential." But he contended that it "contained no investigative data," and therefore did not violate the "spirit" of security regulations.

Mr. Otepka also acknowledged having given Mr. Sourwine other documents labeled "for official use only." But this was done, he said, only to illustrate a point he wished to make on the subcommittee concerning an improvement in the efficiency of security reports.

Senator Eastland and Mr. Sourwine have contended that the department's basic charge against Mr. Otepka is that he has cooperated and testified truthfully before the Internal Security Subcommittee. In a letter to Secretary of State Dean Rusk on Sept. 13, five days before charges were filed against Mr. Otepka, the subcommittee warned against "reprisals" affecting its witnesses.

Mr. Otepka will make a formal appearance on the charges Oct. 23 before a State Department hearing officers.