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DALLAS--ROBERT MORRIS, FORMER CHIEF COUNSEL FOR THE SENATE INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE SAID TODAY A STATE DEPARTMENT SECURITY OFFICER MAY LOSE HIS JOB BECAUSE HE "COLLABORATED" WITH THE SUBCOMMITTEE AND GAVE IT INFORMATION.

ROBERT MORRIS SAID OTTO OTEPKA, CHIEF OF THE EVALUATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S SECURITY OFFICE, HAD BEEN GIVEN 10 DAYS TO ANSWER CHARGES HE GAVE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION TO THE INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE.

MORRIS WAS CHIEF COUNSEL TO THE SAME SUBCOMMITTEE FROM 1951 TO 1953, AND AGAIN FROM 1956 TO 1958.

"MR. OTEPKA'S OFFENSE SEEMS TO BE COLLABORATING--NOT WITH COMMUNISTS, WHOM OUR DIPLOMATS ARE EMBRACING--BUT WITH DUTIFUL SECURITY OFFICERS WHO ARE TRYING TO KEEP THEIR APPOINTED ROUNDS IN THE TRADITIONAL FASHION," MORRIS SAID.

THE CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST OTEPKA, MORRIS SAID, INCLUDE ACCUSATIONS HE GAVE MATERIAL MARKED "CONFIDENTIAL" AND "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" TO J.G. SOURWINE, SUBCOMMITTEE CHIEF COUNSEL.

"THE CLASSIFICATIONS IN BOTH THE INSTANCES CHARGED WERE APPLIED BY MR. OTEPKA HIMSELF," MORRIS SAID.

BOTH THESE CLASSIFICATIONS ARE RELATIVELY LOW. WHEN I WAS CHIEF COUNSEL TO THE SAME SUBCOMMITTEE, I HAD TOP SECRET CLEARANCE."

MORRIS SAID OTEPKA'S DESK AND BURN-BASKET, WHERE CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IS THROWN TO BE BURNED, WERE RANSACKED, AND OTEPKA WAS "SUBJECTED TO AN EXTENSIVE PERSONAL INVESTIGATION."

MORRIS CALLED THE CHARGES A "TRAVESTY OF JUSTICE", AND SAID THE SENATE "SHOULD STAND UP FOR ITS RIGHTS. IN COOPERATING WITH THE MR. SOURWINE AS CHARGED, MR. OTEPKA WAS STANDING UP FOR THE SENATE ITSELF."

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