

Nixon Should Tell Truth Now, Former Prober Jaworski Says

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CHICAGO, Feb. 22—Former Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski said today that Richard M. Nixon should now do some "soul-searching" and tell "the truth" about Watergate.

"I would hope that this soul-searching would bring forth a statement," said Jaworski. "He ought to say what is in his heart. He ought to say, above all things, the truth."

Jaworski, here to address an American Bar Association luncheon, made the remarks when asked by reporters to comment on the suggestion by John W. Dean III, a confessed Watergate conspirator, that the former President should speak out on the scandal now that his highest aides have been sentenced.

"I would hope that former President Nixon would do the same soul-searching that every individual should make when

he's had experiences that have been as tragic as have been his," said Jaworski.

Asked for his reaction to the sentences, Jaworski said, "I know of no more conscientious judge than Judge Sirica." On Friday U.S. District Court Judge John J. Sirica gave sentences of 2½ to 8 years to former Attorney General John N. Mitchell, and former White House aides H. R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman and 10 months to 3 years to former Assistant Attorney General Robert C. Mardian for their roles in the Watergate cover-up.

"I don't know how much time these men will serve" if the sentences are sustained on appeal, Jaworski added. "The chances of their serving anything like the period of time

See JAWORSKI, A20, Col. 1



LEON JAWORSKI
... praises Sirica

Jaworski Bids Nixon Tell Truth

JAWORSKI, From A1

the sentence embodies . . . are small."

Jaworski did not make clear whether he thought the defendants might serve less than the minimum time set by Sirica. But he noted that some of the other Watergate defendants have had their sentences reduced after serving a portion.

A former ABA president, Jaworski spoke to the American Judicature Society and the National Conference of Bar Presidents on what he called the legal profession's "indifference" to the problem of unfit lawyers. The ABA is holding its winter business meeting here.

Jaworski said a recent proposal to fingerprint law school applicants in Texas, a measure designed to help screen individuals for "moral fitness" before they are trained and licensed, had produced an "uproar" that he considered "nonsensical."

Insisting that he was not advocating fingerprinting, Jaworski asked, "What does an individual of good moral character have to fear in such requirements? . . . I was required to submit to this procedure when I served my country in time of war and again recently when I served in Washington. I am proud to have these fingerprint records on file."

A few years ago Jaworski supported suggestions for a psychological pre-testing of law school applicants to weed out those who were potentially unfit morally. The proposal was buried after objections from law deans, students and ABA members who said such procedures would invade privacy, but wouldn't be effective.

Asked today whether such screening would have prevented Watergate with its many lawyers involved in crime, Jaworski said "all the policing in the world" would not have had such an effect." But he said it might reduce the number of "breaches of trust" by lawyers who victimize clients.