

Jaworski Gave Assurances

Casey Got Clean Bill Before Confirmation

pat 4/7/74
By Philip Greer

NEW YORK — William J. Casey was confirmed as head of the Export-Import Bank only after assurances from Watergate Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski that he currently has no evidence of any criminal violation on Casey's part.

Jaworski gave the assurances in two letters circulated to Senate Banking Committee members by Casey's supporters. The letters were made available here to The Washington Post.

Casey, a former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission and Under Secretary of State, was nominated for the Ex-Im post last Dec. 6. The banking committee held up consideration, however, because Jaworski was looking into the SEC's handling of an investigation of International Telephone and Telegraph Corp.

According to Capitol Hill sources, the committee put off consideration of Casey's nomination because of his possible involvement in the ITT probe. Casey has conceded that he shipped SEC investigatory material to the Justice Dept. at a time when the House Commerce Committee was looking into the ITT matter. The transfer moved the papers out of the committee's reach.

In a letter to banking com-



WILLIAM J. CASEY
... Ex-Im Bank chief

mittee chairman John J. Sparkman, on Jan. 31, Jaworski said "as of this date, based on the investigation already conducted, no decision to charge Mr. Casey with any criminal violation has been made."

On Feb. 11, New York attorney Milton S. Gould, representing Casey, asked Jaworski to be more specific. In a letter to Gould asked for, said, in effect that an investigation has been made, nothing has been developed to justify any action, but that the ITT probe is continuing and "no conscientious prosecutor can or should make predictions about what may develop, but this does not mean that anything in anticipated."

After the Jaworski letters, Casey's nomination sailed through both the banking committee and the full Senate. He was confirmed on March 5 and sworn into office on March 14.