

Jaworski Linked With Laundered CIA Funds

WASHINGTON (AP) — The president of a Houston foundation says special Watergate prosecutor Leon Jaworski once approved use of the foundation to launder money for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Jaworski declined on Monday to answer a list of written questions about the matter. He issued a terse denial through his office, but was quoted by a Houston newspaper as acknowledging that he may have had some role in the conduit arrangement.

John Freeman, president of the Houston-based M.D. Anderson Foundation, said Jaworski voted with him and the group's other two directors to approve a request by a CIA representative to pass money to an international lawyer's group.

Freeman, who was one of Jaworski's law partners, said the foundation forwarded more than \$600,000 at the CIA's request to the American Fund for Free Jurists Inc.

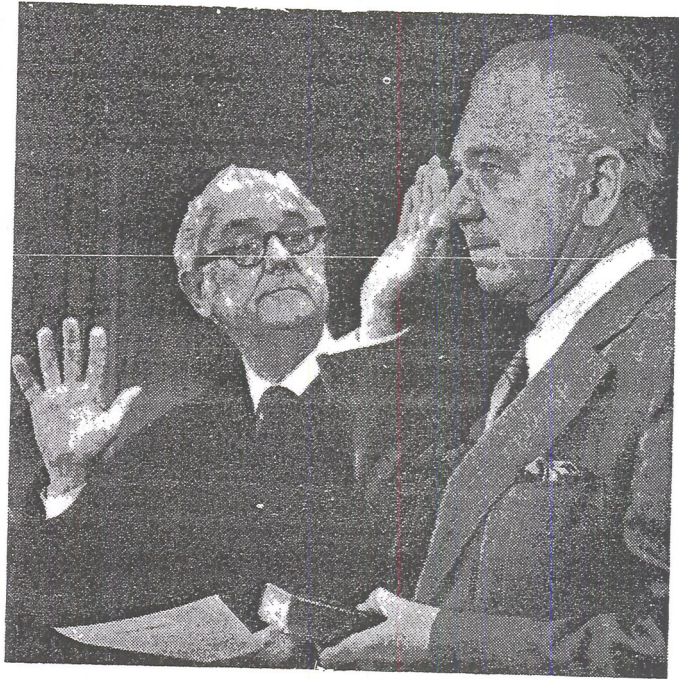
Freeman said the arrangement continued for several years until it was exposed in 1967 along with a bevy of secret CIA subsidies to supposedly independent groups including the National Student Association.

Freeman, in a telephone interview, said he sees nothing wrong with the arrangement, and described it as being "in furtherance of law and order throughout the free world."

Freeman said he assumes that the money came from the government, although it passed into the Anderson foundation through a group of other foundations. These were identified in 1967 news accounts as dummies set up by the CIA.

He said a CIA man requested the conduit arrangement because the jurists group would have refused direct government support.

He also said he believes Jaworski was aware of the arrangement during the several years that it was in effect. Freeman said he explained to Jaworski and the other directors that the arrangement had been requested by a CIA man.



TAKES OATH OF OFFICE—Leon Jaworski, right, takes the oath of office as Watergate special prosecutor from U.S. Court of Claims Judge Byron Skelton Monday in Washington. (AP Wirephoto)