NYTimes Jun 2 7 1974 Plea Bargaining Study Is Ordered by Saxbe

Special to The New York Times

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WASHINGTON, June 26—
Attorney General William B.
Saxbe has ordered a "general study" of the way plea bargaining is used in the criminal justice system, Justice Department officials said today

Department officials said to-day.

Mr. Saxbe decided on the study following the criticism and controversy over the plea bargaining carried out by Leon Jaworski, the special Watergate prosecutor, according to the officials. However, they said, the study will encompass "the whole spectrum" of the justice system, and it is not clear whether the special prosecution's plea bargains will even be examined.

"He's not investigating the Watergate prosecution of Jaworski or anyone in particular," said Horace Webb, a department spokesman.