

30 Jan 75 ①

Ruth and Jaworski testify before House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, say their raw evidence against Nixon is one-sided and unsubstantiated and not the kind of evidence that would lead to criminal charges in normal circumstances, and that it would be unfair, unethical and unconstitutional for the special prosecutor to file a final report which included such raw evidence.

Ruth and Jaworski are testifying in opposition to legislation, proposed after Nixon was pardoned, which would require the special prosecutor to include full disclosure of evidence against Nixon in the final report he is already required to submit to Congress by the end of the year. ^{AMP-A} Hungate (chairman) says after the hearing that their arguments were so compelling that the legislation probably will be abandoned. See story for their arguments.

Jaworski says that shortly after he became special prosecutor Nixon allowed him to listen to a number of tapes to show him they were not relevant to criminal proceedings; says some of the conversations would be highly embarrassing to persons still in Government office, but the tapes did not show anything of a criminal nature.

Ruth says he may seek further Watergate indictments but refuses to indicate whom these might involve.

Story says that "repeatedly, the subcommittee members expressed the frustration they felt at not having had the impeachment process run its course. "

NYT 31 Jan 75, David E. Rosenbaum

SFC 31 Jan 75 [AP]

Nixon (prosecutor's evidence) - See entry, Ruth and Jaworski.

Further Watergate indictments? - " " " " "

Impeachment process not
running its course - " " " " "

Ronald Reagan says he and his wife had dinner with the Nixons 28 Jan, and that Nixon appeared to be well.

SFC 31 Jan 75 [UPI]

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Ziegler (Boston University) - University president, John R. Zilber, says original offer to Ziegler of \$3,000 was "wholly unauthorized," but he reinvited Ziegler to appear at the school's "standard maximum fee of \$1,000."

William C. Leigh, of Colston Leigh, Ziegler's booking agency, says the lower fee is not acceptable, that "It is well below the basic market for people of his stature." Says he has talked with Ziegler who said he would still like to speak at the university; however, Leigh says that due to some difficulty with dates this is now ~~not possible~~ (apparently) not possible.

NYT 31 Jan 75, Notes on People, Laurie Johnston

Justice William O. Douglas, who was partially paralyzed by a stroke 31 Dec 74, will probably not be able to return to the Supreme Court before middle of March, at the earliest, although his condition is improving.

"As long as there are only eight votes being cast, a 4-to-4 tie is always a possibility. When this happens, the most recent decision on appeal is upheld, but no opinion is written because there is no majority, and, as a result, no binding national precedent is set on the legal issues involved."

NYT 31 Jan 75, Warren Weaver Jr.

(30 Jan 75) AMP

① - "Several bills were introduced in the House, although none was enacted, during the last Congress that would have authorized the special prosecutor to write a complete report and to release evidence from his files that had not been made public. [Today's] hearing was called to consider whether such legislation should still be considered." Ruth and Jaworski testify that they believe such legislation probably would be unconstitutional.

"The combined testimony of Ruth and Jaworski appeared to reverse completely the initial promise made in May, 1973, by ... Archibald Cox, that 'all the facts' concerning persons in high office 'ought to be brought out' in connection with the Watergate affair."

WXP 31 Jan 75, Lawrence Meyer