

# Nixon Names Saxbe to Top Justice Post

Washington

President Nixon picked Senator William B. Saxbe (Rep-Ohio) to be attorney general yesterday, and approved the appointment of Leon Jaworski, a Texas Democrat, to be Watergate special prosecutor.

On Capitol Hill, there was praise for both selections, but Democrats said that they would continue to push for a court-appointed special prosecutor.

The President personally announced the selection of Saxbe to succeed Elliot L. Richardson. Acting Attorney General Robert H. Bork announced the appointment of Jaworski to succeed Archibald Cox, whom the President fired October 20.

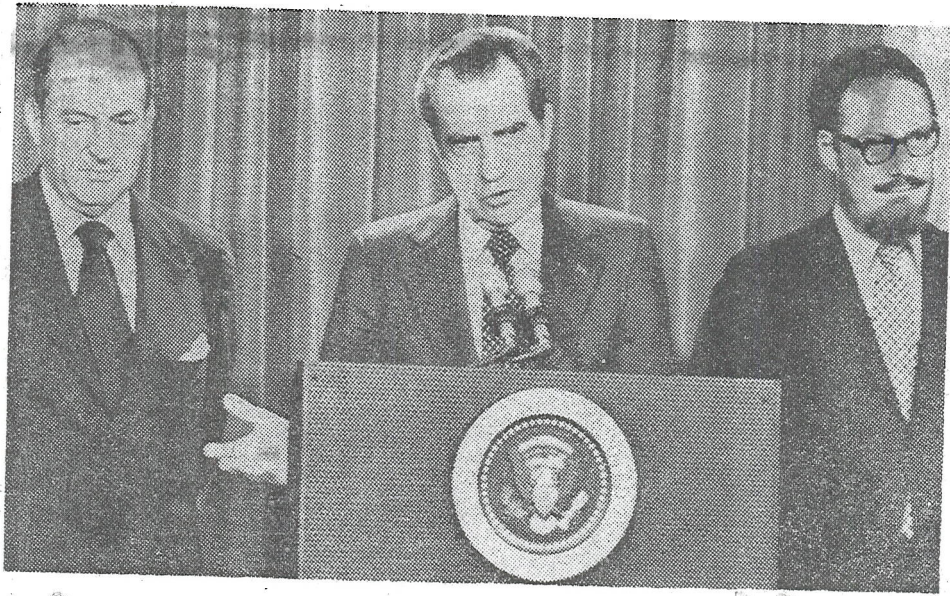
Bork said the President "has given his personal assurance" that he will not exercise his right to fire Jaworski without obtaining the consent of the majority and minority leaders of the House and Senate and the chairmen and ranking members of the House and Senate Judiciary committees.

## AUTHORITY

In both appointments, the President sacrificed some of his authority, first by nominating to the cabinet an independent-minded senator who has never been his favorite and second in agreeing not to exercise his constitutional right to dismiss a member of the Executive Branch without first obtaining agreement from congressional leaders.

Mr. Nixon met early yesterday with Republican congressional leaders to give them the news and then walked into the White House press room with Saxbe and Bork to announce his choice of Saxbe. Bork followed with the announcement about Jaworski.

Saxbe, who is subject to Senate confirmation, would



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## ATTORNEY GENERAL-DESIGNATE SAXBE, MR. NIXON AND ROBERT BORK

**Saxbe said 'I have no doubt I can handle the job'**

normally be confirmed, as a member of the Senate in good standing, without difficulty.

But because of the crisis over the dismissal of Cox and the resignations of Richardson and Deputy Attorney General William D. Ruckelshaus, senators are expected to cross-examine Saxbe closely on Jaworski's independence.

In Houston, Jaworski told a news conference that he accepted appointment only

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after being satisfied that he would be entirely free to act.

"There are no restraints," he said, "I am not prohibited from taking any action I might feel should be taken."

On Capitol Hill, as Democrats said that they wanted a special prosecutor entirely independent of the President, it was not immediately clear how much opposition to the selections would develop or how much the tapes controversy would affect confirmation.

"We've relied before on the promises of the President, and congress has been burned," said Senator Adlai E. Stevenson (Dem-Ill.), Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott (Rep-Pa.) praised both appointments.

Senator Walter F. Mondale (Dem-Minn.), while praising both appointees, said their selection did not lessen the need for "a truly independent prosecutor."

## NIXON

Mr. Nixon called Saxbe

"eminently qualified."

Recalling that Saxbe had announced he would not seek re-election next year but would return to his law practice, the President said he was giving him the opportunity to practice law as "head of the largest law

Bork said that Jaworski will have the same character Cox did with the additional commitment the President made regarding his

power to dismiss him. That is, the President cannot dismiss him without the consent of congressional leaders.

Jaworski has been promised "the full cooperation of the Executive Branch in the pursuit of his investigation," Bork said. "Should he disagree with a decision of the administration with regard to the release of presidential documents, there will be no restrictions placed on his freedom of action."

## DECISION

Bork said that the decision to name Jaworski "is one I made personally."

Saxbe participated in the closing stages of the selection process and concurred in the result," Bork said. "The selection also has the approval of President Nixon."

Bork said that as one who has "committed his honor and professional reputation to achieving justice in this case I am totally satisfied with the process of selection, with the terms of the new character, and most especially with the man who is going to be taking on these new duties."

In answer to a question, Bork said he had told Jaworski that he believed the staff assembled by former prosecutor Cox "is indispensable to the rapid investigation and prosecution of these cases, and Mr. Jaworski fully agrees."

Washington Post



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**LEON JAWORSKI**  
New prosecutor

firm in America the Department of Justice."

After making the brief announcement, Mr. Nixon left the room. Also speaking briefly, Saxbe said he hoped that Bork would remain in the department, and Bork said he would continue to serve as solicitor general.

"I am anxious to undertake this job," Saxbe said. "I have no reluctance and I have no doubts that I can handle it. I know it is going to be difficult, but it is going to be one that I am familiar with and one that I am happy to tackle."