

Watergate Affair

Prosecutor 'Free To Go to Court'

Washington

Acting Attorney General Robert H. Bork testified yesterday that new special Watergate prosecutor Leon Jaworski has White House assurances he can go to court for any evidence, including presidential tapes, if President Nixon refuses to hand it over.

"He's free to go to court," Bork said.

Bork told a House Judiciary subcommittee he believes Assistant Attorney General Henry E. Petersen has already drawn up a demand for White House documents not previously produced but said he doesn't know what they are.

Bork also told the congressmen he believes that Jaworski, sworn in yesterday, will seek new Watergate indictments in what Bork hopes will be a month or less.

Bork said Jaworski was assured of the freedom to go to court for any evidence during a meeting with White House chief of staff Alexander M. Haig Jr. and White House lawyers J. Fred Buzhardt and Leonard Garment.

"Everybody agreed to it," Bork testified. "That means to me, that if he did it, he would not be fired."

But Bork said that he personally had not discussed with Mr. Nixon the assurance that Jaworski could go to court for evidence.

Bork said the possibility was discussed at the meeting with White House aides

that Jaworski might find he needs presidential tapes and documents.

He said he is confident that Jaworski will have the White House's cooperation in getting any evidence he feels he needs for his Watergate investigation and thus the problem of going to court will not come up.

Bork also testified that he opposes all five basic proposals before Congress for creation of a separate Watergate prosecutor and is against a congressional hand in naming or confirming the prosecutor.

Associated Press



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ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT BORK
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