

Watergate Indictments Seen in '74

Associated Press

Leon A. Jaworski, Watergate special prosecutor, says he would expect the Watergate grand juries to be ready to decide on indictments early next year.

"How soon after the first of the the year is a bit difficult to say, but I would think it would be within the first few weeks after New Year's," Jaworski said in an interview published in this week's edition of U.S. News & World Report.

Jaworski also said it is difficult to say how long the special prosecutor's office will be operating and added: "I would be very disappointed if the trials themselves were not completed within a year's period of time."

On news leak charges, Jaworski said, "I have complete confidence that my office has not disclosed any investigative material concerning any individual or any case . . ."

He said the staff totals 80 persons, 37 of them lawyers, and "they are capable and thoroughly professional in their work."

As to charges that the staff, under Archibald Cox, the previous prosecutor, had undertaken "fishing expeditions" against President Nixon, Jaworski said: "I've seen nothing that I find to be improper. Every investigation is a fishing expedition up to a certain point. . . . If you don't go fishing and try to find whatever the facts are, then you're going to be accused of not having gone into the matter thoroughly."