

Jaworski Gets 2 Tapes That Cox Subpoenaed

Washington

Presidential tapes and documents, a point of explosive confrontation between former special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox and President Nixon, have begun to flow to Cox's successor, Leon Jaworski.

More than 4½ months ago, Cox subpoenaed a group of documents and tapes and the effort finally cost him his job on October 20 when he was dismissed by Mr. Nixon for having pressed too hard on the issue.

Yesterday, Chief Judge John J. Sirica of U.S. District Court turned over the first of the tapes sought in the July 23 subpoenas.

The judge called the President's counsel, Leonard Garment, and Jaworski, to his office and delivered a single reel of tapes covering two of the recorded conversations.

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In addition, Jaworski announced that, in response to his requests, White House lawyers on Saturday delivered a "significant number of tape recordings" and a

"substantial number of documents."

He did not outline what they might be. He said, however, that portions of the recordings deemed "material to the special prosecutor's investigations will be presented to the (Watergate) grand jury without delay."

Jaworski said that "assurances have been given by White House counsel that

searches are now in progress for other documents for which requests are outstanding."

Deputy presidential press secretary Gerald L. Warren was asked to identify the tapes and documents turned over last Saturday. He declined.

"We have been cooperating with the special prosecu-

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tor in a private way as rational men seeking the same goal," Warren said. "We prefer to maintain confidentiality."

He said the White House is cooperating "completely" with Jaworski and that the special prosecutor believes his investigation will be "wrapped up soon."

"We are pleased that this is his goal and we have it as our goal," Warren added.

Sirica's action yesterday involved conversations excerpted from tapes and re-recorded on a single reel for delivery to the special prosecutor.

The judge said the two conversations had not been subject to claims of executive privilege by Mr. Nixon.

One of the conversations was held March 13, 1973, in the Oval Office of the White



AP Wirephoto

LEON JAWORSKI
Watergate prosecutor

House from 12:42 p.m. to 2 p.m. It contains the voices of Mr. Nixon, the former presidential counsel, John

W. Dean III and H. R. Haldeman, the former White House chief of staff.

Dean testified before the Senate Watergate committee that on that day he had discussed the possibility of

executive clemency for E. Howard Hunt Jr., one of those convicted in the break-in at the Democratic National Headquarters at the Watergate complex here.

Dean told the committee he had also discussed with the President an alleged demand of \$1 million by Hunt to guarantee silence on the part of the Watergate burglars.

The White House has contended that this conversation took place March 21 and that neither such money nor the possibility of executive clemency was discussed.

The special prosecutor's office has stated that confirmation of Dean's version would "aid the grand jury in determining the existence, membership and scope of a coverup conspiracy." If Dean should be proved wrong, it would "raise a question of perjury" on his part.

The second conversation on the reel took place at a meeting in the President's office in the Executive Office Building between 1:57 p.m. and 3:43 p.m. on March 22, 1973.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Nixon, Dean, Haldeman, John D. Ehrlichman, who was then the assistant to the President for domestic affairs, and John N. Mitchell, the former attorney general and former head of Mr. Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign.

All but the President have testified that the meeting centered on the Watergate affair and White House strategy for handling the upcoming Senate hearings.

"This meeting was apparently concerned, at least in major part, with political assessments and operations, not exclusively with establishing 'government' policy, and is likely to reveal the knowledge and motives of the participants," the special prosecutor's office has said.

Sirica said he expected to

have further tapes ready later this week to turn over to Jaworski under the order of the United States Court of Appeals. Mr. Nixon fought turning over the tapes but lost his case and when the tapes were finally given to Sirica, two were missing and one contained a mysterious 18-minute buzzing sound.

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