

Nixon Pardon

Jaworski's Aide Quits in Protest

Washington

Philip A. Lacovara, the No. 3 man in the Watergate special prosecutor's office, quit yesterday as a result of President Ford's decision to grant Richard Nixon full pardon for all Watergate crimes.

Lacovara, refusing to detail his reasons for fear of compromising the upcoming September 30 coverup trial, nonetheless said Mr. Ford's action alone had triggered his decision to quit.

"I like to think of myself as a serious person and I do not do things lightly," he said. "I gave it a good deal of thought. We all have to do what we think is right."

Lacovara's resignation as counsel to the special prosecutor Leon Jaworski was the second high-level casualty of Ford's decision Sunday to pardon the former President. Presidential press secretary J. F. terHorst quit



UPI Telephoto

PHILIP A. LACOVARA
Prosecutor's counsel

immediately, saying his resignation was a matter of conscience.

Lacovara's resignation was submitted to Jaworski in mid-afternoon after a long talk and becomes effective September 29. He said it was "absolutely not related in any way" to any policy clash with Jaworski.

Lacovara, who was deputy solicitor general in the Justice Department before joining the special prosecutor's office last year, said he planned to return to private law practice but had no firm plans at this time.

He declined to say whether any other members of Jaworski's staff were on the bring of resigning as a result of the Nixon pardon.

The foreman of the Watergate grand jury, meanwhile, said some members of the panel feel "betrayed" by Mr. Ford's action and may consider making evidence against Mr. Nixon public anyway.

The foreman, Vladimir Pregelj, said he "would prefer the initiative to come" from Jaworski but might have to take it upon himself to call the grand jury into session to consider possible options regarding Mr. Nixon.

Pregelj said a few members of the grand jury had called him and that their reactions ranged from "deep dismay to high outrage." But he said he does not know if those reactions reflect the attitude of all 23 grand jurors.

The grand jury issued a summary of the evidence, which is still secret, when it voted 19-to-0 last March to name Mr. Nixon an unindicted co-conspirator in the coverup case.

United Press