



Associated Press

Jaworski suggested Henry Ruth, above, as his successor.

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**Deputy Ruth Says
Job Was Depressing**

By Paul G. Edwards
Washington Post Staff Writer

Henry S. Ruth, recommended by Leon Jaworski to be his replacement as Watergate special prosecutor, is a 43-year-old criminal justice specialist who calls his experience as deputy Watergate prosecutor "very depressing . . . a job that had to be done."

Ruth gave this somber appraisal of his duties as deputy first to Archibald Cox and then to Jaworski in a telephone interview yesterday. He declined to discuss the possibility of his appointment to replace Jaworski.

Ruth has been No. 2 on the Watergate prosecution team since it was set up and is given credit for holding the staff together during the uncertain 10 days after the office was abolished at the direction of President Nixon on Oct. 20, 1973.

Samuel Dash, who was counsel to the Senate Watergate committee, said yesterday, "But for Hank Ruth, there might not have been a Watergate staff at all when Mr. Jaworski took over."

Dash said he called Ruth immediately after the Cox firing and learned that "he had called the staff together and made a compact with them to remain in their offi-

cers and preserve the evidence they had."

The staff had been forbidden by White House orders to remove any papers from their offices.

Ruth yesterday called the 10 days between the dismissal of Cox and appointment of Jaworski Nov. 1, 1973, "a very uncertain period." He said, however, that he "did not consider leaving the job for one minute."

Ruth, a native of Philadelphia, is a cum laude graduate of Yale and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

After two years as an enlisted man in the Army, Ruth handled civil litigation with the Philadelphia firm of Saul, Ewing, Remick and Saul from 1957 to 1961.

He joined the migration of young Democratic lawyers to Washington after the election of President Kennedy and went to work in the organized crime section of the Justice Department.

Ruth worked in the Office of Criminal Justice from 1964 to 1965, when the foundations were laid for a major federal role in law enforcement assistance through the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.