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Watergate Prosecutor Takes Office

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Charles F.C. Ruff was sworn in yesterday as the fourth special Watergate prosecutor, pledging to pursue any new leads but vowing to keep secret criminal evidence amassed against former President Nixon.

Ruff, 36, succeeds Henry Ruth as the director of the Watergate special prosecution force that in the past 28 months convicted about five dozen men for wrongdoing in the greatest political scandal in American history.

Archibald Cox held the job from May to October, 1973. He was succeeded by Leon Jaworski who in turn was succeeded by Ruth a year ago.

Judge Byron Skelton of the U.S. Court of Claims administered the oath to Ruff in his chambers.

At a brief post-inaugural news conference, Ruff said he and the sharply reduced staff — two lawyers and a half-dozen clerks — would work on pending appeals and continue to investigate "three or four" cases yet open in the area of campaign finance violations.



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CHARLES RUFF
He succeeds Henry Ruth