

Jaworski's Hint**The Watergate Tape Gap**

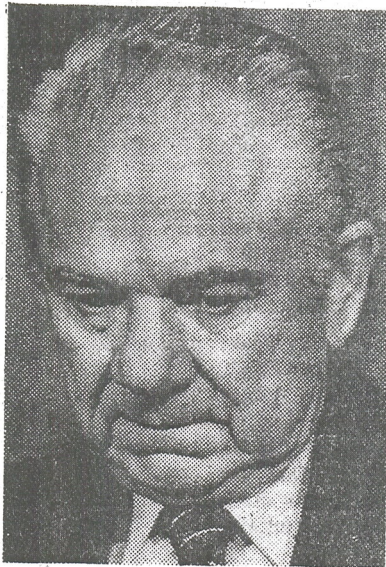
New York

Former Watergate special prosecutor Leon Jaworski implied in an interview that only former President Nixon or his personal aide could have erased an 18½-minute segment in a key Watergate tape.

In an interview on CBS-TV's "60 Minutes," Jaworski was asked if he knew who erased the crucial segment of a conversation between Mr. Nixon and his chief of staff, H. R. Haldeman. The conversation took place several days after the June 17, 1972, break-in at Democratic National Committee headquarters.

"In my own judgment, it came down to three people," Jaworski replied. "I will not mention their names because it would be unfair for me to do so since we didn't have enough proof to indict any one of them."

Interviewer Dan Rather then asked: "Well, you can't mention the names, but it's obvious that it's Richard Nixon, Rosemary Woods (Mr. Nixon's secretary) and Steven Bull (Mr. Nixon's personal aide). Now you say you don't want to mention the names, but are you certain in your own mind that only one of the three people could have done it?"



LEON JAWORSKI
He wouldn't mention names

"I'm not certain, but it's my judgment that only one of them did it."

Jaworski then suggested that Woods probably did not make the lengthy erasure, noting that she had acknowledged during court hearings on the tape gap that she had erased an early segment in the gap.

"But she said it couldn't have taken over four or five minutes,

where we had 18½ minutes gone. And very frankly, the first few minutes was not the most damaging part as we constructed the events," Jaworski said.

Jaworski said he didn't know who erased the rest of the tape, but acknowledged that he had an idea who did it. "But I'm not going to say who I think erased the rest of it," he said.

Mr. Nixon resigned as President on Aug. 9, 1974, after articles of impeachment had been voted by the House Judiciary Committee.

Jaworski said that without the tapes there would have been no case against Mr. Nixon, but said he believed that Mr. Nixon did not destroy the tapes because "he thought that some day he could sell these tape recordings for large sums of money."

Associated Press

10 Die in Plunge

Lima

Ten people were killed and 20 seriously injured when a truck fell over a cliff in eastern Peruvian province of Huanuco, police here said yesterday.

Reuters