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Health facility probe

Califano denies 'in

WASHINGTON (AP) — HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano Jr. denied Saturday that he had sought to "impede or stop" a federal investigation of alleged fraud involving a California health facility.

Califano said misunderstandings had led to his resignation.

The secretary also said misunderstandings had led the investigator to conclude that Califano had told him that investigations were cleared by the department's general counsel.

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At the center of the dispute are congressional and HEW probes of alleged fraud involving Home Health and Homemaker Service Agencies based in San Jose, Calif. That firm provides health care to aged and poor persons with funds coming from Medicare and Medicaid under HEW.

At a meeting with Califano and Champion on Feb. 4, Walsh described his investigation in the case. Califano requested the delay, he said, because he had no reason to think of the general counsel's office was only asked to reason with keep that office informed of his work.

In his testimony, Walsh had been asked to clear his work with the general counsel's office but Walsh's office also said he was asked to reason with keep that office informed of his work.

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At a meeting with Califano and Champion on Feb. 4, Walsh described his investigation in the case.

TONIGHT 9:00

Sunday March 20, 1977

'East side rapist' suspected again

A 16-year-old Rancho Cordova girl was raped Friday night when she returned home from a part-time job. Detectives said there "are enough similarities to believe it is the so-called east area rapist."

According to officers, the girl returned home from work about 10:45 p.m. Her family was away, and she planned to stay overnight at the home of a friend.

However, she was assaulted by a man wielding an ax he apparently took from the house. Detectives said there was no way of knowing if the man was interrupted committing a burglary or was waiting for the girl.

The girl's friend became worried when she did not come over at the appointed time, detectives said, and called the home several times. When no one answered, she went over to the house.

The man fled when he heard the girl knocking at the front door at about 11:40 p.m.

Personal safety clinic Monday

A personal safety workshop focusing on rape will be held from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Monday at Cowan School, 3325 Becerra Way, off Whitney Avenue.

Kit Mahoney of the Rape Crisis Center will explain precautions that can be taken in the home and provide training in self-defense against rape.

The center requests a $3 donation for the workshop. For information and reservations, call Paula Dumm, 482-6016, or Mrs. Clifford at the school, 434-2579.

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